

*From
rejected to
respected*

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ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Be it burglar or boss, Pankey, doesn't hesitate to pick a fight with anyone after his transformation.

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than just a city to me — it is my home, and it has been my greatest privilege to contribute to its growth and improvement over these many years. We've seen our city evolve, with both triumphs and challenges, and through it all, I've been committed to making Azle a better place for its citizens and future generations," Brundrett said. "While I will greatly miss my involvement in the day-to-day affairs of our city, I feel it is

Since becoming mayor in May 2011, Azle's population has grown by about 4,000 people. Brundrett has overseen the city through countless changes, including the recent creation of



Alan Brundrett



Randa Goode

PLEASE SEE **MAYOR** | A4

COURTESY KRAYMER HARBOLD PCESD

Pelican Bay alderman loses home in fire

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found two homes on fire, the Meltons' and an unfinished building next door. The cause of the fire is still un-

PLEASE SEE **FIRE** | A4

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"This arrest was the result of excellent police work

Walls, age 27, was arrested and charged with possession of a prohibited weapon. In Tarrant County, Walls has



COURTESY PHOTO

Murphy Walls

At time of press deadline, Murphy is being held at the Tarrant County Corrections Center with a \$5,000 bond. Authorities have not commented on what Walls may have intended to do with the Molotov cocktail.



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Local, zone(s) 2 sections, 20 pages

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FW church spreads awareness of trafficking in DFW

JOLEE SKINNER
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LAKE WORTH — Human trafficking, a pervasive crime that impacts millions of people worldwide, continues to be a significant issue in Tarrant County and across the DFW metroplex. Lighthouse Fellowship Church held a panel discussion that gathered local experts to shed some light on the ongoing efforts to combat trafficking and to support survivors.

The event Feb. 1 featured a diverse group of individuals including law enforcement officers, nonprofit leaders and advocates who are working tirelessly to address human trafficking in North Texas.

Human trafficking is defined by federal law as the use of force, fraud or coercion to exploit individuals for labor or sex.

The panelists at the forum included:

- Cmdr. Kevin Turner: Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Human Trafficking Task Force
- Ty Bowden: Associate Director of The Net Fort Worth
- Elle Lees: Director of Community and Donor Relations, Rescue Her
- Sonya Brooks: Director of Youth Prevention Education, North Texas, Unbound Now
- Inv. Rob Pawley: 271st District Attorney's Office, Wise and Jack Counties

Amanda Pettit was the keynote speaker for the event. She is a representative from Rescue Hill, an organization focused on empowering survivors of sex trafficking. Pettit spoke about how this issue hits close to home.

"This is happening to our kids here in America, in our schools," Pettit said. "Oftentimes, there is sexual abuse before the age of 6 that

creates the trauma that you can almost walk it right into adulthood or they've been in it for so long and they don't have a way to get a job."

Bowden spoke about how it can be hard to spot a victim when they're older.

"When we talk about it, we talk a lot about sexual exploitation and if you think about the majority of these victims who are getting involved in this before they turn 18," Bowden said. "Even if we meet them in their 30s, it doesn't look like anyone is actively trafficking them."

A key focus of the event was on locals collaborating with each other to identify, rescue and support victims of human trafficking. Among the panelists was Cmdr. Kevin Turner, who spoke about the circumstances of how people get pulled into trafficking which could then lead to people being forced into commercial sex work.



JOLEE SKINNER | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Director of Youth Prevention Education, North Texas, Unbound Now, Sonya Brooks talks about the importance of spreading awareness about trafficking.



Director of Community and Donor Relations, Rescue Her, Elle Lees spoke about the danger of online predators.

"There has been a very strong, fundamental shift in law enforcement responding to prostitution in Tarrant County," Turner said. "The majority of them are victims or have something in their life that has led them to that point."

Even kids may be coerced into trafficking by other kids through deception or threats, such as violence against loved ones. Among the organizations represented at the panel was Unbound Now, which operates in Texas, Louisiana and internationally. Sonya Bruce shared the organization's mission to prevent trafficking through education and outreach.

"There can actually be kids who recruit kids as well," Bruce said. "Parents, be aware of your childrens' friends. Make sure that you under-

stand not only what's going on in that other child's life, but also in the family of that other child."

While trafficking has been a concern, the rise of technology has made it easier for traffickers to exploit vulnerable individuals. Turner and other panelists discussed the dangers of online platforms, where traffickers often prey on young people.

"The vast majority of all traffickers build a relationship first," Bowden said. "I saw a study that estimated that up to 80% of domestic minor trafficking cases start in the home, whether that is with a trusted adult in the home or through access to the internet in their own house."

Recent studies show that more than 55% of youth who were trafficked met their traf-

ficker online. This highlights the growing need for awareness and education kids need in this digital age. Turner pointed out the strides Texas is making in terms of combating this horrific issue.

"Texas is the first state in the nation to make a first-time offense for solicitation and prostitution a felony offense," Turner said. "We are leading the way in the country about how to address human trafficking, specifically sex trafficking."

All the panelists urged the audience to take action in their own communities. From supporting organizations that provide resources for survivors to having difficult but necessary conversations with children about online safety, there are many ways to get involved.

Pedestrian critically injured in Springtown hit-and-run; Weatherford man charged

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SPRINGTOWN — The suspect in a hit-and-run incident that left a pedestrian with critical injuries has been arrested, according to police.

The victim in the incident was transported to a Fort Worth hospital by air ambulance with life-threatening injuries and he remained in critical condition as of Monday afternoon.

With assistance from Weatherford PD, Springtown police officers arrested Aaron Phillip Turner, 24, of Weatherford late Monday afternoon. Turner was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and book into the Parker County jail. No bond has been set at this time.

The incident occurred Feb.

1 in the 1100 block of Farm-to-Market Road 51 (Main Street) when a pedestrian was struck by a truck.

At approximately 4:21 p.m. Feb. 1, Springtown police, along with other emergency personnel, responded to reports of an auto vs. pedestrian accident on North Main Street near Old Cottondale Road. Upon officers' arrival, witnesses said two male subjects were allegedly involved in a physical altercation while driving and both of them pulled over.

The suspect is alleged to have broken off the rearview mirror of the victim's vehicle at which time a physical altercation ensued. According to multiple witness statements, at a point during the altercation, the suspect returned to his vehicle and began to drive away, striking and possibly



PHOTO COURTESY CHRISTINA DERR

The subject's vehicle is described as a newer model four-door Chevrolet pickup, believed to be a Chevrolet Silverado, teal in color with a black grill guard.

dragging the victim in the process.

The suspect fled and did not return to the scene. The photos included are from various

security cameras which captured the suspect's vehicle after he fled the scene.

The suspect's vehicle was described as a newer model

four-door Chevrolet pickup, believed to be a Silverado, teal in color with a black grill guard. Security camera photos of the vehicle show it also

had a camper shell installed. FM 51 was closed from both directions for about one hour following the auto incident.

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The tree that stands watch at the Alamo

This past weekend I traveled to San Antonio to take in an event I had long wanted to attend. Since the event was Friday night, there was a concern about my working Friday and still managing to get to San Antonio and make the event in a timely fashion. After reflection, it made sense was to leave home after work Thursday, arrive in San Antonio late Thursday evening and then enjoy spending a leisurely day Friday enjoying the fruits of the city.

It has been several years since I've been to the Alamo. For my wife, it had been many years. We got online and got our tickets and hit the Alamo gates first thing Friday morning. We were ready to enjoy some Texas history!

It is hard for me to explain my feelings when I am at the Alamo. It is a sacred place that commands reverence and respect and provokes thought and soul searching. Visiting the Alamo is impactful. It is an experience I wish all Americans could enjoy.

After about an hour of touring the grounds, the sun rose higher, and the clear blue sky warmed me. I took possession of an empty park bench and sat in the presence of the live oak pictured above. The tree is truly an amazing piece of God's work. There is no way for me to accurately describe its magnificence. Its height and breadth



FROM MY FRONT PORCH
By Sam Houston

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are massive, and the shade it cast provided a comforting respite from the warm sun. Sitting quietly and enjoying the peace and comfort the tree provided, I began to reflect on the huge oak.

Live oaks grow very slowly in comparison to other trees. I feel very comfortable saying the tree is over 300 years old. In comparing it to photos of other live oak trees that had been professionally aged, I do not exaggerate saying the tree might be 400 or even 500 years old.

What had the tree “witnessed” and what had it “heard” during its long lifetime? Clearly, it was a substantial tree as long ago as when the Mission San Antonio de Valero was started by the Spanish in the mid 1700's. I sat and could picture the tree at perhaps 30% of its current size and imagine peasants resting under it shade, just as I was, as they worked to build the first walls of what was to become the Alamo.

I imagined the Alamo under the control of Mexican Gen. Coz and the battle with

Texican forces that occurred in 1835. After a two-month siege, Coz surrendered the Alamo compound to the revolutionary forces. In exchange for being released, he promised to never return to Texas, but history shows he did not keep his word. Coz was captured and taken prisoner at the Battle of San Jacinto.

In January 1836, Sam Houston sent Jim Bowie and 35 men to the Alamo to move the artillery which had been abandoned by Coz and to destroy the fortress. Bowie concluded there were not enough oxen to move the artillery to a safer place, and most of the men who were at the Alamo believed the fortress held strategic significance in protecting settlements to the east. On Jan. 26, 1836, a vote was held by the men of the Alamo and contrary to the orders of Gen. Houston, they decided to hold the Alamo and immediately began making additional reinforcements to the grounds. William Travis and James Bowie were in command. The live oak tree would have witnessed all of this: the surrender of Coz,



According to the historical marker, this tree was transplanted by Walter Whall, a retired English seaman, in 1913. This Live Oak was approximately forty years old when Whall brought it to the Alamo in 1913. The base of the tree now measures twelve feet in circumference, while its branches sprawl over fifty feet.

the lowering of the Mexican flag, and the efforts of the Texans to improve the fortifications from what they believed to be an eventual Mexican attack.

On Feb. 23, 1836, the Mexican army and Gen. Santa Anna would lay siege to the Alamo. The tree would have “seen” over the ramparts and witnessed more than 4,000 Mexican soldiers outside the walls of the Alamo. It would have “heard” the Mexican bugler playing El Dequello again and again. The music was a warning to all those inside the walls that there would be no quarter; if the battle was lost, all would be put to the sword.

It would have “heard” the cannon shot by Col. Travis warning the Mexican army that the Texans would never surrender. It would have seen the onslaught of the Mexican forces, heard the tortured deaths of the valiant defenders, and smelled the stench of burning bodies as the corpses suffered a final indignation as the Mexican troops set them on fire rather than burying them.

In the years to follow, the tree would witness millions of proud Americans pour through the gates of the Alamo as they arrived to pay tribute to its valiant defenders. Hopefully, the tree will continue to stand guard as a

symbol of our strength, our determination and our resolve to be forever free.

I shed a tear while sitting on the bench before the great tree at the Alamo. The feelings that went through my heart were of pride, of admiration and respect. I pray the day never comes when I fail to feel the same way about the Alamo. It would be a loss I could not bear.

God Bless the Alamo and God Bless our Texas.

Thought for the day: Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of every man who dies protecting it.

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

Tears of a tragedy ...

Tears of millions of Americans have scarcely dried since the tragic mid-air collision of a passenger airliner with a military helicopter Jan. 29 in the icy waters of the Potomac River in Washington, D.C.

A total of 70 victims — 64 passengers, a crew of three and three in the helicopter — lost their lives a handful of seconds and a few hundred feet short of the Ronald Reagan National Airport runway, some 1,200 miles from Wichita, Kansas, where the flight originated some three hours earlier.

We've always heard that such tragedies “come in threes.” Prayers abound for all who perished, as well as for all who lost loved ones. May this calamity be isolated, far more removed from the next one ...

Upon hearing the news, millions of Americans' thoughts



THE IDLE AMERICAN
By Dr. Don Newbury

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reverted to another river scene almost exactly 16 years ago. That's when an Airbus A320 airliner was skillfully “landed” on the Hudson River in New York City, some 200 miles from D.C.

It was 5,858 days earlier — to be exact — when Capt. Chesley (Sully) Sullenberger became a national hero. When the plane sustained a bird strike only minutes after take-off from NYC's LaGuardia Airport en route to Charlotte, North Carolina, Sullenberger guided the aircraft toward the river. The

waters were icy there, too, but the plane remained afloat long enough for all 150 passengers and a crew of five to be rescued. No one died, and just one passenger was injured.

Truly, it was a “Miracle on the Hudson,” occurring in January 2009, just a couple of weeks before the nation's last major commercial airline crash near Buffalo, New York, where 50 persons perished ...

Numerous ironies are associated with the current tragedy. There always are, with many known only by those

whose losses are up close and personal.

One, about half of the passengers were figure skaters and their entourages.

Largely ignored by major media were two interesting facts. About 24 hours before the crash, there was a close call between a commercial airliner and a military helicopter near the same D.C. airport, and about 24 hours later, one of the world's most recognized figure skaters died. Dick Button, five-time world champion and twice an Olympic gold winner, dying at age 95 of natural causes ...

The current crash involved a military Blackhawk helicopter colliding with a Bombardier CRJ700 regional jet.

Manufactured in Canada, it was considered one of the true “workhorses” of commercial aviation, never experiencing a mid-air emergency.

The last CRJ700 plane was manufactured four years ago ...

Back in 1959, there was another airline calamity involving Buffalo, but this time, not in New York state.

It occurred near Buffalo, Texas, where 28 passengers and a crew of six perished. Downed by mechanical failure in a thunderstorm, the Lockheed L-188 Electra had been in service only 11 days for 132 flight hours.

It was a Braniff flight, one of the company's first of many setbacks preceding its bankruptcy in 1982 ...

Many of Braniff's challenges were unavoidable, but at least one advertising debacle was among the worst on record — for any company.

If memory serves — and sometimes it doesn't — the Buffalo crash occurred during Braniff's trumpeting of its “we're-going-to-be-on-time”

campaign. If flights were an hour late, passengers were handed silver dollars upon deplaning, along with promises to do better. The Braniff folks even placed large clocks at cabin entries as reminders of their promise.

The Buffalo crash underscored the prevailing preference of arrival on time being more important than safe arrival. The campaign abruptly ended, of course, and the clocks came down ...

Coming to mind is the 1992 funeral service of a pilot friend whose instruments failed in a Colorado mountain range, where Tim Williamson and five friends had planned to ski — not perish.

One sentence of the funeral tribute described what may have been my friend's last words.

“Hello, Denver Control. Hello, Jesus.” ...

“Public education students are not worth less”

In last month's article, I shared the start of the 89th Texas Legislative Session and referenced our Azle ISD legislative priorities. By now, many of you have probably heard or seen references to the proposed Senate Bill 2 and how it relates to funding public schools and Educational Savings Accounts or “vouchers.”

I truly believe there is a place for all: public, private, charter and homeschool. I understand the desire for religious-based education, specialized charter schools, and



AZLE ISD
By Todd Smith, M.Ed., Superintendent of Schools - Azle ISD

Mr. Smith started his career in education in July of 1994 right here in Azle ISD. He taught agricultural science at Azle High School, served as a high school assistant principal, principal of Walnut Creek Elementary, director of district operations, assistant superintendent, and interim superintendent from March 7, 2020, until becoming Superintendent in June of 2020. He is thankful for the passion and dedication exhibited by Azle ISD faculty and staff and is extremely proud of the work Azle ISD has accomplished and the impact they will continue to make on the lives of our students.

the freedom and time with your children that comes with homeschooling. It's not about advocating against school choice; parents al-

ready get to decide what avenue is best to educate their child.

Regardless of opinions, ALL students should have the

SAME value. Public education students are not worth less than other students. It makes little sense how one day, while attending public school, a student is worth \$6,150 to the public school district, but if the same student chooses private school, they are now worth \$10,000. How is this right? For example, let's take an average Azle High School student taking a full schedule of eight regular courses such as English, math, science, social studies, Spanish, art, athletics and band. None of these courses

receive extra funding from the state. This student could be an honor roll student and involved in various extracurricular activities. We receive \$6,150 for this student, assuming they do not get sick and have to miss school.

Public education is not perfect. In Azle ISD, we have areas in need of improvement and are focused on meeting those needs. We have shared these areas publicly at many board meetings. Our administrators, teachers and support staff remain committed to continuous academic im-

provement for all students.

We should not be arguing or pointing blame to who is at fault but we should ALL be fighting to fully fund the public education system, defined in Article 7 of the Texas State Constitution.

Public education should be bipartisan: let's do what is best for our Texas students, both financially and instructionally. We need to work together to preserve democracy through providing a high-quality public education system for the students across Texas and Azle ISD.

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AISD bond project updates

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AZLE — Azle Independent School District is making strides in construction from its recent bond projects. Around four months after its official groundbreaking, AISD Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Matt Adams updated the public about the district’s progress at a Jan. 21 board of trustees meeting.

The new parking lot at Azle Junior High has been poured and the drive that goes from the parking lot to Lakeview Drive is in place and in use. Adams reported the district is within budget and on schedule in its efforts to build a replacement AJH.

The replacement junior high was approved by voters during a 2023 bond election and was seen as necessary by the district because of its

growing student population, current space limitations, and the advanced age of the original building. The new Azle Junior High School will consist of three stories and, when completed, the new building will accommodate 1,200 sixth through eighth graders. The school will be built in steps of increasing height, comparable to a wedding cake, but because of the drastic differences in elevation throughout the campus, it will appear as if it is only one story from the north side when complete. All new facilities are expected to be online and ready for the school year beginning August 2026. Removal of the existing junior high building will be in the last phase of construction.

Along with the junior high construction, Adams spoke about the ongoing expansion of the district’s police depart-

ment, maintenance facility and other upcoming expansion projects at all eight of Azle’s elementary schools and Forte Junior High. In its next meeting, Feb. 17, the board expects to hear bids for many of these projects.

By fall 2026, the district plans to realign the elementary schools to house kindergarten through fifth grades with the two junior highs holding sixth through eighth. While looking at aerial photos of ongoing construction projects, Adams pointed out a major housing development currently being built behind Hoover Elementary. He expects there may be 50 new homes at the site by the end of the school year.

Another development of note, Adams said the district’s police chief was excited to now have a secured vestibule controlling access to the AISD PD headquarters.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

A patient is transported to a helicopter near JPS Azle after falling 30 feet from a tree.

Man airlifted from JPS Azle after falling 30 feet

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AZLE — An unidentified man was evacuated from Azle by an air medical helicopter after falling from a tree around noon Jan. 31. According to Azle Fire Department Chief Will Scott, the individual was trim-

ming a tree while utilizing ropes and a harness. After the fall, he was transported to Northwest Azle-Iona Reed JPS Health Center. An air medical helicopter landed in a nearby field to retrieve the patient who was transported to Texas Health Fort Worth. Police officers and the fire department

stationed their vehicles on Stribling Drive to direct traffic.

“The department does not have the specifics of the fall, but we do know the tree broke somewhere near the person’s anchor point and the patient fell approximately 30 feet,” Scott said.



COURTESY PHOTO

An overhead shot of Azle Junior High School showing a layout of upcoming future facilities.

FIRE

FROM PAGE A1

der investigation, but Tracy Melton believes it originated behind the unfinished home.

“It started in the property next door, but my understanding is that it started out back,” Melton said. “It didn’t start in the house. There is a large transformer and a set of power lines directly behind that house. I don’t know if that could have had something to do with it, with the high winds. I’m just speculating. I don’t have any idea at this point.”

The house next door had been empty for several years and was in the process of being worked on to sell, Melton said. Her husband, Tom Melton, was home and asleep when the fire started. According to Melton, her husband was awoken early that morning by their Doberman pinscher.

“Thank God for my beautiful Doberman, Penelope. My husband was sleeping through it. It happened in the middle of the night and my dog woke him up and got him out of the house. They didn’t either one suffer any burns, but he said by the time she woke him up, if he hadn’t known where the door was, they wouldn’t have been able to find it. The house was fully engulfed in smoke and flame.”

Since the incident, Melton said her husband has had trouble sleeping and has relived that night in his dreams. The couple had lived in the house, which Tom Melton inherited from his mother, for the last 20 years. Tracy Melton has been on the Pelican Bay City Council for two years and plans to run for re-election this May. She

works for a home décor company and was at a trade show in Las Vegas at the time of the fire. Their home was uninsured and the Meltons are currently staying with friends in Pelican Bay. Along with the house, the Meltons lost all their possessions including priceless baby clothes, photos and antiques. With the couple’s financial situation, they are currently looking into temporary rental housing in Pelican Bay and assistance from the Red Cross. The Meltons’ son, Ross Houk, has started a GoFundMe which has raised nearly

\$7,000 at press deadline. Readers can find the page at www.gofundme.com/help-tom-and-tracy-rebuild-after-fire. Tracy Melton said many of the donations have come from her coworkers and members of the Pelican Bay city government and its police force. The pair cannot accept furniture or similar physical donations due to a lack of storage space.

“Everybody has just been reaching out and been so supportive. We are extremely lucky in all aspects of this. So grateful is the only thing I can feel right now,” Melton said.

“I just appreciate all the community support. Pelican Bay has been a really special place for us all these years, and being on the council has been a privilege, and I’m looking forward to serving more years.”

The experience has been a shock and Melton said she’s still a bit in denial but knows she and her husband will ultimately be OK.

“We’re both safe, and that’s him and the dog being safe, and that’s all that matters. So, everything else is just stuff,” Melton said. “We’ll be fine together. We’ll go forward, one foot in front of the other.”

Azle School Menu

Feb 10-14, 2025

BREAKFAST:
PreK-4th Grade, 7-12th Grade \$1.55
5-6th Grade FREE 2nd Meal \$2.00
Visitors/Employees \$2.75

LUNCH:
PreK-4th Grade \$2.55 5-6th Grade \$2.75
7-12th Grade \$2.55 2nd Meal \$3.20
Visitors & Employees \$3.75

PreK - 4th

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

Mon No school **Tues** Dutch Waffle, Breakfast Burrito **Weds** Danimals Vanilla Yogurt Cup w/Chatsnax, Sausage Egg and Cheese Taco **Thurs** Breakfast on a Stick, Yogurt Parfaits **Fri** Soft Filled Cinnamon Toast Crunch, French Toast Sticks, Glazed Donuts

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

Mon No school **Tues** Chicken Nuggets, Maxstixs **Weds** Beef and Cheese Nachos, Chicken Alfredo **Thurs** Grilled Cheese w/Tomato Soup, Mini Corn Dogs **Fri** Cheese Pizza, Cheese Burger

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

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

Mon No school **Tues** Dutch Waffle, Breakfast Burrito **Weds** Danimals Vanilla Yogurt Cup w/Chatsnax, Sausage Egg and Cheese Taco **Thurs** Breakfast on a Stick, Yogurt Parfaits w/Banana Muffin **Fri** French Toast Sticks, Glazed Donuts

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

Mon Chicken Alfredo, Maxstixs, Spicy Chicken Sandwich **Tues** BBQ Boneless Wings Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla Cowboy Chili **Weds** Cheese Burger, Chicken Tenders, Popcorn Chicken Bowl **Thurs** Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap, Spaghetti **Fri** No school

HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mon No school **Tues** Dutch Waffle, Breakfast Burrito **Weds** Danimals Vanilla Yogurt Cup w/Chatsnax, Sausage Egg and Cheese Taco **Thurs** Breakfast on a Stick, Yogurt Parfaits w/Banana Muffin **Fri** French Toast Sticks w/Bacon, Glazed Donuts

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

Mon No school **Tues** Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Noodles, Mini Corn Dogs, Sloppy Joe, Tostada, Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza **Weds** Spicy Sichuan BBQ Chicken w/Brown Rice, BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich, Bistro Box, Pork Tamales w/Chips & Queso, Bacon Pizza, Cheese Pizza **Thurs** Orange Chicken & Rice, Cheeseburger, Steak Fingers w/Roll, Crunchy Tacos, Mozzarella Sticks, Pepperoni Pizza **Fri** Chicken Ramen w/Crispy Chow Mein Noodles, Buffalo Boneless Wings, Mac and Cheese, Bean and Cheese Burrito w/Tortilla Chips, Pizza Pocket, Supreme Pizza

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Springtown School Menu

Feb 10-14, 2025

BREAKFAST PRICES	
EC-12th Grade	\$1.75
EC-12th Reduced	\$0.30
Adult	\$2.25

LUNCH PRICES	
PK-4th Grade	\$3.00
5th-8th Grade	\$3.25
High School	\$3.00
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult	\$4.25

Students may prepay for their meals.

Feb 10-14, 2025
PK through 12th Grade
*Menus are subject to change.

PK - 12th Breakfast

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

Mon Eggo Froot Loop Waffles, Peach Applesauce **Tues** Sausage & Egg Slider, Pineapple Chunks **Weds** EggStravaganza, Sliced Pears **Thurs** Breakfast Pizza, Apple Slices **Fri** No school

K - 4th Lunch

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

Mon French Toast Sticks w/Sausage Patty, Chicken Sliders, Steamed Broccoli, Fresh Veggies Apple Crisp or Orange **Tues** Macaroni & Cheese, Chicken Fried Steak Sandwich, Green Beans, Glazed Carrots, Fresh Veggies Sliced Peaches or Apple **Weds** Chicken & Waffles, Tator Tots, Fresh Veggies Applesauce or Blueberries **Thurs** Cheese Bites, Popcorn Chicken, Rancho Beans, Glazed Carrots, Roll, Fresh Veggies Sliced Strawberries or Apple Slices, Variety of Milk **Fri** No school

5th - 12th Lunch

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

Mon Smart Mouth Pizza, Potato Wedges, Fresh Veggies Apple, Strawberry Applesauce, Banana **Tues** Smart Mouth Pizza, Roasted Chickpeas, Fresh Veggies (Fiesta Sticks, Baby Carrots, Salad Cup), Apple, Strawberry Applesauce,, Banana **Weds** Smart Mouth Pizza, Tator Tots, Fresh Veggies (Fiesta Sticks, Baby Carrots, Salad Cup), Apple, Strawberry Applesauce,, Banana **Thurs** Smart Mouth Pizza, Fresh Veggies, Apple, Strawberry Applesauce, Orange **Fri** No school

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Man who fired on LW police dies after standoff



JENNIFER HARRISON | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
First responders positioned themselves at the QuikSak on Roberts Cutoff to assist if needed during the standoff.

JOLEE SKINNER
jolee@tricityreporter.com

LAKE WORTH — On Friday, Jan 30, a man was shot and killed by police officers after firing a weapon at the officers following a chase and hours-long standoff at a Fort Worth home Thursday, police said.

The incident began when Lake Worth Police officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop at about 4 p.m. The suspect fired shots at LW officers and then fled the scene. Police pursued the suspect and the chase ended in the 1700 block of Skyline Drive in

Fort Worth, on the outskirts of River Oaks.

The suspect exited his red pickup truck and ran into his mother's home. The suspect barricaded himself inside the home and began to set off fireworks. Fort Worth Police Department's SWAT team was called in to assist with the active scene. According to police, the man held his own mother hostage but eventually released her unharmed.

The suspect stepped outside the home after several hours of a standoff and held a gun to his head. Police negotiated with him in hopes to de-escalate the scene but were fired upon again by the suspect.

A Fort Worth SWAT officer returned fire, striking the suspect, who was taken to a hospital where he died, officials said.

At about 1 p.m. Friday, the Fort Worth Fire Department was called to the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office after fireworks were found on the suspect's body. FW and LW police had not released the identity of the deceased suspect by press time.

Night to Shine arrives Feb. 7

Third annual special needs prom to be held at Church at Azle

ZACH FREEMAN
azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — It's time to get those dancing shoes out and get ready for Azle's Night to Shine. Azle's third annual special needs prom will take place at the Church at Azle, 1801 S. Stewart St. in Azle, Feb. 7.

Night to Shine is a decade-old annual event created by the Tim Tebow Foundation. The event is designed for those who have handicaps and disabilities to feel like they are the toast of the town. Night to Shine consists of a

red carpet, a line of paparazzi and adoring fans. Attendees will arrive by limousine to a cheering crowd and are ushered into a dance hall as guests of honor for a special prom night celebration.

Other festivities await attendees. "Shine Shops" including glam hair, make-up shops, Cowtown Bling, shoe-shine shops and a flower table for selecting corsages and boutonnieres, will be open next door at the Servolution Dream Center to give attendees a chance to feel their most beautiful on their special night. Prom-goers

will be paired up one-to-one with a buddy who will ensure all their needs are met and they have a great experience. Dinner, dancing, photos and a special message from Tim Tebow will follow.

This is the third year Night to Shine will be held in Azle in a collaboration with The Edge Church, The Church at Azle and others.

Along with a prom at the Church at Azle, Azle Christian School will hold a parents' dinner and respite. The event is open to all special needs individuals aged 14 and up. Guests, volunteers, donors and sponsors can register to volunteer or learn more at "Night to Shine Azle" on Facebook or azle-nighttoshine.godaddysites.com.



JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Last year's attendees were welcomed on the red carpet.

Springtown ISD approves '23-'24 financial audit

JOLEE SKINNER
jolee@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — On Jan. 21, the Springtown Independent School District board of trustees approved the district's financial audit for the 2023-2024 school year, with positive results for the district's fiscal health.

Rick Kline from Snow Garrett presented the 2023-2024 district financial audit. The audit provided an unmodified opinion and confirmed the district's financial statements accurately reflect its financial position for the year ending

Aug. 31, 2024.

The report, which was discussed in detail at the most recent school board meeting, showed that Springtown ISD's total assets amounted to \$20.5 million, while liabilities totaled \$4.3 million. Property taxes accounted for \$713,000 in revenue. The district's general fund had an ending balance of \$15.5 million, including \$820,000 designated for capital expenditures and \$11.4 million in unassigned funds.

In terms of revenue and expenditures, the district saw total revenues of \$56.1 mil-

lion and expenses of \$55.2 million, resulting in a net increase of \$1.4 million in fund balance. The audit highlighted the successful management of its debt service fund, which saw an increase of \$1.7 million.

Board members reviewed the detailed budget comparisons, noting that while some budgeted revenues fell short, actual expenses came in below projections. The final amended budget for the year was closely parallel with the actual figures.

The audit also examined internal controls, finding

no material weaknesses or instances of noncompliance with state or federal laws concerning grant contracts. All indicators for the district's financial reporting were favorable.

"This indicates favor of the district, and they're going in the right direction," Kline said. In conclusion, the board commended district staff for its cooperation during the audit process and voted to approve the 2023-2024 financial audit, ensuring transparency and accountability for the public. The motion passed unanimously.

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BIG SAVINGS

OBITUARIES

Clarence Vincent Simpson Margaret A. “Peggy” Helm
1937 — 2025 1951 — 2025

Clarence Vincent Simpson, known to all as “Larry,” was born Feb. 26, 1937, in Bellaire, Ohio, and passed away Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025. He spent his last 54 years in Texas, and the majority of that time in Azle, where he raised his family and was an active member of the Azle Church of Christ.

A memorial service will be Feb. 15 at 1:30 p.m. at Azle Church of Christ, 336 Northwest Parkway in Azle. A graveside service will be at 3 p.m. Feb. 15 at Pleasant Grove Cemetery #2, 1064 County Road 4679, Boyd, TX 76023.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to the Azle Church of Christ in memory of Larry.

Larry served proudly in the U.S. Air Force as a jet mechanic, traveling to Guam and serving at Carswell Air Force Base, in Fort Worth.

While stationed at Carswell, he met the love of his life, Joy Wanell Parker. After a blind date in which they talked for hours and fell in love immediately, they were married for 66 years.

After military service, Larry worked for Delta Air Lines and then was with National Cash Register. Larry stayed busy in retirement, coordinating the design and construction of the large addition for the Azle Church of Christ Fellowship Hall; traveling with Joy to Aruba, Ireland, Scotland and England; and spending many wonderful months house-sitting for friends and family in Hawaii. Larry and Joy spent a number of years serving in the Sojourners RV group, where they traveled across the country assisting churches and Christian youth camps



with rebuilding projects. On many occasions they would “sojourn” to visit their children and grandchildren, inevitably helping with remodeling projects there, too.

Larry loved music. In retirement, he learned how to play the ukulele, singing, playing and performing in local groups and community centers.

Larry leaves a legacy of love and devotion. He was always ready to lend a helping hand, often without the need to ask. He will be remembered for his humor, warmth and life of caring service. Larry will be deeply missed.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Emma Simpson; his sisters, Ginger and Beverly; and his brother, Gary Simpson.

Larry is survived by his wife Joy; his brothers, Rick and Jimmy; his sister, Priscilla; daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Royal (Bud) Bonner; son and daughter-in-law, David and Sandie Simpson; and grandchildren, Jonathan, Thomas and Mellie Simpson.

The Tri-County Reporter,
Thursday Feb 6., 2025

Margaret “Peggy” Anne Helm passed away Friday morning, Jan. 24, 2025.

A Celebration of Life memorial service was at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at First Methodist Church of Azle, 200 Church St. in Azle, with Pastor Ray Gilman officiating. Interment will follow at Greenwood Memorial Park, under the direction of Greenwood Funeral Home.

Pallbearers included Kyle Fonville, John Ford, Jaxon Helm, Duck Taylor, Kent Meyerhoeffer, Steve Parker, Todd Smith and Jack Stevens. Honorary pallbearers included the members of the Breakfast Club Sunday School Class.

The family would like to thank Pastor Ray Gilman, retired Pastor Dr. Dean Posey and the staff of Greenwood Funeral Home, led by Mr. Tim Brown.

For those desiring, the family has suggested a donation to First Methodist Church of Azle, Texas Health Hospital Azle or the 2024-2025 Tarrant County Heart Ball in lieu of flowers.

Peggy walked through her 73 years with humility, courage and a deep-rooted faith in Jesus that left a lasting impression on everyone she met. She never met a stranger or missed an opportunity to share God’s peace and love with a beautiful smile and a thankful heart.

As a devoted wife, wonderful mother and cherished Nana, she was a gentle, loving presence in her family’s life — enjoying every adventure, trip and time together. She offered constant encouragement and support, never missing a sporting event, program or award ceremony for her kids and grandkids. Peggy’s servant heart extended to her community and church, where she was always thinking of others and leading by example. Her selflessness and dedication left an impact on her family, friends and community that will be treasured.

Peggy was born to the late Charles Hermon Cole Jr. and Margaret Buttrill Cole, at Hillcrest in Waco May 27, 1951. She graduated from McGregor High School in 1969 and moved to Fort Worth to pursue her education. Peggy earned a Bachelor of Science in elementary education from Texas Wesleyan University in 1973, where she served as president of the Student Education Association and vice president of Gamma Sigma Sigma, a national service sorority. After moving to Azle, Peggy began her teaching career,



and on July 12, 1975, married the love of her life, Derrell. Together, they became active members of the First United Methodist Church of Azle, where they began their life and family.

Peggy taught elementary school in Azle from 1973 to 2012. Upon retirement, she joined the Azle Tri-County Retired School Employees Association and served a term as vice president. She was an active member at church, devoting hours of love and service to missions and ministry. From leading mission trips and decades of VBS classes, to supporting Operation Christmas Child and serving on numerous committees, she embraced opportunities to serve with love.

Peggy was a passionate community volunteer; she served as president of the Texas Health Azle Hospital Auxiliary board and managed the hospital gift shop since 2022. She had a servant’s heart, devoting time and resources to Texas Health Resources, Azle ISD, the Azle Memorial Library Foundation and serving on many host committees benefiting organizations within our community and beyond. She was a member of Eta Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, a service sorority, where she has served as president and every officer position during the last 42 years. Peggy was also a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Derrell Helm; son, Brian Helm and wife, Shelby; daughters, Lisa Helm and Kimberly Carter and husband, Josh; five grandchildren, McKenzie and Kylie Carter, and Lily, Jaxon and Jordyn Helm; sister, Sandra Griffin and husband, Ken of Boerne; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Nancy and James Bell of Kennedale; and several cousins, nephews and many wonderful friends.

The Tri-County Reporter,
Thursday Feb 6., 2025

Not taken
for ‘granite’

Azle City Council rejects rezoning
bid for proposed stone countertop
fabrication business

ZACH FREEMAN
azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — The Azle City Council denied a zoning change request at its Jan. 21 meeting, giving peace of mind to some residents of Gipson Road.

A representative of Stone Creek Tx Investments LLC presented on the request to rezone parts of 512 and 516 Southeast Parkway from single family residential to a planned development district. The company had plans to build and operate a stone countertop fabrication business on 1.93 acres of land out of a 2.56-acre property approximately 260 feet south of Gipson Road. The city’s planning and zoning commission conducted a public hearing and made a recommendation for approval of the zoning change during a Jan. 2 meeting, sending it forward to council for final approval. City staff received two formal objections to the plans after contacting nearby residents.

Council members were largely against the idea, worried that the business would create unwanted noise and traffic for the area. The mayor and mayor pro tem also questioned the necessity of the business for that location, since Hernandez Granite & Marble Tile LLC is already located nearby. The city of Azle’s newly adopted 2045 Comprehensive Master Plan designates this area as “corridor commercial” so

the zoning change request would have been in conformance with the new plan. Upon further consideration, council members suggested that a stone countertop fabrication facility of this kind would be a better fit for a property with industrial zoning. Current city regulations classify this type of business as commercial and not industrial, in part, because it would not use raw materials and instead would purchase pre-cut stone slabs. Its plan was to cut and customize these slabs further per customer specifications. A representative of the business said its primary customers would be home builders. Council members added that they would prefer to see more retail store type operations within the commercial corridor.

“There’s another manufacturer 600 feet, just three properties, away,” Azle Mayor Alan Brundrett said. “Plus, I feel like that’s our commercial corridor, where we should have nice businesses. To me, this is more of an industrial operation that should be stuck in the back somewhere by IMS or something.”

Six council members voted to deny the business’s request, with Rouel Rothenberger voting alone to approve it. Now unable to go forward with construction plans, the business’s representative said they may instead sell the land.

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THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Hwy 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship.....10:30 AM Community Groups.....Various Times 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 AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD Rev. Joshua Lowrance 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903 Sunday School.....9:30 AM Morning Worship.....10:30 AM Wednesday Evening.....7:00 PM COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-4510 cbfaze.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	AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Interim Minister Rev. Russell Clark, Family Life Minister Emerson Braun 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Sunday School.....10:00 AM Morning Worship.....11:00 AM CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E., Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service.....10:00 AM Wednesday.....7:00 PM CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available Worship Service.....10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 PM THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod “Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus” Traditional Worship.....9:30 AM Contemporary Worship.....11:00 AM FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF AZLE Pastor: Rev. Raymond Gilman 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship.....8:30 & 10:45 AM Sunday School.....9:45 AM Youth.....5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed	GRACEPOINTE CHURCH 4110 E. Hwy 199, Springtown Pastor: Timothy McKeown 817-221-5683 gracepointesbc.org Sunday School.....9:45 am Sunday Service.....11:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study.....6:00 PM HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063 Saturday.....5:00 PM Sunday.....9:00 AM Sunday.....11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F).....8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED.....6:30 PM Confessions.....Sat 4 PM HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming services Sunday School.....9:00 AM Traditional Service.....10:00 AM SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443 Coffee and Donuts.....9:00 AM Sunday School.....9:30 AM Morning Worship.....10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting.....6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 PM	LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship.....9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone.....9:15 & 11:00 AM Weds Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids All Services.....7:00 PM THE RANCH CHRISTIAN COWBOY CHURCH Pastor: Greg Slankard 7955 Reed Rd., Azle 682-327-7082 www.TheRanchCCC.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:00 AM Weds 7:00 pm • Thurs Potluck 6:30 pm SILVER CREEK METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Bill Killough 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382 www.silvercreekmc.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:30 AM SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org Sunday School.....9:45 AM Morning Worship.....10:50 AM Evening Worship.....6:00 PM Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 PM	THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com Pastors: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon Worship Pastor: 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 Equip Sunday School at the WORD.....9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD.....10:45 AM Kids at the WORD.....10:45 AM PreK at the WORD.....10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD (Special Needs Ministry).....10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD.....10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD.....6:00 PM Wednesdays Adult Bible Class.....7:00 PM The WORD Students (6th-12th grades).....6:30 PM Awana Kids at the WORD.....6:30 PM Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times
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Springtown Lions Club

JOLEE SKINNER
jolee@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — The Springtown Lions Club was founded Dec. 3, 1959, and has been a pillar of service in the community ever since. Jaclyn Taylor is the secretary for the Lions Club and explained the mission behind the organization.

“Our mission statement is to empower volunteers to serve their community, meet humanitarian needs, mentor youth, and encourage peace,” Taylor said. “By joining the local Lions Club, you can help achieve the goal of the organization and accomplish the task of serving our growing community in a multitude of ways.”

With a strong presence in Springtown, the club has become widely recognized for its commitment to youth sports.

The Springtown Lions Club offers a variety of youth sports programs including baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, football and cheer. Age ranges include kindergarten to sixth grade with some programs extending to 14U and middle school levels.

But what sets this chapter apart from other chapters is its unique connection to youth athletics.

“Springtown Lions Club stands out because it is a unique outreach of connecting with the community,” Taylor said. “It allows our organization to connect with people and serve in a multitude of areas. The Springtown Lions Club has joined forces with an array of organizations in the community to serve the needs of individuals, groups and schools. The Springtown sports are a very large part of that. Each sports board within the club actively gives back to the community, supporting schools and families in need. Our volleyball board created a program that a few of the other sports joined in with, helping buy for the nurses in our school district to get them some necessities that they like to help kids with, like snacks for kids who come to school hungry or undergarments for when unexpected accidents happen.”

But their impact extends far beyond the playing field. Springtown Lions Club also participates in several humanitarian efforts.

“We are also a part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and are currently servicing 102 kids with 172 books sent out in the last month with plans to approve another 50 kids come March,” Taylor said. “This program mails out books to children ages 0-5 every month, promoting early childhood literacy before kindergarten. This year, the district

A legacy of service and community

Lions Club’s initiative was to support Leader Dogs for the Blind. Our fundraising board took up donations at a local bingo night to go directly towards it.”

Expanding across the board, the club supports all kinds of fundraising efforts.

“Every October a few of our sports boards pick a woman in the community fighting breast cancer and donate all T-shirt funds to the family,” Taylor said. “We have an eye-glass program where if kids in the community without insurance need glasses, we will help cover those costs to get them what they need.”

The club also raised funds for Leader Dogs for the Blind at a recent bingo night that contributed to the Lions Club International initiative. Throughout the year, seasonal events like the Easter egg “drop” and sports tournaments help gain money for facility improvements and community outreach.

For those interested in joining the Springtown Lions Club, attending a monthly meeting is the first step. Meetings take place the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the upstairs room of the Lions Club gym. Potential members must complete paperwork, be voted in and must pay dues to the Lions Club International.

The club has another bingo night planned for the end of March. Volleyball registration is currently open for spring, while baseball and softball seasons are about to start. Football and cheer registration will open before the fall season. The club also hopes to host a sports camp this summer.

“We want to be more than just sports,” Taylor said. “We want to be able to do so much more to serve our community in many different ways. We hope that one day we will have more volunteers to make these things happen.”



The Springtown Lions Club presented a certificate of scholarship for \$9,700 to students Speck Behle, Macy Chavez, Madison Meeks and Kylie Druyman.



The Lions Club presents a donation of \$1,000 to Springtown Librarian Velvet Barker.



The Springtown Lions Club pre-k girls and boys basketball team.



Springtown Lions Club coaches give a football team a word of encouragement.



The Springtown Lions Club girls volleyball team.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LAKE WORTH ORDINANCE NO. 1296 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1169, THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, BY CHANGING THE ZONING DESIGNATION FROM “PC” PLANNED COMMERCIAL TO “C” COMMERCIAL FOR APPROXIMATELY 1.327-ACRES OF LAND DESCRIBED HEREIN AS BLOCK 1, LOT 8R, RITCHIE BROTHERS ADDITION, AND COMMONLY KNOWN AS 4100 BOAT CLUB RD., LAKE WORTH, TEXAS AND BY AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REFLECT SUCH CHANGE; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR ENGROSSMENT AND ENROLLMENT; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND NAMING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. SECTION 6. PENALTY CLAUSE. Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense. **SECTION 10. PUBLICATION CLAUSE.** The City Secretary of the City of Lake Worth is hereby directed to publish in the official newspaper of the City of Lake Worth, the caption, the penalty clause, publication clause, and effective date clause of this ordinance two (2) days as authorized by Section 52.013 of the Local Government Code. **SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained. **PASSED AND APPROVED** on the 21st day of January 2025.

CITY OF LAKE WORTH ORDINANCE NO. 1297 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1169, THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A MINOR AUTO SERVICE / REPAIR SHOP IN THE “HC” HIGHWAY CORRIDOR ZONING DISTRICT ON APPROXIMATELY 0.8728-ACRES OF LAND DESCRIBED AS BLOCK 1, LOT 2, LAKE WORTH DADRE ADDITION AND MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 6734 LAKE WORTH BLVD., LAKE WORTH, TEXAS; BY AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REFLECT SUCH CHANGE; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR ENGROSSMENT AND ENROLLMENT; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND NAMING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. SECTION 7. PENALTY CLAUSE. Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense. **SECTION 11. PUBLICATION CLAUSE.** The City Secretary of the City of Lake Worth is hereby directed to publish in the official newspaper of the City of Lake Worth, the caption, the penalty clause, publication clause, and effective date clause of this ordinance two (2) days as authorized by Section 52.013 of the Local Government Code. **SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained. **PASSED AND APPROVED** on the 21st day of January 2025.

CITY OF LAKE WORTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025 - 6:30 P.M. LAKE WORTH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 3805 ADAM GRUBB, LAKE WORTH, TX There will be a Public Hearing to receive citizen’s comments regarding the 51st Year Tarrant County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project for reconstructing approximately 1,200 feet of 2” water line and replacing with 6” water line. The existing water line consists of cast iron piping and will be replaced with PVC pipe. Written comments are requested to be submitted by Tuesday, February 11, 2025, to be included in the packets going to the Lake Worth City Council. Written comments received after that time may be brought to the Public Hearing. For questions on the project, please contact Micheal Christenson, Director Public Works, at (817) 237-7210 or Stacey Almond, City Manager, at (817) 237-1211. Please submit written comments to: City of Lake Worth, ATTN: Holly Fimbres, City Secretary, 3805 Adam Grubb, Lake Worth, Texas 76135.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of Emma Frances Sisk Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Emma Frances Sisk, Deceased, were issued on January 24, 2024, in Cause No. 24P253, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas, to: Billy Robert Sisk, Dependent Administrator. Claims may be mailed in care of the Estate as follows: Billy Robert Sisk, Dependent Administrator c/o Wendi E. Andino, Attorney Ruelas Andino Law, PLLC 1020 Fort Worth Hwy., Ste. 500 Weatherford, Texas 76086 All persons having claims against said Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 30th day of January 2025.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PEGGY R. CARPENTER, DECEASED, were issued on January 22, 2025, in Cause No. 24P500, pending in County Court, Parker County, Texas, to: TIMOTHY R. CARPENTER. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by the law. c/o: W. Faye Murphree Attorney at Law 337 W. Main Street Azle, TX 76020 DATED the 29th of January, 2025.

The Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Azle will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2025 and the City Council of the City of Azle will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 505 West Main Street to consider text amendments to Chapter 14 “Zoning Ordinance” of the Code of Ordinances, City of Azle, Texas. The purpose of the text amendment is to consider adding regulations for commercial buildings fronting a public street.

The City of Reno plat proposal for address 805 Ladybird Lane, Azle, TX 76020. BRAY ADDITION Lots 1 and 2; an addition to the City of Reno, Parker County Texas being a part of the TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY SURVEY 13, Abstract No.1522 Special P&Z Meeting will be held on February 24, 2025 at 6:00 PM and the Council Meeting will be held on March 10, 2025, at 7:00 PM located at 195 W. Reno Road, Azle, Texas 76020.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PELICAN BAY, TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 “GENERAL PROVISIONS” BY ADDING ARTICLE 1.03 “HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX” FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR THE LEVYING AND COLLECTION OF A TAX ON HOTEL OCCUPANCIES IN THE CITY AND PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Penalty of Fine. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Section, including persons who 1) fail to collect the tax, 2) file a false return, or 3) who are delinquent in their tax payment, shall be charged with a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be fined in any sum not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), and each twenty-four (24) hours of any such violation shall constitute a separate offense. **DULY APPROVED AND PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Pelican Bay, Tarrant County, Texas on the 28th day of January, 2025.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS CENTRAL PARK WALKING PATH Separate sealed bids for the construction of Central Park Walking Path (Azle bid number 2025-005) will be received by the City of Azle, Texas until 2:00PM on February 27th, 2025, at City Hall, 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas, 76020, and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud. This project includes installing approximately 2,375 linear feet of 6’ wide concrete sidewalk and all incidental appurtenances for a complete project in accordance with the contract documents and plans. The Contract Documents consisting of Advertisement of Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds, Maintenance Bond, General Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Plans, Specifications, and Addenda (if any) may be examined at the following location: JACOB & MARTIN, LLC 1925 Fort Worth Highway, Weatherford, Texas 76086 The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the contract. Contractors must obtain a set of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS online at www.jacobmartin.com by digital download or hard copy to be considered a registered plan holder eligible to bid the project. Cost for digital download of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$0.00. Hard copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$100.00 All Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS must be ordered online and are available for pick up, mail out or digital download via www.jacobmartin.com. Upon verification of online payment, hard copies may be picked up at Jacob & Martin, LLC, located at 1925 Fort Worth Highway, Weatherford, Texas 76086. A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS, negotiable U.S. Governmental bonds (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with each bid. City of Azle, Texas Alan Brundrett, Mayor February 6th, 2025.

PHOTO COURTESY SPRINGTOWN LIONS CLUB



Pankey doesn't hesitate to give his two cents after being convinced of his impending doom.

ANYBODY

FROM PAGE A1

- CAST:**
- Oliver Pankey — Jacob Heath
 - Sophia Goggan — Lisha Nurmela
 - Millie Milhaus — Rebecca Crabtree
 - Thief — Joshua Holden Jr.
 - Herbie Henderson — Steve Sandfort
 - Officer — Scott Nurmela
 - Anita Wrenn — Carol Braden
 - Doctor Dickey — Boyd

Mooney

- Bill McSwain — Jerry Hall
- Stranger — James Kelly

The Azle Arts Association's next show, "Cocktails with Mimi," will be directed by Scott Nurmela and will premier March 21. Popcorn Players Theater is located at 1012 Southeast Parkway in Azle, and tickets will be available in-person, online at www.azlearts.org, or by phone at 817-238-PLAY. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and students, and \$10 for the Sunday matinee.



Once afraid to speak up for himself, Pankey now stares death in the face and tells it to pull the trigger.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Oliver Pankey, portrayed by Jacob Heath, becomes the subject of an assassination plot after carelessly joining in a convoluted scheme by the FBI.



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LAYTH TAYLOR | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Natalia Garcia and Mckenzee Roberts move the ball around the Lady Pirate defenders.

Azle swimmers compete at regionals

Porcupines still in playoff race

RICK MAUCH
Special to the Tri-County Reporter
Eight members of the Lady Hornets will be competing this weekend at the Class 5A Region II Swim Meet in Mansfield.

Karla Rodriguez is competing in three events, while Kayley Brekel is in two. Rodriguez will compete in the 100-yard and 200 freestyle, along with being a member of the 200 and 400 free relays. Brekel qualified individually

in the 50 free and is part of the 200 free relay. Also qualifying were the 200 medley relay of Ava Dash, Nekoda Averitte, Sophia Roark and Mavis Caldentey, along with Kaylee Daniels and Haven Brown on

the 200 and 400 free relays. From regionals, the top two in each event qualify for state, along with eight wild cards from across the state's eight regions. "Our kids have worked since August to prepare for

our biggest meet of the season," Azle coach Amy Estes said. "Swimming is a long season and we continually have to make adjustments to training to ensure we achieve
PLEASE SEE **ROUNDUP** | B2



PHOTOS COURTESY CHAPA PHOTOGRAPHY
Sophomore Mark O'Neil celebrates his win of the championship for his weight class. The 4-5A District Wrestling Championship Tournament was hosted by Azle High School Jan. 30-31. Fort Worth O.D. Wyatt, Western Hills, Arlington Heights, Diamond Hill Jarvis, Northside, Brewer High School, R.L. Paschal, Aledo, Saginaw and Creekview were among the many schools competing for the chance to move on to next week's regional championships. The girls competed on Thursday and the boys finished Friday.

WRESTLING Hornets dominate district meet

RICK MAUCH
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

In what is believed to be the most dominant performance in team history at district, the Azle Hornets captured the District 4-5A championship on their own mats on Jan. 31. The Hornets scored 312 points, easily outdistancing runner-up Benbrook with 189 and third-place Saginaw Chisholm Trail with 163. In all, Azle qualified 13 boys for the Region I Tournament in Lubbock this weekend, Feb.

Lady Hornets finish third

7-8, including eight district champions. The top four finishers in each weight class qualified for regionals and the same is true for advancing from regionals to state at the Berry Center in Houston Feb. 14-15. "I believe this is the most dominant performance we have ever had at the district tournament," Azle coach Tyler Harrison said. Meanwhile, the Lady

Hornets will be well-represented also. As a team they finished third in district and will have seven competitors at regionals, including three district champions. Leading the individual district champions was Lady Hornet Mariah Dillard in the 114-pound weight class. She is seeking a second straight state championship, having
PLEASE SEE **WRESTLE** | B3

SOFTBALL

New coaches take helm in Azle, Lake Worth

RICK MAUCH
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

The 2025 softball season for area teams will feature new head coaches in Lake Worth and Azle, though the new leader in Azle is still a familiar face. As one of the new coaches looks to break a postseason, the other is out to continue a tradition, while the lone returning head coach has even more in mind this season.

AZLE LADY HORNETS

The Lady Hornets have made a habit of being in the postseason with five straight appearances (not counting 2020 when the season was stopped by the COVID pandemic). First-year head coach Carlos Font Santiago looks to keep that tradition going in 2025 with seven returning starters from last season's 22-13 squad that reached the second round of the playoffs for a second straight year. Santiago is no stranger to the program as he has been an assistant coach and in the district for six years, taking over when Macy Pruitt became an assistant principal. Back for the Lady Hornets

Lady Hornets, Lady Pines look for more

(9-3 in district, second to state semifinalist Aledo) are: Senior second baseman/pitcher Corynne Barone, second team all-district Senior pitcher/first baseman Adrianna Wiedeman, second team all-district Senior outfielder Haley Carlson, honorable mention all-district Senior third baseman Ryann Baker Senior outfielder Klaire Carlson Junior shortstop/outfielder Ema Lehr, first team all-district Sophomore first baseman Bella Tipton, district Freshman of the Year Also, Santiago said every reserve has the opportunity to make an impact in the lineup. And, he noted the junior varsity had an "excellent season, marked by significant growth and development" in 2024. "Several players showed impressive progress and are now poised to take on key

roles at the varsity level," he said. "This transition reflects their hard work, dedication and potential to contribute to the success of the varsity team moving forward." The Lady Hornets will once again face Aledo in the quest for the championship of District 5-5A. The league also includes Brewer (second round), Keller Fossil Ridge (down from Class 6A), Saginaw Chisholm Trail (down from 6A) and Saginaw. "Our district is highly competitive and every game presents a challenge. You have to bring your best effort every Tuesday and Friday to stay at the top," Santiago said. "It pushes our players to continually improve and stay focused, knowing that the level of play is consistently high." **SPRINGTOWN LADY PINES** Springtown has been to the playoffs each of the
PLEASE SEE **NEW** | B4

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FROM PAGE B1

Meanwhile, the JV lifters won the Weatherford Meet with Ryllee Cole earning Best Lifter in the Lightweight Division and La Niya Morgan Lee winning Best Lifter in the Heavyweight Division.

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WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

won in the 120 division a year ago, and is 81-0 over the past two seasons - including 35-0 this season.

Dillard is chasing a third state tournament berth in four seasons.

Also winning district titles for the Lady Hornets were Noah Kovach in the 100-pound division and Elly Yelle in the 165 class. Kovach is also looking for a return to state helping the Lady Hornets to a runner-up finish in Class 5A in 2024.

Winning district championships for the Hornets were Mark O'Neil, 106-pound division; Kolby Moreland, 113; Tyler Yancey, 132; Chase Yancey, 138; Landin Evans, 150; Elijah Bryan, 175; Roman Fraser, 215; and Devin

Wingfield, 285. Chase Yancey finished third in the state in the 132 weight class in 2024, while Evans, Bryan and Wingfield also advanced to state, along with Wyatt Hicks, who placed second in the 157 division at district this season.

Also placing second in district for the Hornets was JW Gilbreath in the 190 division. Kaylie Groot took second in the 107 class for the Lady Hornets.

Third-place finishes for the Lady Hornets were recorded by Natalie Petit and Neveah Altringer in the 126 and 145 divisions, respectively. Waylon Gray placed third in the 126 division for the Hornets.

Karissa Espinoza was fourth in the 132 division for the girls, while Tyler Hicks (157) and Tye O'Neal (165) were fourth among the boys. Sadie Baker placed sixth

in the 120 class for the Azle girls.

"I am proud of the way our kids competed this weekend. Their success is indicative of their hard work in the practice room and the extra time that they devote to the sport," Harrison said. "Taking 20 kids to regionals as a program is an accomplishment that our coaching is very proud of. We look forward to this momentum carrying into the regional tournament next week."

SPRINGTOWN QUALIFIES TRIO

Three members of the Springtown Porcupines qualified for the 5A Region I Tournament following their performances in the District 3-5A Tournament at Canyon Randall on Jan. 30.

James Snyder and Dominic Contreras placed third in the 285 and 138 weight classes, respectively. Also, Daniel Wilson was fourth at 144.



Noah Kovach wins her championship match to become the 4-5A district champ.



Klarrissa Espinoza is overcome with emotion after coming from behind to win her match, enabling her to move on to regional competition in Lubbock.



Neveah Altringer poses with her dad after winning her match.

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Lake Worth soccer becomes one family under coach Robert Alvarez

JAXON HANSARD
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

Lake Worth ISD made a change this past summer to hire Robert Alvarez as boys and girls high school soccer coach. This will be his first season as head coach for both girls and boys as he switches his assistant football coach title for head boys and girls soccer coach.

Alvarez has 12 years' experience coaching and teaching while being a lifelong soccer fan. He is the math department head for Lake Worth High School where he teaches financial math and algebra II.

"Of all the sports, I think soccer has the greatest ability for a smaller team to beat the bigger teams. The flow of the game is one of the hardest aspects. No timeouts to adjust or slow things down," Alvarez said.

The Northshore native has had multiple positions from

kicking coach and assistant boys soccer coach at Abilene Cooper. He served time as an assistant coach before becoming the head coach of the Abilene Cooper girls team. Later, Alvarez led the Abilene Wylie girls team for two years before settling in Lake Worth for the past five years as the girls head soccer coach. When looking for a new field to coach in, Alvarez wasn't sure what he was looking for but Lake Worth "just felt right."

The experienced girls soccer coach has a unique distinction in his resume as his coaching time started after retiring from the Marine Corps as a gunnery sergeant. While in the Corps he played football and soccer.

"The Marine Corps is a unique organization. The biggest thing I think I have carried over, besides all the leadership you learn, is that you can if you want to. My wife would say everything I

do is shaped by my service, but I think that is the main thing. Learn to love the suck," Alvarez said.

The girls team (5-1) has been off to a great start after the first game of the season that resulted in a 4-0 loss to North Crowley. Since Jan. 3 it has not allowed any opponent to score a goal in its five-game winning streak.

"One surprise about coaching the girls this year is their ability to see what I see before I say something or ask them. For the boys it is their ability to adapt and their willingness to learn," Alvarez said.

The larger and young boys team have had some struggles to start the winter season with a 2-4-1 record (1-20-25). Lake Worth has only scored one goal in the combined four losses.

Family is key for Alvarez and he stresses it to his players. The retired Marine has four sons himself and his

family-oriented approach comes from his military background and devotion to his own family.

"I can boil my coaching philosophy down to attitude and effort and being a family" Alvarez said.

There is some difference in the way he approaches both teams but generally Alvarez tries to coach them all the same and drive in his message of family.

Despite the difference in starts to the two teams' seasons, the standard to which they are held along with the goals stay the same. First is to have a winning record; second is to make the playoffs and third is to make it to the third round in the playoffs.

"I hope they all know that I want them to be happy and I want what is best for them. I push because I see what they can be on the field and in life," Alvarez said.



Robert Alvarez

COURTESY PHOTO

ZED by Duane Abel



NEW FROM PAGE B1

past four seasons and appears ready to make a run at extending that streak. The Lady Pines (14-15, 5-5 in district last season) advanced to bi-district last season and return four starters from that squad.

Back are:

- Senior third baseman Ava Fernandez, honorable mention all-district
- Junior pitcher Kylee Spray, first team all-district
- Sophomore shortstop Ryleigh Morris, second team all-district
- Sophomore outfielder Makinze Nation

A handful of freshmen could make an immediate impact, coach Carey Robertson said. They are Kaylee Falcon, Reiss DeLaFuenta, Kaylee Ratliff, Jaydan Gurule and Harmony Flores. Likewise, big contributions are expected from seniors Bailey Spillman, Chelsea Cobb, Kaylee Moore and Addyson Norris, along with senior transfer Riley Fagan.

The junior varsity was 12-1 last season, led by sophomore pitcher Ashlyn Tripp, who could be a key factor this season on the varsity.

The Lady Pines will compete in District 8-4A, which

also includes Burk Burnett (regional semifinals last season), Decatur (second round), Bridgeport (bi-district), Lake Worth, Castleberry and first-year school Eagle Mountain.

"Burk Burnett, Decatur, Springtown and Bridgeport all have a chance to compete for the district title and playoffs," Robertson said. "New school Eagle Mountain has good players and may contend as well."

LAKE WORTH LADY FROGS

The Jessica Branam era is underway and the new head coach seeks to take the Lady Frogs back to the postseason for the first time since 2019. With a host of talent returning, optimism is high.

Branam said her anticipated initial lineup for the Lady Frogs (9-19, 0-10 in district last season) will be:

- Senior shortstop Katelyn Pahlen, first team all-district
- Senior pitcher Jocelyn Garcia
- Junior second baseman Karina Velez Esteves
- Junior third baseman Kinsley Lopez
- Junior outfielder Vanesa Campos Reyes
- Sophomore outfielder/pitcher Faith Robinson, second team all-district
- Sophomore first baseman Samazy Maquez
- Sophomore catcher Bailey

Jones

Sophomore outfielder/pitcher Charlotte Arnette

Pahlen has held the team's record for steals since her freshman year.

Key reserves who could make their way into the starting lineup, Branam said, include outfielder/first baseman/pitcher Naomi Rodriguez, pitcher Sahara Delgado, pitcher Bria Beebe and catcher Andrea Sanchez, all juniors.

Branam is also counting on help from players moving up from the successful junior varsity team since the varsity lost eight seniors to graduation.

The Lady Frogs will compete in District 8-4A alongside Burk Burnett (regional semifinals last season), Decatur (second round), Springtown (bi-district), Bridgeport (bi-district), Eagle Mountain (first year) and Castleberry.

"We have a tough district, a lot of goals and right now we are focusing on getting ready one game at a time," Branam said. "We are working hard to make sure the team reaches a higher skill level than last year and that we can help the girls in the program to grow as athletes and as individuals as well."

"We want to provide the girls with tools they may use inside and outside the field."

Sudoku

FEBRUARY 6, 2025

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

Level: Advanced

Solution to last week's puzzle

JANUARY 30, 2025

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the holiday season.

REKUYT

Answer: Turkey

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to the holiday season. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: It's A)

A.

12 11 16 1 22 19

Clue: Come together

B.

8 11 9 23 26 4

Clue: Related people

C.

15 23 25 25 22 19

Clue: Evening meal

D.

1 13 26 23 15 11 4

Clue: Festive event



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
The injured student gives a thumbs up and smiles through the pain as he's loaded into an ambulance Jan. 31.

Tri-County Reporter

DEVOTIONAL PAGE

This devotional and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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817-237-4903

FELLOWSHIP OF LAKE WORTH

4024 Dakota Trail, Lake Worth
817-237-9433

NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCH

810 Goshen Rd, Springtown
817-523-4462

LEGACY CHURCH

Hwy. 199 W. at FM 2257, Azle
817-221-2983 / 817-221-5760

VICTORY CHRISTIAN CENTER

737 Boyd Rd., Azle
817-444-LOVE

BAPTIST

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300 South Stewart, Azle
817-444-3219

AGNES INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

350 Agnes N., Springtown
817-523-7271

BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST

408 S. Ash St., Springtown
817-220-4238

AZLE AVENUE BAPTIST

2901 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817- 626-5556

BY THE WORD BAPTIST

West of FM 730 N. at sign, Briar
817- 444-3484

CALVARY HEIGHTS BAPTIST

1 block off Hwy. 199,
east of David's Patio,
Springtown, 817-221-2241

CENTRAL BAPTIST

4290 Old Agnes Road
817-594-5918

CHURCH ON THE HILL

836 NW Parkway, Azle
817-444-3752

CHRISTWAY BAPTIST

7673 West Hwy. 199, Agnes
817-220-9133 or 817-220-3581

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Corner of FM 730 & Ragle Rd.,
Weatherford, 817-594-1154

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817-237-4135

FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF AZLE

1017 Boyd Road
817-444-4828

FIRST BAPTIST CASTLE HILLS

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FIRST BAPTIST LAKE WORTH

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Elementary • 817-237-2624

FIRST BAPTIST LAKESIDE

8801 Jacksboro Hwy., Lakeside
817-237-8113

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1 block N. of FM 2123, Cottondale
940-433-5539

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1 block W. of FM 920, Poolville
817-594-3916

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5th & Main Street, Springtown
817-220-5229

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of Springtown off Hwy. 51 S.
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817-523-5477

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3 miles N. of Springtown on
Hwy. 51 across from Radio Tower

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817-221-5683

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817-500-3641

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201 J. E. Woody Rd., Springtown
817-523-0376

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

3451 Sarra Lane, Springtown
682-333-1645

WALNUT CREEK BAPTIST

220 W. Reno Rd. in Reno
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FELLOWSHIP

1405 Reynolds Rd., Reno
817-521-4510

NORTHWEST BIBLE CHURCH

5025 Jacksboro Hwy., Fort Worth
817-624-2111

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown
817-304-7443

CATHOLIC

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC

800 High Crest Dr., Azle
817-444-3063

CHRISTIAN

THE CHURCH AT AZLE

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817-444-9973

AZLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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817-688-3339

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1801 S. Stewart St., Azle
817-825-0485

THE ABBEY CHURCH

10400 Jacksboro Hwy., Azle
817-238-1404

CROSSING FELLOWSHIP

120 E. Main St., Azle
817-406-4577

CHURCH OF CHRIST

AZLE CHURCH of CHRIST

336 NW Parkway
817-444-3268

BRIAR CHURCH of CHRIST

109 W.N. Woody Rd.
(½ block west of FM 730 N. in Briar)
817-444-7102

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6400 Midway Rd. 817-221-2107

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817-677-3290

NORTHWEST

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6059 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-237-1205

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West of FM 920 in Poolville
817-594-4182

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CHURCH of CHRIST

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817-221-2799

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CHURCH of CHRIST

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TRI-COUNTY

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525 Hwy. 199 W., Springtown
817-980-8156

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ABUNDANT LIFE

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FELLOWSHIP

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KINGDOM HALL OF

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

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817-221-2242

LUTHERAN

THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE

1313 SE Parkway, Azle
817-237-4822

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CHURCH OF AZLE

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LIGHTHOUSE FELLOWSHIP

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817-596-8805

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817-599-7655

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940-969-2427

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THE TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

CLASSIFIEDS

THURSDAY, February 6, 2025

AD CLASSIFICATIONS

001 Asphalt & Cement
002 Auctions
003 Business/Commercial
004 Business Opportunity
005 Cleaning Services
006 Construction/Contractors
007 Demolition
008 Electrician
009 Excavating
010 Fencing
011 Firewood
012 For Sale
013 Garage & Estate Sale
014 Help Wanted
015 Home Improvement
016 Landscape & Mowing Services

017 Livestock & Pets
018 Lost & Found
019 Masonry & Stonework
020 Moving & Hauling
021 Painting
022 Plumbing
023 Pressure Washing
024 Real Estate for Rent
025 Real Estate for Sale
026 Repair Services
027 Roofing
028 Sand, Gravel & Soil
029 Small Business
030 Storage
031 Welding
032 Miscellaneous

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THE NEWS OF AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, LAKE WORTH AND SURROUNDING AREAS

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ACROSS

1 dog or cat (2 wds.)

5 Dallas ____kicks (pro indoor soccer)

6 TXism: "let sleeping ____ lie"

7 small bills

8 TXism: "____ chaser" (early riser)

9 this can be acquired on So. Padre Island

12 TXism: "would jerk tears from a ____ eye" (very sad)

17 UT football team lost to this team twice in 2024

19 Mertzson's county was named for Robert ____

21 removing wrinkles from clothes

22 TX King Vidor directed 1937 film "____ Dallas"

23 a director ____ actor for a scene

28 silly, foolish

29 "hungry enough to ____ horse"

30 TXism: "useless ____ on a bald eagle"

31 Zsa Zsa or Eva

35 Texas journalist and author, Catherine

36 highest waterfall in Texas (2 wds.)

42 TXism for "laughed hard" (3 wds.)

44 Texas actress Annette O'____

46 Guadalupe Mountains peak (2 wds.)

48 TXism: "silent as a ____ tomb"

49 female deer

50 major African river

51 most racehorses are descended from this breed

52 popular Bible translation (abbr.)

53 Allen of 1953 film "Down Laredo Way"

54 Denver ____ Texas

56 Tyler FM before KOYE

57 TXism: "dull as week ____ soda pop"

58 "legal eagle" payment

DOWN

1 TXism: "hard ____ a wedding"

2 newspaper: "Fort Stockton ____"

3 in Van Zandt County on U.S. 80

4 actress Harper in Texas-based 2007 film "No Country for Old Men"

9 Texas-based restaurant, "Friday's" abbr.

10 TXism: "____ sense" (dumb)

11 TXism: "two-bit ____" (poor horse)

12 Texas makes more of this than any other state

13 lasting written works

14 "Hill Country Natural ____"

15 fine sand deposited as a sediment

16 pith helmet, aka ____ topee

18 a single-stranded molecule needed for life (abbr.)

20 Texas' continent (abbr.)

23 21st governor: ____ Culberson

24 California's oldest private univer.

25 TXism: "still wet behind the ____"

26 used a credit card

27 Danny of Texas-based film "Ruby"

32 TXism: "chompin' ____ the bit"

33 TX Buddy Holly's "That'll ____ the Day"

34 "out ____ kilter"

36 NFL "salary ____"

37 TXism for "against"

38 Russian president

39 noted Texas folklorist, Alan

40 Bausch & ____ (eye products company)

41 Texas-born musician Stone

43 when repeated, goodbye in Britian

45 RB Emmitt (init.)

47 actor Brand of TV's "Laredo" (1965-67)

48 St. ____ University in San Antonio

55 ocean movement

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by Charley & Guy Orbison

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