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DENTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Denton's scariest Halloween costume: A GoZone van?

By Justin Grass
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A Denton business owner went viral locally this Halloween for his "drive" around the downtown Square as a GoZone van. While he says the idea was all in good fun, the reaction speaks to the public sentiment surrounding DCTA's rideshare program — and how far GoZone has to go to earn the community's trust.

Scariest costume of Halloween?

Michael Bradshaw, who runs a Denton real estate business,

decided to go as a GoZone van for Halloween. He showed up to the Square on Monday wearing a cardboard replica, even including lights and the infamous out-of-state license plate.

Locals seemed to enjoy the reference to the Denton County Transportation Authority's ride-share program, as evidenced by a Facebook post from an onlooker that received nearly 2,000 likes and dozens of shares. The poster wrote that it was the "Scariest Halloween costume I've seen," likely referring to GoZone's reputation for poor driving quality.

Bradshaw said his family was

simply tossing around ideas when he came up with the concept, thinking it would be funny to go as one of the vans and wondering how locals would react. He wanted to make it clear he wasn't trying to make fun of the individual drivers, but was "playing off of all the ridiculousness we've seen."

"I wasn't sure how many people would be out there and how it would be received," Bradshaw said. "Once I got out there, people were shouting, 'Hey GoZone!' I got some photos ... just having fun with the idea."

See DCTA on 5A



Courtesy photo/Michael Bradshaw

Denton resident Michael Bradshaw's GoZone van costume came complete with an out-of-state license plate.

HALLOWEEN NIGHT FIRE

The Rodrigue family's home in north Denton burned on Monday night. Daniel Rodrigue got his two children out safely, although he received burns. His wife, Diamond Rodrigue, was at a movie theater and had to rush to the hospital.

BELOW RIGHT: A Polaroid photo shows Daniel and Diamond Rodrigue with their children, Harrison, 4, and Chloe, 18 months.

Courtesy photos/Daniel Rodrigue (right) and Ann McCammon (below right)



HOUSING

Green light goes to future projects

Upcoming new housing includes subdivision on 570 acres, affordable apartments

By Amber Gaudet
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A nearly 570-acre subdivision of single- and multifamily homes, an affordable apartment project and a 660-unit apartment development off North Locust Street and Loop 288 are among the projects moving forward following the city Planning and Zoning Commission's regular meeting last week.

A preliminary plat for a 568-acre development that would bring 1,516 single-family homes, a multifamily lot and 48 homeowners association-maintained lots to a site just outside Denton city proper toward Krum was approved during the Oct. 26 meeting. The single-family homes would be constructed in six phases at the site, located north of West University Drive, south of Jackson Road and just east of Nail Road in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction — a buffer area Denton has some regulation over through an agreement with Denton County.

The next step is approval of the final plat by the commission, which is required before building permits can be issued.

See PROJECTS on 5A

Family grieves a home burned

Community rallies behind Rodrigues after Halloween fire

By Brooke Colombo
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What started as one of the best Halloweens and birthdays quickly turned into a night to grieve when the Rodrigue family's garage caught fire Monday night. No lives were lost, but the hardest part is mourning the loss of sentimental

items and the memories their house once held, the family said.

Now, with nowhere to call home for possibly six to 10 months, Daniel and Diamond Rodrigue, along with their two young children, are facing an uncertain future. But it's some consolation

See FIRE on 6A



'It's do or die': Falcons aim for playoff return

Stakes are high for the Lake Dallas vs. Denton game with a playoff berth on the line. » Sports, 7A

Elections 2022

Early voting ends Friday. Here's what you need to know to cast your ballot.
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