

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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WILLOW PARK

City set to receive water from Fort Worth in July

Additional projects still in motion

By Brandi Addison
The Community News

This summer may be the first in many that Willow Park will not utilize Weatherford water in the wake of a near water shortage.

While the Fort Worth Water Project is expected to be fully completed in April 2022, Willow Park may receive water from Fort Worth as early as next month.

Crews officially began work in early March after the cities spent more than five years negotiating and planning.

The nearly \$20 million project — divided into a 52-48 cost split between Willow Park and Hudson Oaks, respectively — will include a 24-inch water main, wholesale water meter station and storage tank and pump station that would help transport water to Hudson Oaks.

Preston Dillard of Halff Associates said the main project is separated into multiple components with different timelines.

“The cross-country pipeline component of the (Fort Worth to Willow Park pipeline) is basically complete,” Dillard updated council on Tuesday. “If you drive along the access road of I-20, there’s still obviously a lot of disturbed earth that they will need to clean up and some other business they need to tidy up.

“Those components may be delayed by the weather, but we don’t need the grass replanted to operate the pipeline,” Dillard added.

The projected completion date is July 25 — though it is still pending approval for a temporary pipeline shutdown from Fort Worth.

“That is the final completion date that — hopefully, knock on wood — operational components of the project are ready to go before,” he said.

The temporary meter station at El Chico Trail is also expected to be operational in early July, allowing the city to immediately receive water from Fort Worth when the pipeline is fully in place.

Hudson Oaks will receive the water from the pipeline about a month later with a scheduled completion on Aug. 26. However, Dillard told council he expects there will be a delay due to the recent weather.

The final component of the project — the pump station and ground storage tank — is projected to be completed in the spring, he said.

City wells can currently produce up to 1.6 million gallons of water per day, leaving little room for emergencies during the summer months with city water usage averaging to about 1.2 million gallons daily.

The new project is expected to provide an additional 3.5 million gallons per day, on average, totaling about 5 million gallons per day.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

David Lasater sings the National Anthem at the beginning of the 2021 Aledo High School Graduation May 29 at Bearcat Stadium. More than 440 graduates received diplomas.



LEFT: Aledo Assistant Superintendent Lynn McKinney was among well-wishers from the district who greeted graduates in a receiving line. | RIGHT: Stopping for the official portrait.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Kyler Anya fist-bumps Aledo School Board President Hoyt Harris after receiving his diploma. | CENTER: Samantha Stasey poses with Aledo ISD Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn and AHS Principal Angi Tims. | RIGHT: Madison Alvarez is all smiles after receiving her diploma.

ALEDO ISD

District announces new personnel in leadership positions

Aledo ISD has named assistant principals at Aledo High School, Aledo Middle School, and Annetta, Coder and Vandagriff Elementary Schools, as well as the district Advanced Academics coordinator and an elementary instructional specialist.

“We are excited to have such extraordinary leaders joining our Bearcat Leadership Team,” Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn said. “I know that both our new leaders and those who are changing positions will ensure that our students have exceptional experiences everyday.”

Angela Wilkinson has been named the Aledo ISD Advanced Academics Coordinator. Wilkinson has been the Advanced Academics Coordinator in the Crowley ISD since 2012. Prior to that, she was a social studies teacher and AVID teacher and coordinator at North Crowley High School in the Crowley ISD from 2007 to 2012. She was a social studies teacher and department chair at Garden City High School in Kansas from 2004 to 2007 and a social studies teacher at Junction City High School in Kansas from 2000-2002. Wilkinson has a bachelor of science in secondary education and a bachelor of arts in history from Kansas State University, a master’s in curriculum and instruction with an ESL emphasis from Newman University, and a principal certification from Lamar University.

Marissa Torres has been named an elementary instructional specialist for the Aledo ISD. Torres was a third-grade teacher at Blue Haze Elementary in the White Settlement ISD from 2012 to 2020, and was named the Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2018. Prior to that, she was a second-grade teacher in the Windsor Central School District in New York from 2010-2012 and a third-grade teacher at Solvay Central School District in New York from 2008 to 2010. Torres has a bachelor of science in psychology from LeMoyne College, a master’s in literacy education from State University of New York Oswego and a master’s in educational leadership from Western Governors University.

Arthur Aven and Anita Callaway have been named as assistant principals at Aledo High School.

Aven has been an eighth-grade social studies teacher and coach at Boles Junior High in the Arlington ISD since 2013, serving as the department chair since 2015. He

Turn to AISD, page A2



Inside: 16-page Salute to the Class of 2021 Senior Portraits • Top 10% • Senior Awards • Senior Life



Almost Ladycats end season as state runner-up; Bearcats end season at regionals.

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TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

New Director of Development announced

Trinity Christian Academy Head of School Mike Skaggs has announced that long-time faculty member Kim Quarles has been named the Director of Development for the growing school in east Parker County.

“As a beloved, long-time member of our teaching faculty and the parent of two TCA graduates, Kim knows the heart of our school as well as anyone,” Skaggs said, indicating that the new position for Quarles builds

on the key core value of relationships at Trinity Christian Academy.

Quarles said she loves TCA’s focus on the school’s core values of excellence, relationships, and service, and will continue to build relationships in the community.

“I am honored to be taking on this new role at such an important time in TCA’s growth as a school,” Quarles said. “First, I get to build upon the positive

foundation that our longtime Director of Development, Susie Henning, has established within our community and TCA itself. Second, I get to take part in the Grounded in Faith - Growing in Excellence capital campaign as it breaks ground on the Ludwig Family Athletic Complex. It is definitely an exciting time in our school’s story and for me, as I take on this challenge outside of the classroom.”

Quarles holds a B.A. in English with a minor in History from Angelo State University and a Teaching Certificate in Secondary Education. She and her husband of 26 years, Curtis, have two daughters, Alli (class of 2017) and Emma (class of 2019). The family attends Trademark Church.

“I have the greatest confidence that Kim will do a fantastic job of sharing with the community all of the great

things happening at Trinity Christian Academy.” Skaggs said. “She loves our school and is a perfect fit for this position to help us move forward in our pursuit of Christ-centered educational excellence.”

Trinity Christian is a college preparatory school offering grades PK 3-12. For more information, visit tcaeagles.org.



Kim Quarles



Angela Wilkinson



Marissa Torres



Arthur Aven



Anita Callaway



Datra Lonon



Alyssa Seay



Shanna Smith



Amanda Sudderth

AISD

from page one

completed the Emerging Leaders program, earning recognition as one of the cohort’s Outstanding Leaders. Aven has a bachelor of history from TCU and a master’s in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Callaway has been a teacher in the Aledo ISD since 2007, serving the Daniel Ninth Grade Campus in several capacities including: English I and Pre-AP English, professional communications, content mastery, credit retrieval, business innovation, and teen leadership. Prior to that, she was a reading teacher and coach at Bailey Junior High in the Arlington ISD from 1999 to 2007. Callaway was an English teacher and coach at Hudson Middle School in the Garland ISD from 1997 to 1999 and at Atkins Junior High in the Lubbock ISD from 1996 to 1997.

Callaway has a bachelor of science from Texas Tech University and a master’s in educational leadership from Lamar University.

Datra Lonon has been named an assistant principal at Aledo Middle School. Lonon has been an assistant principal at Kirby Middle School in the Wichita Falls ISD since 2019. Prior to that, she was an English teacher at McNeil Middle School in WFISD and a reading teacher at Washington-Jackson Elementary in WFISD from 2013 to 2016. From 2008 to 2013, Lonon worked as a special education and regular education paraprofessional at Washington-Jackson. Lonon has a bachelor of applied science from Wayland Baptist University and a master’s in educational leadership from Lamar University.

Alyssa Seay has been named the assistant principal at the new Annetta Elementary School. Seay has been an assistant principal at Aledo Middle School since 2016. Prior to

that, she was a functional academics teacher and resource math teacher at McAnally Intermediate School and AMS from 2014 to 2016. Seay worked in the Everman ISD from 2002 to 2006 and 2008 to 2014 as a special education resource teacher, an early childhood facilitator, and a Pre-K, kindergarten and second-grade teacher. Seay has both a bachelor of science and a master’s in educational leadership from TCU.

Shanna Smith has been named the assistant principal at Coder Elementary School. Smith has been the assistant principal at Vandagriff Elementary School since 2018. Prior to that, she was a social studies teacher at McAnally Intermediate School from 2014 to 2018. Smith was an assistant principal in the Grand Prairie ISD at Lorenzo De Zavala Environmental Science Academy (2011-2014) and at Bush Elementary School (2010-2011) and a fifth-grade English/language arts

and social studies teacher at Rayburn Elementary School (2009-2010).

Smith also taught fifth grade at Tannahill Intermediate School in the White Settlement ISD from 2001 to 2009. She has both a bachelor of science and a master’s in educational leadership from Tarleton State University.

Amanda Sudderth has been named the assistant principal at Vandagriff Elementary School. Sudderth has been a social studies teacher and team lead at Aledo Middle School since 2013. Prior to that, she was a fifth-grade reading teacher at Tannahill Intermediate School in the White Settlement ISD from 2010 to 2013. Sudderth was a seventh-grade math teacher at Mineral Wells Junior High in the Mineral Wells ISD from 2007 to 2010. Sudderth has a bachelor of business administration from Tarleton State University and a master’s in educational leadership from Lamar University.

ALEDO

Suspect arrested in car burglary investigation

Parker County Sheriff’s Criminal Investigations Division investigators arrested a male suspect June 2 in connection with multiple vehicle burglaries which occurred in Aledo in May.

Parker County Sheriff Russ Authier said the suspect, a 17-year-old male from Aledo, was arrested on charges of credit card/debit card abuse and a prior warrant for manufacturing delivery of a controlled substance. His bond was set at \$30,000. Additional charges are pending.

A female suspect was also identified with charges pending the investigation.

Sheriff Authier said the suspects were identified through multiple tips which were submitted through tip411.

“The tips submitted also helped our investigators identify and locate the female suspect,” Authier said. “We would like to thank the public for their assistance in this case.”

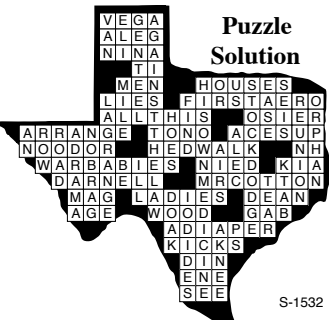
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LAND USE ASSUMPTIONS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN RELATING TO A POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF IMPACT FEES

CITY OF WILLOW PARK

A public hearing will be held by the Willow Park City Council at a meeting on July 13, 2021. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will take place at 516 Ranch House Road, Willow Park, Texas in the City Council Chambers of the Willow Park City Hall.

The Willow Park City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider the City’s Land Use Assumptions (future land use plan) and Capital Improvements Plan under which a storm water drainage impact fee may be imposed.

The City’s Land Use Assumptions and Capital Improvements Plan, along with the City’s entire Storm water Impact Fee Study, are available to the public on the City’s website or in the office of the City Secretary.

A member of the public has the right to appear at the public hearing and present evidence for or against the Land Use Assumptions and Capital Improvements Plan.

Alicia Smith, City Secretary



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ALEDO ISD

Heather Street named principal at Walsh Elementary School

By **Makenzie Plusnick**
The Community News

Heather Street was named principal of Walsh Elementary May 13, according to a press release from Aledo ISD.



Heather Street

Though Street has worked in Frisco ISD an assistant principal and International Baccalaureate curriculum coordinator since 2018, she is no stranger to the AISD. She was the assistant principal at Vandagriff Elementary School, in addition to working as the districtwide behavioral intervention specialist. Prior to that, she worked in Fort Worth ISD from 2006 to 2014 as a district lead behavioral specialist and an elementary math and science teacher.

Street was named 'Teacher of the Year' at both Western Hills Elementary and Luella Merrett Elementary Schools in Fort Worth ISD. Additionally, she was nominated for Aledo ISD's IDEA Award three times and the Don Daniel Administrator of the Year Award twice.

Her experience both in and out of the district has prepared her to take on this position, she said.

"A background in curriculum, administration, special education, and behavioral support has provided a diverse perspective that I use to guide my decision making," Street said.

Street also credits her mentors for preparing her for this role.

"I have had the opportunity to work in a variety of roles with some great instructional leaders as my mentors," she said. "These mentors have come in the form of administrators, teachers, students and family members."

She plans on focusing on developing relationships to start her time as principal.

"My priorities are to facilitate the district goals, initially by developing relationships with the students, staff and community of Walsh," she said. "Collaboration and successful communication is key to ensuring high expectations for all of our learners. Building trust with all stakeholders starts with relationships."

Street is excited to return to AISD, a move which fit both her professional and personal life.

"My desire to once again be part of the Aledo school community, during a time of great growth and development, aligned nicely to my husband's relocation opportunity for work. It allowed us to return home, closer to family and friends, while also becoming a part of the greatest school community around," she said.

Graduation head to toe



Graduation gowns all look the same. Graduates from Aledo High School, however, have found ways to express their individuality with footwear and accessories, as seen at the May 29 graduation ceremony.

PHOTOS BY RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS



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A Tale of Two Teams



JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Macy Graf dives into first base during the state championship game against Barbers Hill.

SOFTBALL

Ladycats finish season as state runner-up

Quality season for young team comes to an end

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Competing for a state title is something that is expected in Aledo. No matter what the sport, the ultimate goal is to be lifting a gold trophy on the last day of the season. At the end, only one team in the state can lift that trophy, and this time around that privilege went to Barbers Hill.

The Aledo Ladycats softball team traveled to Austin last weekend for the UIL State Softball Tournament.

It was a crazy weekend full of venue changes and weather delays, but it was able to finish. It all started Friday (June 4) at Leander Glenn High School due to conditions at Red and Charline McCombs Field not being up to par.

Facing the Georgetown Lady Eagles, the Ladycats were out to prove they belonged at the state tournament. Madysen Boutwell drove in the first run on a single to left field that scored Marissa Powell from second.

Despite Georgetown getting a run in the first inning, Kayleigh Smith settled in on the rubber and kept the Eagles at bay. In the fourth inning, the Ladycats broke it open. Reagan Davis drove in Audrey Pearce with a ground ball single to the shortstop. Two pitches later, Powell homered over the center field fence to score Davis and Macy Graf, giving Aledo a 5-1 lead.



JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Natalie Touchet jumps for joy over Marissa Powell's home run during the Georgetown semifinal championship game.

In the fifth, Graf imitated Powell by hitting a three-run home run of her own, scoring Pearce and Claire Byars. Georgetown was not going to go quietly as they scored four runs to close the gap, but the Ladycats had already done their job offensively, and Smith shut the Eagles down for the rest of the game, holding on for an 8-5 victory and a spot in the state championship game.

The next day was hectic as the 4A state championship game was delayed in the fourth inning for multiple hours, pushing Aledo's game against Barbers Hill back from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

When the teams finally did step on the field, it was obvious how determined each team was. Unfortunately, the Ladycats got off to a shaky start. Two early errors gave Barbers

Turn to **SOFTBALL**, page A5



MICHAEL BAUER/ODESSA AMERICAN

Aledo's Adrian Guzman (21) swings at a pitch in the first inning against Amarillo High in Game 3 of the Region 1-5A final Saturday, June 5, at Christensen Stadium in Midland.

BASEBALL

Road for Bearcats ends in Midland

Amarillo takes three-game regional championship series

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Last Thursday morning (June 3), the Aledo Bearcats baseball team helped send the Ladycats softball team off to Austin for the state tournament. As soon as the sendoff ended, the team loaded its own bus and drove off to Midland to take on the Amarillo Sandies for the regional crown.

After a five-hour road trip, the Bearcats had checked into their hotel and made their way to the field. The first game got underway that night and was a tightly contested battle all the way through.

Amarillo took a 1-0 lead in the second inning, but Aledo tied it in the third when Zach Harrison hit a sacrifice fly to left field allowing Parker Stegall to score. The score held there until the sixth inning when the Bearcats took the lead for good. Max Belyeu hit a



MICHAEL BAUER/ODESSA AMERICAN

Aledo's Hunter Rudel (3) pitches in Game 1 of the Region 1-5A final at Christens Stadium in Midland.

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page A5

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SOFTBALL

from page A4

Hill a 2-0 lead in the first inning. Smith was in the circle for Aledo again, and got settled in, pitching very well from that point.

Davis cut the lead in half in the fifth inning when she singled home Graf to make it a 2-1 game. However, Barbers Hill added two more runs in the sixth and kept the Ladycats chasing. Behind their Texas-commit pitcher, Barbers Hill shut down Aledo in the final innings, denying them a fourth softball title.

“Barbers Hill is a great team.” Aledo head coach Heather Myers said post-game. “They know how to win and they had confidence that they would. Playing a team like that can always be overwhelming, but we settled down after the first inning and played our game. Our offense wasn’t firing like normal, but small improvements were made and the adjustments were quality for most of the game. After losing last season to COVID, this season was the first true high school season for a lot of our girls. They gained a ton of experience and will no doubt be less overwhelmed next season. We certainly plan on going back and we definitely



JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Catcher Morgan Brown snags a fly ball as Texas Ray and Madysen Boutwell go in for backup in the state championship game against Barbers Hill.

know it won’t be easy, but that’s what makes it great.”

Aledo falls just one game short of the ultimate goal but looks to be back as they lose only two seniors, catcher Morgan Brown and left fielder Audrey Pearce, though their absence will be felt.

“Losing the leadership and calming presence of both

Morgan and Audrey will be hard to replace,” Myers said about her only two departing players. “They both brought a special balance and dynamic to this team that cannot be taught. They will be missed by their teammates and coaches alike. We pray blessings and favor over them as they step into this next chapter.”



MICHAEL BAUER/ODESSA AMERICAN

Aledo’s Parker Stegall (2) dives back on third base to avoid being tagged out by Amarillo High’s Bryson Slaughter (11) in Game 2 of the Class 5A Region I final at Christensen Stadium in Midland.

BASEBALL

from page A4

line drive single that brought home David Jones to give the Bearcats a 2-1 win.

Creed Willems came in to close the game out and retired the only three batters he faced in order.

The Bearcats came out in game two and got off to a fast start. Nolan Garcia drove in Stegall, and Harrison knocked in Gabe Baker with a sacrifice fly. However, it was

short lived. The first three Amarillo batters got on base, setting up a grand slam to give the Sandies the lead. They added one more before the end of the inning to make it a 5-2 game.

The bats went silent from that point, with each team scoring just one more time late in the game. Amarillo won game two 6-3 to force a deciding game three.

Unfortunately for the Bearcats, Amarillo once again jumped out to an early lead and left Aledo

chasing all game. Five runs in the first inning and two in the second inning had the Sandies leading 7-0 through most of the game. Stegall drove in the only Aledo run when he bunted in Belyeu in the fourth inning. Amarillo shut down the Bearcats from there, taking the series two games to one and advancing to the state tournament in Round Rock.

Aledo’s season comes to an end as regional finalists with a 30-11-2 overall record.

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Commentary

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Capital Highlights

Population gains, losses in state detailed



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

The U.S. Census Bureau has released its sub-county population estimates from April 2010 to July 2020. That includes population estimates for the 1,200 incorporated places in Texas.

Nine additional Texas towns were incorporated in the past decade, while 13 additional cities surpassed a population of 50,000.

The Texas Demographic Center reported that of the 71 Texas cities with populations of more than 50,000, only two lost population — continuing the trend of smaller towns and areas in the state losing population to larger cities. More than 55% of the state's population growth has been in cities with more than 50,000 residents.

Small and mid-sized cities surrounding major metropolitan areas, such as Dallas-Fort Worth, Austin and Houston, saw the fastest growth rates, while many of the cities in West Texas and the Panhandle were among the 372 Texas cities that lost population, according to TDC.

Emergency food benefits extended

Benefits for families under a federal nutrition plan have been increased through September, the Texas Health and Human Services

Commission announced last week.

Under the American Rescue Plan signed by President Biden in March, states can provide eligible families up to \$35 per month to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Clients of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program are eligible.

"Texas WIC provides foods that have great nutritional value — providing key nutrients at key stages of development," Texas WIC Director Edgar Curtis said. "This nutritional support early in life builds stronger, smarter, healthier and happier children and Texans. Fresh fruits and vegetables, which are loaded with vitamins and other plant-based nutrients, are at the forefront of that strategy."

The HHSC also announced it is providing roughly \$208 million in emergency food benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, extending the maximum SNAP benefits allowable through June. All SNAP recipients will get a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotment, in addition to the 15% increase that continues through September.

The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by HHSC.

State to release \$5 billion in school federal aid

Months after congressional action on a coronavirus relief package, the Texas Education Agency announced Friday that school districts may begin applying

for their portion of \$5 billion in aid.

According to the Austin American-Statesman, how much each district will receive varies. Districts that saw large enrollment declines because of the pandemic will likely not receive as much money, because TEA will divert some of the funds to make up for funding provided at pre-pandemic levels.

Much of public-school funding in Texas is based on average daily attendance. However, during the 2020-2021 school year, districts were not penalized when students stayed home.

Experts: Weatherization bill falls short

The Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 3 in response to February's deadly storm and widespread failure of power plants. The package addresses the problems that threaten electric reliability, but public radio's Texas Standard reports that many electric grid experts and policy analysts say not enough has been done to prevent another blackout disaster.

One section of SB3 allows regulators to determine what portions of the natural gas supply must be weatherized. Since it only applies to equipment that directly connects to power plants, experts say it might not be enough.

Dan Cohan, civil engineering professor at Rice University, told the Standard that "whoever has those direct lines into the power plants and winterizes those is going to point upstream and say 'well those upstream people couldn't get us enough

ACROSS

1 Oldham County seat
5 TXism: "it costs an arm and _____"
6 this Vance founded the Alley Theatre in Houston
7 TX tech co.
8 TXism: "separate the _____ from the boys"
9 "casas," south of the border
15 tall Texas tales
16 Gen. Foulis started the "_____ Squadron" in Texas
19 TXism: "enjoyed about _____ I can stand" (bored)
21 willow that grows in wet habitats
22 put things in order
27 "up _____ good" (misbehaving)
28 card cheat has _____ his sleeve
29 unscented (2 wds.)
30 TXism: "_____ himself to death in a revolving door" (idiot)
32 "Live Free or Die" state (abbr.)
33 Fort Hood saw a lot of post _____ after "Desert Storm"
36 Duncannonville star David who pitched for Braves & Rockies
37 Korean car maker
38 this TX Linda starred in 1948 film "Unfaithfully Yours"
39 Field Scovell was "_____ Bowl"

DOWN

1 _____ Alstyne, TX
2 UT grad and actor, Wallace
3 refined Texan
4 why you don't pick TX bluebonnets (3 wds.)
8 TXism: "long as a country _____"
9 TXism: "gave him a dose of _____" (retaliated)
10 TXism: "don't give a hoot _____ a holler"

TEXAS CROSSWORD
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11 TX Jordan Spieth won "_____ Open" in 2015
12 fraudulent investment scheme? (2 wds.)
13 effortlessness
14 Beeville has "Fiesta Diez y _____" event
15 Fayette County seat
16 TXism: "couldn't _____ hide nor hair of him"
17 Stamford rodeo: "The Cowboy _____"
18 parentless child
20 garden tools
22 TXism: "bat _____" (eyelash) (blink)
23 TX Ann Sheridan 1942 film "King's _____"
24 TXism: "hot as _____ tar in July"
25 TX epic film "Giant," e.g. (2 wds.)
26 TXism: "_____ just fact"
28 This Baldwin was in "The Aviator" about TX Howard Hughes
31 "putting on _____"
34 TX Buddy Holly's "That'll _____ the Day"
35 TXism: "_____ be a monkey's uncle"
37 Abilene CBS and Telemundo TV station
40 TX Freddy Fender's "Before the Next _____ drop Falls"
43 SMU's 1948 Heisman winner, Walker
44 components of most salt
50 TXism: "_____ knocker" (scary)
51 letter addition abbr.

gas.' So yeah, it's hard to see how this is going to provide us full coverage."

In addition, critics say the penalties of \$5,000 a day for not doing the required weatherization amount to little more than a rounding error for non-complying oil and gas companies.

GOP chairman resignation sparks speculation

Texas Republican Party chairman Allen West resigned Friday, sparking speculation he is considering a statewide race.

The Republican party issued a statement that West "will take this opportunity to

prayerfully reflect on a new chapter in his already distinguished career." West has not ruled out challenging Gov. Greg Abbott, who last week touted a re-election endorsement from former President Trump.

COVID-19 cases dropping; 36% fully vaccinated

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas continues to drop, with 9,534 reported as of Sunday for the previous week — a small fraction of mid-January's record high of nearly 159,000.

In the past week, 210 deaths from COVID-19 in Texas were reported, according to

the Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center. That is also a decrease.

The number of Texans fully vaccinated stands at 10.5 million, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, or about 36% of the state's population. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients who are hospitalized dropped nearly a fifth from the previous week, to 1,504, according to DSHS.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Obituaries

Earline Grant Wall Prescott

Earline Grant Wall Prescott passed away in the presence of her two surviving children on April 26, 2020.

Earline was born on September 12, 1919 to Helmut Albert Grant and Candace Effie Woodin in Fort Worth. She was the second of three children, the eldest being Marvin Grant and the youngest being Charles Albert "C.A." Grant. She attended Denver, Colorado public schools and graduated from Fort Worth North Side High School. She met her first love, Lewis D. Wall, Jr., who was training to be a pilot. They married secretly in Weatherford, Texas on November 16, 1940 so as not to jeopardize Lewis' chances of flying in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Together they had two children,

daughter Marion Suzanne and son Lewis III.

Earline campaigned for her husband, who sought and won election to the office of Tarrant County District Clerk. But in 1950 tragedy struck when he died in a multi-plane accident while flying in the Air National Guard. Suddenly widowed with two young children, she was sworn in by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to succeed her husband as District Clerk. She ran that office and successfully won reelection three times.

On November 26, 1955, she married Fay W. Prescott, who was a Fort Worth attorney and also widowed with one teenaged son, Wesley, and she retired from public office. Together they had a daughter, Victoria, in 1957. She and Fay

traveled extensively in an Airstream trailer throughout the Continental United States, Canada and Mexico. Tragedy again struck when Fay died in 1967.

Earline viewed education as critically important and she helped put all four children through the University of Texas as well as support in various post graduate degrees.

Throughout her life Earline made do with whatever she had to provide for her family. She sold real estate as an independent realtor and remodeled homes. She did or at least supervised all manner of residential construction and remodels.

Earline was a longtime member of University Christian Church, Eastern Star and the Fort Worth Woman's Club.

Earline was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Lewis Jr. and her second husband Fay; two of her children, Suzanne Motion and Wesley Prescott; and both of her brothers, Marvin and C.A.

She is survived by her son, Lewis III and his wife, Jana, and their three children, Joanna Baumhardt, Rebecca Joslin and Lewis Wall IV; her daughter, Victoria and her husband, Richard, together with their two children, Ian Henderson and Alistair Henderson; her son in law, Ben Motion, together with his and Suzanne's two children, Robert Motion and Lewis Motion;



Earline Prescott

her daughter in law, Diana Prescott, together with her and Wes' two children, Travis Prescott and Katie Beasley; ten great grandchildren; her sister in law, Julia Grant; and many nieces and nephews.

Her interment will take place with her family on June 12, 2021 at Mount Olivet Cemetery followed by a memorial service at University Christian Church.

The family would suggest that in lieu of flowers that anyone desiring to make a gift in memory of Earline Prescott do so to the Endowment Fund bearing her name at University Christian Church, or to charity of their choice.

The Community News
June 11, 2021

The Community News

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We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-441-7661, ext. 207 or email news@community-news.com. Please provide the basic story information as well as contact information in case we have questions.

We welcome letters, articles and guest opinions from our readers. Opinions expressed in this newspaper will be labeled as opinions, editorials or letters, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the ownership. Letters should be signed, and limited to approximately 300 words. All submissions to the newspaper should

include a telephone number in case we have questions. Letters are due by Monday at noon for that week's paper. Community announcements, achievements and obituaries are due by noon Friday for the following week's paper. Send submissions to news@community-news.com.

Photos submitted should include names of the people in the photograph. For ease in submitting photographs electronically, visit our contact form at community-news.com/contacts.

The Community News does not charge for timely wedding, engagement and birth announcements provided they are of reasonable length. Lengthy announcements will either be edited to a reasonable length or, at the discretion of the person submitting the announcement, be charged a fee. The deadline for submitting announcements is noon Friday for the following week's paper.

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Aledo Summer Blast



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Madison Burgwald spins the prize wheel at the Myser Orthodontics booth. | **SECOND:** Caden Witt makes a splash on the big water slide. | **Third:** Noah Houk heads down the water slide. | **ABOVE RIGHT:** Tracy and Eleanor Jack provided information about the East Parker County Library.



Music, food, fun, and fireworks were in abundance at the annual Aledo Summer Blast held on June 4 at the Aledo High School parking lot.

The event experienced a record attendance of about 8,000, according to a city official, as quarantines ended and families felt ready to start summer off with a bang.

Representing Aledo Scout Troop 109 were (from left) Preston Galle, Zackery Verner, and Ethan Price.



ABOVE LEFT: Bryce Hopkins enjoys a pony ride. | **ABOVE RIGHT:** Mackenzie Edwards draws a prize at the City of Aledo booth.



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Photo by Kirsten Gallon

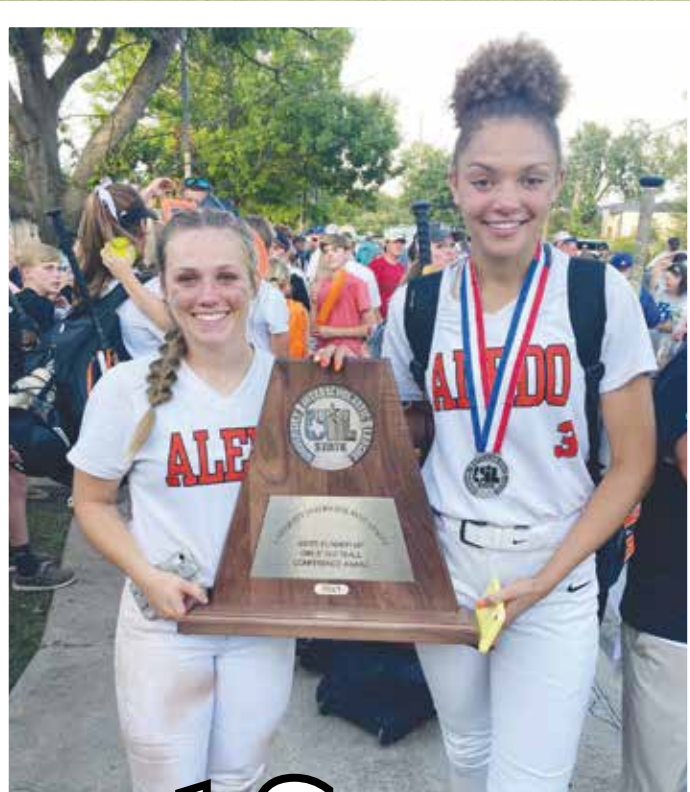


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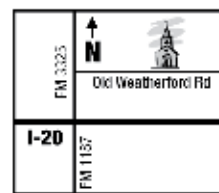


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Aledo High School honored the top 10 percent of its graduating class and their favorite teachers with a banquet on May 3.

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Avery Alexis Beal



Luke William Beal



Avery Elizabeth Betancourt



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Lee Abraham Fulsaa



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Emelia Grace Gamez



Kaden William Herring



Naveah Michelle Highbarger



Alaina Grace Huntington



Madeline Kay Huntington



Claire Isabelle Kennedy



Willow Marie Kessel



Olivia Grace Key



Jacob Martin Knott



Ty Cameron McClure



Nathaniel Alan Michaelis



William Edward Moeller



Ainsley Morgan Morar

Turn to page B8

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Kaitlyn Aguilar



Adlen Allegood



Madison Alvarez



Kaitlyn Anderson



Matthew Anderson



Tyler Angerbauer



Kyler Annya



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Nathaniel Baines



Gabriel Baker



Kayley Ball



Nacoma Ballard



Taylor Banke



Aidan Baringer



Jenna Barouh



Elizabeth Batson



Avery Beal



Luke Beall



Andrea Bean



Marcus Bean



Claire Beck



Maddison Beesinger



Brooke Bell



Jerdan Belnap



Grace Bertram



Avery Betancourt



Jaden Billings



Zachary Blackett



Caroline Blackman



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Alexander Boyce



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Makayla Brinkman



Katelyn Brown



Morgan Brown



Zoe Brown



Victoria Bullock



Luke Bunting



Madison Burroughs



Grace Bussmeir



Brooke Buswell



Olivia Caggiano



Ashley Campbell



Colton Campbell



Benjamin Cannell



Gael Castro



Madeline Cavanaugh



Mikaela Cerda



Madelyn Cerja



Remy Chandler



Crawford Christie



Carson Clayton



Gracie Cohen



Macey Collins



Casen Conley



John Cook



Skylar Cooper



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Kaylia Egge



Braedyn Eicke



Taygen Ellis



Jewlian Emerson



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William Evans



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Alexandra Farmer



Madeleine Farmer



Jacob Fingar



Ella Fisher



Eliot Flaherty



Andrew Flatt



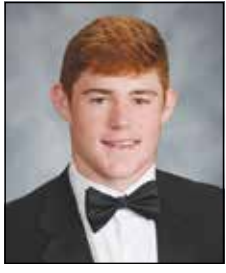
Elijah Flatten



Grace Flora



Lauren Flores



Samuel Forman



Gillian Forsythe



Gracie Forsythe



Eryn Foust



Brooke Franklin



Carson Fronk



Lee Fulsaa



Kollen Furr Thompson



Hollyn Gaffner



Emelia Gamez



Nolan Garcia



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Molly Gentry



Georgia Giddens



Jakob Glasgow



Brianna Glick



Andrew Goss



Kayleigh Graham



Payten Graham



Payton Greenhouse



Alyssa Gribble



Alek Griffin



Trey Griffin



Madeline Grimm



Madison Gustin



Justin Hammond



Victoria Hanen



Brooke Harkins



Raegan Harrison



Zachary Harrison



Jeffrey Hartsell



William Harvey



David Hawley



Grayson Hawley



Ethan Headrick



Eric Heaton



Hollie Henderson



Jake Henderson



Reid Hendrix



Mark Herrera



Kaden Herring



Keenan Hess



Tyson Hess



Nevaeh Highbarger



Connor Holman



Caroline Holt



Joshua Holzschuh



Jaret Howe



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Savannah Huff



Sierra Hufnagle



Chase Hunter



Alaina Huntington



Madeline Huntington



Zachary Ingebritson



Kyla Jakubisin



Jeremiah James



Sydney Jantzen



Jerret Jarvis



Amy Jasso



William Jefferis



Luke Jenkins



Rachel Jobe



Abegayle Johnson



James Johnson



Jalen Jones



Kevin Kaldenbach



Sarah Kasparian



Hayley Keller-Nicholson



Hunter Keller-Nicholson



Claire Kennedy

Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game. — Babe Ruth



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Alyson Kessinger



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Jacob Knott



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Charlotte Lane



Katie Lantz



David Lasater



Maivi Le



Brooke Lee



Jaxson Lee



Jonah Lee



Corinne Lehman



Donald Leonard



Sidney Lewis



Xavier Little



Anikka Livingston



Jackson Logsdon



Parker Lopez



Yudith Lopez



Adrian Lozano



Andrew Lozano



Marco Lozzi



Mary Lucas



Will Lugo



William Maberry



Ava Magness



Benjamin Martin



Olivia Martin



Jennifer Martinez



Colby Mason



Katherine Mayer



Annie Mazon



Ethan McBrayer



Sean McCarthy



Nachonti McClain



Joshua McCluer



Ty McClure



Caleb McCoy



Brice McCullough



Matthew McLeroy



Alex Meche



Ally Meche



Christian Medrano



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Nathaniel Michaelis



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Maddox Miller



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Lindsay Morgan



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Alexandria Mount



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Nathaniel Newlund



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Andrew Pennington



Jade Petersen



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If you want something you've never had, you must be willing to do something you've never done. -Thomas Jefferson

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James Porter



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Andrew Price



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Ana Puebla Espinoza



Ulises Quinones



Jaylin Ramos



Andrew Reed



Logan Reiter



James Rinehart



Brianna Rivera



Cayden Roberts



Gabriel Roberts



Meagan Robinson



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Mason Summerhill



Amber Suzow



Zoe Sweany



Kevin Taylor



Lillian Taylor



Luke Teague



Ryan Teichman



Madison Thiebaud



Kevin Thiemann



Emily Thomas



Abigail Thompson



Eric Thurman



Tristan Thurman



Mattye Tierce



Callie Todd



Payton Tovar



Brianna Townsend



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Camryn Trusty



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Molly Tucker



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Shane Venerable



Ashlyn Vozech



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James Ward



Ashton Watson



George Wayland



Avery Weckel



Madison Wenzell



Jadyynn Wheeler

*If you haven't found it yet, keep looking.
Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart,
you'll know it when you find it. —Steve Jobs*



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Aledo High School Class of 2021



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There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.

— C.S. Lewis

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Aledo High School Senior Awards

Aledo High School held its Senior Awards presentation on May 10. As of press time, scholarship offers to the Class of 2021 totaled \$22,187,315.



LEFT: AP Scholars with Honors are (from left) Makayla Brinkman, Luke Bunting, Grace Bussmeir, Olivia Delapp, Hollyn Gaffner, Nathaniel Michaelis, William Moeller, Nathaniel Newlund, and (not pictured) Hannah Arlington, Alaina Huntington, Ketsia Mulenga. **RIGHT:** Luke Beal and Kevin Taylor were Commended Scholars in the National Merit Scholarship Program, placing among the top 50,000 students out of 1.6 million who took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).



LEFT: Candi Lear is shown with Aledo PTO scholarship recipients (from left) Jacquelyn Pillow, Nolan Daugherty, Micah Miller and Chloey Prichard. **RIGHT:** AP Scholars with Distinction are (from left) Luke Beal, Olivia Caggiano, Jacob Knott, Jacob Newlund, Alyssa Nickerson, Tyler Oetinger, Jacquelyn Pillow, Audrey Schabel, Callie Todd and (not pictured) Ty McClure, Andrew Pennington, Lainey Streetman, and Brady Wood.



LEFT: Tyler Oetinger received a Navy ROTC Scholarship from Commander Bryan Koehler, Commanding Officer of Navy Talent Acquisition Group Red River. **CENTER:** Lillian Haile presented the Aledo Ex-Student Association to Eric Heaton. **RIGHT:** Aledo High School Principal Angi Tims is shown with MFarland Fund Scholarship recipients Le Maivi and Eric Heaton.



LEFT: Jeff Streetman (left) and Russel Green (right) presented the Aledo Lions Club Scholarships to (from left) Addison Denbow, Kollen Thompson, and Makayla Brinkman. **RIGHT:** The Aledo AdvoCats announced five scholarships. Shown are (from left) AdvoCats president Patti Oakes; recipients Mikayla Brinkman, Luke Bunting, Amy Jasso, Aubrey Miller and Cadence Yeager; and AdvoCats' Children's Fund Co-Chair Amy Dube.



LEFT: Wendy Michael (center) presented Don R. Daniel Honorary Scholarships to Alan Barrientos and Makayla Brinkman. **RIGHT:** Brandon Brinkman (left) and Shannon Majeski (right) presented Aledo Youth Football and Cheer scholarships to Caden Anderson, Payton Tovar, Max Dube, and Chloey Prichard.

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From page B1



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Tyler Wayne Oetinger



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Hannah Elizabeth Sawyer



Audrey Kate Schabel



Sophia Loe Stadler



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