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# COUNTY REPORTER

AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

THURSDAY, May 16, 2024 • \$1.00



COURTESY PHOTO  
Students from Ms. Copass' first grade class enjoy a morning of reading in the hammocks.

*Elementaries  
get creative  
to promote  
student reading*

**ZACH FREEMAN**  
azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — There is nothing better than curling up with a good book, but based on recent trends, young people

may be shelving this habit. According to the National Center for Education Statistics reading scores have declined at all selected percentiles since 2020 and the shares of American 9 and

13-year-olds who say they read for fun every day has dropped to its lowest levels since at least the mid-1980s. In June 2022, the organization found public schools, on average, reported that 50% of

students were behind grade level. In Azle ISD teachers, administrators, and staff have been working hard on novel concepts to encourage their students to read.

**WALNUT CREEK**  
With inspiration from other schools and help from the Azle Education Foundation, Walnut Creek Elementary has

PLEASE SEE **NOVEL** | A13



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Azle EMS workers and firefighters were at the Azle City Council meeting May 7 to be recognized as the mayor proclaimed the week of May 19-25 National Emergency Medical Services Week in the city. Pictured are (L-R): Mayor Alan Brundrett; Cliff Porch, FF EMT-P; Lt. John Behm; Stuart Kilpatrick, FF EMT-P; Lacy Rexroad, FF EMT-P; Tyler Stein, FF EMT-P, Paramedic Ashton Temple; Brandon Henderson, FF EMT-P; Engineer Austin Bray; and Fire Chief Will Scott.

## City of Azle recognizes employees

**ZACH FREEMAN**  
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AZLE — During the Azle City Council's first May meeting, the council and mayor recognized members of the community critical in maintaining the services residents use every day. Public servants and city employees

*Council honors public service workers, police, public works and EMS*

stood and were recognized for the contributions they have made to the city.

Mayor Alan Brundrett, reading from a proclamation, recognized May 5-11

as National Public Service Recognition Week. After reading, Brundrett also addressed city employees personally and thanked them for what they do.

"It says here how many groups and departments we have here in the city that make it go round," Brundrett

PLEASE SEE **PUBLIC** | A2

## SHS seniors celebrated at Acceptance Day

**MADELYN EDWARDS**  
springtownreporter@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Before they get ready to cross the stage at graduation, some Springtown High School seniors first had to walk on a different stage. SHS' annual Senior Acceptance Day took place May 7 in the high school au-

ditorium where students declared their intentions to further their education or enlist in the military. Scholarship winners — 43 students with some earning multiple — were also announced. The Springtown Education Foundation awarded \$59,000 in scholarships to 42 se-

PLEASE SEE **SENIORS** | A8

## Texas SD 30 Runoffs

*Runoffs to decide Republican, Democratic nominees May 28*

### STAFF REPORTS

Residents in State Senate District 30, which includes north and east portions of Parker County along with parts of multiple other North Texas counties, have the

chance to elect a new leader this year. Sen. Drew Springer, who currently represents District 30, is not seeking reelection.

PLEASE SEE **SD30** | A4



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**VOLUME 1, NUMBER 50**  
Local, zone(s) 2 sections, 54 pages

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**GRADUATION**  
Springtown, Lake Worth





# Springtown honors public works staff for National Public Works Week

MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Springtown Mayor Greg Hood proclaimed May 19-25 National Public Works Week in the city and recognized Springtown Public Works Director Joseph McCanless at the April 25 council meeting. “Public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of the city of Springtown, Texas,” Hood said in his proclamation. “These infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting our nation’s transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens.”

## PUBLIC

FROM PAGE A1

said. “So, a lot of those guys are behind the scenes making sure that we’ve got clean water and streets that are able to be driven on and I do think we have some of the better streets in the cities no matter what people say. If you go drive around in Fort Worth or something you’d be like ‘oh yeah, our streets aren’t that bad.’ I just want to take this time to thank everybody, especially the ones that are behind the scenes and don’t get the recognition they deserve for keeping everything going. They’re up when it’s 5 degrees outside in the snow and ice still making the water, treating the sewer, paving the streets and things like that. They all do a good job and I just want to thank them.”

Brundrett also announced Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week during the meeting. Falling on May 15 and the week of May 12-18 respectively, these days of celebration were established by Congress and President John F. Kennedy in 1962 to pay recognition to law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty for the protection

of others. It also acts as an opportunity for communities and individuals to thank the officers currently serving their jurisdictions and elsewhere.

“Again, just thank you guys for working day in and day out, holidays, and missing kids’ stuff,” Brundrett said. “We appreciate the dedication that you guys have, too.”

The mayor also took the time to recognize National Public Works Week and Emergency Medical Services Week in advance during this juncture.

Employees from Azle’s transportation, water supply, water treatment and public waste departments stood and were recognized by proclamation in front of the city council for their efforts in protecting the health, safety and quality of life of the Azle community. These individuals will be celebrated with a week of their own May 19-25.

“So, these are the guys that are really behind the scenes that keep the city going,” Brundrett said. “They make the toilet flush when you push the little handle and the water come out when you turn the knob on your faucet and maintain the streets and everything. They don’t get the credit for what they do.

They’re working sometimes 24 hours a day, getting called out in the middle of the night sometimes to fix things and working in the freez(ing temperatures). We appreciate it because you’re always hidden in the back somewhere but we appreciate you and thank you for what you do.”

This year is the 50th anniversary of the first National Emergency Medical Services Week, celebrated May 19-25. This year’s theme for the occasion is, “honoring our past, forging our future.” The mayor also thanked Azle’s EMS workers for the thousands of hours of specialized training they’ve had to endure in order to keep community members safe.

“Again, these guys are here no matter what the weather, what the day, kids, concerts, games, you name it, to take care of our people and make sure that they survive hopefully and make it to the hospital,” Brundrett said. “They do a really good job of getting that immediate care and increasing that survival rate. They do a really good job and they’re all firefighters, also.”

The mayor called on Azle’s citizens to celebrate and thank all mentioned groups and city employees during the month of May.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Azle public works officials and employees are pictured with Azle Mayor Alan Brundrett to commemorate National Public Works Week, May 19-25. They are (L-R): Steve Jones, Brundrett, Public Services Director Rick White, Tiffany McBroom and Josh Hogsett.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Pictured in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day May 15 and National Police Week May 12-18 are (L-R): Lt. Kevin Rogers, Police Chief Ben Hall, Mayor Alan Brundrett, Sgt. Eric Scheid, Office Marco Gallardo and Sgt. Thomas Gilbert.

# Car Show



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# Captain, my Captain... the impact of teachers is amazing

The past couple of weeks I had the opportunity to participate in several end-of-the-year events at local schools. With graduation just around the corner, many schools have events where they honor scholastic accomplishments and recognize students for jobs well done.

It has been more than a few years since I was a student, and I never had the opportunity to teach, but there is something about young people and their accomplishments that warms my heart. One recent event hit my emotions very hard. It was an academic achievement dinner where the top 25 students in the senior class were singled out for their accomplish-



**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.

ments. But this dinner had a little twist. Each student was permitted to invite the one teacher who had the biggest impact upon their life and academic progress. As part of the program, each student wrote a short essay identifying their favorite teacher and what the teacher had done which made them special.

Listening to the students' essays as they were being read was truly heartwarming.

They explained the extraordinary efforts the teachers had made to connect with them as students, to push them toward excellence, and to influence the students to become the best version of themselves. One essay seemed to echo another, as the students expressed how their teacher's impact was bigger than an English or mathematics class. They gave examples of how their relationship tran-

scended the class and taught them about life and how to be a better citizen, student and human being.

The emotions on full display made it clear the teachers had accomplished no small task. They have impacted lives, changed worlds and altered the trajectory of a group of young people. They had done everything and anything a student could ask for, and in return, the students were thoughtful enough to recognize the role their teacher had in their success.

My wife taught school for 29 years. One of her favorite students was later hired to teach alongside her in the very same department. The young teacher went from

student to valued colleague. A few years later my wife retired and saw her former student take over as the head of the department. On the night of the dinner I attended, I was thrilled to see this talented young woman. The former student was recognized by a student as one of the special teachers. It was an example of "teaching life" going full circle. For me, it made the night even more special.

I bet as folks read this column, their mind drifts back to their favorite teacher. They will reflect on the classes, the lessons learned and the impact their teacher had on their development. For a lucky few, they will have had a special educator which not

only taught them but helped give their life direction and purpose. My guess is the memory made us all smile a little brighter. Remember, it was a teacher who kindled that emotion. It was their impact that made you smile and warmed your heart. Their efforts are never gone, and I hope they will never be forgotten.

Captain, my Captain ... look how your seeds have grown.

Thought for the day: Better than a thousand days of diligent study, is one day spent with a great teacher.

Until next time ... I will keep ridin' the storm out!

sam@hcnews.com

## Springtown storms cause sanitary sewer leak

**STAFF REPORTS**

SPRINGTOWN — Because of recent heavy rainfall in Springtown, stormwater debris (a large tree) broke a wastewater transmission main that leaked into Browder's Creek east of South Springbranch Trail and Hilltop Drive.

City crews discovered the leak and completed repairs May 6. According to a press release from Springtown officials, the wastewater leak will not have any impact on the city's water.

"Our water supply is lo-

*Leak not expected to affect city's water supply*

cated approximately 13 miles east of the site, and this spill has had and will have no impact on the water supply," reads the press release. "There are no other water supply or treatment facilities in proximity to this site."

The press release also states that the damage wasn't discovered until May 6 because of high stormwater lev-

els. The leak affected an area of about 1,000 linear feet downstream from the spill, and the main discharged about 5 gallons of wastewater per second for an estimated total of 350,000 gallons.

"Upon discovery, repair efforts immediately began to stop the leak, and those temporary repairs were successfully completed the same

day that the leak was discovered," read the press release. "Efforts to remove any solid wastewater material from the creek were also undertaken. Permanent repairs will be forthcoming shortly; however, there is no longer an active leak at this site."

Springtown officials reported the leak to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, according to the press release. TCEQ required the city to tell the public that:

- People who purchase drinking water supply

wells within half a mile of the spill site or within the potentially affected area should use only water that has been distilled or boiled at a rolling boil for at least one minute for all personal uses including drinking, cooking, bathing and brushing teeth. Individuals with private water wells should have their well water tested and disinfected, if necessary, prior to discontinuing distillation or boiling.

- People who purchase water from a public water supply may contact their

water supply distributor to determine if the water is safe for personal use.

- The public should avoid contact with waste material, soil or water in the area potentially affected by the spill.
- If the public comes into contact with waste material, soil or water potentially affected by the spill, they should bathe and wash clothes thoroughly as soon as possible.

## Reno P&Z squashes tree ordinance discussion, moves forward on tiny home rules

**MADelyn EDWARDS**  
springtownreporter@tricityreporter.com

RENO — Reno Planning and Zoning Commission members have halted discussion on a potential tree preservation regulation indefinitely.

The P&Z started talking about enforcing such a rule last year after the council directed the commission to do so. Reno doesn't have a tree preservation ordinance, and city leaders discussed enacting rules similar to Azle's that would aim to prevent developers from clear cutting properties.

Over the course of multiple meetings, the P&Z considered how a tree preservation ordinance would affect home-

owners as well as developers. Members discussed putting a rule about trees on the developer's agreements, as opposed to an ordinance, so the city could prevent indiscriminate clear cutting as well as preserve trees and natural areas without restricting homeowners.

However, at the P&Z's May 6 meeting, members couldn't pass a motion to discuss putting a tree preservation plan on the developer's agreements and therefore, didn't act on it. Secretary Justin Williams and Charles Hale voted to open discussion, but Diane Blair opposed; since the motion to open discussion didn't receive three votes in favor, the P&Z moved

on to the next item on the agenda.

"I don't think we need to talk about it anymore," Blair said during the meeting. "I think we've talked about it 50 times already."

Tree preservation could come up again on a future agenda, but Williams said if it does, it would be tabled.

"I don't feel like it's right to tell someone what they can and cannot do with the trees on the property that they bought, and limiting things and confusing developers is not something that we need because they are few and far between coming to city hall to apply for permits anyway," the P&Z secretary said.

Hale agreed with Williams'

stance.

"(It's) your property; do with it what you want as long as you're not harming anybody else," Hale said.

The P&Z did allow a tiny home ordinance, another topic that has been discussed previously, to move forward at the May 6 meeting. The commission approved language creating tiny home rules that would be sent to the city's legal team for review. The proposed ordinance will be printed in the newspaper, and public hearings before P&Z and council are expected to take place before a final decision is made.

The changes would define tiny homes as "a detached building designed exclusively

for occupancy for one family that is built on site with new materials and is less than 900 square feet, excluding manufactured homes and modular homes." Depending on their size, tiny homes would need to abide by certain applicable codes, including the International Residential Code.

Tiny homes that are not built on site would have to follow the city's current rules on manufactured homes that state they can only be as small as 320 square feet.

"Anything under 320 square feet wouldn't be allowed inside the city limits anyway if it's a modular or manufactured home," P&Z chairperson Kevin

Vandenberg said during the meeting.

Also, the proposed changes originally called for tiny homes to need a special use permit, which is granted by the city council, to be built. But Vandenberg said he would change that after Blair argued that requiring a special use permit would be unnecessary.

"If we ride it out for a year, we're just going to have more and more people coming in here getting upset because they followed the rules, and we're still micromanaging," Blair said.

P&Z did agree with a change that requires a special use permit to install travel trailer parks.

## Republican candidates duke it out in May 28 runoff

*Primary Runoff Election Day is Tuesday, May 28, and early voting runs from Monday, May 20 to Friday, May 24.*

**STAFF REPORTS**

Residents in Congressional District 12, which includes the western half of Tarrant County as well as most of Parker County, have the chance to elect a new representative this year.

Rep. Kay Granger, who currently heads CD 12, is not seeking reelection. Five Republicans and two Democrats threw their hat in the ring during the primary elections in March, but there will be runoff elections for the top two Republican candidates since Democratic candidate Trey Hunt secured more than 50% of the vote. Craig Goldman and John O'Shea will face off in the Republican primary runoff. The winning Republican and

Hunt will go head-to-head in the November general election.

Members of congress represent their districts in the United States House of Representatives, which meets at least once per year to vote on potential new laws that would affect residents in their districts as well as the nation.

Primary Runoff Election Day is Tuesday, May 28, and early voting runs from Monday, May 20 to Friday, May 24.

The Tri-County Reporter asked both runoff candidates vying for the CD 12 seat in the Republican primary to tell us about themselves and their goals. The Tri-County Reporter did not

receive a completed questionnaire from candidate Craig Goldman or his team by press time. Below is the response submitted by candidate John O'Shea.

**REPUBLICAN PRIMARY RUNOFF**



**Name:** John O'Shea  
**Occupation:** Business Owner  
**Education:** My mother was a founder of the Oakridge School of Arlington, where I graduated in 1986. I graduated Texas Christian University with a BA in political science

and a BBA in finance cum laude and with university honors in 2001. I received my MBA in finance and management from the University of Texas, Austin in 2003 summa cum laude.

**Community Involvement:** I have been active throughout my community banking career and then the past 10 years as a business owner in numerous professional and civic organizations. I have given to numerous charitable organizations throughout the community and have focused specifically on pro-life pregnancy centers, disadvantaged youth and mental health.

**Family:** My wife Kathleen and I just celebrated our 29th anniversary. I have three kids ages 30, 24 and 22 and a 3-year-old grandson.

**Why I Am Running:** Our country was founded on the premise that all men were imbued with God given rights and that government was necessary to protect those rights from threats both for-

eign and domestic. However, our government has forgotten its place as servants to the rightful owners of the country, We the People. Our Constitution has been eviscerated as we were told that our work was "nonessential," our places of worship were closed, and our kids were forced to wear masks, socially distance and take an experimental gene therapy. The government then became even further weaponized against the American people raiding the homes of people who prayed the rosary outside abortion clinics, threatening the rights of parents who refused to "affirm" the gender of their children, labeling parents who protested school boards domestic terrorists, and suspending due process for people who peacefully walked through the capital building on Jan. 6. President Donald Trump also states the government is not after him, they are after us and he is just standing in the way. We need more elected

servants in Congress who will be willing to do the same so President Trump's agenda can be codified when he serves his second term.

**What I Bring to the Position:** I am a Christian conservative who has served the Republican Party as a precinct chair and as a state delegate. I have not previously held public office and think additional outside perspectives are needed. Having been in community banking and finance for 20 years (having started a bank and most recently turning around a problem bank) I understand budgets and debt. Having been a business owner for the past 10-plus years, I understand what it means to have to perform to succeed and what it means to make payroll for over 140 employees. I do not seek to become a career politician and will pledge not to serve more than 3 terms (6 years) before seeking the next God-fearing patriot to support for the office.



# RUNOFF

FROM PAGE A1

Four Republicans and three Democrats threw their hats into the ring during the primary elections in March, but there will be runoff elections in both parties since none of the candidates were able to secure 50% or more of the vote. Brent Hagenbuch and Jace Yarbrough will face off in the Republican primary runoff, while Michael Braxton and Dale Frey will do the same in the Democratic primary runoff. The winning Republican and Democrat will go head-to-head in the November general election.

State senators represent their districts in the Texas Senate, which meets every two years (and in special sessions called by the governor) to vote on potential new laws that affect residents in their districts as well as the whole state.

Primary Runoff Election Day is Tuesday, May 28, and early voting runs from Monday, May 20 to Friday, May 24.

The Tri-County Reporter asked all the runoff candidates vying for the District 30 state senate seat in both the Republican and Democratic primaries to tell us about themselves and their goals. Check out their responses:

## REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES



**Name:** Brent Hagenbuch  
**Occupation:** CEO and owner of Titus Transport  
**Education:** I received a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy, a Master of Science in civil engineering from Stanford University and Master of Business Administration from the Anderson School of Management at University of California, Los Angeles.  
**Community involvement:** I serve as board director of Feed the Children, a member of University of North Texas' Logistics Institute Advisory Board, LEISD Visionary Committee member, former chairman of the board of Amazon Christian

Mission, former president of the North Texas Chapter of K-Life youth ministry, former Little Elm City Planning and Zoning commissioner and former Denton County Republican party chair.

**Family:** I have been greatly blessed with a beautiful family including Jean, my wife and partner of 39 years who is a former school-teacher; my son Adam, who holds a bachelor of fine arts from Carnegie Mellon and appears regularly in popular TV programs; my daughter Nicole, who is studying for a master's degree at UNT; and three grandchildren. We are active at Crossridge Church in Little Elm.

**Why are you running for District 30 state senator and what experience you are bringing to the position:**

I am running for Texas Senate District 30 because I refuse to sit by as the Left continues to try to take away our God-given rights. We have a critical need for a qualified, conservative Republican to step up and represent the citizens of Senate District 30. I believe Texas remains the place that all America used to be, and we must do everything we can to protect the freedoms that make our state the best place to live, work and raise a family. As a business owner, I've been through both lean and prosperous times. The Lord has placed me in a position to make an impact on North Texas as a Republican County chairman and by moving to the Texas Senate, I can continue that impact on a larger scale. I believe the Texas border, law and order, parents' rights, and a full throttle on oil in Texas are just some of the tasks that would greatly benefit from a business approach.

**What goals do you have that you feel will help serve residents in District 30?**

My top priority will be the Texas Border. Without question, public safety deserves the full attention of state government. Second, I will fight to protect parents' rights to make the best decisions for their family, and this includes medical freedom. Further, I will prioritize clearing logjams and getting tasks done with conservative management. As a Texas senator, I will support legislation that protects Texans, defends Texas values and removes over-burdensome regulation.



**Name:** Jace Yarbrough  
**Occupation:** Conservative litigator  
**Education:** I earned bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering and government from the University of Texas at Austin, where I interned for the Texas Public Policy Foundation, and a law degree from Stanford Law School, where I served as president of my law school's chapter of the Federalist Society. I am a former fellow of the John Jay Institute for Faith, Society and Law, Alliance Defending Freedom's Blackstone Legal Fellowship and the Claremont Institute.

**Community involvement:** Active-duty Air Force, then Air Force Reserve: 2011-present; St. Francis Academy, founder/board chair: 2022-present; Precinct chair: 2020-21; Parish Treasurer: 2020-22; Federalist Society, Dallas Lawyers Chapter board member: 2019-21; Federalist Society, Stanford Law School Chapter president: 2017-18

**Family:** With his wife and high school sweetheart, Elizabeth, he founded Saint Francis Academy, a classical Christian school that reflects their shared passion for shaping the next generation. Actively engaged in their local church in Denton, raising five children, the Yarbroughs live out their values at home and in the community.

**Why are you running for District 30 state senator and what experience you are bringing to the position:**

I'm running for Senate District 30 because we are at a crossroads as a state and nation, and it is time for genuine, battle-tested conservatives to step into the public arena. I don't just talk about conservative principles — I live them. When the pressure was on and no one was watching, I stood up for my convictions, my faith and my family against COVID vaccine mandates in the military and with my civilian employer. In the courtroom, I advocate for the unborn, religious liberty and medical freedom. I have courageously lived out my deeply held convictions every step of the way. You can rely

on me to never back down from a fight for our values.

**What goals do you have that you feel will help serve residents in District 30?**

1. Secure the border, 2. Confronting and defeating woke ideologues and culture, and 3. Empower parents with school choice. Conservative bills that lack enforceability are commonplace in the legislature. As a conservative litigator, I know firsthand the teeth that need to be put into bills that make things actually work and hold people and the government accountable. I am a veteran who has stood up to the government when they tried to force me to take the COVID vaccine. I have stood up for my convictions and always will. I was also co-counsel to Senator Angela Paxton during the Impeachment trial of Attorney General Ken Paxton and have relationships across the Texas Legislature.

## DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES



**Name:** Michael Braxton  
**Occupation:** Barber  
The Tri-County Reporter did not receive a completed questionnaire from Mr. Braxton or his team by press time.



**Name:** Dale Frey  
**Occupation:** Web developer for a private sector company (Mobomo L.L.C.) for whom I have adopted a federal contracting job working with NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). In this job I work as a systems administrator, web developer and supply technical assistance to our NOAA teammates and scientists, as they report on the effects of climate change

on our economy.

**Education:** I graduated with a bachelor's in information technology at George Mason University in 2010. With GMU's close proximity to our nation's capital, I was fortunate to land my first job out of college working at the headquarters of the Department of Education in Washington, DC.

**Community involvement:** My first political involvements in Texas started as a turf-cutter and poll-watcher for the Beto Campaign. I then became a precinct chair for the Denton County Democratic Party for precinct 2085. I am also a board member (communications chair) for the Frisco Democratic Club, where I manage our website, social media and digital outreach.

**Family:** I met Leandra while I was in DC. Our relationship took off quick, and she warned me that she was a native Texan, so if things were to get serious between us that I would have to move south with her. As expected, I suppose, heh. Unfortunately, that move got expedited as her father was diagnosed with Stage-3 cancer. We moved to Denton County to be closer to her father, siblings and their families. We bought a house in The Colony, are trying to start our family, and are growing with (our) nieces and nephews.

**Why are you running for District 30 state senator and what experience you are bringing to the position?**

I am running for office because I have seen how broken our healthcare system is and how poorly we treat our public school teachers. My father-in-law for example, a retired school teacher, struggled in his later years as the Medicaid system barely supported us. We don't support health, nor education, here in Texas. Our schools are underfunded. We have Texans who are poor but not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid. And we have a legislature that keeps pushing a school voucher scam that would further hurt our education system. And all that needs to change!

I bring a ton of experience, particularly with government work as my first job out of college was working with the Department of Education in Washington, DC. I have since built a career as a federal contractor and have worked with the GSA (General Services Administration), U.S. Geologic Survey, and currently with NOAA (National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). I also have political experience as being a precinct chair for the Denton County Democratic Party (Precinct 2085). I have voted as a delegate for the Texas/Denton Party. And I am a board member (communications directory) for the Frisco Democratic Club. Through these roles I have plenty of experience in assisting other candidates in their past campaigns, block-walking, literature writing/dropping and outreach.

**What goals do you have that you feel will help serve residents in District 30?**

Support our schools and teachers — Our education system is desperately underfunded and underappreciated. Forty percent of our school staff has been lost in the past two years. With the State of Texas having a massive surplus, supplying additional funding to our schools and our public school teachers must be our very first step.

Medicaid expansion — We should be accepting of the Medicaid Expansion program. There is no reason for us not to be part of a program we already spend our tax money into. As it stands right now, I see some health care providers dropping their Medicaid recipients due to lack of funds. We are also in a situation where some people are poor, "but not poor enough" to qualify for Medicaid — another issue that can be fixed with the MC expansion, since this program increases the threshold in which people are accepted.

Mitigate the housing crisis — We have a problem in Texas right now where some massive corporations are buying up several suburban homes meant for families and flipping them into rental homes. It is becoming such a problem that with supply going down, demand increases, which increases prices on homes. This turns our housing situation into something that seems out of reach for lower income earners, who then decide to rent from those homes instead of buy, which in turn gives these corporations more (funding) to continue to buy more homes — it's a vicious cycle. What we need to do is add an additional tax on corporate entities that own more than 100 homes and send that money into a program that helps low-income first-time home buyers.

## CORRECTION

In the April 24 edition of the Tri-County Reporter, the Springtown High School track photos were mistakenly credited to Springtown ISD. The photos were courtesy of Rusty Butler, and we thank him for his contribution.

### Smart Grocery

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### Smart Taqueria

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# Deputies on hunt for mystery motorcyclist

*TxDOT urges bikers to stay safe after uptick in accidents*

**ZACH FREEMAN**  
azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

PARKER COUNTY — A mysterious motorcycle rider has led Parker County Sheriff's deputies on at least seven different high-speed chases in recent months. Local authorities are currently asking the public for help locating the individual. As of an April 24 press release, the suspect drives an all-black motorcycle with no visible license plate. The man has worn a helmet during each encounter and has not yet been identified. "We're still running down a few leads and have not had any additional encounters," Parker County Sheriff Russ Authier said on Friday. According to Public

Information Officer Danie Huffman, the sheriff's office is following up on every lead developed and each tip it has received. The investigation is currently considered open/active and the department had not made any arrests as of Friday, May 10. According to Facebook comments the mystery biker has been weaving in between lanes of traffic and passing on the shoulder at high speeds. "This guy almost got (me) killed the other day," Azle Residents Page member Dylan Robert Flaherty said on the social media site. "Dude blew by me, and I was about to change lanes (and) didn't hear him until he was right next to me. (He) scared the

shit out of me. Coming from someone paralyzed from a motorcycle accident it scared the hell out of me." In an unrelated incident, a 20-year-old man and a 19-year-old woman were killed in February after crashing their motorcycle during a high-speed chase with Texas Department of Safety troopers. According to a press release from the agency, Ian Ellis and Mya Jimenez were fleeing from authorities on an Interstate 20 service road near Weatherford when Ellis went through a stop sign and struck another vehicle, vaulting the two forward. In the state of Texas nearly 600 people riding motorcycles were killed in crashes last year, and more than 2,400 riders were seriously injured. The number of motorcyclists killed in 2023 increased by 7% from the year before, and intersection fatal crashes increased



COURTESY PHOTO

This motorcycle driver is wanted by Parker County for evading officers and speeding.

by 21%. May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month and the Texas Department of Transportation urges both motorcycle riders and other travelers on Texas roadways to pay attention, slow down, stay alert and stay safe. Anyone with information about the mystery biker is

asked to contact the Parker County Sheriff's Office at 817-594-8845. Crime Stoppers will also pay up to a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest or conviction of the driver. To be reward eligible, you must contact Crime Stoppers directly at www.pccs.tips or

817-599-5555. Callers may remain anonymous when contacting Parker County Crime Stoppers. Readers can also learn more about Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month at [www.txdot.gov/about/newsroom/statewide/motorcyclist-deaths-on-the-rise-in-texas.html](http://www.txdot.gov/about/newsroom/statewide/motorcyclist-deaths-on-the-rise-in-texas.html).

# Daniels completes Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program



Cynthia Daniels

**SUBMITTED ITEM**  
Cynthia Daniels becomes the first municipal clerk (city secretary) in the history of the City of Pelican Bay to complete the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program. TMCCP is the only university-level professional education program for city clerks and city secretaries in Texas and is the third oldest of such programs in the country. The certification program is a professional development program with college/university-level courses admin-

istered through the Texas Municipal Clerks Association located at the University of North Texas. The Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program seeks to establish certain qualifications for fulfilling the office of the municipal clerk in order to retain the traditional and rightful standing as an officer of the municipality. The program aims to provide the municipal clerk with knowledge and methods necessary to execute the duties of the office, as well as

develop familiarity with the theory and practices of local government management. Successful completion of the program requires approximately 200 hours of individual home study and online homework, examinations over four courses, and attendance at eight two-day seminars. The program takes three years to 10 years to complete. Municipal clerks are the bedrock of efficient and transparent governance, embodying professionalism,

dedication and integrity in their service to the community. They play a vital role in fostering democracy by ensuring the integrity of elections, maintaining public records and facilitating access to government information and are the liaisons between citizens and government, providing essential support to elected officials, city departments, and the public. The municipal clerk is a time-honored and vital part of local government existing throughout the world and is

one of the oldest among public servants. Daniels says she is extremely thankful for a supportive mayor and City Council in Pelican Bay. She is married to Steve Daniels. Both are Azle graduates and proudly make their home in Azle. Together, they have five children: Nicole, Melissa, Elizabeth, Brittany and Zack, as well as 10 grandchildren. Their newest family member is a beloved Miniature Schnauzer named Scooter.

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**MADelyn EDWARDS** | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
The Springtown Education Foundation awarded \$59,000 in scholarships to 42 seniors during Acceptance Day last week.

SENIORS

FROM PAGE A1

niors. The students who were awarded are Aubree Adams, Sofia Alcala, Emily Allbright, Lerin Aquino, Jesus Cavazos, Leslie Conejo, Stoli Cox, Caitlin Dauenhauer, Calyn Duke, Kaiden Eddington, Hannah Gaught, Caden Haidusek, Yair Hernandez, Luke Holtman, Hudson Hulett, Harlee Jackson, Nathaniel Jones, Ava Kindred, Adriana Lopez, Gabriel Martinez, Danny McCommas, Gideon McPhetridge, Kate Mitchell, Colton Nation, Joesph Newman, Ty Parrott, Wesley Payne, Dylan Rathbone, Lillie Reed, Alex Rivera, Payton Rutledge, Haylee Sanborn, Olivia Scott,

Lillian Siegel, Abigail Smirl, Sterlyn Smith, Madison Terrell, Dayne Thompson, Ridge Westendorf, Gracie Wilk, Carolina Williams and Paige Winstead.  
In addition, five students — Harlee Jackson, Dallin Fabrizius, Stoli Cox, Ridge Westendorf and Caitlin Dauenhauer — received a scholarship from the Springtown Lions Club; Haylee Sanborn, Sterlyn Smith and Colton Nation won a Texas Bank scholarship through the James and Dorothy Doss Foundation; Reno Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association gave scholarships to Ridge Westendorf and Alex Rivera; and Harlee Jackson also won the Springtown Eastern Star Scholarship.



**MADelyn EDWARDS** | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
Reno Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association gave scholarships to Ridge Westendorf and Alex Rivera.



**MADelyn EDWARDS** | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
Graduating senior Paige Winstead shook Springtown High School Principal Melissa Hutchison's hand as her name was called at SHS' Acceptance Day ceremony May 7.



**MADelyn EDWARDS** | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
Harlee Jackson earned the Springtown Order of the Eastern Star Scholarship for \$1,000, presented to her by Debbie and David Taylor.



**MADelyn EDWARDS** | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
From left, Ridge Westendorf, Caitlin Dauenhauer, Stoli Cox and Harlee Jackson received scholarships from the Springtown Lions Club. Dallin Fabrizius, not pictured, also won one of the scholarships.



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From left, Haylee Sanborn, Sterlyn Smith and Colton Nation won a Texas Bank scholarship through the James and Dorothy Doss Foundation for \$1,000 each.

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# Azle resident competes in MSOE's Rosie Supercomputer Super Challenge

SUBMITTED

MILWAUKEE, WI — Mikolaj Sordyl, of Azle, was one of 47 students who competed and showcased their projects using the power of Rosie at the third annual Rosie Supercomputer Super Challenge at the Milwaukee School of Engineering. A biomedical engineering major, Sordyl's team took second place in the competition.

The record level of participants came with amazing projects all vying for the Super Challenge prizes that totaled \$10,000 in cash, 10 RTX 4090s and 10 NVIDIA Jetson Orin Nanos. The competition asks students to solve an interesting problem, answer a difficult question, go beyond their course work or improve an existing process using Rosie, MSOE's Supercomputer.

Five teams were chosen as finalists to present in front of judges and an audience. The judging panel included two MSOE Regents: Dr. Dwight Diercks '90, NVIDIA senior vice president of software engineering and Nick Haemel '02, NVIDIA vice president of medical imaging and system software, Dr. Derek Riley, MSOE computer science program director. Projects featured a wide range of ideas and applications using artificial intelligence technology.

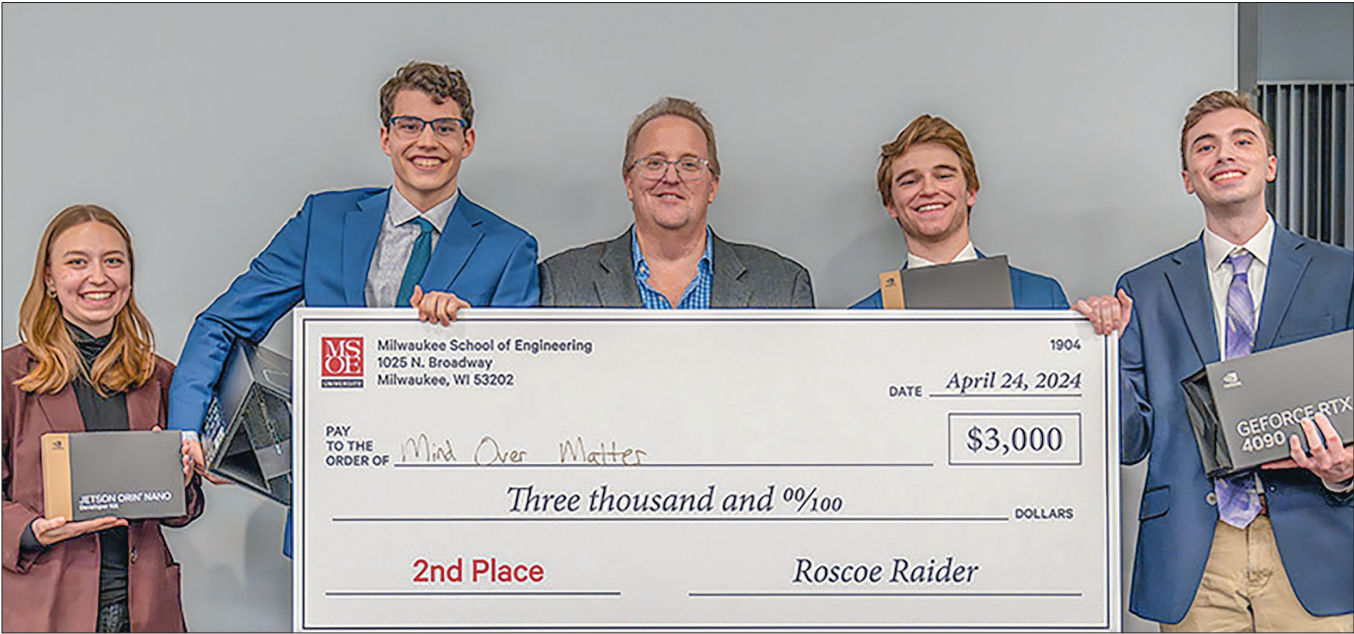
Congratulations to the top three teams:

First place (\$5,000 plus 5 RTX 4090s): Adapting Large Language Models (LLMs) To Domains Using Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG). Nathan Cernik, Tyler Cernik, Jennifer Madigan, Kevin Paganini and Jackson Rolando.

Second place (\$3,000 plus 2 RTX 4090s): Mind Over Matter: Homologous Point Transform Applications to Brain Histology and MR Domains. Abigail Draper, Bart Gebka, Sonia Grade, Caleb Gray, Alex Neher and Mikolaj Sordyl

Third place (\$2,000 plus 2 RTX 4090s): NourishNet: Proactive Severity State Forecasting of Food Commodity Prices for Global Warning Systems. Sydney Balboni, Ella Bruce, John Cisler, Caitlyn Grant, Grace Ivey, Ben Paulson, Tyge Plater and Brett Storoe.

The fourth and fifth place finishing teams were awarded with NVIDIA Jetson Orin Nanos. Additionally, a poster session was held to showcase the other projects that were submitted but not included in the top five. Two certificates for Most Novel Technical Implementation and Most Socially Beneficial were awarded after the poster session, and one lucky audience member's name was drawn to win an RTX 4090.



Sordyl (second on the right) and the rest of the second-place team.

ABOUT ROSIE

Rosie is the supercomputer at Milwaukee School of Engineering, and it is available to undergraduates, graduates, faculty, staff and the university's business partners. Rosie includes three NVIDIA DGX-1 pods, each with eight NVIDIA V100 Tensor Core GPUs, and 20 servers each with four NVIDIA T4 GPUs. The nodes are joined together by Mellanox networking fabric and share 200TB of network-attached storage.

In 2024, Rosie received an

upgrade that includes two DGXH100s, 16 H100 GPUs with 1.2TB of GPU memory, 224 CPU cores, and 800 GB of Infiniband networking. MSOE is the first in Wisconsin to deploy this supercomputing hardware. The DGX H100 systems deliver the scale demanded to meet the massive compute requirements of generative A.I. including large language models, recommender systems, health care research and climate science. Packing eight NVIDIA H100 GPUs per system, connected as one by NVIDIA

NVLink, each DGX H100 provides 32 petaflops of A.I. performance.

Since Rosie's installation in 2019, almost 150,000 jobs have been run.

Milwaukee School of Engineering ([www.msOE.edu](http://www.msOE.edu)) is the university of choice for those seeking an inclusive community of experiential learners driven to solve the complex challenges of today and tomorrow. The independent, nonprofit university has about 2,700 students and was founded in 1903. MSOE offers bachelor's and mas-

ter's degrees in engineering, business and nursing. Faculty are student-focused experts who bring real-world experience into the classroom. This approach to learning makes students ready now as well as prepared for the future. Longstanding partnerships with business and industry leaders enable students to learn alongside professional mentors and challenge them to go beyond what's possible. MSOE graduates are leaders of character, responsible professionals, passionate learners and value creators.

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# Deen talks growth, transportation in State of County address

**MADELYN EDWARDS**  
springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Parker County Judge Pat Deen centered his speech at the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce's April 25 luncheon around growth and how the county is reacting to that growth.

In terms of public safety, Deen said the county has added more officers and raised salaries to improve response times. Deen said 60% of the county's growth occurs outside of cities' limits. When someone in unincorporated Parker County calls 911, the sheriff's office typically an-

swers that call as opposed to city police departments.

"Although there's back-ups and there's support from the Springtown Police Department, as the city council will tell you, that much of that growth is the responsibility of the county," Deen said. "That poses a challenge for us. The faster you grow, as the density becomes more of an issue, then response times becomes an issue and then we're talking life and death."

Providing police service to unincorporated areas became more challenging to the county after cities in Texas lost the right to involuntarily

annex properties into their city limits in 2017, Deen said. The towns and neighborhoods that would have been annexed into cities and thus received city services have remained in unincorporated areas and are the county's responsibility.

"It's not rolling off the books," Deen said. "We have to continue to police that area."

The outcomes of stopping involuntary annexations also impact water since cities don't usually extend water services outside their limits to unincorporated areas that are under the county's jurisdiction. However, Deen remarked that this issue has more of an impact on towns in western Parker County as opposed to the Springtown area, where Walnut Creek Special Utility District services many neighborhoods outside the city boundaries of Springtown and Reno.

Parker County also has the highest number of wells drilled in Texas, which is a problem that needs to be dealt with, the judge said. To alleviate water issues, the county allocated some of the funds it received through the American Rescue Plan Act — about \$9.2 million — to aid water planning needs and to tackle future problems.

The county has also funded roadway improvements in all four precincts through its multi-million-dollar bond proposal voters approved last year. Deen reminded luncheon attendees the county is also able to get matching funding from other entities

because of the bond, and the county's debt likely won't impact taxpayers because of the growing economy.

"One of the real positives is the fact that the state and money from the feds are really flowing into the county like we haven't seen before," said Chris Bosco of the engineering, planning and consulting firm Freese and Nichols. "This bond was such a perfect timing to kind of put the county in position to take advantage of that because getting \$74 million in the first few months of the bond is not a common thing."

The list of bond roadway projects can be found at [www.parkercountybond.com](http://www.parkercountybond.com) online, and Bosco said updates will eventually be posted to that site as well. One change to the roadway projects is improvements to the intersection of Carter Road and Farm-to-Market Road 51, which the county was able to get funding from the Texas Department of Transportation to improve.

"When we were planning the bond, when we had meetings out in this area, a lot of people were talking about safety concerns with that project, so (Precinct 1) Commissioner (George) Conley and (Precinct 2) Commissioner (Jacob) Holt had been working with TxDOT, and they actually came up with a million dollars in partnership funding for that project," Bosco said. "So, it wasn't even one in the bond per se, but due to kind of what we heard from the public, that's now being



**MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER**  
**Parker County Judge Pat Deen speaks to Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon attendees April 25.**



**Chris Bosco of the engineering, planning and consulting firm Freese and Nichols breaks down projects happening in Precinct 1 at the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon.**

added."

Deen also mentioned that he is "a big believer in passenger rail." That option is expensive and would need planning but would offer people another mode of transportation.

"It's not going to happen overnight, but I do think we need different modalities that's going to play in to get people where they need to go, especially with the statement I just gave you about the density of people that's going to be here for the next 30-40 years," Deen said, referring to a prediction that the density between Weatherford and Aledo will surpass that of the Dallas-Fort Worth area in the coming decades. "We better have something in place that's going to be other than just (Interstate) 20 or even (State Highway) 199 coming in Springtown. We better have our stuff together much better than that and have much

more alternatives because that is some serious growth."

In economic development, Deen said he'd like to see more growth in high wage jobs in Parker County.

"We can't sustain on retail," he said. "Whataburgers and Taco Bells are great, but sales tax and sustainability don't pay for themselves; it's not really quite going to happen. So, finding those locations out there that we can bring in a lot of industry, where we can have good job growth, good wage growth, it's got benefits and wouldn't you rather have your kids stay local than drive to Fort Worth or Dallas and try to keep some of those local jobs without hurting the real integrity of what's important to you."

Anyone with questions for Deen can email him at [pat.deen@parkercountytx.com](mailto:pat.deen@parkercountytx.com) or call his office at 817-598-6148.

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#24-05.31 General Merchandise, Groceries, Supplies, Equipment and Services Azle Independent School District (AISD) is soliciting proposals to establish a vendor list for commodities which are used mainly in the schools and departments on an as needed basis and to establish vendors for the 2024-2025 school year. This would include Products and Services needed for Instructional, Career & Tech Program (CTE), Fine Arts, Maintenance, and Transportation. Responses will be accepted electronically through our eBidding system beginning May 9, 2024 at 8AM (CST). Closing date for this request is May 31, 2024 at 2:00PM (CST). The Request for Proposal package may be obtained electronically via Ionwave at <https://azleisd.ionwave.net/>. Information will be posted on our website: [www.azleisd.net/Departments/BusinessOffice/Purchasing/Bids and Proposals](http://www.azleisd.net/Departments/BusinessOffice/Purchasing/BidsandProposals), or you may call the Purchasing Office at 817-444-0805 for assistance. Vendors must be registered in the Azle ISD Purchasing online vendor registration system to view and provide a response. \*\*\*Vendors who already have current accepted bid with Azle ISD do not need to respond unless their bids are expiring. If unsure about bid expiration date, please contact Angel Fox by email ([afox@azleisd.net](mailto:afox@azleisd.net)).

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A non-mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held at **10:00 AM** on **May 15, 2024** located at Azle City Hall, 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas, 76020.

The Contract Documents consisting of Advertisement of Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds, Maintenance Bond, General Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Plans, Specifications, and Addenda (if any) may be examined at the following location:

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May 9th and 16th, 2024



# ‘Laughter through tears’

**ZACH FREEMAN**  
azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Get ready to laugh and cry in style. On May 17, the Azle Arts Association's Popcorn Players will present “Steel Magnolias” by Robert Harling. This 1987 famous comedy-drama has been performed on screens and stages big and small. Grounded in true happenings, the play tells the story of the bond shared by a group of women in a tight-knit Louisiana town, and how they cope with the death of one of their own. With “Steel Magnolias,” the Azle Arts Association welcomed two new cast members to its fold, Carla Wicks and Sandy Nienaber.

Wicks will play former town first lady Clairee Belcher. While she is new to Azle, Wicks is a longtime member of the D-FW theater scene.

“I heard about Popcorn Players from my nail lady,” Wicks said “She has family that lives in Azle, and she has known that this show has been on my bucket list to do forever. (The nail lady) said, ‘why don’t you go audition’ and I did and that’s why I am here. But I’ve been doing theater in the metroplex for about 11 years. I love it. New theaters are always great. It’s a whole new addition to your theater family.”

Nienaber, a relative new-

## “Steel Magnolias” coming to Azle Arts Assn. theater

comer to Texas, plays Truvy Jones, the iconic glamor technician and town gossip.

“I am fairly new to Texas,” Nienaber said. “I moved from east Tennessee about a year-and-a-half ago and was heavily involved in theater back home. I live in Weatherford currently and I was trying to figure out how to get involved, where to find my new theater family and just went to see shows at a couple places and saw a previous two shows here with my husband and we’re like ‘alright, well they did a good job, we like them and we’re going to give it a shot.’ When I saw this was coming up, I thought, ‘oh I love Steel Magnolias.’ So, I decided to audition and fortunately I was blessed enough to get a part and be with these fabulous people. I love it and everybody’s been great to work with and it’s nice to meet some new people and finally get back on stage. You just learn something different from acting with different people all the time, so it helps you grow.”

This on-stage adaptation will be directed by longtime Popcorn Players Rozanne Gann and Ron Counts.

“This is the second time I

directed this play,” Counts said. “I did it six years ago. Obviously, it was a little bit of a different cast. This is a play version of a chick flick, and you wouldn’t normally think you’d have a male director, but the truth is I prefer directing women. They are just more directable in my opinion. They are better listeners. It’s good to have a male perspective in an all-female cast and these ladies really work well. They all did well in their auditions, and I’ve been very pleased with the progress so far. It’s going to be a good show. There are several things that I like (about “Steel Magnolias”) but as a director, the ones that I work on the most are the emotional changes, and this one is kind of an emotional roller coaster. So, those are the points of the play that I enjoy the most because my job is to help the actor bring out something they didn’t know they had.”

Performances will be May 17, 18 and 19 as well as May 24, 25 and 26. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 2:30 p.m.

The Azle Arts Association Theater is located at 1012 Southeast Parkway in Azle,



Cast members: Amy Worthy, Carol Braden, Sandy Nienaber, Lauren Schillings and Carla Wicks.

and tickets are available in-person, online at [www.azlearts.org](http://www.azlearts.org), or by phone at 817-238-PLAY. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and students and \$10 for the Sunday matinee.

### CAST:

- Shelby-Emily Ball
- Ouiser-Carol Braden
- M'Lynn-Amy Worthy
- Annelle-Lauren Schillings
- Clairee-Carla Wicks
- Truvy-Sandy Nienaber



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# Splash pad opens May 20

## STAFF REPORT

AZLE — It's time to make a splash at Azle Central Park. The Central Park's splash pad will open for the 2024 season Monday, May 20, and will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., starting after 1 p.m. on the opening day. Free for the public, this splash pad in Azle offers multiple spray features, providing a fun and safe environment for kids to cool off during hot summer days. The attraction first opened Sept. 3, 2022, Labor Day weekend. Azle city council members and the mayor attended a grand opening ceremony welcoming the community to the new feature at the park, which is near the playground and adjacent to what was, at the time, a new restroom facility. After reviewing results from a 2021 Community Interest Survey submitted by community members, the Azle City Council approved the funding of the city's first

splash pad in Azle. A splash pad was ranked as one of the top three priorities as a park need. The 2,200 square-foot splash pad features a variety of sprayers, spilling buckets, fountain sprays and water cannons. The splash pad is user activated, with a recirculating system built on a concrete slab featuring a safe "zero depth play area." Vortex Aquatic Play Solutions was the contractor on the project.



The Azle splash pad on its grand opening day. Families in and around Azle are excited for the opening of the summertime favorite Central Park splash pad. This year, the water fun begins May 20.



Azleites of all ages enjoyed an energizing evening of music from Elevation.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

# Music in the Park kicks off with Elevation

Concert series sees successful May 10 launch

## ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — For 15 years (13 as a city-run event and two as private), local bands and music fans have spent their summers rocking and grooving at Azle's annual Music in the Park. After an initial performance by Poo Live Crew was canceled due to lightening May 3, Music in the Park began in earnest the evening of Friday, May 10. Starting at 8 p.m., Emerald City Presents Elevation played for Azle residents at the central park amphitheater for the first time.

The band performed pop, party and dance hits through the decades while guests enjoyed meals and snacks from a number of food trucks. The performance concluded by 10 p.m.

"Friday's night performance was an awesome night full of great music with a very talented group of performers who brought a lot of energy to the show," special events board member Martin Feminella said. "And the crowd really enjoyed it. (Elevation) kept the crowd for the most part until the end of the show, which in my opinion

is a sign that they really liked the show. After 15 years you start to pay attention to a lot of details this being one of them."

The next performance for Music in the Park is scheduled for May 17 when country top 40 artist Ariel Hutchins is set to perform at 8 p.m. To keep up with news on the ongoing concert series, follow the Facebook group "Music in the Park — Azle Texas — Thru the Years." According to Feminella, the board is still working to try to reschedule "Azle's favorite band" Poo Live Crew.



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NOVEL

FROM PAGE A1

created a space that combines the mental benefits of reading with the physical benefits of being outdoors.

“The original idea for the reading garden came about from a Walnut Creek teacher,” Azle ISD Executive Director of Educational Leadership Jessica Hanson said. “The teacher sent me a post from another school’s social media post that already had an established reading garden. When she sent me the post, I said, ‘this needs to be our next grant submission for the Azle Education Foundation!’ The AEF does amazing work for our students and teachers. We were so honored to be chosen by the Azle Education Foundation to make this innovative idea come to life!”

The garden is open to any class and visitors to the school’s library at any time, weather permitting. Its central feature is 18 Hornet-green hammocks where students can relax and soak up some sun while also getting some quality reading time. Administrators see this space as a great way to promote reading and positively contribute to students’ health.

“It is an extra special time for students to get to go out there and read,” Hanson said. “They are very excited to do that. We don’t spend enough time outside using our spaces to creatively address the curriculum areas. This is just another way to do that. Being outside in the sunshine gives us our dose of Vitamin D we need. There have been studies on how Vitamin D helps with not only medical health, like strong bones, but also mental health as well. So many of our kids spend their days inside playing video games or watching TV. Anytime we can take advantage of the sunshine is a good time!”

**SILVER CREEK**

Instead of letting its library’s shelves sag under the weight of unread stories over the summer, Silver Creek Elementary students have been given a chance to build up their own personal collections at home. Through good behavior, showing kindness, respect and meeting academic expectations, students can earn tokens to exchange at Inchy the Bookworm Vending Machines.

“Administration wanted to find a way to continue to build on the excitement of reading and grow our literacy skills,” Principal Aubri Deheck said. “At Silver Creek, we make decisions for what’s best for our kids while instilling a growth mindset! The vending machine serves and shows our school the importance of books — especially being able to grow our students’ home libraries.”

The school surveyed pre-K to fourth grade students about their favorite scholastic books and placed the most popular results in the machine. Before being added, every book is vetted by staff to ensure it’s appropriate for all age groups at the school.

“Every teacher has bought in and really enjoys using this for positive reinforcement when needing to recognize their kids,” Deheck said. “We are building leaders here and this has been a great tool to support our mission. It’s brought a BOOM of excitement into our classrooms. Students understand the tokens are earned and that it’s a big celebration when they earn one.”

Deheck hopes every Silver Creek student will be able to take home a book by the end of the year. In doing this, administrators want to give students a chance to continue building reading skills over the summer and during other down time, fostering a love of reading and furthering good behaviors and the mission of Silver Creek Elementary School.

**EAGLE HEIGHTS**

Another example at Eagle Heights Elementary exemplifies the district’s motto — “it makes a difference to this one.”

The school’s custodians will sometimes allow students to accompany them on their rounds as a reward for good deeds or for finishing tasks. What is work for some can, apparently, be a fun excursion for others. Serra Holt has been Eagle Heights’ lead custodian for four years and this year also took on the role of regular reading partner for one preschool student, Courtney.

“She was having a bad day one day and I was like, ‘does she want to go take a walk?’” Holt asked. “So, we went for a walk and stopped at the library and found some books. She likes to read books, so, it kind of became a daily thing.”

Since she began reading with Courtney, Holt said the student has been having more good days, is better adjusting to the school routine, and is diving deeper into her love of reading.

“It seems to help her get going with her mornings a little better, she has breakfast then I come and she’s able to get on with her day,” Holt said. “She has some days that are more difficult coming into school and it’s just not so much on her all at one time. I can’t handle seeing (students) upset and if I can help in any way to calm them down I will. I feel like all kids need a moment to have a release. They’re human too, just little humans. I love doing it. She gets very happy when I come in. She has multiple books memorized; she can read them without even looking at the words. She’s so smart, she amazes me.”

Holt, a lifelong Azleite and the mother of two current Azle students, reports that even on days when she misses school, other custodians will step up to read with Courtney.

“Honestly, I feel like Eagle



Serra Holt and Courtney read together in the library at Eagle Heights Elementary.

COURTESY PHOTO

Heights is a big family and everybody helps out where everybody can, like if we’re short-staffed a teacher will help,” Holt said. “If I see a teacher that needs somebody to watch her class for a second, I’ll step in, but it just feels like home.”

When working with children, the custodian’s biggest

piece of advice is to have patience.

The school’s Principal Shelly Newton was not aware that Holt had been reading to Courtney until she walked into the library and saw them one day. Newton sees Holt’s actions as an essential part of what makes Eagle Heights and schools across Azle re-

main successful in educating future generations.

“That’s what we’re all here for, right, is to promote the growth and well-being of all students so that means custodians are reading to kids then that’s just part of it,” Newton said. “We’re proud of Serra and all the staff and everything everybody does.”



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Field Day at Springtown Elementary

School hosts  
May 10 field day



Springtown Elementary fourth graders play a super-sized version of an egg-and-spoon race.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER



A Springtown Elementary fourth grader performs extreme feats of balance to prevent his spikey ball from leaving his plunger.



Springtown Elementary third graders try to hold it together while filling their team's bucket.



Springtown Elementary fourth graders get wrapped up trying not to trip each other in a blanket race.



Springtown Elementary third graders enjoy time on a water slide.



A Springtown Elementary fourth grader books it in a bid to collect the most pool noodles for his team.

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THE TRI★COUNTY REPORTER

# DIVERSIONS

B

THURSDAY, May 16, 2024



JOEY GARCIA | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Springtown baseball players hype each other up before Game 2 against Glen Rose.

## Porcupines work OT to advance

RICK MAUCH

Special to the Tri-County Reporter

At this point in the high school baseball season, advancing often requires a little more work. The Springtown Porcupines did just that, bouncing back from an opening loss to win the next two games in extra innings each to stave off upset-minded Glen Rose in their Class 4A

area (second) round playoff series in Joshua.

The upstart Tigers (20-18) won the first game 3-1 May 9, scoring twice in top of the seventh after tying the game in the sixth.

That was followed by the Porcupines (22-8) winning the next game 2-0 in eight innings and 3-2 in nine innings May 10 and 11 to advance. They will face District 8-4A

rival Decatur (25-9) in the Region I quarterfinals, a best-of-3 series with details being finalized at press time.

Brayden Fox was the Game 2 standout. He pitched a 3-hitter and his 2-run home run in the eighth inning was the difference.

In Game 3, the Porcupines tied the game with two runs in the bottom of the seventh, aided by a Glen Rose error

and a hit batter. They then scored the winning run on another Tigers error.

"Starting pitching was good in all three games. The boys found a way at the end," Springtown coach Colin Crawford said. "It was a tough series against a scrappy Glen Rose squad who knocked us out of the playoffs last year.

"We just wanted another

week together. We played really good defense for the most part, got a couple of timely hits. Excited for the opportunity."

Game 1 Springtown hitting: Carson Cox one hit, walk; Brayden Adams one hit; Trent Solis one hit; Logan Murrell one hit, hit by pitch; Kyle Litzman one hit; Ryan Kirk walk; Yair Hernandez walk; Fox RBI, stolen base.

Game 1 Springtown pitching: Caleb Elmore seven innings, five hits, three runs (zero earned), two strikeouts, three walks.

Game 2 hitting: Fox three hits, home run, two RBIs; Kirk one hit; Cox one hit, walk; Solis one hit; Murrell one hit; Litzman two walks.

Game 2 pitching: Fox eight

PLEASE SEE **RUNNERS** | B2

## 'Get ready for the show'

Nine-time state-champion track coach to join Lake Worth ISD

JOEY GARCIA

sports@tricityreporter.com

LAKE WORTH — Tenaya White is a nine-time high school state champion athlete who ran track at Louisiana State University, ran professionally for the United States Pan American team and represented the USA in the North American, Central American, and Caribbean Association or NACAC. Now White will be the girls track and cross country coach at Lake Worth High School.

In high school, White won the state championship

three years in a row. In her first year at LSU, she was Louisiana freshman of the year. She also qualified for the Southeastern Conference championships every year during her college career and competed at the NCAA championships. White has trained at Star Athletics, a professional track club in Florida, alongside Olympians such as five-time Olympic medalist Justin Gatlin. White won a silver medal at the Pan American games in Toronto, Canada. She also won a silver medal representing the USA at NACAC in San Juan, Costa Rica. She began her profes-

sional career coaching alongside her trainer at Grace Prep Academy in Arlington.

"Once I was done running, I wanted to give back to the kids," White said. "I want to be another staple in their corner that has knowledge in this sport, beyond what I had at the time. I had great coaches that told me, 'Hey, you can do this, you can do that,' And I just want to be the same for the kids."

White has been coaching track and teaching physical education at her alma mater, Lancaster High School. Having competed professionally, White possesses knowl-

edge that few have. Her desire is to share her knowledge with the kids who may never have the chance to receive a high level of training. She also aims to inspire her student athletes to push themselves and not give up. Even though she made it to the professional level as a runner, it did not come easy, and she wants to use her experiences to inspire others.

"It was a fight for me. I was an underdog," White said. "I always tell my kids, 'Don't stop just because you're not the best. Don't think that

PLEASE SEE **TRACK** | B2



COURTESY PHOTO

Tenaya White has been named girls track and cross country coach at Lake Worth High School.



LAYTH TAYLOR | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Paige Bunero took third place with a 10.840-second run in the ribbon roping event at the Tolar High School Rodeo, Hood County Reunion Grounds April 6-7.

## Rodeo siblings competing against, supporting each other

RICK MAUCH

Special to the Tri-County Reporter

The Bunero siblings, Paige and Sean, are challenging the old adage about a house divided is not happy.

In fact, they couldn't be happier.

Though they live under the same roof and are both home-schooled, they compete for different high school rodeo teams. Paige, a freshman, is on the Springtown team and Sean, a senior, is on the Azle squad.

"We thought it would be good for friendly competition, to push us for better results," Paige said of being on separate teams.

"Also, I had some sponsor money with Azle," said Sean, who is in his third season competing with the team.

### COMPETING AGAINST EACH OTHER

Now, both are among the many contestants from those two teams who will compete at this weekend's North Texas High School Rodeo Association Finals in Saginaw. Paige will compete in breakaway roping and Sean will compete in calf roping.

They will compete against each other in ribbon roping. "Competing against her is more fun than anything I've ever done," Sean said. "We expect nothing less than 100%

out of each other."

Paige echoed those thoughts, adding, "It's definitely a lot of fun competing in the same event. We both work each other pretty good. He sees stuff I need to work on and I see things he needs to work on."

### SUPPORTING SIBLINGS

Of course, when they are battling for the top prize in the same event, all bets are off. Otherwise, they are each other's loudest cheerleader.

"I'm very proud of her. I know she works hard for it," Sean said. "I hope she goes pro."

PLEASE SEE **BUNERO** | B2





JOEY GARCIA | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
Josh Montelongo and Tyler Ulrich will play football and room together at Southern Nazarene University.

# From high school teammates to college roommates

*AHS football teammates will play together at Southern Nazarene University*

JOEY GARCIA  
sports@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Azle High School varsity football team captains Josh Montelongo and Tyler Ulrich will be teammates and roommates at Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma when the fall semester begins. Ulrich and Montelongo have known each other since their freshman year.

This year, Montelongo also ran track and even qualified for regionals. He placed third in regionals and the only two runners who beat him won at

state. Montelongo will study kinesiology and plans to become a physical therapist. He currently takes classes in anatomy and physiology and does clinicals. His goals while at college, on and off the field, are to prove himself and be the best person he can be. His love for football stems from the relationships he has made on the field.

"I think the bond is what I like most about football — having a bond with teammates. It's like a brotherhood," Montelongo said.

Ulrich also competed in track and powerlifting this

year. He will study finance in college and plans to become a real estate agent. He will obtain his real estate license before he graduates from high school. His goal at SNU is to suit up for a game, something freshman must earn. Ulrich's love for football began in the eighth grade.

"I had a coach tell me I should play, and I just fell in love with the sport," Ulrich said.

The two young men say they thank God, their families and their coaches for developing them into the athletes they are and to be able to play at the college level.

## BUNERO

FROM PAGE B1

Which, Paige said, is her plan.

"I want to jump on the WPRCA (Women's Professional Rodeo Cowgirls Association) circuit right out of high school," she said.

Sean is also considering turning pro if the situation is right. And both plan to compete in college.

In rodeo, participants can compete and win money while also competing for their high school or college team.

Paige plans to get a veterinarian technology degree. Sean is going to study diesel engineering.

### GETTING STARTED

Both have only been competing for three years. Paige got started in junior high and Sean's first season was his sophomore year.

Sean was previously a pole vaulter, and a good one, at both Forte Middle School and Azle High School. Then, through a friend, now teammate and fellow Azle roper Kasen Scarlato, he was introduced to roping and immediately realized a new passion.

"I had a gut feeling, kind of like God told me I need to be a calf roper, so I listened," Sean said.

While they are the first competitive ropers in their

family, the Buneros do have a family history in the NTHSRA. Their mother, Debbie, barrel raced and reached the NTHSRA Finals in the mid-1980s.

### SPECIAL TIME TOGETHER

Sean is finally at his most comfortable moment in the NTHSRA. As a sophomore he had to put his horse down after it got wrapped up in some barbed wire. As a junior, he had trouble finding the right horse, but he still reached the Finals despite competing in only five rodeos.

Now, he's set to compete for a championship — and he couldn't be more thrilled to share this moment with his little sister.

"It's been an honor. I love every bit of it," he said. "I wouldn't trade it for anything."

In addition to their success in the NTHSRA, the two compete and support each other in various rodeos all across the southwest. They also both reached the NTHSRA Scholarship Rodeo finals at the beginning of the season, and both reached the Jackpot Round at Junior Patriot Rodeo in late February/early March at Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum in Fort Worth.

"Getting able to do this one year (in NTHSRA) with my brother before he graduates, it's very special," Paige said. "It's a great bonding moment."



Sean Bunero calf ropes at the May 2023 Azle rodeo finals to take sixth place and a buckle.

PHOTO COURTESY GATEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

### NTHSRA FINALISTS

Here is the complete list of competitors this weekend from Azle and Springtown:

- Barrel racing: Heavenly Scribner, Azle; Kaylee Buchanan, Springtown.
- Breakaway roping: Paige Bunero, Springtown.
- Bull riding: Colton Phillips, Springtown (event leader);

Tucker Barbee, Azle.

- Calf roping: Sean Bunero, Azle; Tanner Piller, Springtown.
- Chute dogging: Wyatt Allison, Azle; River Cassel, Azle; Kasen Scarlato, Azle; Cade Walker, Springtown.
- Ride-up goat tying: Laurel Allred, Azle; Delaney Harris, Springtown; Andrea Allred, Azle; Shaye Winford, Spring-

town.

- Walk-up goat tying: 1. Laurel Allred, Azle (event leader); Andrea Allred, Azle; Delaney Harris, Springtown; Caitlyn Colley, Azle.
- Poles: 1. Laurel Allred, Azle (event leader); Heavenly Scribner, Azle; Caitlyn Colley, Azle.
- Ribbon roping: Sean Bunero, Azle; Paige Bunero,

Springtown.

- Steer wrestling: Cade Walker, Springtown.
- Team roping-header: 1. Xavier Reyes, Azle (event leader); Kasen Scarlato, Azle.
- Team roping-heeler: 1. Kasen Scarlato, Azle (event leader); Xavier Reyes, Azle.
- Teams: 1. Azle, 12,201 points; 4. Springtown, 5,229, points.

## TRACK

FROM PAGE B1

your time will never come. Sometimes you have to learn how to work hard, put your head down and see how far you can go."

White understands the mindsets that athletes may go through. Her experiences help her put herself in the athlete's shoes and help them out of the mental slumps that may come whether on or off the track. White has had coaches who have helped her during her own mental slumps as a runner and even as a coach. She credits the coaches for the athlete she was and the

coach she is today.

"I would like to thank all of the coaches that have been my coaches that have poured into me, giving me all of the knowledge that I have," White said.

White is excited to bring her expertise to LWHS, to coach alongside championship-winning coaches and to begin building her legacy there. She's ready to help athletic director Todd Peterman's goal of getting every student graduated and college ready. White will also be a special education teacher at LWHS.

"My message for the Lake Worth community (is) come out and support the Bullfrogs. We're coming to take over, so get ready for the show," White said.

## ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE B1

innings, three hits, six strikeouts, one walk, three hit batters.

Game 3 hitting: Kirk one hit; Adams one hit, walk; Solis one hit, walk; Litzman one hit, two walks, hit by pitch, RBI, stolen base; Drake Doggett walk.

Game 3 pitching: Keegan Martinez seven innings, two hits, two runs (zero earned), five strikeouts, two walks, hit batter; Nate McDaniel 1.2 innings, one hit, four walks; Cox 0.1 innings.

The Porcupines and Decatur shared the 8-4A championship with Krum. They split their district contests, with the Eagles winning

11-0 in Springtown and the Porcupines winning 1-0 in Decatur. Then, in a playoff to determine district seeding for the postseason, Springtown won 3-1 over Decatur in Sanger to secure the No. 2 seed, leaving the Eagles No. 3 and Krum, by virtue of defeating the Porcupines in that same seeding tourney, getting the top seed.

Krum (20-9-2) is also still alive in the postseason and facing Stephenville in a best-of-3 series this week.

The winner between Springtown and Decatur will face the winner between Canyon (24-7-1) and West Plains (29-6).

### AZLE TENNIS

Lady Hornets Emily O'Neill and Jorja Erwin saw their historic season come to an end in the round of 16 at

the Class 5A Region I Tennis Tournament at Texas Tech University in Lubbock May 8. They are the first girls from Azle ever to qualify for the regional tournament.

O'Neill is a sophomore and Erwin is a senior. The duo finished second in Girls Doubles in the District 5-5A Tournament at TCU.

### AZLE BOYS BASKETBALL

Samson Tukia of the Hornets has been named a Student Assistant of the Year by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. He was nominated by Hornets head coach James Crafton.

### RODEO

Hevenli Scribner of Azle is atop the pole competition in Region 3 of the Texas High School Rodeo Association with 98 points, a 5-point advantage over second place.

She is also eighth in the Girls All-Around standings.

Also from the area, her Azle teammate Noah Lee is second in bull riding with 60 points, 16 out of first place. Kaylee Buchanan of Springtown is tied for seventh place in girls cutting and Sean Bunero of Azle is 13th in calf roping.

In Region 10, Delaney Harris of Springtown is 12th in goat tying.

### GOLF

Ernest Dallas of Springtown already has his late spring/summer competition underway in the Northern Texas PGA Junior Golf tournaments. He began by competing in an event at Cross Timbers Golf Course in Azle recently.

Dallas posted a score of 90, tying him for 10th in the Boys 15-18 age group.



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AHS seniors walk halls

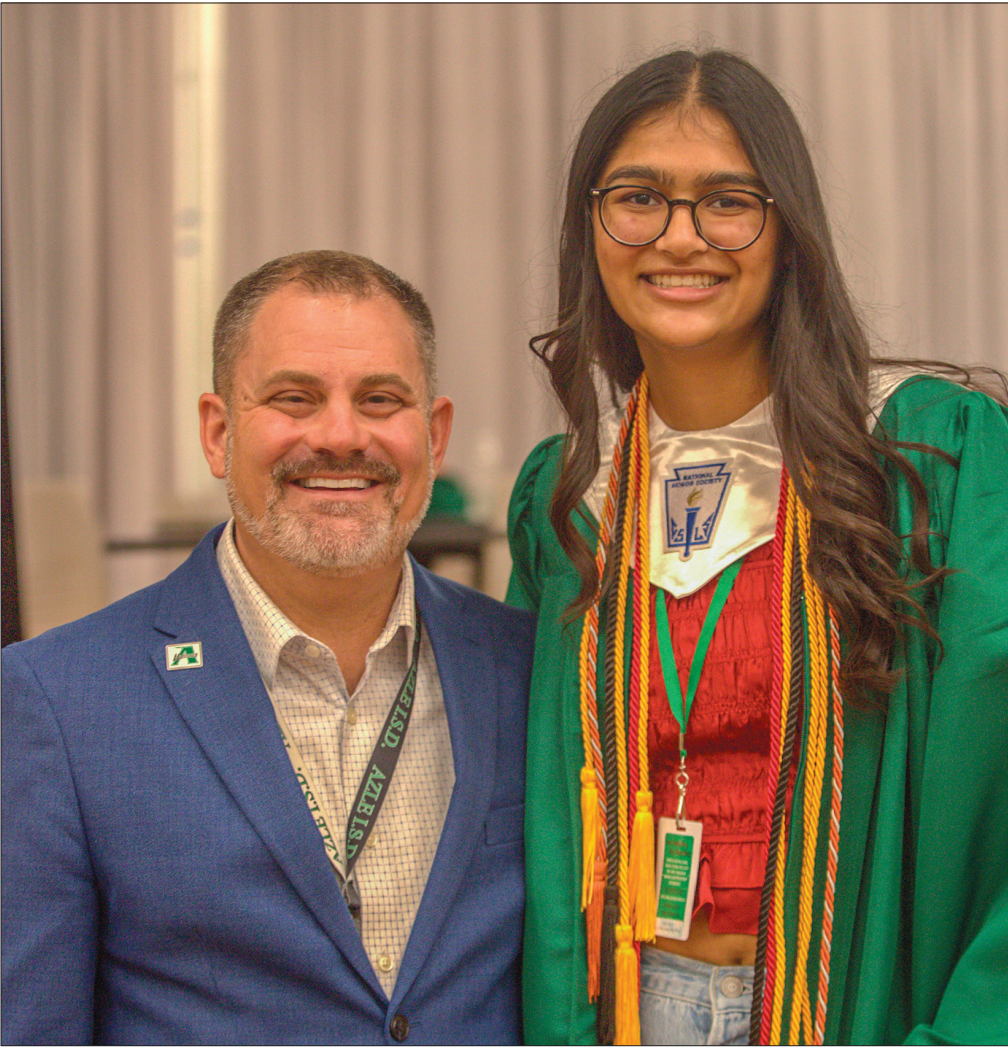
Graduating seniors visit elementary schools in caps, gowns



**JOEY GARCIA**  
*sports@tricountyreporter.com*

AZLE — Azle High School seniors visited every Azle ISD elementary school Tuesday May 7. The soon-to-be graduates visited the elementary school they attended. Elementary students cheered on and high-fived the seniors as they walked down the elementary school halls wearing their caps and gowns.

**JOEY GARCIA | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER**  
**Senior Emory Hann high fives Walnut Creek Elementary students.**



Azle ISD Superintendent Todd Smith with senior Shree Patel at Walnut Creek Elementary where he was principal when she attended.



Senior Morgan Terrell hugs Walnut Creek Interventionist Teresa Bagwell.



(L-R): AHS seniors Bryan Rager, Alan Hard, Walnut Creek Elementary teacher Rochelle Kaempf, AHS seniors Alex Doggett, Chandler Doggett, Katie Burleson and Arissa Webster.



Seniors (L\_R): Bryan Rager, Alan Hard, Patrick LaMorte and Bradyn Rager at Walnut Creek Elementary.

Top AHS seniors honor most influential teachers

Lavish Petroleum Club dinner funded by anonymous donor



**CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER**

The Academic Top 10 and Faculty Choice Top 10 graduating seniors from Azle High School, along with their families, were on hand to honor each of the students' most influential teachers May 7 at the Fort Worth Petroleum Club. The seniors each read a letter they wrote to the teacher they deemed to have had the most influence in their school career and life, bringing laughter, pride and even tears from the audience. An anonymous donor funds the big event each year.





Auto tech students judge cars in high school parking lot

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER  
A variety of cool and colorful cars from throughout the decades were on display at Azle High School May 5.

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WE SHOULD PASS SOME OUT TO THE NEIGHBORS!

AHHHH, SO MUCH CLASHING!



High School students judged, ranked and awarded drivers for the best cars in a number of different categories.

# Sudoku

MAY 16, 2024

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

Level: Advanced

# Solution to last week's puzzle

MAY 9, 2024

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

# WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to vision.

SAHL

--	--	--	--

Answer: Lash

# CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to Lyme disease. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 11 = I)

A. 11 4 4 20 14 6 6  
Clue: Disease

B. 9 11 1 23  
Clue: Parasite

C. 17 13 6 19  
Clue: Skin irritation

D. 16 13 9 11 2 12 14  
Clue: Tiredness





# Area Champs!

*We're so proud of you 'Pines - good luck at regionals!*

JOEY GARCIA | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Ryan Kirk makes contact with the ball for a base hit.



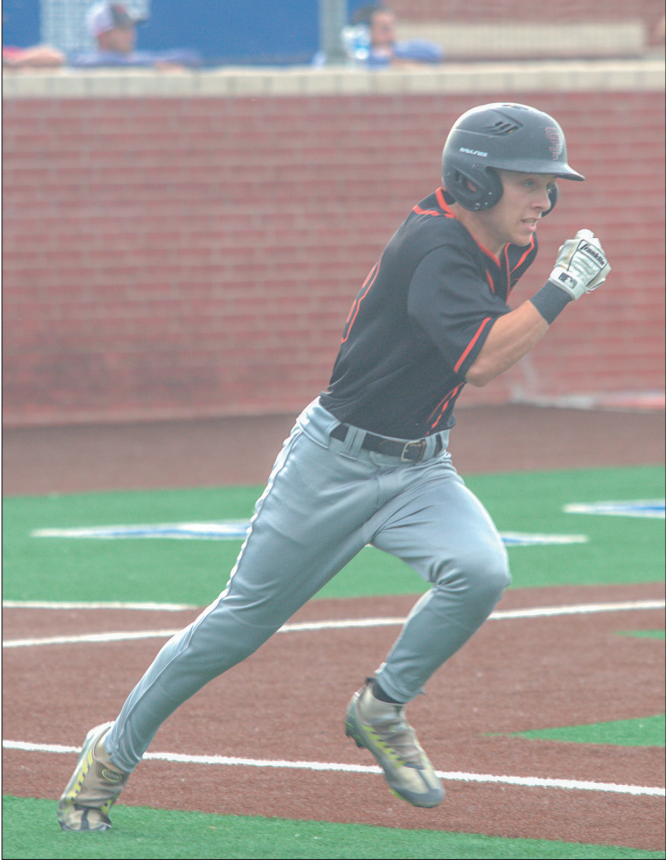
Ryan Kirk comfortably jogs to first after a base hit.



Carson Cox hits a ground ball to help the Pines with their victory over Glen Rose.



Brayden Fox threw a 3-hitter and hit a 2-run homer in the eighth inning in Game 2 of the playoff series against Glen Rose.



Kyle Litzman sprints to first base after a ground ball hit.

<b>Ace of Azle</b> 505 N. Stewart - Azle - 817-270-5600 acehardware.com	<b>Highland Furniture</b> North Side of the Square Springtown - 817-220-5570	<b>ProMax Power Sports</b> 123 Hwy. 199 E. - Springtown - 817-220-2453 promaxpowersports.com
<b>Azle Dental Care</b> Dr. Brooke Porter & Associates 912 Boyd Rd. - Azle - 817-444-1763 smilegreat.com	<b>Hilltop Family Church</b> 1227 Old Cottondale Rd. Springtown -817-220-7177 hilltopfamily.church	<b>Springtown Family Dental</b> 434 Hwy. 199 E. - Springtown - 817-523-5963 springtownfamilydental.com
<b>Chicken Express</b> 502 E. Hwy. 199 - Springtown - 817-523-0009 chickene.com	<b>Howell's Cafe</b> 329 Hwy. 199 W. - Springtown - 817-220-7915	<b>Springtown Family Health Center</b> 499 E. Hwy. 199 - Springtown - 817-523-5402 springtownclinic.com
<b>Eagle Crest Villa Senior Living Community</b> 113 Denver Trail - Azle - 817-444-3249 eaglecrestvilla.com	<b>Moss Rehabilitation Center</b> 101 Highland Rd. Springtown - 817-220-6677 springtownphysicaltherapy.com	<b>Sutton Printing</b> 418 Hwy. 199 E. - Springtown - 817-220-2101 suttonprintingco.com
<b>First Baptist Church Springtown</b> 500 N. Main - Springtown - 817-220-5229 firstbaptistspringtown.com	<b>Pinnacle Bank</b> 726 E. Hwy. 199 - Springtown - 817-220-5504 pinnbanktx.com	<b>The Lube Center</b> 324 Hwy. 199 - Springtown - 817-523-3151
<b>Tri-County Reporter</b> 321 W. Main St. - Azle -817-270-3340 tricountyreporter.com		

The merchants on this page support our youth in all their activities.  
Support them by shopping at home - every chance you get.



classified@tricountyreporter.com

817-270-3340 or 817-220-7217

Ad Classifications

1... Air Condition/Heating

2..... Antiques

3..... Appliances

4..... Appliance Repair

5..... Arts/Crafts

6..... Asphalt Paving

7..... Auctions

8..... Autos, Trucks

9..... Auto Repair Service

10..... Backhoe Service

11..... Boats, Motors

12..... Bookkeeping

13..... Business Opportunity

14..... Campers/Trailers

15..... Carports/Patios

16..... Equipment Repair

17..... Carpet Service

18..... Catering

19..... Cement Work

20..... Demolition

21..... Child Care

22..... Cosmetics

23..... Computers/Services

24..... Electrician

25..... Equipment & Tool Rental

26..... Excavating

27..... Exterminating

28..... Farm Equipment

29..... Fencing

30..... Firewood

31..... Free

32..... For Sale

33..... Furniture

34..... Garage & Estate Sales

35.... Garden/Mowing Svc

36..... Hauling

37..... Hay

38..... Health/Fitness

39..... Help Wanted

40.... Home Improvement

41..... House Leveling

42..... House Cleaning

43..... Hunting

44..... Janitorial Service

45..... Job Wanted

46..... Looking to Buy

47..... Lost & Found

48... Maintenance/Repairs

49..... Masonry/Stonework

50... Mobile Home Service

51..... Motorcycles

52..... Movers

53..... Musical Instruments

54..... Music Lessons

55..... Miscellaneous

56 Party Planning/Events

57..... Pets/Livestock

58..... Piano Service

59..... Pool Service

60..... Professional Services

61..... Personal

62..... Plumbing

63..... Public Notice

64..... Photography

65..... Printing

66..... Roofing

67..... Recycling

68..... Storage

69..... Sand/Gravel

70..... Septic Tanks

71..... Sewing/Alterations

72..... Sewer Service

73..... TV/Radio

74..... Tractor Service

75..... Upholstery

76..... Vacuum Cleaners

77..... Wanted

78..... Well Drilling

79..... Welding

80..... Lots/Acreage

81..... Business & Commercial Property

82..... RV's for Rent

83..... Houses for Sale

84..... Mobile Homes for Rent

85..... Mobile Homes for Sale

86..... Mobile Home/RV Lots

87..... Rent Furnished

88..... Rent Unfurnished

89..... Wanted to Rent

RATES

16 Words or Less:

Only \$10.00 per week!

Over 16 words, add 20 cents per word

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

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

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

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE:

1:00 PM FRIDAY

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

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

Nobody does it better!

006 Asphalt Paving

BYRUM CONSTRUCTION

Asphalt and Concrete Paving

Driveways • Parking Lots

Asphalt Repairs & Sealcoating

Asphalt Millings • Gravel

Bruce Byrum, Azle, TX 817-690-2429

019 Cement Work

Allen Chesney Concrete

All Types of Concrete Work

Residential - Commercial

Foundations, driveways,

sand, gravel, demolition,

haul-off, retaining walls

817-271-4541

Kiley Chesney Construction

Dirt & Concrete Work

Driveways • House Slabs • Garages • Add-ons

Small Land Clean-ups • Gravel Driveways

Kiley Chesney, Owner

Springtown, TX • Mobile 817-846-6645

024 Electrician

BULLDAWG ELECTRIC CO.

All types of electrical services

and MH hook-ups.

Free Estimates. 817-675-4921

www.bulldawgelectric.com.

TECL#25253.

026 Excavating

REED EXCAVATING

• SITE PREPARATION

• LOT CLEARING

• LEVELING

• FINAL GRADE

• LAND EROSION

• GRAVEL ROADS

• PARKING LOTS

• DEMOLITION

• STOCK TANKS

Dump Truck Hauling 817-919-3696

029 Fencing

BOBBY'S FENCE. All types,

Free Estimates, Over 26 years

experience. 817-444-3213.


KILEY CHESNEY

CONSTRUCTION

All Types Fences - Tractor Work

817-846-6645

032 For Sale




2010 Club Car

Electric Golf Cart

Asking \$1500.

Call Donna

817-688-9316



King size bed, mattress,

nightstand, chest of

drawers, dresser & mirror.

\$600 817-454-3798

034 Garage & Estate Sales

SALE

See what we have! Too much

to list!

Things priced to sell! Come Buy!

May 1st - 31st, closed Sundays

& Mondays Open 9am

Inside If Rain.

Needful Things

463 Dear Butte

525-3923

034 Garage & Estate Sales

Multi-Family Yard Sale

Saturday May 18, 8am-?

2124 Lexie Ln Azle

Tools, Home Decor, Oversized

Chair, Baby Items, Toys, Misc.

HUGE MOVING SALE -

EVERYTHING MUST GO

Saturday May 18 & Sunday May

19, 8am - 3pm

112 Live Oak Street, Azle 76020

Furniture, Power Tools, Yard

Equip, Home Decor, Exercise

Equipment, TV, Clothes, Lots of

Good Stuff

Living Estate Sale - 50 Years

Accumulation

New & Antique Items, furniture,

pictures, dolls, occupied Japan &

Nippon figurines, clothes, purses,

new bedding, fabric, jewelry.

Cut,patterned, & depressions

glass - Too much to list!

335 North Cardinal Azle 8am-

5pm May 17 & May 18, maybe

May 19

Garage Sale

17-18th May,8am. 566 & 574

Balboa Trail, Kimbrough Place,

Azle. Sewing machine, TV,

clarinet, golf/sports/fishing equip,

clothes, household, pampering

products, toys, holiday, lots of

misc.

Estate/ Garage Sale

Friday May 18th - Sunday May

19th, 8am-5pm

112 Lilac Ln, Azle

Furniture, knick-knacks, kitchen,

and more!

Family Yard Sale

Clothes, Furniture, glassware,

shoes, kids clothes, toys, misc.

528 Old Springtown Rd. 5/17-

5/18, possible 5/19

035 Garden/Mowing Service

COWBOY LAWN CARE.

Handyman services, residential,

farm, , landscaping, tree

trimming. Free Estimates. 817-

271-0450. Spring Specials.

STUMP GRINDING

Don't dig it! Grind it!

1 or 100 - We can do it.

\$85 minimum within 5 mi.

817-237-5592

036 Hauling

DORADO

TRANSPORT LLC

AZLE, TEXAS

We Haul: Auto, Power Sports,

Equipment and Freight

817-789-2519

DoradoTransportLLC@Yahoo.com

039 Help Wanted

Springtown ISD is accepting

applications for Bus Drivers and

Monitors. Training available.

Contact the Transportation Dept.

817-220-1418.

SILVER DOLLAR CUSTOMS

HELP WANTED

2 Mechanics needed and 2

Body Technicians Experience

a must and tools a plus!

Mechanics We work on all types

of vehicles; we specialize in

classics. From full restorations,

modifications, rebuilds and

upgrades, maintenance, and

repairs but not limited to. Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00am to

5:00pm Occasional Saturday

Body Shop Technicians Metal

work, fabrications, welding,

body working, sanding, grinding,

and sand blasting. Hours:

Monday - Friday 6:00am to

2:30pm Occasional Saturday Pay

Negotiable Contact: Elizabeth @

817-752-2165 or Come by: 408

Commerce St Azle, Tx 76020

PLACE AN AD IN

THE CLASSIFIEDS

TODAY!

817-270-3340

039 Help Wanted

The City of Pelican Bay

is hiring for a Utility Clerk

position.

Utility Clerk

\$15.00 hourly

Job Summary: Provide

exceptional customer service

and clerical support for Utility

Billing. Complete new account

set up, disconnections, and

service orders. Collects cash and

electronic payments. Potential

Duties and Responsibilities:

This information is intended

to be descriptive of the key

responsibilities of the position.

The following examples do not

identify all duties performed by

any single incumbent.

Required Knowledge, Skills,

and Abilities: Strong cash

handling skills, Strong customer

service skills, Strong computer

skills, including Microsoft

Office products (Word, Excel,

Outlook), Strong basic math

skills, Good interpersonal skills,

positive attitude, and neat

appearance, Good organizational

and time management skills,

Office skills using computer,

software programs, calculator,

and telephone. Ability to

communicate effectively and

professionally verbally or in

writing.

Resumes can be sent to

cdaniels@pelicanbaytx.gov

High End Wood Parts

Manufacturer

in Haltom City, TX.

Hardwood cut-out tech, must

read drawings. Must have

some experience.

CNC Router Operator/

Programmer, looking for

someone who wants to learn

and grow into a professional

career.

Professional shop, good

wages, paid vacation and

holidays.

Contact:

customerservice@clmillwork.com

or 817-605-0002

Eagle Crest

VILLAGE

SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

FT COOK

11 am - 7:30 pm Sun-Wed

Benefits: On-shift Meals, 401k,

PTO, & Medical, Dental,

& Life Insurance

Please apply in person

113 Denver Trail, Azle

Applications 30 days or older not kept on file

Advertising

Works!

039 Help Wanted

Equipment

Operator

Pay based on experience,

some benefits offered


after 90 days.

Call 214-802-5157

for more info

SELL IT IN THE

CLASSIFIEDS!



Support Your

Local Businesses

Shop Locally!

ONLY

\$29<sup>95</sup>

TAKING A ROAD TRIP?

Find that Perfect Vehicle in the Classifieds.

OR

You can Sell your Auto in the same section.

Call for more info on our

3 MONTH SPECIAL

Call 817-270-3340

TRI★COUNTY REPORTER

16

WORDS

FOR

ONLY

\$10

Deadline:

Mondays

by 5PM


NEED AN AD?

The Tri-County Reporter

817-270-3340

Find a Lawn & Garden

Specialist in the Classifieds



Tony's Tree Service

• Trimming • Stump Grinding

• Expert Dead Tree Removal


• Brush Chipping


Senior & Veteran Discounts

Bucket Truck & Skid Steer Available

817-266-4603

Fully Insured. BBB A+ Rating





Chad's Tree Service

Trimming • Removals • Stump Grinding


Systemic Feeding • Brush Chipping • Cable Bracing

817-221-2201 • 817-246-5943

817-800-6059 CELL

Insured for your protection

FREE ESTIMATES



Save a Shelter

Animal.

Find your

forever Friend

www.tricountyreporter.com



817-270-3340

Deadline:  
1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

039

Help Wanted

**KARL KLEMENT**

Service Technician  
Seeking to hire ALL levels of Automotive Service Technicians to join our team! Compensation based on experience and certifications. Must have a valid TXDL, be dependable and responsible with a good work ethic. To apply, please send resume via Indeed ad or come by our office located at  
605 N. Business 287, Suite 102 in Decatur.  
Full-Time, Monday-Friday

**KLEMENT** Jeep  
No Positions Available at This Time

**KLEMENT DISTRIBUTION, INC.**  
(Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)  
No Positions Available at This Time

**Karl Klement Properties, Inc.**  
No Positions Available at This Time

Apply in person at:  
605 N. Business 287, Ste 102, Decatur, Texas or call  
Human Resources  
940-627-6362 | hr.info@klementford.com  
Jodi or Gina

All full-time positions offer growth opportunities  
& a full benefits package including  
Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401(k) & more.  
EEOC

Support Your  
Hometown Businesses!



SHOP LOCAL. BE LOCAL.

040 Home Improvement

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

**Kevin's Handyman Services**  
40 Years Experience

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

Springtown and Surrounding Areas  
231-445-1221

**Devin's Handyman Service**

- Carpentry
- Cement
- Rock
- Granite
- Tile
- Painting
- Siding

- Insulation
- Kitchen/Bath
- Roof & Gutters
- Powerwashing
- Decks

SUMMER SPECIAL  
20% OFF  
with this ad!



Call Devin at 817-629-9608

046 Looking to Buy

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

049 Masonry/Stonework

**Silva Masonry, L.L.C.**  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL  
Landscape Designs, Outdoor Kitchens  
Patios, Retaining Walls, Mailboxes  
All Types Stone & Brick Work Free  
New Construction • Remodels Estimates  
817-308-6512  
email alvarogsilva@verizon.net



052 Movers

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

057 Pets/Livestock

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

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE:  
tricityreporter.com

OVER THE PHONE:  
817-270-3340

OR EMAIL:  
classified@tricityreporter.com

057 Pets/Livestock

**Happy Jack**  
When veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® healthcare products for dogs, cats, & horses.  
**Russell Feed Inc.**  
817-444-8815  
www.happyjackinc.com

062 Plumbing

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

066 Roofing

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

066 Roofing

**At Home ROOFING & METAL BUILDINGS**  
817-304-4224  
Tired of always replacing your roof?  
Call us for a metal roof quote.  
We'll be here after the storm.

**DIAMOND ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION**

**DIAMOND ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION**  
417 N. MAIN ST • SPRINGTOWN  
817-523-4137  
Here Before The Storm. Here Long After.

Commercial & Residential

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



069 Sand/Gravel

**Hall's Sand, Dirt & Gravel**  
QUALITY FAMILY BUSINESS  
Since 1938  
CALL CLIFF HALL  
(817) 228-6293  
We go the extra mile to ensure you get more for your \$.  
On House Pads, Driveways, Lot Clearing & Tractor Work, Etc.

079 Welding


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

DESIGN FABRICATION ERECTION

**Cozart METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS**

Fabrication and erection of quality metal buildings at reasonable prices, any size - any design  
Office 817-237-2282 Fax 817-237-0904  
Mark Cozart Jeremy Cozart  
817-233-6668 817-237-2028

**WDC**  
WELD-DONE CONSTRUCTION LTD.  
**Metal Building Erectors**  
• Pre-engineered Weld-up  
• Barns/Shops  
• Arenas/Hangars  
• Fencing  
1220 E. Hwy. 199 • Springtown  
817-220-2150  
www.weld-done.net

**R & E Construction**  
Metal Building Specialist  
• Weld Ups/ Bolt Ups  
• Pipe Fencing  
• Concrete  
• Horse Barns  
• All Types Fencing  
• Metal Roofs  
Compare Pricing  
NO JOB TOO SMALL

Advertising Works!

079 Welding

**SOLID STEEL SOLUTIONS**  
• Metal Buildings  
• Steel Components  
• Welding Supplies  
• Concrete Supplies  
• Fabrication Supplies  
• Pipe Fencing  
• Deer Blinds  
• Deer Feeders  
8894 W Hwy 199 • Springtown  
817-220-0008  
www.SolidSS.com Open to the Public

081 Business/Commercial

40x50 building For Rent,  
3 miles west of Springtown.  
817-713-7495.  
For Lease:  
Hwy 199 frontage,  
near hospital, 2000 Sq Ft  
\$1500/mo.  
817-220-2021  
Bryant Real Estate.

082 RV's for Rent

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

085 Mobile Homes for Sale

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

088 Rent Unfurnished

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

3/2 Duplex, quiet location, nice & clean, newly refurbished, no pets. \$1500.00/mo. 817-444-3636.  
2/2 House, 2 Carport - Azle  
Clean & clean appliances. Close to shopping and restaurants. No dogs. \$1600/month 817-444-3636

**AZLE OAKS APARTMENT**  
700 JARVIS • AZLE  
817-444-1712  
**1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished**  
Accepting Applications  
Rent based on income  
TDD: 800-735-2989  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**GENE THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES HOMES AND MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT**  
gtx.com  
817-246-4646

**YARD SALE**  
16 words for only \$10. A great way to raise extra money! Call today for more info. 817-270-3340

Advertising Works!

088 Rent Unfurnished

**Gateway Apartments**  
313 Gateway • Azle • 817-444-0882  
TDD 800-760-1997  
Energy Efficient • Central Heat/Air  
Off Street Parking • Water Paid  
Fully Equipped Laundry  
**ONE & TWO BEDROOMS**  
**Rent Based On Income For Qualified Applicants**  
62 years of age or older, handicap/disabled, regardless of age  
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer 

**3 Month Special**  
**Want To Sell Your Boat, Auto, Trailer, Motorcycle, RV Or Other Vehicle?**  
**ONLY \$29<sup>95</sup>**  
Call for more info. 817-270-3340  
The Tri-County Reporter

**Save A Shelter Animal. Find Your Furever Friend**

068 Storage

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

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



817-270-3340


Deadline:  
1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**

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

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



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

**ACROSS**

1 TXism: "changes his mind as often \_\_\_ does socks"

5 a star in Texas-filmed "Silkwood"

6 Houston has big \_\_\_nautics industry

7 early slavery case plaintiff: \_\_\_ Scott

8 one impeachment charge against "Pa" Ferguson in 1917

17 Fort Worth spring festival: "\_\_\_ fest"

18 reparations for wrongs

21 TXism: "big biscuit \_\_\_ the pan" (boss)

22 river movement

23 TXism: "weak \_\_\_ -day-old kitten"

24 TXism: "attracted like a \_\_\_ \_\_\_ chew toy"

29 car horn sound

30 Palestine AM radio

31 hosp. trauma area

32 TXism: "numerous \_\_\_ in Texas"

34 canal or great lake

35 TX George Jones' "\_\_\_ Name Is"

36 caused to be loved

37 TXism: "\_\_\_ a line" (go fish)

38 Lubbock has the highest crime \_\_\_ in Texas (2024)

39 the only NHL team in Texas (2 wds.)

41 belly button

42 TXism: "heap of"

43 San Antonio NBA team

44 "gotta \_\_\_ all my bases"

45 TX Betty Buckley was on the last three seasons of this HBO prison drama

46 pub brew

47 TX Zina Garrison won tennis gold in 1988 at Olympics in South \_\_\_

48 TV western for TX Patricia Blair: "The \_\_\_"

**DOWN**

1 UT comic strip by Berkeley Breathed, with "The" (2 wds.)

2 seat of Grayson County

3 notary words in Texas: "... I \_\_\_ certify that ..."

4 to gradually wear away a Texas beach

9 jewelry retailer based in Texas

10 Houston rock band if it was missing a "Z" (2 wds.)

11 "I searched high and \_\_\_"

12 Rangers announcer, Nadel (init.)

13 TXism: "just cause a chicken has wings don't \_\_\_ can fly" (looks deceiving)

14 TXism: "never let '\_\_\_ you sweat"

15 tidy

16 explosive letters

19 treble speaker

20 stallion base of the King Ranch quarter horses "Old \_\_\_"

22 rock-forming mineral

24 Gov. "\_\_\_" Ferguson

25 "got no \_\_\_ for it"

33 historical period

34 TXism: "still wet behind the \_\_\_"

35 TXism: "does a cat \_\_\_ climbing gear?" (yes)

37 uncarpeted (2 wds.)

38 Sam Houston's Cherokee name

40 seat of Swisher County

41 singer, TX Jones (without the "h")

44 "y'all \_\_\_ back"

47 in Karnes County on highway 72

49 actress, TX Darnell

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**

by Charley & Guy Orbison

Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

P-1689



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

Find that Perfect Camper or RV in the Classifieds

OR

You can Sell yours in the same section. Call 817-270-3340 for more info on our

3-Month Special Only \$29.95



**TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK**

**TexSCAN**

TexSCAN Week of May 12-18, 2024

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