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Chute 2 Productions Producer Kelly Clark as the rodeo clown for the rodeo show.

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MORE PHOTOS
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Springtown Council approves fence variance to protect autistic child

Young boy tends to run away from parents toward traffic

MADELYN EDWARDS

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SPRINGTOWN — Local mother Lindsay Monreal thought she was about to see her 5-year-old son get hit by a car in front of her when he ran away from home the second time.

Joiah was diagnosed with severe autism spectrum disorder before he was 2 years old. Part of Joiah's condition is elopement, or running away from his parents despite their efforts to protect him by installing alarms on doors and windows, cameras, locks and chains. He is nonverbal, so he can't ask for help or even say his name. Monreal said Joiah is unafraid of cars or water and won't always stop when called.

"The fears as parents — it's awful. It's an awful feeling to know that your child is potentially going to be in danger, that they can't ask

for help," Monreal said. "It's scary to constantly have to have a grip on his arm so he can't get anywhere, to constantly have to have him in a stroller at 5 years old so he can't run from us or to have a backpack with a harness, it's just a constant, constant thing that you have to have in your head, like I can't take my eyes off him, and I can't let go of him for a second."

The boy slipped away from his parents one day in late July. His father had stepped outside, and the door didn't latch behind him. When Monreal realized Joiah wasn't in the house, she ran outside after him and commanded him to stop. Right before getting to the busy road, Joiah turned around before he was about to step into the street, which was just enough time for his mother to catch him.

"He's very fast," Monreal

PLEASE SEE **FENCE** | A7

12th annual Bullfrog West Fest is a success

JOLEE SKINNER

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LAKE WORTH — This year's Bullfrog West Fest brought bull riding, good food and the spirit of the west to Tarrant County once again.

This isn't Bullfrog West Fest's first rodeo and they certainly proved it this year by raising more money than ever before for the

Northwest Tarrant Lions Club. This year marked 12 years for the annual Bullfrog West Fest, always hosted by the Northwest Tarrant Lions Club.

The club puts on this annual event to raise money and awareness for its philanthropy work. Some of the philanthropies include helping the visually impaired, special needs and more.

Renee Kolar is the fun-

draising queen for the Northwest Tarrant Lions Club and reports money raised from the event is still being counted — typically a good sign the number will be big.

There were 30 vendors including food trucks like Getty Chids Cafe' and Kona Ice. Kidwell's BBQ, Chick-fil-a plus Julies and Marlene's Sweets also had stands. A big hit with people was the

freshly squeezed lemonade that Getty's served up, with multiple flavors of lemonade like peach, mango and passion fruit.

The big event of the night was the bull riding and mutton busting that Chute 2 Productions hosted at the event. Chute 2 Productions is a choreographed rodeo show that has been around for 15

PLEASE SEE **WEST** | A5

Tri-County Reporter leads third annual "Fill the Pantry"

ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — With the need continuing to climb year after year, the Tri-County Reporter is pushing for Azle to give more and fill Community Caring Center shelves this October.

The Tri-County Reporter once again urges the Azle Professional Firefighters Local 3627, the Azle Police Department, Brace Chiropractic and Wellness Center, Pinnacle Bank Texas in Azle and Azle Dental Care to fill the pantry and challenge others to take up the cause. The CCC has gone from serving an average of 500 families a month in 2019 to serving around 1,400 families per month last year and even more today. In August alone, the CCC reported serving 1,804 families. This new record marked a 33% increase from 2023's already heightened

figures.

Instead of directing the effort to fill Christmas food boxes, the CCC will be directing all its resources to fight increasing food insecurity in general. Through similar efforts last year, the CCC collected the equivalent of 18,624 pounds of food (9,450 pounds of food items and \$1,282 in donations).

"Purchasing, assembling and storing 1,800 Christmas boxes would reduce our ability to serve those who rely on us regularly," the organization said in a recent advertisement. "By refocusing, we can continue to meet the growing demand and provide essential supplies year-round. The donations will help us prepare for the increased demand around the holidays, when many families turn to us for assistance."

Canned goods like veg-

PLEASE SEE **PANTRY** | A2



Azle's new fire marshal, Melvin Wilson, was hired by the city Sept. 23. He celebrated his first full week on the job with a firefighting demonstration where he guided local kids on putting out small gas fires. "I love working and serving the city of Azle and working with the fire department," Wilson said.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Residents, law enforcement celebrate National Night Out in Azle

ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — Cities across Texas celebrated their local law enforcement officers Oct. 1 at National Night Out. Azle

was no different. The city's police department, Tarrant County Sheriff's deputies, Reno Police and others gathered in Azle's Central Park parking lot to meet with the community, give demon-

strations, play games and spread the word about their organizations.

"This is a good opportunity for people to come and meet us and for us to meet the community and we can

do it under circumstances that are friendly," Azle Police Chief Ben Hall said. "So often, all our interactions with people are on the heels of

PLEASE SEE **LAW** | A16



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Man dies in motorcycle crash south of Springtown

STAFF REPORT

SPRINGTOWN — A first responder died just south of Springtown Oct. 1 following a collision on Farm-to-Market Road 51.

During the afternoon of Oct. 1, Springtown Police officers responded to reports of an accident involving serious injury in the 1000 block of South Main Street (FM 51) near its intersection with Lynch Bend Road, according to a city of Springtown press release. Upon arrival, officers discovered one victim with critical injuries and began attempts at life-saving measures until the arrival of LifeCare medics.

Preliminary investigation and eyewitness statements show that shortly before 1:15 p.m., a semi was stopped in the northbound lane of traffic waiting to make a left-turn westbound onto Lynch Bend Road, according to a press release issued by the Springtown Police Department. Initially, there were a sedan and a truck pulling a trailer that was hauling a large shed stopped behind the semi. Eventually, the sedan legally passed the semi on the right allowing the truck with the trailer to move immedi-

Victim was firefighter, reserve police officer

ately behind the semi. Shortly after this, eyewitnesses said the victim, who was operating a Harley Davidson motorcycle and traveling northbound on FM 51, approached the stopped vehicles from the south, but for an unknown reason was unable to stop before colliding with the trailer attached to the truck stopped behind the semi. Eyewitness reports state the victim was observed looking down shortly before the accident occurred. In an apparent effort to avoid colliding with the trailer at full speed from the rear, the victim swerved to the left, but in doing so clipped the rear of the trailer, gravely injuring his leg before entering the southbound traffic lane where he collided head on with a Cadillac that was traveling within the southbound lane. According to eyewitness reports and the preliminary investigation, neither vehicle had time to take evasive maneuvers to avoid colliding with each other head on at full speed.

The operator of the motorcycle was identified as Joshua Brandes, a 41-year-old

man who resided in Decatur. Upon arrival to the scene, Springtown Police officers attempted life-saving measures including applying a tourniquet to the victim's leg injury and performing CPR until medics arrived on scene. Despite further attempts at life-saving measures by medics at the scene, Brandes was pronounced dead at 1:24 p.m. No other individuals were injured in the collision.

The victim was identified to be a 13-year veteran firefighter with the Irving Fire Department as well as a Decatur Police Department reserve officer. As such, his remains were escorted by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers from the scene of the accident to downtown Fort Worth. Agencies along the route were notified and several made a presence along the route out of respect for a fallen fellow first responder.

"Any loss of life which is the result of a motor vehicle accident is tragic, but when the victim is a fellow first responder, it is especially impactful for all first responders

who are involved with working the scene and investigating the accident," Springtown City Administrator and Director of Public Safety David Miller said in the press release. "Our hearts remain heavy for his loved ones as well as those he served beside at both the Irving Fire Department and the Decatur Police Department as they mourn the shocking loss of one of their own."

Following the accident, FM 51 remained closed from 1:15 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. between State Highway 199 and Browder Lane to allow for the preliminary investigation to take place. This closure did require the rerouting of some Springtown Independent School District school buses following the afternoon release from local campuses.

"The Springtown Police Department wishes to express its gratitude to the Springtown ISD for proactively working with city officials to reroute as many buses as possible around the accident scene and highway closure," Springtown Deputy Chief of Police Jamie Oliver said in the



PHOTO COURTESY IRVING FIRE DEPARTMENT FACEBOOK

Joshua Brandes

press release.

In addition to the Springtown Police Department, other agencies who responded to the accident included the Parker County Sheriff's Office, the Texas Department of Public Safety, LifeCare Emergency Medical Services and Parker County Emergency Services District 1.

It is important to note and understand that at the time the press release was issued, only information from the preliminary investigation and eyewitness statements was available. As the investigation continues, if additional information or contributing factors are identified, additional press releases may be issued as appropriate.



PANTRY FROM PAGE A1

ables, beans, pasta, sauce, rice, peanut butter and jelly, soups and cereals, as well as proteins like chicken, pork, beef and fish are some of the food pantry's biggest needs currently. In lieu of canned goods, the CCC said a monetary donation of \$20

COURTESY AZLE ISD

Azle ISD collected more than 4,800 pounds of food for 2022's Fill the Pantry challenge.

will allow them to purchase 125 pounds of food. This community-wide food drive runs from Oct. 1 to Oct. 25. Donations for Fill the Pantry can be dropped off at the Tri-County Reporter office, 321 W. Main St., The Porch Resale Shoppe, Azle Memorial Library, Brace Chiropractic, Pinnacle Bank and at The FeedLot farmers market Oct. 19. Director of the CCC, Kristie Cooper, said the drive was off to a slow start, but she hopes to see it soon gain more steam on social media.

"The Annual Fill the Pantry Challenge was designed to

unite our community in a fun and friendly way, all while supporting the mission of the Community Caring Center," Cooper said in an email to the Tri-County Reporter. "We encourage local businesses and organizations to challenge their neighbors in a lighthearted competition to see who can collect the most and help Fill the Pantry. For instance, Azle Junior High has joined in with a seventh grade versus eighth grade contest. Pinnacle Bank is the reigning champ and we're excited to see who will claim the title this year!"

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THE TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

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The generalities of politics and the deficiency of specifics

In today's political landscape, voters are inundated with a plethora of promises and proposals from candidates vying for their support. Yet, despite all the fervent rhetoric and the impassioned speeches identifying all that is wrong with the world, a striking trend emerges: politicians often remain conspicuously vague when it comes to the specifics of their policies.

Political generalities manifest in the form of broad statements, slogans and aspirational language that resonate with the electorate. Phrases like "change we can believe in," "better together," or "a brighter future" exemplify how politicians often package complex ideas into digestible and emotionally appealing soundbites. These



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

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generalities serve several purposes: they unify diverse groups under a common banner, simplify complex issues, and create a sense of hope or urgency.

While generalities can mobilize support and inspire action, they often lack the "meat" required for substantive policy discussions. In a world where issues like climate change, healthcare, the southern border and economic inequality require thoughtful approaches, generalities can lead to a disconnect be-

tween voter expectations and political realities. I imagine that if solving national and international issues is as simple as coming up with a five- or six-word phrase, the issues between Israel and Hamas would have been solved generations ago. These problems are complex, and it will take serious, complex discussions and actions to solve them.

Most people in our country believe there is a problem at our southern border. It has been a problem for more than 30 years, and the problem

keeps growing. Over those 30 years, there is plenty of blame to pass around for the situation that exists. What would be appealing to hear is a candidate who offers a concrete, well-thought-out course of political action that will result in a solution. Imagine, instead of only identifying a problem and blaming someone, spelling out a specific plan to solve the problem!

To be clear, I am not suggesting or promoting one political party or one candidate over the other. Seems like both candidates have had a chance to fix the border problem and neither one has done it. In fact, the problem has just gotten worse through the past two administrations. People no longer want prom-

ises, slogans or threats, they want specifics about a course of action which will stop illegal immigration. Mr. or Mrs. Candidate, tell me what your thoughts are so I can vote for the person who presents the best plan — not the person who makes the most promises.

Why do politicians avoid the specifics? Politicians operate within a highly competitive environment where appealing to the broadest base is crucial. Specifics can alienate certain voter segments, while generalities provide a safer, more inclusive platform. By avoiding detailed commitments, politicians can appeal to a wider audience, leaving room for interpretation and adaptation based on shifting public sentiments.

In other words, in a quickly changing world, it allows politicians wiggle room to move as the wind blows to garner the most votes. It would seem for today's candidates, the goal is not to solve the problem, it is to win the election.

Face the problem, work the problem, solve the problem. Whatever you do, stop talking about the problem while offering only generalities as a solution or playing to an audience.

Ya think this is why we are in the shape we are in?

Thought for the day: Solving problems does not seem to be the number one goal of today's politicians, the priority is getting elected and re-elected.

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

Turning your insecurities into superpowers

MICKY SHEARON

Special to the Tri-County Reporter

We all have insecurities. They creep into our minds when we least expect them, whispering doubts and highlighting our weaknesses. But what if, instead of letting these insecurities hold us back, we could turn them into sources of strength, motivation and even inspiration?

This might sound far-fetched, but it's entirely possible — and the benefits can be life-changing. Below are four practical strategies to help you reframe your insecurities and use them as fuel for personal growth and empowerment. Whether it's through sharing your story, helping others or expressing yourself creatively, these methods can help you tap into your hidden potential.

1. SHARE YOUR STRUGGLES — YOU'RE NOT ALONE

Let's be real — everyone deals with insecurities. From body image to imposter syndrome, there's not a single person who hasn't experienced self-doubt. While it's easy to feel isolated in these struggles, the truth is many people feel the same way. One powerful way to break

4 empowering ways to flip the script

the isolation is by sharing your insecurities.

Opening up about your fears and vulnerabilities, even if it's anonymously, creates a sense of community. You realize you're not alone in your struggles, and suddenly, the weight you've been carrying feels a little lighter. It could be as simple as joining an online support group, writing a blog, or talking to a close friend. By being vulnerable, you give others permission to do the same, creating solidarity and reducing the shame attached to your insecurities.

Pro Tip: Start small! If it feels overwhelming to share your struggles with others, consider writing them down in a journal or posting them anonymously on a supportive forum. You might be surprised by how much better you feel.

2. BE THE MENTOR YOU NEEDED

One of the most empowering ways to transform your insecurities is by mentoring someone else. Whether it's a younger sibling, a coworker,

or a teen going through a similar experience, offering guidance to others helps both parties grow.

Think back to a time when you were struggling with insecurity. How helpful would it have been to have someone tell you it was okay, that they had been through it too? By becoming that person for someone else, you'll not only help them, you'll also gain perspective on your own journey. You might find that by advising others, you also end up teaching yourself.

Mentoring is about building a bridge between your past experiences and someone else's current challenges. It creates a loop of positive reinforcement where both people walk away stronger and more confident.

Pro Tip: You don't need to be an expert to mentor someone — just being there and listening can make a huge difference.

3. EMBRACE VULNERABILITY AS BRAVERY

We often think of bravery as the absence of fear, but in reality, true courage involves

confronting our fears head-on. Insecurity thrives on silence, but the moment you choose to face it with vulnerability, you break its hold on you.

Take my friend Debbie, for example. Debbie always dreamed of being on stage, but a painful memory kept her from pursuing that passion for over 40 years. As a little girl in elementary school, she auditioned for a part in her school play. At the time, she had a slight lisp, and as soon as she began reading her lines, a few of the other kids started making fun of her. Mortified, Debbie ran off the stage, vowing never to try again.

The embarrassment stuck with her for decades, making her feel unworthy and fearful of judgment. But recently, with the support of her husband and friends, Debbie decided it was time to confront her fear. She auditioned for a local theatre production — an act of immense bravery. To her delight, she not only faced her childhood insecurity but also landed the role she auditioned for. Debbie's

story shows that embracing vulnerability, though scary, can lead to incredible personal triumph and newfound confidence.

Pro Tip: Challenge yourself to view vulnerability not as something to avoid, but as an essential step toward growth. Whether it's through talking to a loved one or sharing a personal story, see it as an opportunity to be courageous.

4. GET CREATIVE — CHANNEL YOUR INSECURITIES

Insecurities are often rooted in emotions — fear, anxiety, shame — that can feel overwhelming. But instead of letting those emotions weigh you down, why not channel them into something creative? Whether it's painting, writing, dancing, acting or even something more conventional like gardening or cooking, finding a creative outlet can be a game-changer.

Creativity is a powerful tool for self-expression. It allows you to process your insecurities productively, transforming negative feelings into something tangible and beautiful. Think about it: some of the world's greatest art, music and literature were born

from the artists' insecurities and struggles. When you express yourself creatively, you reclaim your narrative and shift the focus from what's "wrong" with you to what's unique about you.

Pro Tip: Not sure where to start? Try journaling about your insecurities for just 10 minutes a day or pick up a paintbrush and express your feelings through color. The important thing is to let your emotions flow.

EMBRACE YOUR INSECURITIES AS TOOLS FOR GROWTH

Insecurities aren't fun, but they don't have to hold you back. By sharing your struggles, mentoring others, embracing vulnerability and channeling your emotions into creative outlets, you can turn your insecurities into a source of inspiration and empowerment.

The next time self-doubt creeps in, remember that you have the power to flip the script. Every insecurity is an opportunity for growth, connection and self-discovery. All you need to do is take the first step.

Azle FFA: 90 years of agricultural education and leadership

Wow! The first month-and-a-half of the 2024-25 Azle ISD school year is already in the books; one-sixth of the school year is complete. My parents must have been right when they told me the older you get the faster time goes. I don't know what happened, but seriously, time DID NOT pass that fast during my years as an Azle ISD student way back in the 1960s and '70s. Maybe it was the fault of the official time smith at the U.S. Naval Observatory during one of the Daylight Saving Time changing-of-the-clocks. I don't know how or why but time moves faster now than it did when I was in school. With all that being said, my point is that school and classes are happening now and hopefully both teachers and students have gotten into the pattern of the school day.

While we are talking about school and since this article is about Future Farmers of America, let's talk FFA. Ninety years ago, the Azle FFA Chapter was established. Imagine it's 1935, the middle



AZLE FFA

By Jack DeShazo

Jack DeShazo has decades of experience in the agriculture field.

of the Great Depression, and Azle High School boys are talking about the new vocational agriculture classes being offered — classes about agriculture including farming, ranching, livestock, crops, mechanics, etc. Maybe they heard about it from friends attending nearby local schools that also offered these classes in vocational agriculture. This was a nationwide movement originating with the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 authorizing the teaching of agriculture in public schools.

The popularity of high school agriculture classes snowballed and by 1928 a group of 33 delegates from 18 states met in Kansas City, Missouri to form a nationwide youth organization for those students; the Future

Farmers of America was formed. By 1929 the organization had grown to more than 30,000 members representing 1,500 schools in 33 states. As the saying goes, "the rest is history." Today there are 9,235 chapters with more than one million members in all 50 states plus Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Many people would say that was nearly a century ago when the U.S.A. was a more agrarian society, with more than 65 million people living in rural America — more than 50% of the population.

Azle was a much smaller town than it is today, consisting of 700-800 people. The citizens of the area were much more dependent on agriculture as a means of survival and making a living.

Obviously Azle and the U.S.A. have changed; with less than 2% of the U.S. population involved in agriculture, a common thought might be that the popularity of high school agriculture programs and the FFA has withered on the vine.

Au contraire, ladies and gentlemen! One way we will observe the 90th year of the existence of the Azle FFA Chapter will be spending a little time here visiting about the ever-changing high school agriculture program and the FFA organization. Also, with each Azle FFA news article we will also highlight one of Azle FFA's former members.

Harold Ray Wright, a former Azle FFA member from the 1950s era, is the man of the hour for this issue. Wright was a member of the Claude Wright family who raised dairy cattle and produced milk for the multitudes in Azle and the North Fort Worth area. He grew up in the Silver Creek area of Azle and eventually, with his wife Dot and their three children, owned, managed and

milks a herd of more than 100 Holstein dairy cows. At the time, 45 pounds of milk produced per cow per day was the production goal. In the dairy business, milk is measured in pounds; when the consumer purchases it in the grocery store, it's measured in gallons. Think about this for just a minute: 45 pounds of milk per day for 100 head of cows with every gallon of milk weighing a little over 8 pounds, is nearly 565 gallons of milk every day. That's a lot of milk! The milk was pumped into a stainless-steel chilling tank, picked up by the milk truck and transported to a creamery in Fort Worth.

Hopefully you noticed I stated "managing" as a part of being a dairy family. Cows have to be fed, maintained, kept healthy, milked, etc., etc. daily. A full-time job, there are very few vacations when you are in the dairy business. To quote Mr. and Mrs. Wright, "You have to love what you do. It was never a job, it's just what you like doing." Mr.

Wright was one of several siblings who continued with their own dairy business after having grown up in it.

At that time, there were more than 250 dairies in Parker County, and personally I miss driving the roads of the county and hearing the sounds of dairy farms — vacuum pumps running, cows and calves bawling, metal gates clanging shut, tractors running, etc. Wright credits Azle High School's agriculture program and FFA experiences as being a part of his success. Obviously, Wright was a success in his high school FFA experiences. He earned the American Farmer Degree, the highest degree of FFA membership, which is awarded nationally to only one-half of 1% of all FFA members. He and youngest son Ricky were the first father and son to earn the American Farmer Degree in the Azle Chapter.

Harold Ray Wright and his family are just one of many, many Azle FFA success stories.

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'Beautiful souls'

Families remember young girls, man who died in wreck during Memorial Day weekend

MADELYN EDWARDS
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SPRINGTOWN — In late May, Springtown resident Bryce Reed started preparing steaks in anticipation of his father-in-law coming home after being in rehab for his knee, accompanied by his wife and daughter.

His family never made it home for dinner. Reed knew the situation was dire when he received word that his wife was in surgery, but nothing was said about his daughter, her friend or his father-in-law who were in the car with his wife.

The girls, 9-year-olds Londyn Hargis and Bailey Reed, and Bryce Reed's father-in-law, 66-year-old Gregory Schilb, died that day in a wrong way wreck on Farm-to-Market Road 51 south of Friendship Road. A white Subaru Legacy, driven by Kathryn Lain, 29 of Boyd, travelled into the wrong lane on FM 51 and collided head-on with the black Ford F-150 carrying Autumn and Bailey Reed, Londyn and Schilb. Lain also died in the wreck.

Autumn Reed, the sole survivor and Goshen Creek Elementary School teacher, stayed in the hospital until early July and had multiple surgeries. She plans to have a reconstructive operation as well in the future.

After hearing about his wife, Bryce Reed said he was calling his pastor and father, but neither were picking up the phone.

"I just kept praying, 'God, give me somebody. I need somebody there with me,'" Bryce Reed said. "I knew I wasn't going to handle it well."

Sure enough, Springtown people packed a whole floor at the hospital, which was a sign to Reed of an answered prayer.

"I couldn't walk 3 feet without running into somebody that was there for me that I knew," Bryce Reed said.

Following the tragedy, the Springtown community has continued showing up to support the families involved in the wreck. People donated to the Reed and Hargis families, coordinated a meal train and held a prayer rally at Springtown High School.

Shawn Hargis, grandmother of Londyn, specifically praised David Hart and his company Hart HVAC, who paid for both girls' funerals.

"They went way and beyond that I would have never dreamed in a million years," Hargis said about the community's support.

Both Bailey and Londyn were fourth graders at Goshen Creek Elementary School. Hargis raised Londyn and her brother since they were young, 2 and 4 years old respectively.

"She was the life of the party," Hargis said about Londyn. "She was so sweet. She loved singing."

Hargis and the Reeds both pointed out the girls' faith and spiritual side.

"They were good kids,"

Hargis said. "Both of them were very beautiful souls." Bryce Reed said Bailey loved Jesus and was very active in her faith.

"Anytime there was something with church going on, she wanted to be there," he said.

Autumn Reed recalled Bailey and Londyn writing messages of love to God and Jesus and how sharp her father, Schilb, was at the last Bible study she took him to.

"He just knew the Word, and Bailey knew the Word. She believed in Jesus," Autumn Reed said. "I want people to remember how kindhearted they are. They are still."

Bryce Reed said he didn't know Schilb very well until his father-in-law moved in with him and his family a few years ago. In retrospect, he described Schilb as caring, giving and thoughtful, someone who really touched his life.

"He'll never know what he meant to me," Bryce Reed said.

Londyn loved her friends like Bailey, her teachers, animals and church, Hargis said.

"I never went to the school that they didn't just hug her," Hargis said. "She ran to them and jumped in their lap."

Hargis also described Londyn as a peacekeeper of sorts, someone who discouraged conflict in favor of friendliness.

"She never found any wrong in anybody," Hargis said. "If anybody was upset with anybody, she would al-



Bailey Reed and Londyn Hargis

PHOTO COURTESY SHAWN HARGIS' FACEBOOK PAGE

ways say, 'Don't be mad.' If you said anything negative, she would correct that. She believed in God all the way."

Hargis remarked that Bailey was very respectful and remembered how the Reeds let Londyn stay with them for a few days when Hargis' mother had an aneurysm.

Bailey also enjoyed playing

softball with her team, Bryce Reed said. She loved her family and had a special bond with Londyn.

"It's fitting that they went home together," he said. "I'm just glad they weren't alone."

Hargis said she had planned a cruise for her family, something Londyn was looking forward to, but she

couldn't bring herself to go on the trip after her granddaughter died.

Autumn Reed also has a message for motorists following the tragedy: "I tell everybody to slow down and pay attention. If you're feeling emotional, don't drive. Ask somebody to drive you."

Music festival slated in Springtown to benefit AUsome Allen Foundation

STAFF REPORTS

SPRINGTOWN — Wanna Folk Festival, a new two-day music festival, is set to debut in Springtown in October at the historic Tabernacle, according to a press release submitted to The Tri-County Reporter.

The festival will feature a diverse lineup of performances, community activities and opportunities for music enthusiasts to engage

and learn. The event kicks off Friday, Oct. 18 and continues on Saturday, Oct. 19.

This inaugural festival will benefit the AUsome Allen Foundation, and all proceeds will go to support its work. The AUsome Allen Foundation is a nonprofit organization in Weatherford focused on advocating for and supporting individuals with autism and their families. Founded by Erica Howell, the foundation provides resour-

ces, education and community programs to help individuals with autism lead fulfilling lives.

Wanna Folk Festival will include performances by local and regional artists, the Parker County Pickers guitar circle and a songwriter contest offering cash prizes for the best original song and best performance. Attendees can also participate in a variety of music workshops designed to educate and

inspire. Howell shared her enthusiasm about the partnership with Wanna Folk Festival.

"We are thrilled to be the beneficiary of the very first Wanna Folk music festival," Howell said in a press release. "The support from this event will greatly enhance our ability to provide crucial resources and support to individuals with autism and their families. Music has an extraordinary ability to unite people,

and we are deeply honored to be part of this incredible community event."

Wanna Folk Festival spokesperson Phil Coomer also expressed his excitement for the festival's debut.

"Wanna Folk is about bringing people together through the universal language of music, while also making a meaningful impact in our community," Coomer said in the press release. "We're proud to support the

AUsome Allen Foundation and look forward to creating a memorable experience for everyone who attends. This festival is just the beginning of what we hope will be an annual celebration of music, creativity, and community spirit."

For more information, find Wanna Folk Festival on Facebook.

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WEST

FROM PAGE A1

years; it's been performing at Bullfrog West Fest since the beginning. The event was from 3-9 p.m. with the rodeo show starting at 7:30 p.m. and the kids' mutton busting started at 5 p.m. Mutton busting is where kids ride the backs of sheep and try to stay on as long as possible.



Kids participate in the mutton busting portion of the rodeo show.

JOLEE SKINNER | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER



A family walks around the Bullfrog West Fest.



Kim Ware and Lora Paschal represented the Tri-County Reporter at the 12th annual Bullfrog West Fest.

HELP US FILL THE PANTRY

This holiday season, we're shifting our focus to make an even greater impact in our community. Rather than assembling Christmas boxes, we'll be redirecting those resources—both funds and volunteer hours—toward our ongoing efforts to fight food insecurity.

In August alone, our food pantry served a record number of families—1,804, marking a 33% increase from the previous year. The costs of purchasing, assembling, and storing 1,800 Christmas boxes would reduce our ability to serve those who rely on us regularly. By refocusing, we can continue to meet the growing demand and provide essential supplies year-round.

With your support, we can provide items that families of all cultures can enjoy throughout the year, such as canned vegetables, beans, pasta, rice, and proteins like chicken, pork, beef, and fish. These staples can be used in both traditional holiday meals and everyday dishes, allowing families to celebrate in their own special way.

Our hope is not to diminish the joy of the season, but to ensure families have the resources they need to create meaningful meals every day.

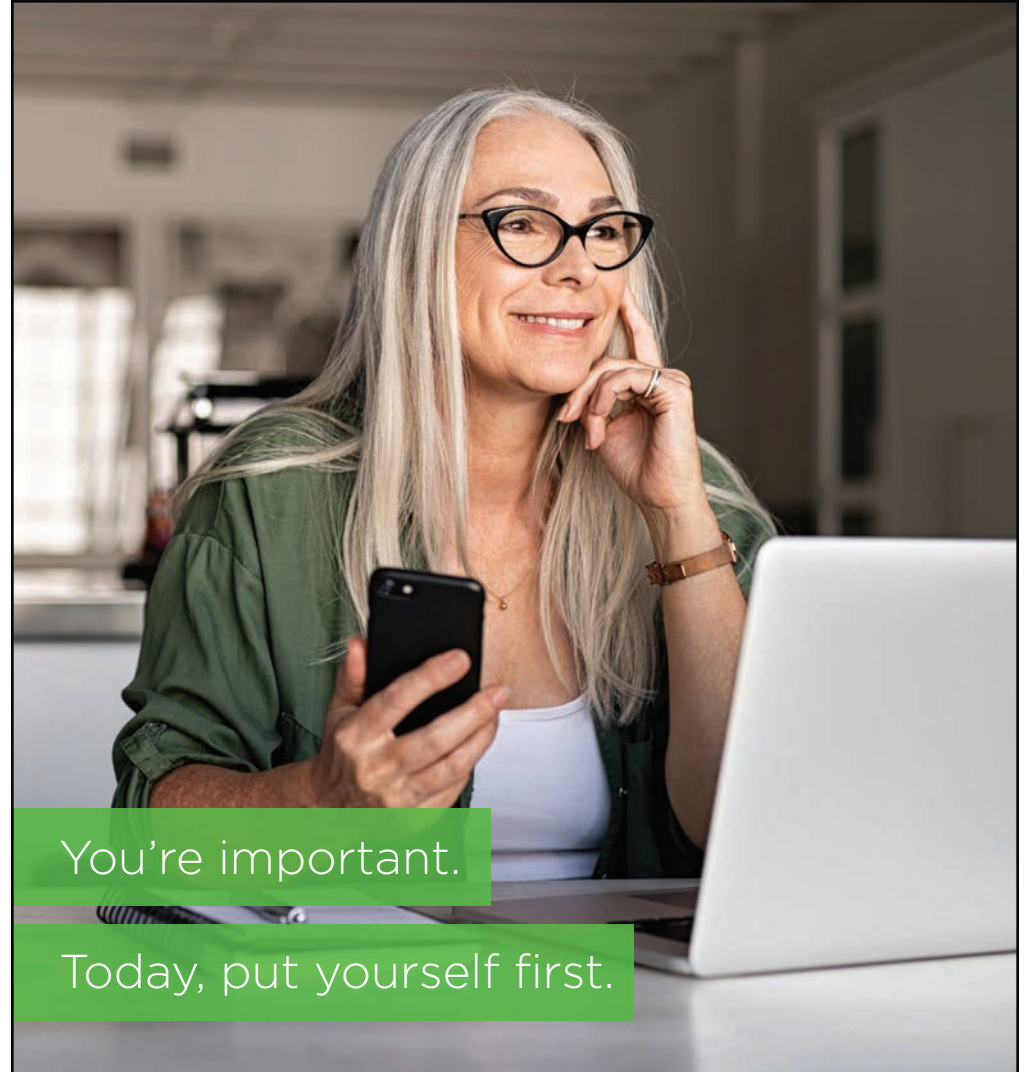
As we continue to work toward this goal, we're excited to announce the 3rd Annual Fill the Pantry Challenge, hosted by the Tri-County Reporter. This community-wide food drive runs from October 1st to October 25th and encourages local organizations to compete in donating the most food to our pantry. The donations will help us prepare for the increased demand around the holidays, when many families turn to us for assistance.

The holiday season often brings heightened need, and your support is more important than ever. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of those who need it most. Thank you for standing with us as we continue to serve our community!



317 Commerce Street, Azle TX 76020
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With your help we can continue to make a difference for so many in our community. Please donate today!



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TexasHealth.org/BreastCare



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OBITUARIES

Perry Joseph Arnsperger 1937-2024

Perry Joseph Arnsperger passed away peacefully Sept. 28, 2024, at the age of 87, surrounded by family. Born in a log cabin in Caney, Oklahoma, to Clifton and Lorene Arnsperger, he was the oldest of five children. Perry was defined by his unwavering faith in God and devotion to family and country. He lived his life with honor, navigating all things with a quiet, calm and kind demeanor that was contagious, reassuring and steadfast. His relationship with the Lord was a cornerstone of his life, and his devotion to his faith was evident through his words, actions and his smile.

A service honoring Perry's life was held at Northwest Bible Church, 5025 Jacksboro Highway in Fort Worth, Thursday, Oct. 3. Visitation was at 1 p.m., followed by a celebration of life at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Northwest Bible Church or The Gideons International.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Clifton Arnsperger Jr.



Perry is survived by his beloved wife of 65 years, Sandra Arnsperger, daughter Kelley Haas and her husband Tony; son, John Arnsperger; daughter Jo Ellen Clinton and her husband Jimmy; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; sister Sue Warren and her husband Jack; brother Charles Arnsperger and his wife Sharon; sister Mariann Arnsperger; sister-in-law Moria Carrey Arnsperger; and a multitude of extended family and friends who will forever hold his memory dear.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 10, 2024

Susan K. Bryan 1945-2024

Susan K. Bryan, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, greeted her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Oct. 4, 2024.

A memorial service will be Oct. 12 at Silver Creek Baptist Church in Azle, with cremation to follow. Susan was born Nov. 11, 1945, on Veterans Day, in Binger, Oklahoma to Jerry Dewey Thompson and Willie Mae Hudspeth.

Susan grew up in Fort Worth, went to public schools and graduated in 1964 from Carter River Side High School in Fort Worth, where she met Donald Cecil, a retail grocery manager. They married and produced two wonderful children, Jimmy Cecil and Julie Cecil. Susan and Don divorced, and in 1996, Susan met and married Joseph Bryan while both worked at the United States Post Office. Susan and Joe loved traveling, moreover, sea cruising.

Joe and Susan were faithful members of Silver Creek Baptist Church in Azle, where Susan was incredibly selfless and generous with her time and always eager to give back to the community. She was an active member of her church for many years as a volunteer



for local nursing and assisted living homes. A gifted pianist and music teacher, Susan also loved to read, and she instilled the love of books in her children and friends.

She is survived by her husband, Joseph L. Bryan; stepson Joseph L. Bryan Jr.; grandson, Asher Bryan; daughter, Julie Cecil; grandchildren, Julian Cecil, Madison and Katlyn Cecil. The family would like to offer special thanks to Silver Creek Baptist Church and Azle Masonic Lodge, as well as many friends who offered love and support in Susan's untimely passing.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 10, 2024

Darrel Earp 1942-2024

Darrel Earp, 82, of Azle, passed peacefully at home Sept. 30, 2024, into the loving arms of his loved ones waiting at heaven's gate. He was surrounded by his wife June and family.

Darrel was born Jan. 17, 1942 in Brownwood the only child of father Jack Darrel Earp and mother Carmelita Goates Earp.

He is preceded in death by father Jack Earp and mother Carmelita; his beloved grandson Toby Scott Earp; his uncle Fred Firth Sr. and wife Doris (Auntie); cousin Fred Firth Jr.; and his loving Goates grandparents.

Darrel was married to his wife, June Earp of Azle, for 45 years. They lived in Azle for 33 years.

Darrel's love and talent for drawing in his early school years led him to a career as an accomplished structural detailer/engineer. But his greatest love was playing music. He mastered the drums at an early age and later was sought after by numerous acts. He traveled from Texas to California to Las Vegas but his heart was always in Texas where he eventually returned.

Darrel is survived by his wife June Earp of Azle; sons



Steven Johnson and Scotty Earp; nephews Michael Denison and wife Dacia and two sons of Frisco, and Chad Firth of Brownwood; grandsons Chase Johnson, Tony Ryan Hill and Laythen Bryce Johnson; beloved granddaughters Paislee "Gracie" Madden and Payton Elizabeth Christiansen; cousins Chris Firth and wife Vikki of Brownwood, Craig Firth of California and Larry Goates of Fort Worth.

Darrel's sense of humor always made him the life of the party and he was dearly loved by all who knew him.

If there's a band in heaven, he's the one on the drums.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 10, 2024

Janelle K. Johnson 1952-2024

Janelle K. (Carter) Johnson, 72, entered her heavenly home Monday evening, Sept. 30, 2024, at her home in Azle.

A graveside service will be at 11 a.m., Monday, Oct. 14, at Ash Creek Cemetery.

Jan was born June 26, 1952, and was the daughter of W.A. and Nell Carter, granddaughter of Atlas and Beatrice Carter of Azle. She cared deeply for her family heritage and Azle community. Mrs. Johnson was a well-loved math teacher at AHS. Her students remember her fondly, and many have credited her with their love for learning. They also say how she made them feel cared for. She led the PALs group and coordinated the Angel Tree ministry for many years. Jan loved to paint, sew, tend her plants, and spend quality time with her loved ones. The roles



she treasured most were "Grandma" and "Mom." She is survived by her caring husband of 54 years, Billy; daughters Keri Armentrout and Kacey Perez; seven grandchildren, and a host of devoted family and friends.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 10, 2024

Gary Wayne Rogers 1959-2024

Gary Wayne Rogers, 65, of Emory, passed away Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

The family requests no flowers, but to always keep his memory close in your heart.

Gary was born July 21, 1959, in San Angelo, to John Rogers of Granbury, and Shirley Penn of Azle.

He attended elementary school in Burleson, and junior high and high school in Euless.

He started his young life as a machinist, then entered the trucking business in his later years.

He will be very loved and missed by all his family and many friends.

Fishing was his pastime throughout his life.

He was preceded in death



by his father, John Rogers of Granbury, and his brother, Randy Rogers of Fort Worth.

Survivors include his mother, Shirley Penn of Azle; brother, Johnny Rogers of Briar; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 10, 2024

To place an obituary

Call 817-270-3340 or email us at: info@tricountyreporter.com

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

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<p>THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Hwy 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Community Groups Various Times</p> <p>ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shotwell 300 South Stewart St. 817-444-3219 www.ashcreekbc.org Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship-TMP 10:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:45 AM Evening Worship/Youth Refuge..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening..... 6:15 PM</p> <p>AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD Rev. Joshua Lowrance 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903 Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-4510 cbfazele.org 1405 Reynolds Rd., Azle Directions: 730 N. to 1542 .5 mi. right on Cardinal, left on Reynolds Sunday Service..... 11:00 AM Wednesday Evening..... 6:30 PM</p>	<p>AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Interim Minister Rev. Russell Clark, Family Life Minister Emerson Braun 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Sunday School..... 10:00 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM</p> <p>CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E., Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Wednesday 7:00 PM</p> <p>CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available Worship Service..... 10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship..... 11:00 AM</p> <p>FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF AZLE Pastor: Rev. Raymond Gilman 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 AM Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Youth 5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed</p>	<p>GRACEPOINTE CHURCH 4110 E. Hwy 199, Springtown Pastor: Timothy McKeown 817-221-5683 gracepointesbc.org Sunday School..... 9:45 am Sunday Service..... 11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 PM</p> <p>HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063 Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday 11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F) 8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED 6:30 PM Confessions Sat 4 PM</p> <p>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming services Sunday School..... 9:00 AM Traditional Service..... 10:00 AM</p> <p>SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443 Coffee and Donuts..... 9:00 AM Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting..... 6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study..... 7:00 PM</p>	<p>LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship..... 9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone..... 9:15 & 11:00 AM Weds Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids All Services..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>THE RANCH CHRISTIAN COWBOY CHURCH Pastor: Greg Slankard 7955 Reed Rd., Azle 682-327-7082 www.TheRanchCCC.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:00 AM Weds 7:00 pm • Thurs Potluck 6:30 pm</p> <p>SILVER CREEK METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Bill Killough 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382 www.silvercreekmcc.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:30 AM</p> <p>SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 10:50 AM Evening Worship 6:00 PM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM</p>	<p>THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com Pastors: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon Worship Pastor: Christen Moody Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson, Student Pastors: Taylor and Sheridan Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie Edwards, Connections Coordinators: Preston and Ashley Larrew</p> <p>Equip Sunday School at the WORD 9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD 10:45 AM Kids at the WORD..... 10:45 AM PreK at the WORD 10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD (Special Needs Ministry) 10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD 10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD 6:00 PM Wednesdays Adult Bible Class..... 7:00 PM The WORD Students (6th-12th grades)..... 6:30 PM Awana Kids at the WORD 6:30 PM Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times</p>
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A church alive is worth the drive! For more information or rates on listing your church, call Jessica at 817-270-3340



PHOTO COURTESY AZLE ISD FINE ARTS

Azle Marching Green Pride at the Bands of America Dallas Mid-Cities Regional Championships on Oct. 5 at Pennington Field in Bedford.

Azle band top contender in popularity contest

STAFF REPORT

AZLE — The Azle High School band has been riding high in the polls. A website keeping track of Texas High School football teams, texasfootball.com, has seen the school's band, the Marching Green Pride, earn the most votes in two different polls naming the best Texas band in the stands. The first poll ran until Sept. 20 where Azle won 22.2% of the online vote. The top 10 teams, plus any team within 5% of the vote

total of the 10th team, then proceeded to the semifinal poll where the MGP handily won 32% of the vote. Azle and the other top three semifinalists moved to a final 10-day poll, Oct. 7. HS Football reports that the final winner will be recognized at an award show at the end of the football season and may also feature on their own episode of the "Texas HS Football Podcast with Taylor Arenz." Texas HS Football's current 2023-2024 official best

band is the Melissa Cardinals Mighty Cardinal Band. Parents, families and fans can vote as frequently as they like. The winner will be announced at the end of the season. Readers can find a link to the poll on the Texas HS Football Facebook page, posted on Monday just after 3 p.m., or by clicking *this link* online. At time of publishing, the Azle band stands neck and neck with the Katy Tigers for the top spot.

FENCE FROM PAGE A1

said. "His therapy center won't even let him go outside with a buddy because they're next to a busy road, and he's so quick that they can't get to him fast enough."

Therefore, Monreal and her husband Jeremiah asked Springtown City Council to approve a variance that allows them to build a 4-foot wrought iron fence around part of their yard leading to her driveway on Chisholm Trail Court to safeguard her young son. At last week's meeting, the council unanimously approved the request.

"We have taken measures internally in our home to protect him from (running off), but unfortunately, the front door gets open — groceries, check the mail, that sort of thing, visitors come over — so we've had incidents where he has run off," Monreal said to the council. "We had a very close call. He made it almost to Walnut Creek Road from our street, and so we are really just wanting to put an exterior measure in place for him."

The Monreals presented a plan for a fence with a gate

that would extend 11 feet into their yard and 15 feet across to cover the area from Joziah's room, the entryway and stopping at the driveway. Lindsay Monreal said to The Tri-County Reporter that having the fence is not ideal, but it is a medical necessity for her child. The fence was also recommended by Joziah's pediatrician and therapist.

"We're just needing (the fence) to do its job," Monreal said during the council meeting. "We're not asking to fence the entire front yard. We just need it if he were to slip out of the front door to have that spot in place for him to halt."

The council specified that the fence will be no more than 6 feet tall and would be see-through, not a solid privacy fence. This way, the fence won't be a visual hazard to neighbors. The variance will be applicable to the lot, not the owner of the lot, according to the city's legal counsel.

Springtown Assistant City Administrator/City Secretary Christina Derr said during the meeting that the fence met the state's criteria for variance approval, which are:

- "That literal enforcement of the controls will create

an unnecessary hardship or practical difficulty in the development of the affected property;

- "That the situation causing the hardship or difficulty is neither self-imposed nor generally affecting all or most properties in the same zoning district;

- "That the relief sought will not injure the permitted use of adjacent conforming property;

- "That the granting of the variance will be in harmony with the spirit and purposes of these regulations."


"Staff does not have any concerns about granting this variance, so it really is council's decision," Derr said during the meeting.

Previously, a neighbor presented concerns about the variance to council, but when he attended the meeting Sept. 26, he seemed to be happy with the Monreals and their project.

The council also specified that the fence would be allowed for as long as it's needed for the child's safety. Monreal pointed out that Joziah is undergoing lots of therapy. His mother hopes the elopement issue will be resolved, and the fence won't be needed forever.

News From Azle City Hall

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



November 5, 2024 Election
Early Voting October 21 - November 1
Election Day November 5

Election information can be found at the following links:
 Tarrant County - <https://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/elections.html>
 Parker County - <https://www.parkercountytx.com/118/Elections>
 Texas Secretary of State - <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/current-elections-information.shtml>

Make your voice heard - VOTE!

Azle City Hall will close for regular business on November 5 due to the large number of voters on Election Day (Azle City Hall is a Parker County polling location). Also, the November 5 Azle City Council meeting is cancelled. All other city facilities will be open regular business hours.



AZLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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2024

JOINT MEETING FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTION

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CITY COUNCIL PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION | **AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
 117 CHURCH ST
 6:00PM
OCT 29, 2024

Azle 2045
 ON THE HORIZON

Azle Memorial Library News and Free Events
 333 W Main St, Azle, TX 76020
 817-752-2682 - www.azlelibrary.org - facebook.com/azlelibrary

Fall Food Drive
 The Azle Library is collecting canned goods, mac & cheese, cereal and other non-perishable foods this October to help fill the shelves at the Community Caring Center. All food will be distributed to area folks in need. Drop off your donations any time during library hours through October 29.

Trunk-or-Treat Early Closure:
 The Library will be closing at 2:30pm on Saturday, 10/26, due to Trunk-or-Treat taking place in the Library parking lot from 4-6pm. All are welcome to attend the event, which is hosted by the Azle Police Department. try samples! No sign up required.

FREE Programs
 Full details on upcoming programs can be found on the library's website, or by visiting the library and picking up our Monthly Newsletter. Programs take place in the Library Community Room, unless otherwise noted.

EVERY DROP COUNTS POSTER CONTEST

Make a Splash with the Every Drop Counts Poster Contest! It's not too late! Now thru November 15, the Azle Utility Billing Dept wants to see your child's creative artwork about water conservation. Let's keep those ideas "flowing" and show why every drop matters!
 Entry form is available online at www.cityofazle.org or at Azle City Hall.

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Plane crashes in Eagle Mountain Lake



COURTESY CBS NEWS

Aerial footage shows the tail and wing of a downed aircraft visible just above the surface of the water.

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

Authorities responded to a downed plane on the eastern side of Eagle Mountain Lake Monday afternoon.

CBS News helicopter footage showed a white-and-red plane suspended underwater in the lake. The Federal Aviation Administration registry shows the aircraft is a Champion 7EC fixed wing single-engine light airplane. The tail number also identifies the plane as belonging to Stephen Spence of North Richland Hills. A public Facebook profile indicates that Spence works at Lockheed Martin, is a frequent flier of small aircraft and has utilized Flying Oaks Airport on Silver Creek Azle

Road in the past.

The Fort Worth Fire Department reported a drowning at the lake at about 12:47 p.m. off 11000 Lakeside Drive in Fort Worth and later divers confirmed the pilot's body was found inside the plane.

At approximately 5:00 p.m., Tarrant Regional Water District divers returned to the scene with specialized equipment to lift the aircraft and recover the deceased victim. With assistance from other local agencies, the aircraft was lifted and moved to shore. The victim was successfully recovered, and the aircraft was transported to TRWD's law enforcement office for safekeeping, according to media relations manager Chad Lorange.

The identity of the pilot has not yet been disclosed. Identification of the victim will be confirmed by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office.

The Eagle Mountain Fire Department, FWFD, Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife and TRWD responded to the scene.

The National Transportation Safety Board and the FAA are currently investigating potential causes of the crash. Environmental mitigation measures were taken to prevent any potential contamination resulting from the crash.

At time of publication, the Tri-County Reporter is waiting for a response from Flying Oaks Airport.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,
Congratulations to the Azle City Public Library for its many great services. I have lived here for almost five years and have used the library for books (obviously), computer use and advisory services, periodical and film rental availability, children's programs for my grandson, tax advice and much more.

I say this as WBAP's James Parker announced that all public libraries are a drain on tax dollars and should be closed. He says that books are no longer much read as the Internet replaces them, school libraries are enough for kids, homeless people gather at public libraries and subversive

Communist/fascist groups conspire there. While I am conservative and do not want to help treasonous groups, all U.S. citizens are guaranteed the right to gather peaceably.

He broadcast this as Dallas was considering the closure of its Skillman library branch. He is pathetic, and the Azle Library is the epitome of valuable public libraries in the pattern of industrialist Andrew Carnegie, who funded more than 2,000 city libraries nationwide.

Another gripe is the recent letter to the paper that condemned the Sons of Confederate Veterans float in the Sting Fling parade.

I have been on that float the last three years for my veteran ancestors who fought for home defense and self determination as guaranteed in United States founding documents. Also, we are also scheduled for parades in Decatur and Weatherford. The flags of the Confederacy represent a sovereign nation, not slavery and discrimination. Secession may have been about slavery, but the war was about Lincoln calling up 75,000 troops to attack the CSA without provocation. Please bone up on your history, and Hooray for the Azle Public Library.

- Bob Templeton, Azle

Write a letter to the editor!

You can email us at info@tricountyreporter.com, or send us a letter at 321 West Main Street, Azle, Texas 76020. We'd love to hear from you!



STRYDE Savings

The team of consultants, project managers and more at STRYDE Savings work together to find ways for small businesses to save money through reduced expenses and tax incentives. The company celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce Thursday, Sept. 26. For more information about how STRYDE Savings can help your business, contact Delores Saunders at 682-225-5229, or email dsfinancial64@gmail.com.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,
I read the article on Reno disincorporation Oct. 3, 2024, in the Tri-County Reporter. It seemed to me there was some information presented at the meeting that was not presented fairly, and a lot was left out by omission.

The county judge, sheriff and county commissioner said the county tax rate would go up if they had to assume the duties of police, roads and other county services. That is disingenuous at the least.

The residents of Reno,

depending on which county their property resides, pay full county taxes for sheriff, roads, animal control and other county services. Then they have to pay again for those same services because they are in Reno and Reno is supposed to provide those services as a city. So, for the county judge, sheriff, and county commissioner to insist that the county rate would have to increase when they are already receiving a full tax payment for those services from Reno residents (cannot be correct).

Surely, the residents of Reno know this, that they are billed by the county, on their tax statement, the same amount for those services, that have restrictions for their use, as a county resident that is not in the city limits of Reno. They then are billed again for those services on a tax bill from Reno. The only thing a Reno resident receives that a county resident does not receive is a Reno tax bill.

- Arthur Johnson



Sandy Beach Road Ground Water Plume Superfund Site Public Notice U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6

October 2024

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 will be conducting the second five-year review of remedy implementation and performance at the Sandy Beach Road Ground Water Plume Superfund site (Site) in Azle and Pelican Bay, Texas. The Site is comprised of a half-square-mile contaminated groundwater plume. Disposal activities that occurred primarily during the 1960's at a nearby dump site contaminated groundwater with hazardous chemicals. Located east and south of the Site is Eagle Mountain Lake with a drainage feature located to the west. The site-wide remedy included installation of new residential water supply wells, soil vapor extraction treatment system, in situ bioremediation barriers, and the pending construction of a water extraction treatment system. The five-year review will determine if the existing remedies continue to be protective of human health and the environment once implemented. The five-year review is scheduled for completion in September 2025.

The report will be made available to the public at the following local information repository:

Azle Memorial Library
333 West Main Street Azle, Texas 76020
(817) 444-7216

Site status updates are available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/superfund/sandy-beach

All media inquiries should be directed to the EPA Press Office at (214) 665-2200

For more information about the Site, contact:

Joel Reyes/Remedial Project Manager
(214) 665-6764 or by email at reyes.joel@epa.gov

Jason McKinney/Community Involvement Coordinator
(214) 665-8132 or 1-800-887-6063 (toll-free)
or by email at mckinney.jason@epa.gov

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Public Sale

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of Texas property code to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at Springtown Self Storage at 1050 W Hwy 199; Springtown, TX 76082 on storageauctions.com starting on, October 11, 2024 at 8:00am CST and ending on October 23, 2024 at 10am CST. Cleanup deposit is required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold to the highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant and is primarily household items and furniture. KAREN HINCEY CLUKEY, HAL COLEN, LACEY ENGMAN, JOSH HUNT, KEITH MILLER, SAMANTHA ROJAS, MICHELLE WHITE.

Notice of Public Hearing

The Zoning Board of Adjustment for the City of Springtown will hold a public hearing to consider a special exception request to be exempted from site plan requirements of Chapter 14, Zoning, City of Springtown Code of Ordinances Lot 3, Block 11, Original Town of Springtown, an addition to the City of Springtown, Parker County, Texas, also known as 100 W. 2nd Street, being a 0.715 acre tract of land. The meeting will take place in City Hall Council Chambers in the Municipal Annex Building at 200 N. Main Street, Springtown, TX 76082, on October 24, 2024, at 7 p.m.

Notice of Public Hearing

The Zoning Board of Adjustment for the City of Springtown will hold a public hearing to consider a variance request for the minimum lot square footage, for Lot 4, Block 4, McCracken, an addition to the City of Springtown, Parker County, Texas, also known as 319 W. 4th Street. The meeting will take place in City Hall Council Chambers in the Municipal Annex Building at 200 N. Main Street, Springtown, TX 76082, on October 24, 2024, at 7 p.m.

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CAUSE NO. 24P398

In the Matter of the Estate of Maria Elena Gonzales, Deceased TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MARIA ELENA GONZALES, DECEASED. Ricky Gonzales in the above-numbered and entitled estate :filed an Application to Determine Heirship and for Independent Heirship and for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration Pursuant to Section 401.003 of the Texas Estates Code on 10/07/2024 In the Estate of Maria Elena Gonzales, Deceased, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Maria Elena Gonzales, Deceased, and their respective shares and interest in such estate, and appointing Ricky Gonzales to serve as the Independent Administrator of said estate and Determined Heirship. The court may act on said application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the Parker County Court, One Courthouse Square, Weatherford, TX 76086 in Parker County, Texas. All persons interested in this case are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court !!Y filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of Parker County, Texas on or before the above noted date and time. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court of Parker County, Texas at the office of the Parker County Clerk, on this 7th day of October, 2024. LILADEAKLE County Clerk, Parker County Texas. By Destiny Garza Froust, Deputy Clerk. Applicant's Attorney: Wendi E. Andino 1020 Fort Worth HWY STE 500 Weatherford TX 76086

Fourth grade mentors celebrate successful Azle introduction

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — Academy 4 highlighted a successful Azle launch of its fourth-grade mentoring program with an Oct 3 gala and fundraiser at the One Azle building. The Azle Rotary Club played a role in bringing the experiment to Azle administrators and Rotary president Bob Buckel chaired the event. Academy 4 representatives, school principals and mentors spoke about the effect the nonprofit has already begun to have after its first sessions for all fourth graders at Hilltop Elementary and Cross Timbers Elementary in September.

Over the course of nine sessions, once each month during the school year, mentors and their fourth-grade mentees meet for 90 minutes to discuss a wide range of topics. Academy 4 serves Title I schools, where 40% or more students are on free or reduced lunch programs. Academy 4 began its mission 13 years ago with just three elementary schools in the D-FW area. Today, the program serves 55 schools with 5,600 volunteers across multiple states. The Azle Independent School District is just one of many new districts that began utilizing the faith and community focused mentor program this fall.

Hilltop Elementary's principal, Amy Rollmann, attended Azle schools as a student and has worked for the district for 27 years. Rollmann said she first learned of Academy

4 around four years ago and immediately hoped to start the program in Azle schools. The principal said teachers and parents may not be able to have the one-on-one time children need and that mentorship is essential for filling that gap. Even after just one session, she said she can see an immediate effect on some of her most troubled students.

"Every kid in my building is benefiting from Academy 4. That's what sold me from day one," Rollmann said. "They had the biggest smiles on their faces and it took my breath away as a principal. I want nothing more than every single child in my building to just have someone cheering them on, supporting them."

In an interview with the Tri-County Reporter, district administrator and mentor, Jessica Hanson, agreed that her experience so far has also been overwhelmingly positive. Hanson surprised one of her former students by revealing that she had committed to being her dedicated mentor over the next nine months.

"I think it's going to have a huge impact for Azle ISD students," Hanson said. "In our world, we're so technology driven, and a big part of Academy 4's expectations are that mentors don't have their phones. There are no screens out and you just get to have true, real conversations. So much of what you do is building those leadership skills with them, or just 'tell me about you,' so they get to feel

important and valued. I was also able to learn from her. It was very rewarding for me, too."

Speaking with the Tri-County Reporter, Academy 4's chief executive, John Shearer, said he initially just wanted to test out the program in one Azle school, but principals and administrators pushed for the inclusion of a second with the hope of more in the future.

"What's fun about Azle, first of all, when we first presented it to the elementary school principals and superintendent, they were all in. They got it immediately and just said, 'we'd love to have this in all of our Title I schools,'" Shearer said. "I'll be honest, I was a little concerned. That's a lot of volunteers to get, over 200 people. It's been incredible to see the way the Azle community has responded. We've had more than enough people showing up and it's just exciting."

Shearer concluded that he is eager to see the connections and transformations that he hopes his organization will make in the district. Next year, he hopes to recruit fifth graders who went through the program to be mentors themselves to Azle first graders through its Leaders 5 initiative. Eventually, he said Academy 4 may also introduce additional services and resources for families in Azle.

The next Academy 4 session will take place Oct. 25. Prospective mentors can sign up to volunteer or learn more at academy4.org/azle-isd.



Allison Baines celebrates after winning a game of heads or tails.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER



Hilltop Principal Amy Rollmann speaks about her experience with Academy 4.



John Shearer stands in front of a poster displaying the acronym LEADER.

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

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6. _____	15. _____
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• OFFICIAL RULES •

There are 16 games listed in advertisements on this page. To enter, pick the winner and write the name of that team in the appropriate blank on the official entry form. Mail or deliver the form to the Tri-County Reporter at 321 W. Main St., Azle, Texas 76020, by 1:00 PM FRIDAY. (Limit one entry per person). Entries can also be dropped off at Highland Furniture on the Square in Springtown, 133 E. 1st St.

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

Football Contest Week 6 Results on page A13



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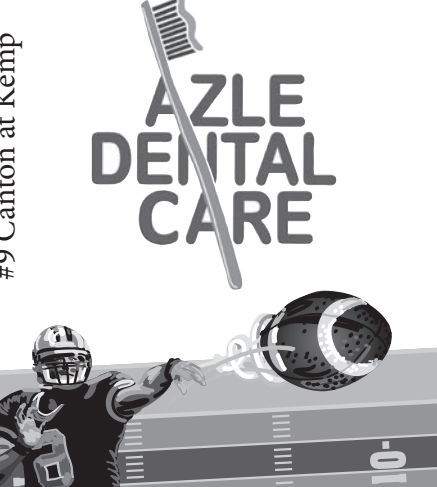


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Busy scouts

Here's what Springtown Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA Troops have been up to

MADelyn EDWARDS
springtownreporter@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Springtown's Scouting units have been buzzing with activity during the past month.

Unlike school, Scouting doesn't typically come to a complete stop in the summer, but since the academic year restarted, there have been more regular events for scouts to attend.

Here are the highlights on news from Springtown units within the past month:

ALL NEW SCOUTS BSA GIRLS TROOP

Springtown Scouts BSA Troop 303-G for girls is the second of its kind in Springtown and the first for the long-standing 303 unit. The troop started up officially Aug. 1 and includes three registered scouts — 11-year-olds Victoria Proulx, Izzy Nanni and Kayleigh Ward.

Scoutmaster Brandy Davis, who is no stranger to volunteering with Scouting as she has sons in the boys' troop and in Cub Scouts, stepped up to lead the new unit when it was clear there weren't other female leaders who could dedicate so much time to the new troop. Besides, though she only has sons, Davis has always wanted daughters.

"I get to be that leader for them and teach them and watch them grow," Davis said.

For now, the girls' troop is operating in conjunction with the boys' troop, having meetings at the same time as the boys, participating in the same activities and learning from the boys. The only thing

they do separately is camping, which happens monthly.

"Since they are so young, we have to kind of keep them combined so that the older scouts, the boys, can teach them," Davis said. "It is a youth-led program, so we want that leadership for the boys to be able to teach the younger girls."

The scoutmaster said it has been fun to watch the boys learn how to give instructions to the girls in a constructive way. Unlike Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA is supposed to be run mainly by the kids, not the adults who are there to supervise for safety. For Davis, having to relinquish some of that control and allow the scouts to make their own decisions can be challenging.

"It is also rewarding to watch them make those mistakes and then realize they made them and fix them the next time so that they've learned that lesson," she said.

Davis said it's important for girls to have access to the life skills taught through Scouts BSA, like leadership. Scouts BSA is also one of the only outlets for girls who want to experience outdoor activities like camping, hiking, fishing and swimming.

Izzy and Kayleigh transitioned into Scouts BSA after graduating from Cub Scouts. Victoria joined Scouts BSA after hearing about it from Izzy.

Izzy and Kayleigh were originally in Girl Scouts but decided to get involved in Cub Scouts with their siblings for the opportunity to do more outdoor activities.

"My little brother said it



COURTESY PHOTO

Kayleigh Ward, Victoria Proulx and Izzy Nanni are the first official members of Scouts BSA Troop 303-G for girls.

was really cool," Izzy said. "I joined because Girl Scouts, we couldn't do much, like we didn't get to go camping."

So far, the girls seem to be enjoying being in Scouts BSA and learning new skills, like outdoor survival, working in groups and knot tying.

"I've learned a lot more than I thought I would," Victoria said.

Kayleigh's favorite part about Scouting is going on campouts and hikes, and in her Scouts BSA Troop, she gets to do even more of that than in Cub Scouts.

"(In the) troop, you get to do more outside activities," she said. "In (Cub) Scouts, we didn't really get to go outside a lot, like we didn't get to go hiking or camping as much as we did in the troop."

BSA TROOP 22, CUB SCOUTS PACK 22 PERSEVERES

Earlier this year, Springtown's Scouts BSA Troop 22 and Cub Scouts Pack 22, which started up a couple of years ago, tem-

porarily did not recharter because of a lack of trained adult leadership.

However, the girls' BSA troop and the Cub Scouts pack are back up and running. Leaders say they hardly stopped at all.

"We had some logistical things to get sorted out," Scouts BSA Troop 22 Assistant Scoutmaster Chace Northcutt said. "We tried to explain that to everybody, but some people just didn't listen. And once we got it figured out, we got back together."

However, the boys' troop was not revived because there weren't enough boys returning, Northcutt said. Most of the Pack 22 Cub Scouts are boys so a troop may be chartered as those boys age out of Cub Scouts, if not sooner.

Something Northcutt and his wife Sarah, who is the scoutmaster for Scouts BSA Troop 22-G, want to do in the future is to start a nonprofit for the troop to charter under. Currently, the troop and

pack are chartered under a business, which makes it harder to get donations than it would be with a nonprofit.

"A lot of the donations and stuff we could get, we don't because a lot of people who make donations want that tax cut," Northcutt said. "Since they're a for-profit and not a nonprofit, people that donate directly to us won't get the tax cut."

Being able to fundraise more will help the scouts be able to have more opportunities, such as camping in Colorado, Northcutt said. It also may take some pressure off Chartered Organization Representative Patrick Valdez and his wife Donna.

The Northcutts hope to have the nonprofit ready by the end of the year or sometime next year.

REFLECTING ON PAST PINWOOD DERBY CARS

Patrick Hausman allowed his kids and their friends to race Pinewood Derby cars that he made as a youth in

Cub Scouts Pack 303's recruitment derby.

"I didn't that expect 30 years from now, I'm going to be racing the same car," Hausman said.

Hausman was in Scouting from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA and earned his Eagle Scout rank.

Hausman and his family moved to Springtown from Austin a few years ago, and he decided to get his kids involved in Scouting since he did that in his youth.

"This troop is amazing," he said. Hausman added, "It's a positive organization of positive people. It's kind of hard to come by these days outside the church."

As for his old derby cars, Hausman credited his mother for holding onto those for him.

For more information on any of these units, visit <https://beascout.scouting.org/> online.

Lake Worth ISD to offer adult ESL classes

JOLEE SKINNER
jolee@tricityreporter.com

LAKE WORTH — Lake Worth Independent School District announced Sept. 26 it will offer English as a second language (ESL) classes for adults in the next few weeks.

The classes will be from 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays each week in room

220 in the Miller Language Academy for parents who have students enrolled in the school district.

The classes are free, and adults must register to take the classes through a Google form located on the Lake Worth ISD website at www.lwisd.org. The only requirement is that adults must have a student enrolled in the dis-

trict to take the class.

Parents may also bring their school-aged children to the classes. Kids will have the opportunity to work on homework while their parents are in session and the district will provide tutoring for them.

According to a statement on Lake Worth ISD's website, bilingual education and ESL

programs are integral parts of the total school program. Such programs use instructional approaches designed to meet the specific language needs of emergent bilingual students.

Director of Emergent Bilingual Team Arelia Aurelia said these classes are an integral part of supporting bilingual students and their

parents.

"These English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are part of Lake Worth ISD's commitment to supporting not only our Emergent Bilingual (EB) students but also their parents," Aurelia said. "Our goal is to empower parents by helping them learn English while also providing tutoring and academic support to the

students who attend alongside them. We are proud to offer this opportunity to any parent with students enrolled in our district, fostering growth and success for both generations."

Miller Language Academy is located at 5250 Estrella Street in Fort Worth. For more information about the ESL classes, go to www.lwisd.org.

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AML, nature center have turtle-y terrific time

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — One of nature's slower animals had Azleites rushing to the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge. Azle Memorial Library children's librarian Ava Bryant partnered with the center Thursday morning, Oct. 3, to host an unforgettable story time experience. The activities, held in and just outside the Hardwicke Interpretive Visitor Center, located at the nature center, included songs, dances, crafts and a showcase from a genuine live Texas tortoise.

"I definitely wanted to bring the story time to the nature center, because there is an opportunity for them to learn about the animals that they have and this opportunity for them to be in nature," Bryant said. "That's very important for kids. I wanted to incorporate that within a story time and then the theme is turtles ... It helps them with their sensory learning and playing is very important for kids, and so incorporating that, and especially just getting the new experiences, is important. So, I definitely think that's very beneficial."

Nearly 100 visitors, most from Azle and elsewhere in Parker County, visited the center for the free event. Natural resource technician Taylor Phillips introduced the star of the show, an unnamed Texas tortoise, an ambassador of the center. Phillips explained that the center does not usually name its animals in order to stress that they are not pets, but instead working animals.

The Texas tortoise is the smallest species of tortoise in North America. Though considered an animal of low concern by the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List, the Texas tortoise is listed as a threatened species in the state of Texas, and thus protected by state law. It is illegal to collect or possess them. You won't see this animal wandering about North Texas, as their native range is largely the southern and western portions of the state.

The sole tortoise that lives at the FWNC was once an illegal pet himself until he was recovered by Texas Parks and Wildlife and put in the center's care just over one year ago. Phillips explained that this unique resident to the FWNC is likely around 20 to 30 years old and is expected to live at least another 30 to 40 years.

The FWNC is also home to native red eared sliders, box turtles, snapping turtles and mud turtles. Phillips explained that while all tortoises are turtles, not all turtles are tortoises.

Natural scientist supervisor Michael Perez spoke with the Tri-County Reporter about the important role ambassador animals play for the



Local kids take a close look while they learn about the tortoise's important role at the center and in nature.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER



Melanie Teague and her children Ava, 2, and Carter, 4, make their own turtles and enjoy the day out.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

center.

"We can talk to the public about the importance of protecting wildlife because if we don't, then they're going to become endangered, eventually threatened," Perez said. "Then they play an important role as far as predator prey relationships, they're food for other animals. They also help maintain habitats and

give us an indicator of how healthy the habitat is."

Perez said the FWNC works with local libraries and other organizations to promote literacy and outdoor education. Attendees of the event were allowed to visit and walk the rest of the nature center grounds for the rest of the day at no cost. Perez said events like these are a great

way to introduce people to the center and its facilities. On most days, entry to the center costs \$6 for those between the ages of 13 and 64 with lower rates for children and seniors.

The center is home to many other unique and interesting animals, like its herd of 16 bison. FWNC will celebrate these animals on National

Buffalo Day Nov. 2. On Oct. 26, the FWNC will celebrate the spooky and mysterious with its Lake Worth Monster Bash where cryptozoologists are slated to speak about the alleged Goat Man of Lake Worth. The center is located just outside Azle at 9601 Fossil Ridge Road, Fort Worth and is open seven days per week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To celebrate Halloween, AML will be hosting a Monster Mash Storytime 6 p.m. Oct. 22. It will be held in the library's community room where Bryant and attendees will read, sing, snack and craft. The library will also be judging a pumpkin decorating contest Oct. 14 - Oct. 24. Find more details in their monthly newsletter or online.

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Lake Worth and Azle Garden Club

One of the oldest in Tarrant County

JOLEE SKINNER
jolee@tricityreporter.com

LAKE WORTH — The Lake Worth and Azle Garden Club is one of the oldest garden clubs in Tarrant County and continues to meet plus educate members on horticulture.

The Lake Worth and Azle Garden club was founded in 1940 by A.H. Sanders. Eighty-four years later, the club still meets once a month and currently has 19 paid members. The club plans various field trips and fundraisers throughout the year. It's called the Lake Worth and Azle Garden Club because there are members from both cities and the clubs have been combined.

Club President Maureen Hogan said the goal of the club is to preserve natural resources and to realize the beautiful community members have.

"This organization's goal is to bring to each member of this community the realization of a beautiful neighborhood in which to live," Hogan said. "We can accomplish this through the preservation of our natural resources and a sound knowledge of care



The Lake Worth and Azle Garden Club meeting to discuss future trips and events.

JOLEE SKINNER | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

and beautification of private properties and homes. Through these efforts, we can achieve this goal."

The club also visits various places all over the D-FW metroplex.

"This year our field trips include Archie's Gardenland, The Tree Place and Weston Gardens," Hogan said. "We all enjoy going places and seeing new things. In previous years, we visited the Tulip Farm and

Japanese Garden at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden."

As president, Hogan hopes each member enjoys themselves and learns more about horticulture.

"As the president — this is my first year as the president — I want the members to enjoy themselves," Hogan said. "Learn more about gardening, care of plants, trees, share their ideas and love of gardening with others and to

enjoy their time with fellow garden club members."

The club also donates to local organizations. They donated a gardening book "The Saved Seed" by Brenda Moore, Jean Ohlmann and Nancy Hargroves to a school library. They deliver plants for Christmas to four public places in Lake Worth and Azle. They deliver plants for Easter to four public places in Lake Worth and pro-

vide a Walmart gift card at Christmas to a needy family every year.

Hogan says the club raises money by hosting dinners together and giving each other flowers and gifts.

"We raise money for our club by having a member dinner where we each bring a dish and each pay \$20 which goes to the club," Hogan said. "We pay club dues; members bring plants to a designated

meeting that are sold and the money goes to the club. Pass the piggy jar goes around, and people can donate their spare change which is used for cards and flowers for members."

For more information about the Lake Worth and Azle Garden Club, visit its Facebook page.

Letting go: Embracing change and looking ahead

MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

We have all heard the old adage, "The only certainty in life is change." That is so very true. Holding on tightly to the way things once were can be comforting. It's human nature to seek stability and familiarity, but life doesn't stand still for anyone.

With each passing day, you're not the same person you were a year ago, a month ago, or even a week ago. You're constantly learning, growing and evolving, and so is the world around you. Change is inevitable, and while you may not have control over every event or circumstance in life, you have control over one critical factor: your attitude.

When you shift your mindset and become open to change, you gradually learn to master it rather than allowing it to master you. This mental flexibility is essential to thriving in a world where

nothing stays the same for long. Letting go of the past isn't about forgetting or dismissing what you've been through — it's about understanding that the past has shaped you but doesn't define your future.

THE POWER OF ACCEPTANCE

One of the hardest truths to accept is that things may never go back to how they used to be. Life is full of unexpected twists, and sometimes, the comfort of the "good old days" feels like a safer refuge than facing an uncertain future. But clinging to the past prevents growth. The reality is that the ending of one chapter is often the beginning of another, and that new chapter can bring opportunities you may have never imagined.

Acceptance is the first step toward letting go. It's important to acknowledge what has changed, what's no longer the same, and, most importantly, that this change is not inher-

ently bad. Often, we fear the unknown because we project our insecurities or past disappointments onto it. However, when you start to see change as a chance for growth rather than a loss, you can transform your perspective.

HUMILITY AND GROWTH

A key aspect of moving forward is recognizing that you don't have all the answers. As life evolves, so must your understanding of it. Approaching each day with humility allows you to be teachable. When you remain open to new ideas, perspectives and experiences, you can expand your worldview. Remember that the world is often bigger than your view of it, and there's always something new to learn.

By being humble and accepting the changes happening around you, you create room for growth. Growth doesn't always come from easy situations. In fact, some of the most significant les-

sons come from the moments when life challenges you the most. During these times, you realize how strong, resilient and adaptable you truly are.

BUILDING A POSITIVE OUTLOOK

How do you respond when things don't go according to plan? Do you resist, or do you adapt? The ability to adjust your attitude in the face of challenges is crucial. A positive outlook doesn't mean ignoring difficulties or pretending everything is perfect. Instead, it's about finding the opportunity in every situation, no matter how daunting it may seem.

When you shift your attitude, you unlock new possibilities. Instead of viewing an unexpected career change as a setback, see it as a chance to pursue something you're passionate about. Instead of lamenting a relationship that didn't work out, recognize it as an opportunity to learn

more about yourself and what you truly need in a partner. Every change, no matter how unwelcome it may feel initially, can be a stepping-stone to something better.

THE NEXT STEP: MOVING FORWARD

It's important to understand that letting go is a process, not a one-time decision. Some days, you may feel ready to embrace the future with open arms, while on others, the past may tug at your heartstrings. And that's okay. What matters is that you keep moving forward, even if progress feels slow at times.

Let go of the idea that things will return to how they once were. Instead, embrace the fact that the future holds endless possibilities. By releasing the past and focusing on the present, you give yourself the freedom to create a life that's even more fulfilling than the one you left behind.

Football Contest WEEK 6

This week's Football Contest only had one first place winner. Congratulations to David A. Shaffer for predicting 13 out of 16 games and winning \$20. There was a tie for second place between Eddy Swanzy and Bobby Boyd. The tiebreaker game was Azle at Birdville, which produced a spread of 91 points. Eddy Swanzy took second place by guessing 75 points and won \$10. Bobby Boyd won third place and \$5 with his tiebreaker guess of 68. Thank you to all for making this game so much fun!

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Azle school spirit

Staff and students celebrate homecoming week with dress up days



COURTESY AZLE ISD

Liberty Elementary School teachers and students are up to something despicable for their Minions-themed dress up day.



COURTESY AZLE ISD

Walnut Creek staff and students go far out in their 1960s inspired costumes for Decades Day.



COURTESY AZLE ISD

Silver Creek Elementary students stand out together on Twins Day.

Azle Rotary names October students of the month

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Four Azle High School seniors were recognized by the Azle Rotary Club for their academic and extracurricular accomplishments at an Oct. 3 meeting.

Corynne Barone is the daughter of Shelly and Brian Barone. She is ranked seventh in her class with a grade point average of 103.83. She is interested in becoming a nurse or nurse anesthetist. She is proud of being in the academic top 10 and making excellent grades throughout high school.

Barone said her lowest grade is a 96 and she has never missed an assignment. She considers herself a hard worker who battles with procrastination and also describes herself as caring and outgoing. Barone said one unique fact about herself is that she has diabetes. She plays softball and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Luke Petersen is the son of Cheryl and Chris Petersen. He is ranked fifth in his class with a GPA of 104.61. He is interested in attending Harvard, Princeton, Yale,

Barone, Petersen, Fitch, Bryan are October honorees

University of California Berkeley, Stanford, University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth, Columbia, Cornell, University of Texas Austin, University of Michigan, University of California Los Angeles, Northwestern, Boston College, Northeastern, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rice, Boston University, Duke, or Brown to study environmental science, public policy, journalism, management, biochemistry, political science or chemistry. Petersen is proud of being in the top five in his class, receiving the National FBLA Business Management Award and with all the people who he has met and made an impact on. He considers his time management skills, his attention to detail and his willingness to ask to be his biggest strengths. He has competed in UIL journalism, speech and debate, UIL math and science, UIL social studies and tennis. Petersen is captain of the boy's tennis team, editor-in-chief of The

Sting student newspaper, NHS social media officer, is an FBLA chapter president and is captain of the rowdies. He has written for The Stanford Daily, volunteered at Cook Children's Hospital and is an Eagle Scout.

Anthony Fitch is the son of Amy Fitch and Tim Fitch. He is ranked 11th in his class with a GPA of 102.90. He is interested in attending the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech or Tarleton State University to study chemistry and education. He is proud of his excellent grades and his work in Interact Club where he is vice president. Time management and leadership are his greatest strengths.

Fitch described himself as honest, diligent and determined. He also considers himself a great team player. He enjoys camping and archery and hopes to soon earn the rank of Eagle Scout. Fitch volunteers at the Azle Community Caring Center, has worked as a camp counselor and was in the school



COURTESY PHOTO

Rotary President Bob Buckel, Corynne Barone, Luke Petersen, Anthony Fitch, Elijah Bryan and Azle High School Principal Nate Driver.

band for three years.

Elijah Bryan is the son of Lindsay Bryan. He is ranked eighth in his class with a GPA of 103.47. He is interested in attending the United States Naval Academy, University of North Texas, Texas A&M, Rice University or Texas Christian

University to study engineering. He is proud of his good grades and test scores. Bryan said he always delivers his best effort and that he is working to overcome distractions through organization. He described himself as detail oriented, athletic and am-

bitious. One interesting thing about him is that he hopes to learn to speak German and Spanish and learn to play guitar and ukulele. Bryan is a varsity wrestler, is on the AHS drone team, is a goalie for soccer and has participated in the Civil Air Patrol.

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A Lake Worth police officer shows people the department's equipment.



Lake Worth firefighter shows kids the fire truck.

Lake Worth National Night Out gathers support for law enforcement

JOLEE SKINNER
jolee@tricityreporter.com

LAKE WORTH — On Oct. 1, Lake Worth Police Department hosted its annual National Night Out in the Lake Worth Multi-Purpose building parking lot, drawing support from the community. National Night Out is an annual campaign that aims to create strong relationships between communities and law enforcement. Nationally, National Night Out is held the

first Tuesday in August, but in Texas, it is typically held the first Tuesday of October. Lake Worth Chief of Police J.T. Manoushagian thanked citizens for overwhelming support and for allowing the police department to reach the community. "Being a part of the community is vitally important to our department's identity," Chief Manoushagian said. "Events like National Night Out provide us with a unique opportunity to meet the

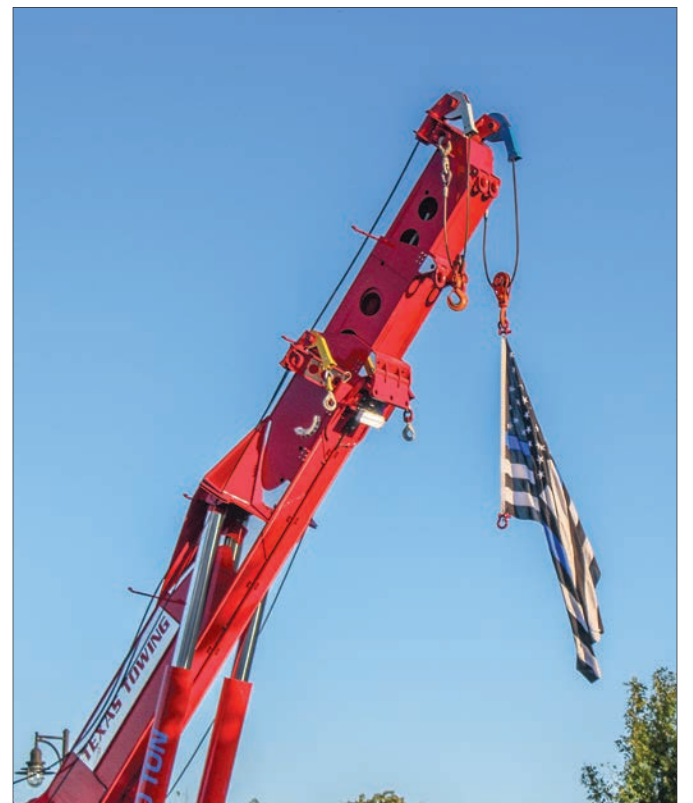
community where they are at, right in the heart of their neighborhood. We are thankful for the overwhelming support of the Lake Worth community." Lake Worth City Manager Stacey Almond said this event is a great reminder to build community and strengthen trust. "National Night Out is more than just a community event," Almond said. "It's a powerful reminder that when we come together, we

strengthen our neighborhoods, build trust and foster lasting connections. It's a night to celebrate safety, unity and the spirit of the Lake Worth community." Lake Worth National Night Out was held in the multi-purpose building parking lot. Typically, the event is held at the Lake Worth City Park East, but due to construction, it was moved at the last minute; it was still a successful event. Lake Worth PD starts planning for the event six months in advance. All law enforcement, including all first responders, were in attendance as well as all city council members. School board members, Lake Worth High School band, varsity cheerleaders and middle school cheerleaders were present. The Lake Worth High School band kicked off the event with the varsity cheerleaders performing alongside.



The Lake Worth High School band plays at National Night Out.

LWISD Communications Coordinator Noah Ceballos said the district is grateful for the opportunity to come together with local law enforcement and have students participate in events like this. "Lake Worth ISD is proud to have our students par-



Lake Worth fire truck holds up law enforcement flag.

ticipate in the National Night Out event hosted by the Lake Worth Police Department," Ceballos said. "Our strong partnership with Lake Worth PD allows us to engage with the community in meaningful ways and we are thrilled to see our students actively involved. This event highlights the importance of community connections and we are grateful for the opportunity to join together in support of a safer, stronger Lake Worth

community." The event featured food trucks such as Frios Gourmet Pops and the police department served hot dogs. The fire department passed out plastic fire hats to the kids and the Lake Worth public works department provided a cornhole game for kids to play. The police department won the chili cookoff for the first time in five years; the fire department had been the reigning champion.

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ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
 The Azle Police Department's Special Response Team is geared up to greet the community on National Night Out.



Local clowns Bubbles and Penelope (Bella Hornback and Michelle Mangum) entertain kids and spread the word about the Future, Hope and Healing Center with director Sally Daniels centered.

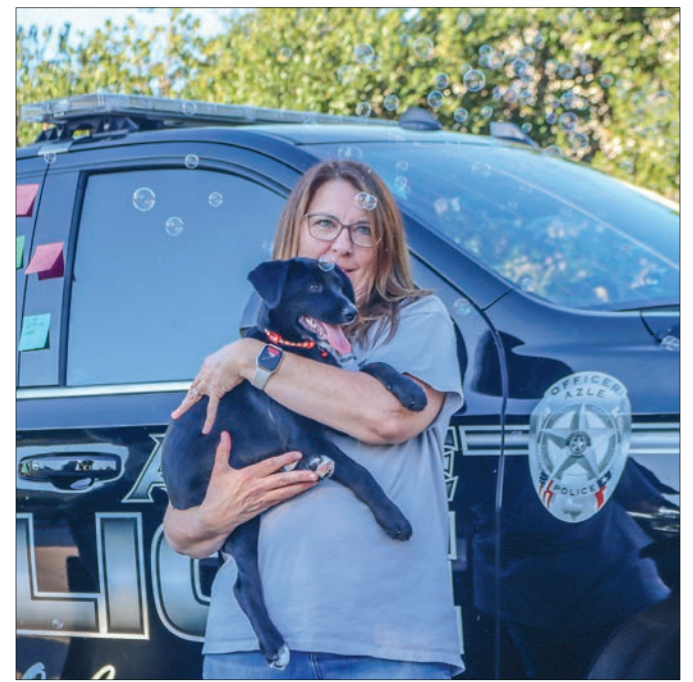
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FROM PAGE #

something negative, whether it's a car accident or a crime and they're a victim or they're arrested for something. This is an opportunity for us to meet people where they live, be comfortable and really try to expand relationships and let people meet us and know what our hearts are."



Tarrant County Sheriff's deputies Rusti Wingate and Patrick Starett visit National Night Out in Azle atop their horses Goose and Pecos.



Kristi Hall, wife of Azle Chief of Police Ben Hall, fosters dogs through the Azle Animal Shelter. Here, Hall stands with Junebug, an adoptable dog recently born at the shelter.



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THURSDAY, October 10, 2024

Friday Night Lights isn't just for Friday nights

Hosting a high school football game takes lots of preparation

LILY HUDMAN
info@tricityreporter.com

Every other Friday, from the months of August to November, hundreds of people shuffle into Hornet Stadium in excitement. Friday Night Lights — more commonly known as “FNL” — has grown in popularity across Texas, and Azle is no different.

While regular fans just show up Friday nights ready to cheer on their team or watch their favorite group perform, there are countless people behind the scenes who work well before each Friday to ensure the night runs smoothly.

“You could almost say that preparation to host a football game starts in November and December of the previous year,” athletic director Michael Sain said. “Then in the summer going into hosting football for the fall, we’ll

meet with all of our spirit groups, fine arts groups and any groups that are associated with a football game that isn’t the football team.”

To ensure they put on their best performance every Friday, Azle cheer practices every day during fifth period, after school Mondays and Wednesdays for two hours and on Fridays before the game. Sophomore cheerleader Chloe Roth said her competitive cheering background has been useful when preparing for Friday night games.

“I’m able to help other people just because I’ve done (competitive cheer) since I was 4,” Roth said. “Certain things I’ve learned there I can bring (to high school cheerleading) which helps all of us because I know certain things that some people don’t realize.”

The Emerald Dazzlers, who

PLEASE SEE **LIGHTS** | B4



SPORTS Roundup

SAMANTHA FORD | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Colton Cook warms up his kicks before the Azle Hornets vs. Birdville Hawks game Oct. 4.

Former Lady Hornets inducted into HOF

RICK MAUCH
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

Cara Hoover McKenzie and Sarah Mendez brought a lot of excitement to Azle Lady Hornets fans during their playing days at Azle High School.

On Oct. 5, the two former multi-sport standouts were inducted into the Azle Sports Hall of Fame.

Hoover is a 2012 AHS graduate who went on to play softball at Abilene Christian University. She helped the Lady Hornets reach the state

softball semifinals as a freshman. She ended her senior season at ACU with a .301 batting average in conference and a .500 average against opponents in the Big 12 — Texas Tech, Baylor and Texas.

She returned to Azle and now coaches locally at her facility, Hoover Sports Training.

Mendez graduated from AHS in 2009, where she was an all-state standout. Highlights from her high school career include achieving a 0.27 ERA and accumu-

lating 485 strikeouts during her senior year. In the semifinal state game, she struck out 17 batters.

After high school, Mendez made history at Navarro College as the first player to compete at four positions in the all-region game: third base, shortstop, second base and pitcher. She had 258 strikeouts pitching in her sophomore year, third in the NJCAA. She also holds the Navarro record for doubles in a season with 35.

At Lubbock Christian, she was a three-time

All-American.

AZLE FOOTBALL

With half the season behind them and perfection still intact, the Azle Hornets (5-0, 3-0 in District 3-5A Division I) now seek to clinch their first winning season since 2021 when they travel to Keller to play Fossil Ridge (1-5, 1-3) Friday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

The Hornets are coming off a 48-43 win at home over Birdville Oct. 4. The Panthers fell 57-14 at Richland last week.

PLEASE SEE **ROUNDUP** | B2



LILY HUDMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

The Azle Hornets make their entrance before the Sept. 20 game against the Denton Broncos.

Making them eat grass

Gridiron girls excel on Springtown Middle School teams

MADelyn EDWARDS
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Some say there’s nothing scarier than a teenage girl.

This belief is true if referencing Elizabeth Stegman-Salinas (who is actually a tween) running up to sack you on the football field.

The announcer called out the Springtown Middle School seventh grader, who plays on the offensive line and defensive line on B-team, multiple times for making tackles during the Sept. 17 game against Creekview Middle School in the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District. The Porcupines lost the game, but Elizabeth still had a good night.

Elizabeth has a reputation for taking hits and making tackles ever since she started playing football last year through the Lions Club. Her stepfather Clint Schneider said he witnessed her taking down players the size of adults and sustaining hits when her club team played Joshua.

“Her coach at one of her games grabbed her by her



MADelyn EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Seventh grader Elizabeth Stegman-Salinas, right, who plays on the offensive line and defensive line on her football team, made multiple tackles during the game Sept. 17 against Creekview Middle School.



CHASITY VURICH | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Karina Velez Esteves with her supportive teammates who created posters in support of her big accomplishment.

Breaking records and building legacies

CHASITY VURICH
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LAKE WORTH, Texas — At just 16 years old, Karina Velez Esteves has already achieved what many high school athletes only dream of. As a junior at Lake Worth High School, Velez Estevez recently broke the school’s long-standing record for the most ace serves, surpassing the previous title holder, Amy Montelongo. Her journey to this milestone, however, is about much more than athletic talent — it’s a story of perseverance, family support and an unwavering love for the game.

Velez Estevez’s volleyball

story begins in Puerto Rico, where she first stepped onto the court at the age of 8. What made her early days in the sport even more special was the fact that her first coach was the same person who coached her mother during her college volleyball days.

But when Velez Estevez was heading into the third grade, her parents faced difficult times, losing their jobs in Puerto Rico. In search of new opportunities, the family relocated to Texas, where her mother found employment. While the move represented a fresh start, it also came with

PLEASE SEE **ESTEVEZ** | B3

PLEASE SEE **GRASS** | B4

Azle High School HOMECOMING



CHASITY VURICH | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

AHS Principal Nate Driver and Buzzy with the 2024 Azle Hornets Homecoming King Dylan Maines and Queen Haley Carlson during halftime at the game Oct. 4.



SAMANTHA FORD | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

Hagen Hughes dives in for one of four touchdowns that helped lead the Azle Hornets to the 48-43 victory over the Birdville Hawks.



Defensive players catch their breath between plays in the back-and-forth game between the Azle Hornets and the Birdville Hawks.

Homecoming traditions: The heart of school sports

CHASITY VURICH

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High school sports are more than just games — they are a tradition that unites athletes, classmates, parents and the wider community in an unbreakable bond. At schools like Azle, Springtown, Lake Worth and Azle Christian School, sports are central to the high school experience. The rush of adrenaline as teams take the field or court, the deafening cheers from the bleachers, and the sea of school colors represent far more than just competition; they embody a sense of pride, unity and community spirit.

For athletes, the opportunity to wear their school's name across their chest is a badge of honor. Whether it's the football team at Azle High battling under Friday night lights, or the volleyball teams at Lake Worth and Springtown

spiking their way to victory, these moments form the backbone of many students' high school memories. Student-athletes, like those at Lake Worth, where stand-out players such as Karina Velez Esteves break records and inspire their peers, carry the torch of school pride. They are role models, not just for their teammates, but for younger students who look up to them. They represent determination, discipline and perseverance, qualities that last far beyond their high school years.

But while the games are a significant aspect of the high school experience, the traditions that surround them — especially during homecoming season — add even more layers to the fabric of these communities. Homecoming is an event steeped in history, particularly in towns like Azle and Springtown, where

the festivities are as much about rekindling old connections as they are about supporting current students.

At schools like Azle High, homecoming week is eagerly anticipated all year. It's more than just a football game or a dance; it's a community-wide celebration. The parade through town, filled with floats and decorated cars, showcases the creativity of each class, club and sport. Younger students and families line the streets, waving at their older siblings and neighbors as they pass by, reinforcing a sense of belonging and continuity. Then there are the homecoming mums — a Texas-sized tradition if ever there was one. These oversized, ribbon-covered creations, often worn by students on game day, are as unique as the personalities of those wearing them, a visual representation of school

spirit and pride.

For seniors, homecoming carries a special meaning. It's a time to reflect on the past four years and look forward to the future. Senior athletes, in particular, often see homecoming as one of the last times they'll suit up in their school's colors before graduation. Every tackle, every serve, every point scored during the game takes on a heightened significance as they realize they're nearing the end of an important chapter in their lives. At Springtown High, the emotions run deep as seniors are honored before the game, their names echoing across the stadium as they're recognized for their contributions to their teams and their school.

The homecoming dance, too, holds special memories for seniors. It's the culmination of years of friendship, growth and shared experi-

ences. For many, it's the last time they'll gather together as a class, making the night a bittersweet mix of excitement and nostalgia. While underclassmen look forward to their turn, seniors soak in every moment, from the crowning of the homecoming king and queen to the last dance of the night.

Beyond sports and dances, what makes high school special in places like Azle and Lake Worth is the incredible sense of community that underpins everything. These are towns where high school is more than just a building — it's a cornerstone of daily life. From Friday night football games to homecoming parades, parents, alumni and local businesses rally together to support the next generation of students. Whether it's donating to the booster club, cheering from the stands, or decorating shop windows

with school colors, the community's involvement is a testament to how much high school — and the traditions that come with it — matters.

In the end, it's not just the athletes or the events that make high school sports and homecoming special. It's the memories created — by the teams, the fans, the seniors taking in every last moment — that will last a lifetime. Whether a student spends their time breaking records on the court, like Velez Esteves at Lake Worth, or simply cheering from the stands, the impact of these years is undeniable. Schools like Azle High, Springtown High, and Azle Christian School remind us that high school sports, homecoming and community traditions are more than just fleeting moments — they are the heartbeat of a community, shaping the lives of all who are part of it.

ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE B1

The Hornets have scored more than 40 points in each of their games.

Offensive leaders vs. Birdville: Derrek Vowell 13-of-17, 290 yards, TD, interception; Hagen Hughes 18 carries, 251 yards, four TD; Brayden Combs five catches, 143 yards, TD.

Defensive leaders vs. Birdville: Brian Moya eight tackles; Ethan Alcalá three tackles, three for loss; Cayden Lawson interception returned for TD.

Fossil Ridge offensive players to watch: Draylon Galloway 67 carries, 337 yards, three TD, 17 catches, 105 yards; Jayden Cowan 22 catches, 269 yards, TD.

Fossil Ridge defensive players to watch: Kingdom Tatum 47 tackles, two for loss; Brady Jones 33 tackles, four sacks, nine QB hurries.

The Panthers' last winning season was 6-5 in 2018. They are back in Class 5A after spending a decade in 6A, where they were 49-54, including 0-5 in the playoffs.

Fossil Ridge leads the all-time series 3-2, with the last meeting being a wild one. The Panthers won 42-41 in 2021.

SPRINGTOWN FOOTBALL

The Porcupines (5-1, 2-0 in district) have outscored their first two District 7-4A Division I foes 126-0, including a 58-0 win at Fort Worth Carter Riverside Thursday, Oct. 3 as Porcupines quarterback Kane Hill was 8-of-10 for 217 yards and six touchdowns.

The Porcupines host Fort Worth Eastern Hills (1-5, 1-1) Friday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. The Highlanders lost to Decatur 58-0 Oct. 4.

Other offensive leaders vs. Carter Riverside: Devan Hair four carries, 50 yards; Riley Jackson one catch, 50 yards; Caden Rogers one catch, 47 yards; Karson Ferguson one catch, 42 yards.

Defensive leaders vs. Carter Riverside: Hayden Nichols five tackles, one for loss; Blake Ballard five tackles, two for loss, sack; Chase Thompson four tackles, three for loss, sack.

Special teams standout vs. Carter Riverside: Thompson 76-yard punt return.

Eastern Hills offensive players to watch: Daquarian Henderson 420 yards, three TD rushing in 2023; Jamarion Hardeman, 410 yards, two TD receiving in 2023.

Eastern Hills defensive players to watch: Henderson 101 tackles in 2023; Hardeman 44 tackles, four interceptions in 2023.

A victory against Eastern Hills would clinch the Porcupines' sixth winning season in seven years. The Highlanders appear to be on their way to a 15th losing season in 16 years.

Springtown leads the all-time series 2-0, winning 63-0 in 2008 and 39-6 in 2009.

LAKE WORTH FOOTBALL

Something has to give when the Bullfrogs (0-5) travel to Life Waxahachie (0-5) for the District 6-4A Division I opener for both teams Friday, Oct. 11. The Bullfrogs seek to end an

eight-game losing streak and the Mustangs have dropped nine in a row.

Lake Worth is trying to avoid its first losing campaign since 2019. Life is 7-31 since 2020 and this season's team has been outscored 289-33.

Both teams had a bye week this past week.

Lake Worth season offensive leaders: Jaden Garrett 34 catches, 476 yards, three TD; Kevin Pointer 753 yards, six TD, five interceptions passing.

Lake Worth season defensive leaders: McTobia Pilot 19 tackles, interception; Cameron McClendon 16 tackles.

Life offensive player to watch: Kamarion Pearson 34 carries, 111 yards.

Life defensive player to watch: Kaden Smith 22 tackles, two for loss.

This is the first meeting ever between the teams.

AZLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOOTBALL

After taking a week off following a frightening moment near the end of their last game, a late hit that resulted in a player going to the hospital — he was released the next morning — the Fighting Crusaders (3-2) returned to action by winning a wild 65-56 contest against Round Rock Academy at home Saturday, Oct. 5. Now, they turn their attention to a trip to Forestburg (1-5), which is coming off a 54-8 loss at home against Faustina.

Offensive leaders vs. RRCA: Jaxon Durham 11-of-12, 265 yards, eight TD; Grayson Smith seven catches, 216

yards, seven TD.

Defensive leaders vs. RRCA: Jaxon Logan 14 tackles; Durham 10 tackles, interception.

Forestburg offensive players to watch: Kyler Willett, Jesus Sanchez.

Forestburg defensive players to watch: Tye Reid, Angel Cruz.

While the Crusaders are playoff regulars, Forestburg's last winning season was in 2017. The teams' only other meeting was in 2008, won by Azle Christian 54-0.

AZLE TENNIS

The Hornets/Lady Hornets clinched a playoff berth with an 18-1 win at Fossil Ridge Oct. 1. They finished District 5-5A play with a 3-3 record and were playing at Argyle in bidistrict at press time.

AZLE VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Hornets (21-12, 4-2 in District 5-5A) dropped a heartbreaker at Granbury Oct. 1, 3-2, a match they led 2-0. They followed with a 3-0 win at home against Saginaw Oct. 4.

Leaders vs. Granbury: Kills: Jacqui McClain 23, Addison Dorris 14

Aces: Heather Lockridge 2, Elizabeth Kate Lund 2

Blocks: McClain 4

Digs: Lockridge 23, McClain 16, Lund 14

Assists: Miley Massey 29, Gabby Briseno 24

Receptions: Lund 36, Lockridge 34, McClain 22

Statistics vs. Saginaw not available at press time.

Azle travels to Keller Fossil Ridge to begin the second half of district play Oct. 11 and

visits Brewer Oct. 15. Both matches begin at 6 p.m.

SPRINGTOWN VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Pines (23-12, 6-1) remained in contention for the District 7-4A championship by winning 3-0 at Bridgeport Oct. 1, a match in which Springtown served 24 aces, and won at home against Lake Worth Oct. 4. That set up a showdown at home against district-leading Decatur at press time. The Lady Eagles won the first meeting 3-0 in Decatur Sept. 13.

Leaders vs. Bridgeport

Kills: Libby Tedder 13

Aces: Brooklynn Quintanilla

8, Aerial Jackson 7, Gracie Carter 3, Brylee Pitts 3

Assists: Bailey Walker 11

Receptions: Quintanilla 7

Leaders vs. Lake Worth

Kills: Tedder 11, Olivia Williams 9

Aces: Pitts 3, Yantzy Martinez 3

Digs: Martinez 7

Assists: Ryleigh Strickland

13, Kallie Conway 12

Receptions: Martinez 6

The Lady Pines visit Krum Friday, Oct. 11 at 4:30 p.m.

and host Eagle Mountain Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m.

LAKE WORTH VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Frogs (9-22, 2-5 in 7-4A) fell twice on the road, 3-0 at Eagle Mountain Oct. 1 and 3-0 at Springtown Oct. 4.

No statistics were available at press time.

Lake Worth has road matches at Bridgeport Oct. 11 at 4:30 p.m. and at Burkburnett Oct. 15 at 6 p.m.

AZLE CROSS COUNTRY

In a final tuneup before

the District 5-5A Meet, the Hornets and Lady Hornets ran in the Brewer Invitational Oct. 4. The meet was held at Central Park in White Settlement, the same as the District 5-5A Meet Friday, Oct. 11.

The Lady Hornets varsity finished second and Hornets varsity was third.

Varsity Girls 5K Azle leaders

7. Audrina Montoya, 20:31.34

11. McKenzie Roberts, 20:33.25

12. Reese Jeter, 20:39.66

15. Yasmeen Tejada, 21:03.19

16. Azucena Neri, 21:11.90

17. Brooke Maples, 21:28.19

Varsity Boys 5K Azle leaders

8. Parker Huffaker, 17:01.50

9. Pablo Neri, 17:09.98

22. Riley Roberts, 18:06.47

23. Jose Romero, 18:07.08

24. Mason Schluter, 18:08.35

From district, the top three teams and top 10 individuals will qualify for the 5A Region I Meet Oct. 22 at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock.

AZLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Hallie Collins of the Lady Crusaders took first place in 4A and below division in the Brewer Invitational Oct. 4. She clocked a time of 12:34.26 over the 3.2K course.

AZLE BOYS GOLF

The Hornets junior varsity competed in Granbury at Nutcracker Golf Course recently. They shot a team score of 398, led by Knox Remley's 86.

ESTEVEZ

FROM PAGE B1

significant challenges for Velez Estevez. She spoke no English when she arrived in Texas, making school and life outside volleyball particularly difficult. Yet, volleyball became the key to her adjustment, providing her with an outlet to express herself and learn the language. "Club volleyball helped me not just as an athlete, but as a person," Velez Estevez says. "It gave me confidence and helped me learn English."

Now in her third year on the varsity volleyball team at Lake Worth, Velez Estevez has blossomed into one of the team's brightest stars. Breaking the ace serve record was a goal she had set for herself since her sophomore year. Known for her powerful serves and sharp court

awareness, Velez Estevez developed a routine to help keep her focus during games. Before every serve, she bounces the ball three times hard against the floor, then softly three times — a ritual that has helped her stay calm and composed in high-pressure moments.

Velez Estevez admits that when she finally broke the record, it felt like a weight had been lifted off her shoulders. "I felt like I'd been putting a lot of pressure on myself to break it this year, and when I did, it was such a relief," she explains. "I feel proud of myself."

Her coach, Alex Oppenborn, who has been a pivotal mentor for Velez Estevez, was equally thrilled. Coach Oppenborn took over the volleyball program two years ago and had to dig through old records to confirm Velez Estevez's achievement. "The stats were kept in the past,

but we had to really search through old documents and even check MaxPreps to confirm that no one had surpassed Velez Estevez's numbers," Oppenborn said. "I'm very thorough with these records because I want us to keep setting more."

Despite her individual accomplishments, Velez Estevez remains humble, always emphasizing the importance of her team. Her teammates have been equally supportive, often making posters and cheering her on throughout her journey to break the record.

Beyond the court, Velez Estevez's mother has been her number one supporter, attending every game and encouraging her from the sidelines. "My mom is always there for me," Velez Estevez says. "She's been through this journey with me, from my first days playing in

Puerto Rico to now."

Coach Oppenborn has also played a crucial role in Velez Estevez's development, not only as an athlete but as a person. "When I first met Velez Estevez, she was shy and hesitant," Oppenborn shared. "She couldn't even order food for herself without getting frantic. Volleyball has helped her grow so much, not just in her skills, but in her confidence. It's not always about volleyball — it's about life lessons, too."

While breaking the ace record was a major milestone for Velez Estevez, she's far from finished with her volleyball career. She has her sights set on perfecting her digs, with a goal of hitting 500 digs this season. "I want to improve my defense," Velez Estevez says. "Hitting that 500 mark will open up more opportunities for me to play offensively as well."

As for the future, Velez Estevez is sure she wants to play college volleyball, though she remains undecided about where. "I'm keeping my options open," she says, adding that she might even consider playing overseas if the opportunity arises. When it comes to her academic pursuits, Velez Estevez is still figuring out what she wants to study but remains open to possibilities.

To keep her skills sharp, Velez Estevez plays for Fire Purple Club Volleyball during the off-season. Her commitment to volleyball is matched by her dedication to keeping herself in good spirits — she prays during the national anthem before every game, a tradition that grounds her before stepping onto the court.

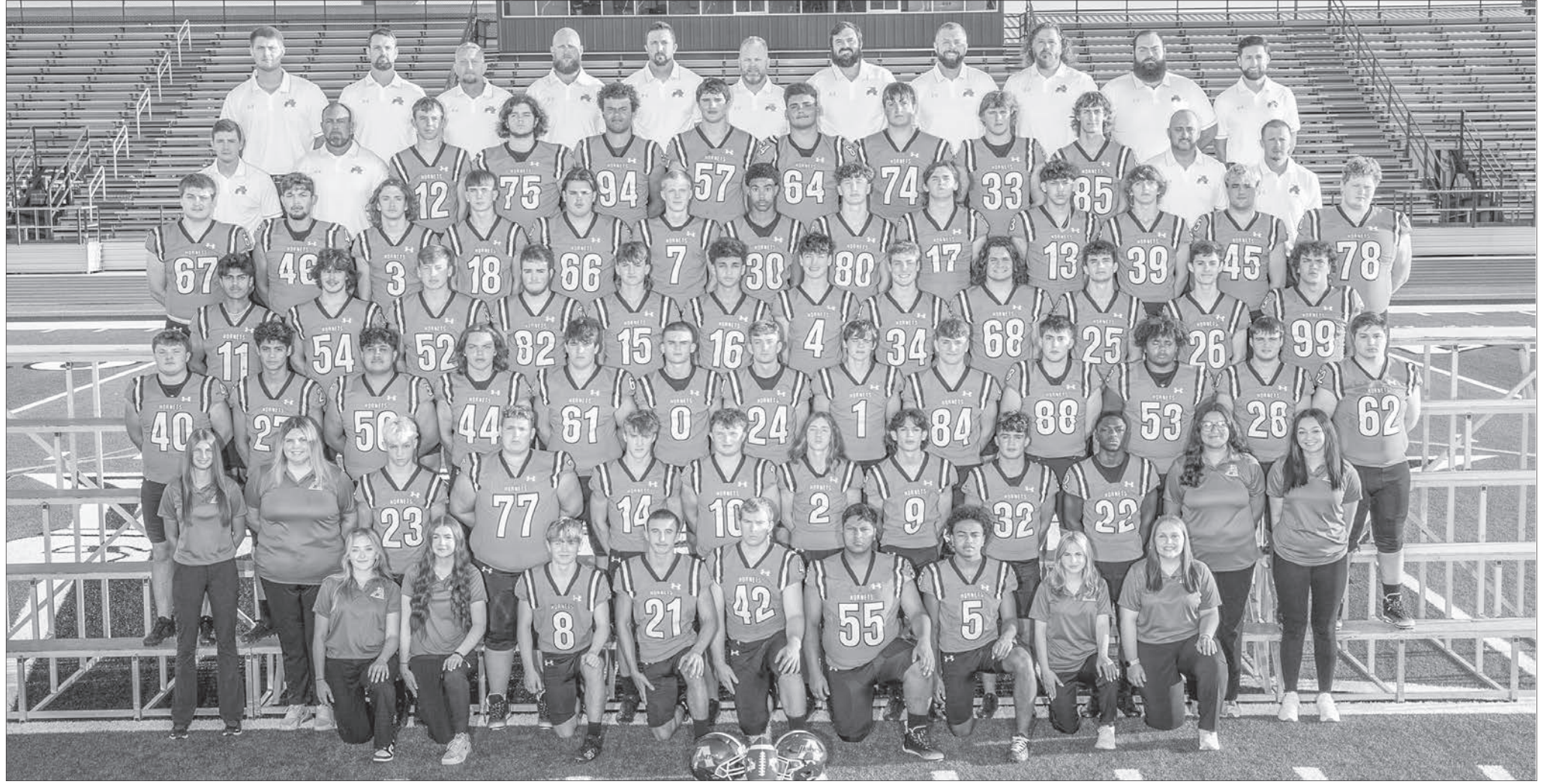
Velez Estevez's athleticism isn't limited to volleyball. She also plays softball at school and

may try her hand at tennis next season. Coach Oppenborn has been trying to convince her to give tennis a shot, pointing out that the movements in tennis complement those in volleyball. "Tennis is great for volleyball players because the footwork is so similar," Oppenborn says.

As a leader both on and off the court, Velez Estevez has advice for younger players looking to follow in her footsteps. "Don't be afraid," she says. "You have so much time to learn and improve. Don't get scared, just focus on getting better every day."

With her record-breaking achievement behind her, Karina Velez Esteves is already looking toward the next challenge. Whether she's serving up aces, perfecting her digs, or stepping into a leadership role, there's no doubt that her future is as bright as ever.

Azle vs. Birdville



DATE	TIME	LOCATION	OPPONENT	SCORE
Aug 22	7:00 PM	Frisco Wakeland	Hornet Stadium	
Aug 30	7:00 PM	Abilene Cooper	Shotwell Stadium	W 41-34
Sep 6	7:00 PM	Weatherford	Hornet Stadium	W 51-28
Sep 20	7:00 PM	Denton High	Hornet Stadium	W 52-14
Sep 27	7:00 PM	Brewer	Brewer HS	W 42-21
Oct 4	7:00 PM	Birdville	Hornet Stadium	W 48-43
Oct 11	7:00 PM	Keller Fossil Ridge	Keller HS	
Oct 18	7:00 PM	Denton Ryan	Hornet Stadium	
Oct 25	7:00 PM	Granbury	Granbury HS	
Nov 1	7:00 PM	Aledo	Hornet Stadium	
Nov 8	7:00 PM	Richland Ath. Complex	Birdville	

Players Of The Week

OFFENSIVE

DEFENSIVE

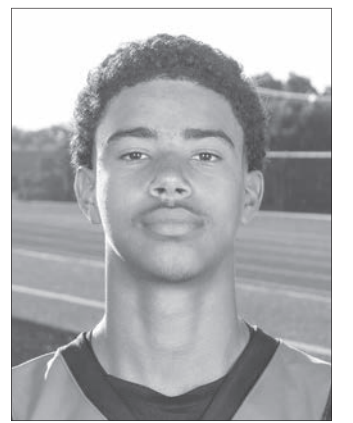
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GRASS

FROM PAGE B1

face mask, and he was like, 'No. 50,' (I can't remember the exact number.) He's like, 'Make him eat grass,' Elizabeth's mother Christy Stegman said before bursting into laughter. "She went out there, and she smashed him."

Elizabeth was inspired to join the Lions Club team after watching games with her dad and becoming interested in the sport. She doesn't have a favorite team, but she admitted that she used to like the Dallas Cowboys before getting frustrated with them.

"Everyone thinks that they're going to win, like, go to the Superbowl, but they never do," she said.

Unsurprisingly, Elizabeth's favorite part of being a football player is tackling, and she excels at it. When she joined Springtown Middle School's seventh grade B-team, she originally tried out for running back but decided she wasn't as good at it as she is on the O-line or D-line.

Springtown Middle School athletic coordinator and head football coach Brady Hibbitts agreed that Elizabeth has been successful on the team. Hibbitts was told by the de-

fensive line coach that during a game this year "when Azle Forte was close to scoring down on the goal line, that Elizabeth was one of the top ones that he put in because he trusted her the most to be able to go in and make a big-time play."

Elizabeth isn't the only tough girl playing football at Springtown Middle School this year. The other is Paola "Lola" Balado who plays defense on the eighth grade B-team. Hibbitts said there haven't been any girls on the gridiron in the past five years, but beyond that, the history is unclear.

Like Elizabeth, Hibbitts confirmed that Lola has been killing it on the turf.

"Anytime that she was on the field, she was a part of the tackle," he said regarding a specific game. "She was running around, doing an awesome job, wasn't being pushed around. She was holding her own and putting up a heck of a fight."

Lola never played football before this year, though she has competed in volleyball and basketball before. She decided to join the football team after realizing how tough she is and wanting to prove it.

"I know I'm stronger than most of these kids, and I

know I could put my body to the test," she said.

Something that the two girls have in common is not being scared to play the game, Hibbitts said.

"Whenever it gets tough, they don't just cover down," he said. "There's pushback. There's fight. They hold their own, and they're not intimidated by the person that they're going up across."

A lack of intimidation can't always be said of the players on the opposite team. Lola said being female is sometimes beneficial to her game when boys on the other team feel nervous about tackling her.

"They usually trash talk to me because I'm a girl on the team, and it's not really what they expect," she said about facing off against players on opposing teams. "But I also use that to my advantage and show them that they're wrong."

Lola's mother, Raquel Santiago, said her daughter wanted to either play football or join the wrestling team. Given her concerns about wrestling's weight system and knowing that Lola would have to play one-on-one matches, Santiago picked football. Despite her concerns about injuries, she's happy to see her daughter



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Defensive player Paola "Lola" Balado runs around during a play at her game Sept. 24 at Porcupine Stadium.

play a new sport.

"I'm a proud mama," Santiago said. "I'm really supportive of everything that she does, so I was definitely super excited that she wanted to do something different. So, we said, go ahead and give it a try."

Lola enjoys being on the team and is grateful to be there. Playing football has been a stress reliever for her, and it allows her to spend time with her friends. She said she gets along with her male peers and that they like her being there.

"It's a lot of fun," Lola said. "It's like family."

But for Elizabeth, she described a tenseness between the boys on the team and the girls (herself and another female player who has since left the squad) toward the beginning of the season. Elizabeth said her relationship with her teammates involves "trash talking" — like when she says her toddler sister "can hit better than them" — but she also claimed that the boys are mad about girls being on the team and want them to quit.

Having girls in the sport means that girls are tasked with training and finding their rhythm on the football team. Meanwhile, boys are getting used to their female teammates and leaving behind some of the things they've been told about how to treat young ladies for the sake of the game, Hibbitts said.

Elizabeth's mom, Stegman, said she thinks the coaching staff is doing a good job of being inclusive to her daughter on the team. For example, she noticed how a slideshow presented at a parent meeting at the beginning of the season wasn't up to date with the recent changes in demographics of the players, but Hibbitts made an effort to rectify that issue on the spot.

"Everything in the slideshow is probably from so many years of doing this. Everything says, 'Your son, your son, your boy, your son,'" Stegman said. "Then towards the end of the meeting, Hibbitts locked eyes with me. He's like, 'Your son and your daughter need to be here on time for practice and prepare to run.' And I was like, that's cool. He thought of us. But I didn't expect him to rewrite a

whole slideshow just for one girl."

Hibbitts isn't unfamiliar with the concept of girls playing football and has seen this happen before on teams during his coaching career. He said when Stegman asked about her daughter participating in the sport, he told her the same thing he tells every other family — complete the required UIL paperwork by day one.

"That's the conversation I have with kids whenever they talk about joining athletics or wanting to play football, that I'll know that we're serious about it when they show up with all their stuff done," Hibbitts said.

The coach maintained that Lola and Elizabeth are treated the same as their male teammates are. The girls are expected to show up to practices and participate in the same routine as the boys, Hibbitts said. The girls wear the same safety gear as the boys and are taught the correct way to tackle and block to limit the possibility of getting hurt.

Concern about injuries is present in the families of both girls but not to the point that it keeps Lola and Elizabeth from playing the game.

"You guys shouldn't be worrying about me getting injuries. You should be worrying about the other people getting injuries," Elizabeth said as her mother laughed.

Stegman understands that some bumps and bruises while playing football are inevitable and just hopes whatever wounds Elizabeth gets aren't serious. Lola's mother, Santiago, said knowing her daughter's coaches are watching out for Lola puts her more at ease.

Despite her fearlessness, Elizabeth said she's had to adjust to feeling consistently sore in her knees, arms, shoulder, neck and ankle. "She's like an old lady now," Stegman said. "She's 12, but on the inside, she feels like an 82-year-old."

However, Stegman said her daughter's soreness doesn't stop her from waking herself up and getting ready for 6:30 a.m. practices. Even though they didn't play football as kids, she and Schneider are doing their part to support Elizabeth's interest in the sport.

"Neither one of us are really big football people, but we're really big Elizabeth people," Stegman said. Since she joined football,

Stegman and Schneider have seen Elizabeth grow more confident and be able to come out of her shell socially.

"She's really blossomed," Schneider said. "When she played last year on the Lions Club, she was very shy and kind of timid and not really awkward, but just didn't know how to be around groups of boys. And then once she started playing, and she started making a name for herself, and once everybody started seeing how fast she was, and she could take hits, and she could deliver hits, then everybody's like, oh, this is awesome. And she was part of the boys."

Both girls hope to take their football careers into high school, and Hibbitts doesn't see a problem with this. Like in middle school, all students who are serious about playing are placed on a team — freshman, Orange Crush, junior varsity and varsity — based on their athletic ability, grade level and what role they can play on the team. Participation in other sports is also a factor; it would be difficult for a female athlete to play football and volleyball at the same time.

Lola, who proved to be popular among her peers when they all greeted her after her game Sept. 24, would like to see more girls play football and has even inspired some of her pals to think about enlisting on a high school team next year.

"A lot of my friends have thought about joining, and they're planning on joining next year with me," she said.

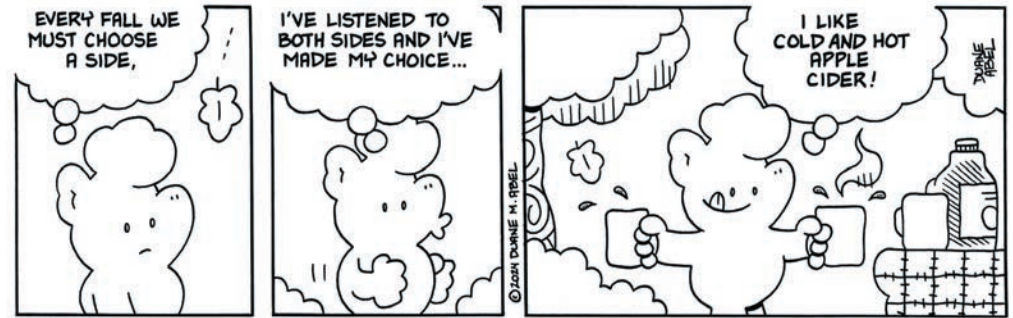
The future of girls playing football in Springtown is co-educational for now, Hibbitts said, since an all-girls team would need 50 or more athletes to get started. This is something that Lola's mom, Santiago, would like to see come together.

"I think that would be really cool," she said. "There's not really a lot of females represented, so definitely, I think that would be really awesome. Of course, being a mama of two girls, we got to do whatever we can."

Schneider and Stegman prefer co-ed teams to all-girl teams because of the opportunity to teach girls and boys to work together. For her part, Elizabeth has a different rationale for liking co-ed teams.

"Girls with boys (team) so that when the boys get mad, the girls can just tackle the crap out of them," she said.

ZED by Duane Abel



Sudoku

OCTOBER 10, 2024

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

Level: Beginner

Solution to last week's puzzle

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to computer cleanup.

RESEA

Five empty boxes for the word RESEA.

Answer: Erase

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to the wilderness. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 13 = R)

- A. 9 13 5 5 7
Clue: Provide shade and habitats
- B. 24 26 9 3 24 24 13 7
Clue: Not inside
- C. 2 1 17 1 23 14
Clue: Walking through wilderness
- D. 23 6 9 26 13 5
Clue: Wildlife and plants

LIGHTS

FROM PAGE B1

perform at halftime every Friday, also practice every day during fifth period and prepare multiple routines prior to football season.

"We pick three songs at the beginning of the year and then we just alternate going from the first dance, which we perform at three games, the second one which is also performed at three games, and the last one for three games," senior and Dazzlers captain Denali Rubio said.

While students who are part of groups that perform Friday nights do have a lot to prepare, parents are willing to put in extra work behind the scenes in order to provide more for their students' organization.

Charmagne Tucker is the first vice president and concession head for the Azle Marching Green Pride Band Boosters. Prior to every home game, she and other band parents spend Thursday and Friday preparing the concession stand on the visitors' side of the stadium.

"I have an amazing crew of volunteers," Tucker said. "That's really what a lot of it is, the volunteers and the time that they put in to allow everybody to come together for the kids."

As for football, the players review film each Saturday and the coaches spend five hours every Sunday developing calls and game plans for their next game.

"We put the previous day's game behind us and try to fix our mistakes," head football coach Devon Dorris

said. "We look at what made some plays successful or unsuccessful."

To fans standing in the student section or sitting with their families, Friday night games are nothing more than a night of fun and community bonding. For people working behind the scenes, it takes a lot more than the few hours the game is actually played every Friday to make sure the night runs smoothly.

"On Sundays, we send all the information that the visiting team is going to need to know, so that when (the visiting team) comes to our stadium, they have a really good idea of what to expect," Sain said. "We never want people to be taken off guard. We don't want to increase the stress level around coming to a game, because it shouldn't be stressful at all."

New Hall of Famers inducted at Azle ISD banquet

Cara Hoover McKenzie and Sarah Mendez were honored at this year's ceremony.



Azle sports superstars


STAFF REPORT

AZLE — Azle High School 2012 graduate Cara Hoover McKenzie and 2009 graduate Sarah Mendez were inducted into the district's Athletic Hall of Fame during a ceremony Saturday, Oct. 5. The two softball players were recognized and awarded for their achievements in Azle and their outstanding contributions to sports outside the district. The ceremony was at 2 p.m. in the Azle High School Competition gym and was open to the public. A reception in the AHS Hall of Fame area followed.

JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Cara Hoover McKenzie and Sarah Mendez stand with Azle athletics staff.

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Cara Hoover



Sarah Mendez

2012 Azle graduate Cara Hoover McKenzie inducted into Azle Hall of Fame

JOHN ENGLISH
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

Hoover, 30, now Cara Hoover McKenzie, is a 2012 graduate of Azle High School who went on to play softball at Abilene Christian University.

The former Azle catcher said being selected to the elite organization is overwhelming.

"It truly means the world to me to be in the Azle Hall of Fame," Hoover said. "I have looked up to so many of the athletes who have made it previously, so to be among

them is such an honor. Not only is this an elite group of athletes and coaches, but truly some of the best people you will meet who love their community."

Reflecting on her career, Hoover said she has so many great memories during her time at AHS but said that one

that stands out to her the most is from her freshman year in 2008-2009.

"We had one of the best playoff runs," Hoover said. "We ended up playing in the state semi-finals at the University of Texas. Two dreams coming true in one game. Playing in the State Finals and playing on the UT field."

Hoover also played volleyball and basketball at AHS and said what separates elite-level athletes from good athletes comes down to work ethic.

"Good athletes put in the work to just get by and be good enough," Hoover said.

"Great athletes are working every second they can. I remember going to multiple hitting and catching lessons a week, sometimes not getting finished until 10 p.m. It's just finding time to go the extra mile."

Hoover graduated with a degree in kinesiology and nutrition from Abilene Christian University and now gives private softball lessons in Azle.

During her time with the Hornets, she hit over .350 during her sophomore and junior years and .412 as a senior.

She was selected as a first-team all-district player and voted Offensive MVP in 2011



and a first-team all-district selection and Defensive MVP in 2012.

She also helped lead the Hornets to the state semifinals her freshman year team in 2009.



JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Azle Athletic Director Michael Sain presents Cara Hoover McKenzie with a plaque detailing her achievements.



JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Cara Hoover in 2012 with the Azle Lady Hornets. During her time with the Hornets, she hit over .350 during her sophomore and junior years and .412 as a senior.

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2009 Azle graduate Sarah Mendez inducted into Azle Hall of Fame



JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Azle athletic director Michael Sain presents Sarah Mendez with a plaque detailing her achievements.

JOHN ENGLISH

Special to the Tri-County Reporter

Sarah Mendez, a stand-out pitcher for the Hornets and former all-state selection, was inducted into the Hall of Fame alongside Hoover.

As a senior in 2009, Mendez finished 18-6 with a 0.27 ERA and had 485 strikeouts in just over 205 innings

of work.

Offensively, she hit .378 and was Co-MVP in District 6-4A.

During a state semifinal game, she struck out 17 batters, coming within five strikeouts of the 4A state tournament record.

Mendez went on to pitch at Navarro Junior College and eventually Lubbock Christian



JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
As a senior in 2009, Mendez finished 18-6 with a 0.27 ERA and had 485 strikeouts in just over 205 innings of work.

University, where she became the staff ace, appearing in 30 games and finishing with a record of 22-1 for the season, with a 1.20 era and 212 strikeouts.

At the plate, Mendez hit .394 with 6 home runs and 54 RBI.

Mendez studied sports medicine at Lubbock Christian University and works as a manager and head coach at Texas Fire Fastpitch.

Both Hoover and Mendez left enduring legacies at Azle High School, and Hoover said if there is one bit of advice she could give to her younger self, it is to savor the moment.

"I would tell myself to soak it all in a little bit more," Hoover said. "Slow down and just be in the moment. Those were some of the best years of my life as a young adult, but they do go by so fast. I ended my career with so much peace because I gave the sports I played everything I had."



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Cara Hoover

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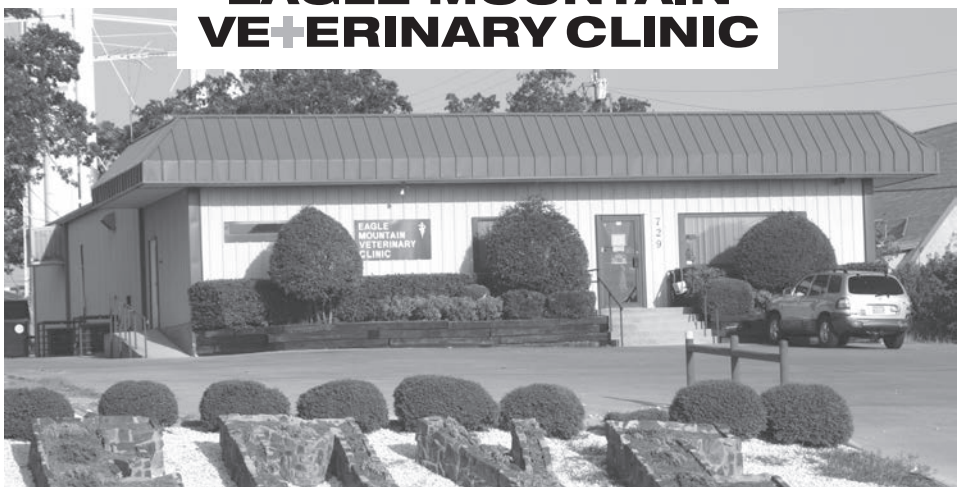
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Mendez and Hoover McKenzie display their plaques in the high school's competition gym. Mendez and Hoover McKenzie joined the pantheon of excellence at Azle High School when they were inducted into the Azle Athletics Hall of Fame.

JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

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 2233 E. Hwy 199, Springtown
 817-521-4694
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 www.thechurchinpeaster.org
 817-596-8805
CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
 2233 Hwy 199 East, Springtown
 817-221-LIFE (5433)
FAMILY CHURCH
 9 miles S. of Springtown on Hwy. 51
 817-599-7655
GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
 2964 W. Hwy 114, Paradise
 940-969-2427
HILLTOP FAMILY CHURCH
 1227 Old Cottondale Road,
 Springtown, 817-220-7177
THE FELLOWSHIP AT PLEASANT GROVE
 1064 CR4679, Boyd
 940-999-8210
THE HOUSE OF PRAYER
 1356 Reno Rd., Springtown
 817-221-2551
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 1649 S.E. Parkway, Azle
 817-319-7364
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 3282 FM 2048, Boyd 76023
 817-755-7021
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LIGHTHOUSE HARBOR CHURCH
 1960 Long Circle, Pelican Bay
 817-444-3547
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 817-913-2717
NEW LIGHTED WAY
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 817-444-1577
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 6781 Jacksboro Hwy., Lake Worth
PRECIOUS FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH
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 817-677-5963
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THURSDAY, October 10, 2024

AD CLASSIFICATIONS

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

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We Create Vacancy

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- Bobcat Service
- Dirt/Gravel Spreading

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034 Garage & Estate Sales

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Buy here cheap, Sell for more money
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Multi-Family Garage Sale
1045 Idlewood Ave, Azle
Saturday Oct. 12th & Sunday Oct. 13th, 9am-4pm

Giant Yard Sale
Lots of items Friday Oct. 11th - Sunday Oct. 13th, 7am-6pm
187 P.R. 4861, Azle

Yard Sale
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Antiques, collectibles, tools, great for male shoppers!

024 Electrician

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• LOT CLEARING
• LEVELING
• FINAL GRADE
• LAND EROSION
• GRAVEL ROADS
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039 Help Wanted

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068 Storage

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084 Mobile Homes for Rent

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088 Rent Unfurnished

2 Bedroom house, nice & clean, quiet area, no dogs. \$1400/mo. 817-444-3636

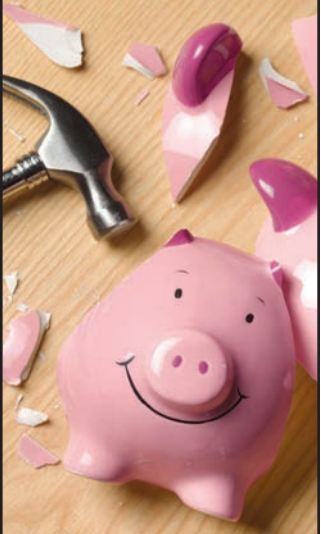
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CLASSIFIEDS

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SEE PAGE B6 for Deadlines

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 TXism: "he's ___ to walk the river with" (reliable)

5 a pocket bread

6 our treat (2 wds.)

7 Travis ___ pleases for more men at the Alamo

8 TXism: "___ the mark" (follow rules) a gorilla, e.g.

12 Texas-born Aaron Yoo 2009 comedy film: "Labor ___"

17 assumed names

19 the founding name of the city Uvalde

21 male geese

22 TXism: "hot as ___ stove"

23 "he ___ holding the bag"

28 TX JoBeth 1983 film about kidnapping/murder of a child

29 annoying person

30 "___ him wrapped around her little finger"

31 church table

35 camping shelter

36 Aikman shout in 1993: "I'm going to ___"

42 in Nueces County on highway 44 (2 wds.)

44 milk ___ quickly if left out of fridge

46 West Asians who settled in Waller County in 1880s

48 Texas actress Sissy

49 Friday high school event: "___ rally"

50 Monte ___, Texas

51 TXism: "if ___ rooster, he'll crow" (inevitable)

52 clairvoyance (abbr.)

53 "Houston Museum of Fine ___"

54 TXism: "mobile mouse ___" (cat)

56 TXism: "busy as ___ armed paper hanger"

DOWN

1 TXism: "sticks like ___"

2 Amtrak stop in Wood County

3 TXism: "he can't carry ___ bucket"

4 noted 19th century political cartoonist, Thomas

9 sailing in the Gulf

10 lasting performance platform? (2 wds.)

11 suffix denoting the female gender

12 a former Ranger in "Lonesome Dove": "___ Eye Parker"

13 "Star Trek's" Spock line: "Live long ___"

14 it predated 7-11's Slurpee

15 puppy bites

16 TXism: "___ slinging mad"

18 "it don't ___ up" (doubt it's true)

20 Austin: "Asleep ___ the Wheel" band

23 Levi's inventor (init.)

24 Texas-born actor Hawke (init.)

25 Greek cheese

26 mall clothing store (2 wds.)

27 cow dung

32 Joan Crawford was born in Texas as Lucille ___ Sueur

33 Burrell of 2011 film "Butter" with TX Jennifer Garner

34 cowboy humility: "___, shucks ma'am"

36 horse color

37 pelvic bones

38 "___ down" (reduce)

39 ___ beef

40 A.F. ___ organized the drilling of Spindletop

41 A&M's original 12th Man: ___ King Gill

43 fleur-___lis once flew over Texas

45 48-across played his "Carrie" (init.)

47 most Texans are ___ of their state

48 "___ up or ship out"

55 picnic pests

Last Puzzle Solution

S-1709

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Texas Statewide Classified Advertising Network

TexSCAN Week of Oct. 6-12, 2024

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