

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Living life for two



ROSEALEE HOFFMAN KERTOK/CITY OF WILLOW PARK

Cody Burge and Kit smile for the camera in preparation for Willow Bark, scheduled for Sept. 18.

HOT DOG!

Willow Park to host dog festival at the end of summer

All proceeds from Willow Bark will benefit Parker Paws

By Brandi Addison

The Community News

Before the dog days of summer come to an end, you can celebrate your furry friends at Willow Park's inaugural dog festival, Willow Bark.

All proceeds from the event will benefit Parker Paws — a local nonprofit animal shelter that will also bring several adoptable pups to the event.

Launching at 1 p.m. on Sept. 18, the event offers a dog costume contest and parade, as well as “weenie dog races,” which will actually consist of two dog races, separated by small and large sizes.

Admission is free to the public, but the registration fee for competitions is \$5 per pet.

There will also be several food trucks and vendors. Juliebean's Ice Cream truck will bring ice cream treats for pups (though they are human-safe, too).

For humans, the Rocky Lott Band will perform live, and a play area for children will offer several kid-friendly activities.

The event will take place at the Paul Balint Jr. Memorial Park in Willow Park.

“We think this is a great opportunity to partner with a local nonprofit, and we're just excited to be part of it,” communications and marketing director Rosealee Hoffman-Kertok said.

Still seeking

While the event already has a presenting sponsor — Roger Williams Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram — the city is still seeking smaller sponsorships and vendors for the event.

Most vendors currently cater to dogs or the dog-owner demographic, but any business or individual seeking to participate can submit an inquiry with Hoffman-Kertok.

The city is also seeking donations for raffle items, in which the proceeds will also benefit Parker Paws.

For more information, call Rosealee Hoffman Kertok at 817-441-7108 or 940-452-7099 or email rkertok@willowpark.org.

Kit, pictured above, is available for adoption at Parker Paws. For more information, visit parkerpaws.org.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Davis Mazzei (right) miraculously survived an Enterovirus at birth and became a liver transplant recipient. He is shown with big brother Jackson.

Mother shares story about her miracle baby

By Sophia Cortez

The Community News

Anna Mazzei gave birth to her second baby boy named Davis on Feb. 2, 2019, but soon after he came home from the hospital she noticed that he looked ill.

After taking him to the hospital, doctors discovered that baby Davis contracted Enterovirus from her uterus while she was pregnant. Within the first couple of nights of Davis's life, he coded. Doctors were able to resuscitate him, but Mazzei and the doctors were preparing for the worst.

The hospital soon admitted Davis to the neonatal intensive care unit where

doctors ran many tests on him and discovered that the virus was in his liver. The doctors treating Davis were astonished that he was alive. Davis was born six weeks premature, and if the doctors had not delivered him on that date, he most likely would have been stillborn.

“It's a beautiful story how God weaves what's good for you,” Mazzei said. “And I know that it's a terrible thing to reflect back on and painful memories, but it is so evident to me that God's hand was right on Davis.”

As the virus compartmentalized in Davis's liver, the doctors at Cook Children's Medical Center told Mazzei that he would need a liver transplant. Soon Cook transferred them to Dallas Children's, where

doctors evaluated her to see if Davis was eligible for a liver transplant. She explains that she had to take four weeks' worth of classes to educate her on the procedure.

Recalling her time in the hospital, she said she will never forget how cold it was in the room. “I am so extroverted, and I am a teacher. I thrive on people. That is my medicine. And I have never been lonelier than in that time of my life.”

Mazzei and Davis went in five different times expecting a liver transplant only to get the news that doctors gave it to someone else. She explained that Davis was next in line for a liver, but unfortunately, doctors threw it away as liver had been out of the body for six hours.

Turn to **DAVIS**, page 3

ALEDO ISD

District to purchase seven new buses

Growth in student population, replacement needs cited

By Makenzie Plusnick

The Community News

Aledo ISD will purchase seven new buses to facilitate projected student growth, new bus routes and replacement needs.

The Board of Trustees approved the \$725,593 purchase from Rush Truck Centers/Rush Bus Centers at its July 19 meeting. Six will be 77-passenger buses, while the remaining bus will be a 48-passenger special needs bus, according to Chief Financial Officer Earl Husfeld.

The 2019 bond covered \$500,000. The remaining funds are from the interest earnings from the 2015 bond program



which were earmarked for new buses, Husfeld said.

It was important the district make this purchase now because of additional bus routes that may be needed due to the new

Annetta Elementary School, as well as rising bus prices.

“We want to try to take advantage of the hold on price,” Husfeld said.

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Volume 31, Number 30
Published Weekly

Puzzle Building

Putting a newspaper together is a lot like Tetris.

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Junior Olympics

Local athletes qualify for Junior Olympics in Humble, Texas.

PAGE 9



Business

Hot Chicks opens in Willow Park.

PAGE 4

go2fbt.com



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In & Around Parker County

Discovery Micro School provides personalized, self-directed education

This area is known for education, but traditional public schools are not always the best fit for students. To provide alternatives to parents, Discovery Micro Schools has set down roots on the Kids Academy campus in Aledo.

"This program was built around the same concept of a large homeschool family," said Cheryl Ososky, director of the school. "It runs much more like a one-room schoolhouse, the way that you would homeschool a large family. We all work together; we start our day making breakfast. We cook together, we all eat together. We school and play together"

The students even have chores, helping to clean up before and after cooking.

The classes involve multiple age levels, from kindergarten to sixth grade.

"There are times when the big kids help the little kids," Ososky said. "Sometimes we separate the littlest ones if they need independent work. All of our science, history, art projects or cooking is all together, all ages."

This mode of education doesn't look at mass numbers. As new students are added, extra small groups may be added as well.

"To be able to keep a family dynamic where even your sixth graders genuinely care

about the welfare of the first graders, we have to keep it in small groups," Ososky said.

Just as it avoids rigid class structure, Discovery is also flexible about the school day.

Ososky said some students are part-time, some full time and some come from homeschool families.

"Maybe this is a year that mom has to go back to work, but they aren't ready for traditional public school," Ososky said. "They still want to have a say in how their child's day goes. We also have kids that for whatever reason, traditional school is not the best place for them.

Ososky said some homeschooled children attend on days when they have hands-on projects (some days are academic days, others are project days).

"We have a kitchen, so every Friday we have some sort of cooking project. Each of the kids here has their own bowls, spoons, spatulas, muffin pans and cookie sheets. They mix the ingredients on their own, make their own food and then we cook it and we eat it."

Ososky said her students meet with a homeschool group every Wednesday for field trips.

"Every Friday is our hands-on day, so we cook something,



we build something, we paint something. It's just an all-hands-on crazy, really messy day. Our academic days are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Most of the kids come all five days."

"The goal here is that they're working to be independent learners and have the confidence to believe that they can learn and be successful here and beyond. They don't need to wait for someone to teach them about something. They have the skills to teach themselves"

"A lot of kids go to college. Kids that have a say in their own education, or are responsible for their own education, do much better in college. By the time these kids have gone to high school, they are better at managing their own time because they've had to manage it before. The goal is that they're more independent, they have a voice, they learn how to advocate for themselves. As the kids get older, we do a lot more specialized instruction. If you are really into photography, we'll

incorporate that into your school day. If you're really into computer programming, we'll make that a part of your school day, so that as you go into high school and beyond you have the confidence and skills to pursue your own interests."

Discovery Micro School is located at 117 Crockett Drive in Aledo. For more information, call 817-441-1088, visit DiscoveryMicroSchools.com, or email cheryl@discoverymicroschools.com.

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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Davis is shown on the day the family was informed that a liver was ready. Doctors said he didn't have much time to live at that point.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

By the time Davis received a liver, his body was so distended that the transplanted liver was from a three-year-old. Doctors had to close the surgical wound over the course of a week.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Davis is shown on the day he received his transplant. He had three cardiac arrests after surgery.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Davis is shown the first day after his artificial nutrient tubes were removed. He received artificial nutrition from the day he was born until that point almost a year later. RIGHT: Davis celebrates his first birthday. His mom said they have angel food cake on his birthdays and on the anniversaries of his transplant.

DAVIS

from page one

Finally, Mazzei got the call on the last day of school in 2019 that doctors found a liver for Davis. She explained how excited she was for her son to finally receive a liver after five failed attempts in line for one.

Davis almost died many times within the first year of his life, but against all odds he was making a remarkable recovery after his liver transplant.

"Dallas Children's saved his life. It ended up being a blessing in disguise that we were there because they knew exactly how to take care of him. And they trained me really well."

At the end of September 2019, Mazzei finally got the news that

they could eventually leave the hospital. Even though he still had daily checkups in the hospital, it was great news for the Mazzei family.

"Davis has served his story and his journey through Dallas Children's success. He has served as talking points during benefits and hospital fundraising events where people are there to donate money to the cause of Dallas Children's."

She expressed her utmost gratitude for her family and friends' support during this challenging

time of their life. Davis is truly a living miracle, and she said "his life is being lived for two. And that he is making the most of his life not just for himself but for his donor and his donor's family."

Mazzei not only advocates for transplant donors and their families, but she is passionate about pool safety for children. She explains that every liver donated to Davis came from a child who accidentally drowned.

"All of them were drownings in May in Texas" she said. "So, one of

my passions is obviously the transplant communities but also water safety."

Mazzei now has many opportunities to speak about her experience publicly, and eventually, she wants to help counsel parents who are going through something similar she went through. She also hopes that by sharing her story, parents will understand the importance of water safety to save their child's life potentially.

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BUSES

from page one

An additional \$5,000 is needed per bus for a video system that is purchased from a separate company which the district has found is more cost-effective than going through the bus company.

The buses will also be used for students participating in new tutoring programs the district plans to offer. The projected delivery date for the buses is 120-180 days, just in time for an uptick in extracurricular activities, Husfeld said.

Additionally, the board unanimously approved a proposal to paint Bearcat Stadium's metal fencing and Aledo High School Field House.

It makes sense to do the \$36,120 project now because the company is already painting concession stands at the stadium that were damaged during the winter storm in February, according to Director of Construction and Facilities Tyler Boswell.

"With the work going on at the stadium, it seems like a really great time to do those smaller-ticket items that kind of really need to be done," Boswell said.

The cost will be covered by the district's current budget, Husfeld said.

The board also approved the extension of a project to replace bathroom partitions for several district facilities. The district started replacing the partitions in high-profile areas last year, before continuing the project in the 200-hall restroom of Aledo High School and the restrooms in the Aledo Middle School Stadium, according to Husfeld. These replacements are needed due to vandalism and wear and tear, he added.

The \$48,735 expenditure is covered in the district's budget. Bathroom dividers will continue to be replaced every summer until all district facilities have been updated, Husfeld said. The project is being completed by Tex-Oma Builders Supply Company.

It is a better financial move to continue projects while the company is already onsite, according to Husfeld.

"It's much more cost effective to do this all at one time," Husfeld said.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Kayla Kendall and Melissa Kite are shown at the counter in the new Willow Park location.

BUSINESS

Hot Chicks Chicken opens in Willow Park

By Brandi Addison
The Community News

A new restaurant in Willow Park has brought some of the hottest chicks to Parker County — literally.

Hot Chicks Chicken officially opened its Parker County location to the public on Monday about a week after its soft opening for first responders and teachers.

The menu features several chicken-based entrees, including jumbo tenders, a sandwich, tacos, a rice bowl, loaded fries, a salad, and grilled tenders. The chicken is dairy- and peanut-free, as well as halal.

Pickles, slaw, fries, sauces, and desserts are made in-house daily, according to its menu.

Each entrée is prepared to order, offering five different heat levels, which includes traditional tenders without spice.

The business boasts that the medium "punches above its weight," while the hot can make anyone "ugly cry," and the hot af is "usually ordered by people who lost a bet."

Its drink menu — which are branded as 'fire extinguishers' that provide relief to the heat — includes a 'boozy slushie,' signature cocktails, beer, soda, tea, and water.

Online reviews from nearby residents confirm the Nashville Hot Chicken lives up to its name.

One resident suggested that any level of heat above hot should require a medical warning, while



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The inside decor continues the "hot" theme of the restaurant.

others admitted to crying their way through the meal.

Hot Chicks Chicken is located at 337 Shops Boulevard, Suite 103,

in Willow Park. The restaurant has a second location in Plano and will soon open locations in Dallas, Arlington and Addison.

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Capital Highlights

Absent lawmakers stymie special session



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Nearly 60 Texas House Democrats left the state last Monday for Washington, D.C. in an effort to stop passage of a Republican-led elections bill. This in effect blocks all legislation since the House doesn't have a quorum present. As the Austin American Statesman and other media outlets reported, Gov. Greg Abbott has threatened to arrest the absent lawmakers upon their return. While in Washington, the legislators have met with Vice President Kamala Harris and several Democratic senators to push passage of a federal elections bill that is currently stalemated.

The House Democrats have vowed to stay in Washington until the special session ends on Aug. 7. They are using private funds as well as campaign accounts to finance their decampment to the nation's capital and are mounting fundraising campaigns. San Antonio lawmaker Trey Martinez Fischer, one of the leaders of breaking the quorum, said Democrats are spending \$10,000 a day for hotel rooms and meals.

Abbott has blasted the Democrats' absences as a "taxpayer-funded junket."

Abbott orders investigation of juvenile justice department

Abbott last week directed the Texas Rangers to investigate "multiple allegations" of potentially illegal behavior among certain staff members of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. The department operates five secure facilities and six half-way houses across the state for youthful offenders. The move comes after numerous complaints that children in state lockups are subject to widespread sexual assault and other violations.

In late 2020, Texas Appleseed and Disability Rights Texas filed a complaint with the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, claiming "grievous violations of children's constitutional rights." TJJD has been under criticism for more than a decade for what critics term chronic understaffing, abuse, and scandal, according to previous published reports.

Invasive silver carp found in Texas waters

Invasive silver carp has been found in Texas waters, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The invasive species was found in last month in Choctaw Creek, a tributary of the Red River, about 15 miles downstream from Lake Texoma.

"These are the first reports of silver carp from Texas waters, although they have previously been found in other areas of the Red River including just downstream from Lake Texoma in Oklahoma waters in 2019," said Dan Bennett, TPWD fisheries management biologist. "Invasive carp pose a significant risk to Lake Texoma's ecosystem and boaters, and there is adequate flow and upstream river area for them to become

established and reproduce in the lake if introduced."

The carp are not native to the United States but have become prolific primarily in the Mississippi River Basin. They compete with other species, such as shad and buffalo, and can even pose a risk to humans. They can jump up to 10 feet out of water when startled by boat engines, sometimes injuring boaters. Some can reach more than 4 feet in length and weigh nearly 90 pounds.

Anyone who catches either silver or big-head carp in Texas waters is asked to report the sighting with location information and photos to AquaticInvasives@tpwd.texas.gov. Silver and bighead carp are prohibited exotic species in Texas and must be killed upon possession by beheading, gutting, gill-cutting or other means or placed on ice. Neither species can be possessed live.

Federal funding for behavioral health services

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is receiving more than \$210 million in federal emergency funding for mental health and substance abuse prevention services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The pandemic has created much higher demand for mental health and substance use disorder services across Texas," said Sonja Gaines, HHS deputy executive commissioner for Intellectual and Developmental Disability and Behavioral Health Services. "The federal emergency funding will allow us to address challenges associated with the impact of COVID-19 and help get Texans who need behavioral support on the road to recovery."

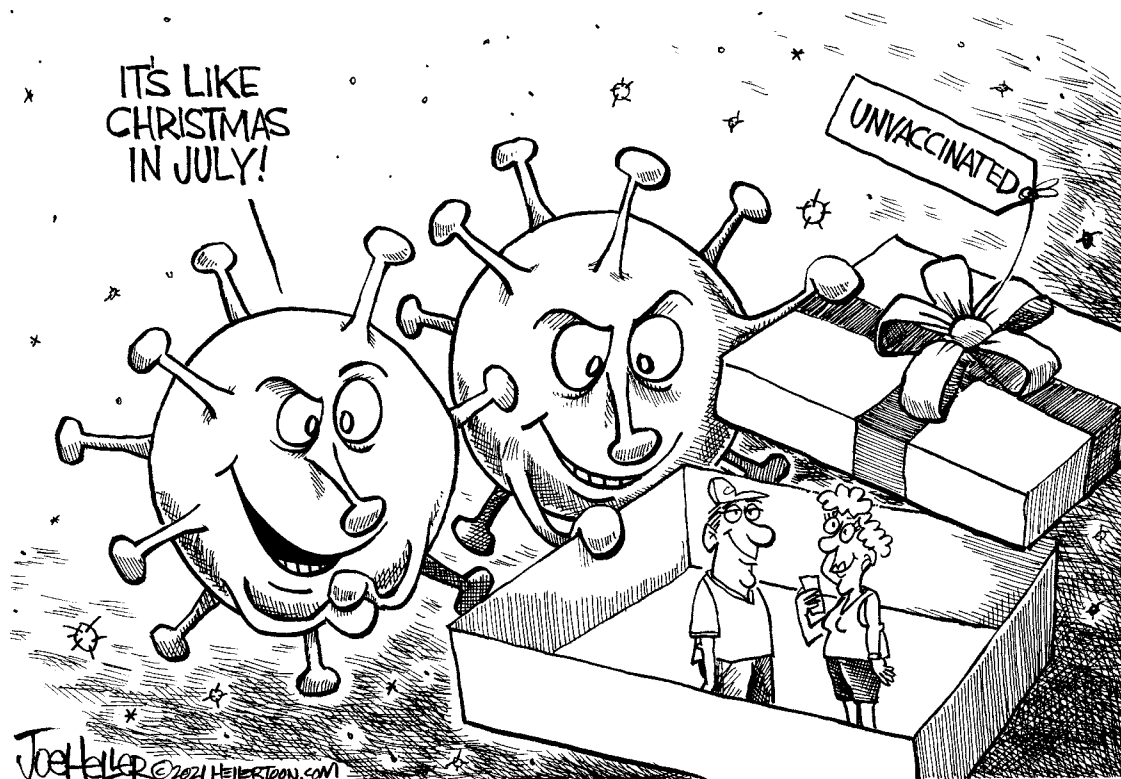
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that drug overdose deaths set a record in 2020, driven primarily by opioids. HHSC is using the emergency funding to create and implement a number of initiatives, including expanded access to treatment and recovery programs and diversion services that keep folks with mental health or substance abuse issues out of jails and emergency rooms.

New COVID-19 cases rising sharply

Largely because of the delta variant of COVID-19 and a large percentage of unvaccinated Texans, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas rose sharply in the past week, with 22,773 new cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. That's close to double the number of cases the week before, and deaths reported also increased to 192. The Centers for Disease Control reports that 99% of deaths attributed to the virus are people who have not been vaccinated.

Hospitalizations of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients also rose sharply, to 2,834 currently in Texas hospitals as of Sunday. That's up nearly 50% from the previous week. The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated rose slightly to 12.353 million — 42.3% of all the total state population.

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.



TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2015 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS

- 1 in Tarrant County on highway 199
- 5 you spit out a watermelon
- 6 "Battleship Texas State Historic _____"
- 7 _____gallon hat
- 8 addition result
- 9 TXism: "critter corral"
- 12 TXism: "smoke '_____' (expose)
- 17 sleeping noisily
- 19 1962 western: "Young _____ Texas"
- 21 lizards found in the Rio Grande Valley
- 22 country where former Maverick Roy Tarpley played
- 23 where women get beautified (2 wds.)
- 28 nine Astros or eleven Cowboys
- 29 TXism: "_____ as the bottom of a well"
- 30 spit
- 31 TX's "Naval Station _____ side" was closed in 2010
- 35 football headgear
- 36 TX Larry McMurry wrote "In A _____": Essays on Texas" (1968)
- 42 "P" of POW
- 44 TXism: "new to _____ parts"
- 46 TXism: "dumb as _____"
- 48 UT and A&M started with land _____
- 49 TX George W. to late George H.W.
- 50 TX Dell's 1st smartphone
- 51 TXism: "if it ain't true, there _____ cow in Texas"
- 52 internat'l trade org.
- 53 British boys
- 54 TXism: "he's _____, his boots burned up before he smelled the smoke"
- 56 floral delivery serv.

DOWN

- 1 this happened to JFK in Texas on Nov. 22, 1963
- 2 "New Braunfels Herald-_____"
- 3 "don't _____ of your sight" (keep them close)
- 4 newspaper: "_____ Echo"
- 9 this TX-born Garrison won tennis gold in 1988
- 10 TXism: "she has to sneak up _____ her hair" (homely)
- 11 this TX Smith won pole vault gold in 1948 (init.)
- 12 TXism: "active as an _____ suckin' dog"
- 13 Jefferson, TX puts on "The Diamond Bessie _____ every May"
- 14 Crowell's 6-man team class (2 wds.)
- 15 computer operator
- 16 clock: tick-_____ a dish rag"
- 18 TX-born actress Meredith Mac _____
- 20 Santa _____ TX
- 23 TX Mary Kay _____
- 24 motor oil viscosity number
- 25 "Texas, Our Texas! _____ hail the mighty State!"
- 26 TXism: "_____ a hill for a stepper"
- 27 eat too much, e.g. J.R.'s wife on "Dallas" (init.)
- 28 _____
- 29 _____
- 30 _____
- 31 _____
- 32 _____
- 33 _____
- 34 _____
- 35 _____
- 36 _____
- 37 this Paul wrote a song for TX Holly
- 38 regenerates
- 39 TXism: "tend _____" (assist)
- 40 AC openings
- 41 TXism: "_____ bien" (good)
- 43 TX Buddy Holly's "It's _____ Easy"
- 45 Mexican "is" _____
- 47 this fits through a stirrup (2 wds.)
- 48 effrontery
- 55 powerless fire-cracker (2 wds.)

Slings&Arrows

Putting the puzzle together



Randy Keck
rkeck@community-news.com

For those who watch newspapers it comes as no surprise that, here at *The Community News*, we do things differently.

It's neither good nor bad — just different.

I have often heard that putting a newspaper together is like a puzzle and it is. But it's more like Tetris without the full rows disappearing than it is like a jigsaw puzzle.

Jigsaw puzzles have the end already figured out. Then

they cut it all up, and it's up to the user to put all the pieces back together to successfully complete the puzzle.

When putting a newspaper together, especially for someone like me, there is not a pre-determined picture of what it is going to look like.

For good or bad, I have always been kind of a "fly by the seat of my pants" kind of guy. When I make a first assignment to someone who comes here from another newspaper or a journalism school, they invariably ask, "how many words?"

My standard answer is "however many words it takes to tell the story."

Editors who assign word counts do so because they have already pictured their

layout, and want the story to conform to the layout.

I want the layout to conform to the story.

What that typically means is that I have no idea what the newspaper is going to look like going in.

As I write this, everything in this issue has been laid out except for pages 1, 3, and 4. I'm on a deadline but I still don't know what those pages are going to look like.

We always hold the front pages for last in case we get something late-breaking.

To me that's 99% of the thrill.

So I'll get to it, and as I arrive at the end of this column I will admit that I broke my rule, and wrote this column to fit the space!

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.

Peach Festival attracts about 50,000 people



Selected Scenes from the Parker County Peach Festival

More photos can be found at community-news.com/2021/07/parker-county-peach-festival-2021/.

Photos by Randy Keck
The Community News



LEFT: Shel Higgins of Bee Pride Honey couldn't be missed. | RIGHT: Alaina Lemon of Peaster successfully removes a giant Jenga block.



Emily Peck and Ben Israel of Hudson Oaks take a break in the shade.



LEFT: Pam and Clent Collier sold homemade peach ice cream at the Coups United Methodist Church booth. | RIGHT: Nas Willis and George Agutu sold "Too Cold" pops.



The Texas GOP booth was manned by (from left) Dottie Worthington, Zan Prince, Catherine Talbot, and Julie Tiller.



Olivia Garibay takes a ride on the train.



Heath and Christie Thomas prepare to go home with a souvenir.



Rhyker Lisle, Reagan Lisle, Tucker Villasana, and Stetson Villasana were ready to roll at the beginning of the festival.



Van Darien was one of the featured artists on the music stage.



"Old Jake" can be found entertaining every year at the Peach Festival.



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Japan is about to host the 2020...

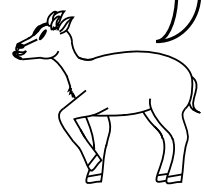


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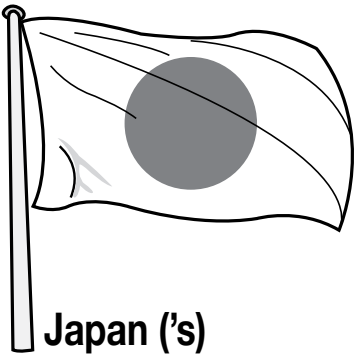
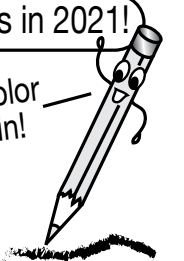
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...Summer Olympic Games in 2021!



Kids: color stuff in!



In summer 2021, Japan is welcoming athletes from all over the world to the **2020 Summer Olympic Games**. The Games are being held one year late due to the global pandemic.

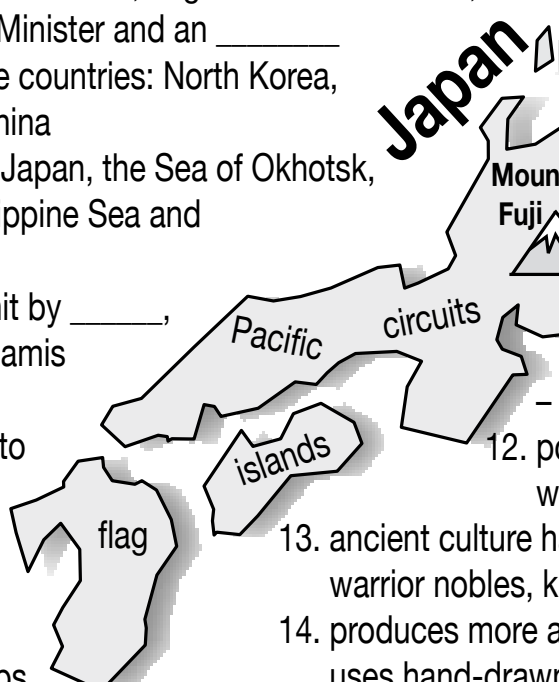
Japan Welcomes World Athletes

Twenty-seven of the 42 event venues, where the games are held, are in or very close to Japan's capital city, **Tokyo**.

Japan ('s)

- is a collection of 6,852 mountainous _____
- capital
- official language is _____, but children take classes in English too
- national _____ has a white field with a bright red circle at the center, which represents the "Land of the Rising Sun," – this is a translation of the name by which the Japanese people call their country, **Nihon**
- government is similar to the U.S. government in that they have three, government branches – the Executive, Legislative and Judicial; but, they also have a Prime Minister and an _____
- shares a _____ with these countries: North Korea, South Korea, Russia, and China
- is surrounded by the Sea of Japan, the Sea of Okhotsk, the East China Sea, the Philippine Sea and the _____ Ocean
- in the "Ring of Fire,"; often hit by _____, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis
- highest point is _____ – it is a holy place to many Japanese people; It is an active volcano
- key exports: cars, computer _____, electronics, machinery, ships

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle about Japan.



I'm so excited!

Emperor respect 7

sumo 9

Tokyo 15

border 13

Samurai 11

train 11

Mount Fuji 10

earthquakes 2

Mount Fuji 3

anime 15

family 8

Japanese 12

circuits 11

Japanese 12

16

Japan ('s)

15. _____ unit is called a Kazoku: mother, father, children and the grandparents

16. commuter _____ is the fastest in the world – using magnets to travel over 370 miles per hour

11. custom is to bow instead of shaking hands – the lower the bow, the more _____ is being shown

12. popular sports include baseball, soccer, _____, wrestling, golf, and tennis

13. ancient culture had a class of warriors known as "Bushi" – high-level warrior nobles, known as _____; similar to Knights in Europe

14. produces more animated media than any other country- the unique art style of " _____ " uses hand-drawn cartoons with bright, wide-eyed characters, enjoyed by all

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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE TOWN OF ANNETTA, TEXAS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 AT THE REGULAR ANNETTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE ANNETTA TOWN HALL, 450 THUNDER HEAD LANE.

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TRACK

Area athletes qualify for Junior Olympics

Bearcat runner leads the way

By **Randi Mitchell**
Special to The Community News

Aledo Bearcat Isaac Hernandez led the charge for the Mach 1 Track Club when it competed in the AAU Track and Field Region 18 Championships held June 25-28 in Burleson.

In all, the club had six Region 18 champions and qualified 14 athletes for the AAU Track and Field Junior Olympics, to be held July 31 - Aug. 7 in Humble, Texas.

Only the top six qualify out of Region 18 advance to Nationals and Mach 1 had the majority of their runners qualify.

Hernandez, an incoming senior, placed third in the men's 17 - 18 division, 3000M run with a new Mach 1 record time of 9:02, just a few seconds away from the fastest qualifier in the nation. Isaac also got fifth place in the 1500M run with the time of 4:12.

Weatherford Kangaroo incoming senior Bryson Crippen stole fourth place in the men's 17-18 division 400M hurdles with a time of 58 seconds, a new personal record for him.

The boys 15-16 year old division had a huge day at regionals competing in an extremely tough field. The relay team placed first in the 4 x 800M relay. Runners included

Aledo Bearcats Samuel (Sam) Haught, Jack Fink, and Vincent Luffey and Poolville Lion Aiden Mansell. Haught also ran the boys 15 - 16 division open 800M with a time of 2:02, coming back from the middle of the field to get first at the finish line, earning him the Region 18 Champion title.

In the boys 15 - 16 year old division 3000M, run Mansell earned third place with the time of 9:38, Luffey placed fourth with a time of 9:42, and Fink took sixth place with a time of 9:47. Going into the race these runners were only expected to take one of the six qualifying spots, but ended with a triple PR.

In the boys 15 - 16 year division 1500M run, Mansell took second place with the time of 4:21.50 and Luffey was right behind him with time of 4:21.58. In a photo finish, the race director had to review the race and update the standings because it was so close.

The boys 14 year old division, 1500M race, was a close one with Aledo Bearcat Luke Schabel placing second with a time of 4:43 and Weatherford Kangaroo Riley Starling placing third with a time of 4:44. Schabel also placed third in the 800M run with a time of 2:15. Riley placed second in the 3000M run with a time of 10:16.

In the boys 13 year old division, 3000M Nicholas (Nico) Walden earned Region 18 Champion with



Mach 1 athletes who attended the Region 18 meet included (front) Mayden Mitchell and (back, from left) Coach Matt Mitchell, Bryson Crippen, Riley Starling, Jack Fink, Sam Haught, Luke Schabel, Nico Walden, Anna Shpakoff, and Coach Lupe Torres.

a first place time of 10:41 and he placed fourth in the 1500M run with a time of 4:59. Nico is the most improved Mach 1 runner of 2021 so far.

In the girls 13 year old division, 3000M race, Emerita (Emmy)

Strathmeyer placed third with a time of 11:56 and Ainsley Tims placed fourth with a time of 12:00 flat. In the 1500M run, Ainsley placed fifth with a time of 5:27 and Emmy placed 6th with a time of 5:28.

In the girls 12 year division, Mayden Mitchell placed first in the 3000M run with a time 11:19, and first in the 1500M with a time of 5:21. She also placed second in the 800M race with a 2:35.

Turn to **TRACK**, page 10

Matt Morris

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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Mach 1 athletes shown are (front row, from left) Mayden Mitchell, Josh Fink, Ainsely Tims, and Emmy Strathmeyer and (back) Coach Matt Mitchell, Aiden Mansell, Coach Lupe Torres, Isaac Hernandez, Luke Schabel, Jack Fink, Nico Walden, and Riley Starling.

TRACK

from page nine

Mach 1 had one Region 19 qualifier in the girls 12 year old division, Micah Neal. She got second place in the 3000M with a time of 10:59. In the 1500M, she placed third with a time of 5:07 and she placed fifth in the 800M with a time of 2:33. Micah has the second fastest qualifying time in the 3000M, going into the AAU National Meet.

Josh Fink placed first in the boys 11 year old division 1500M Racewalk with a time of 9:14 earning him Regional Champ status and he placed sixth in the 1500M run with a time of 5:53.

"I'm grateful for this season, giving the athletes an opportunity to run since they didn't get to compete last summer due to COVID, Mach 1 Head Coach Lupe Torres said. "I'm really proud of our 14 athletes that are going to Nationals because they

have put in the hard work and now we get to see their rewards."

"I'm very impressed with these athletes," Mach 1 Coach Matt Mitchell said. "They stepped up in a big way with their performances at Regionals. This season we've had the opportunity to coach a lot of new athletes and their results were stellar, with a plethora of PRs."

The Junior Olympics competition kicks off on July 31 at Humble High School in Humble, Texas.

CORRECTION

In last week's issue of The Community News (July 16, 2021) we ran a chart of Aledo High School alumni who have gone on to be drafted by a Major League Baseball organization. The chart omitted Reid "Taco" Anderson and Cody Bradford, drafted in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Both are active MLB players.

The accompanying article was bylined by Nolan Ruth but the error on the chart was mine. I regret the error.

- Randy Keck

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTION OF IMPACT FEES CITY OF WILLOW PARK

A public hearing will be held by the Willow Park City Council at a meeting on August 24, 2021. The City Council 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 public hearing will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m.

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider the adoption of a storm water impact fee to pay for storm water drainage infrastructure. The amount of the proposed storm water impact fee is as follows:

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Example of Storm Water Impact Fee Calculations:

A one (1) acre commercial development with 34,850 square feet of impervious area pays \$1,210.69.

A fifty (50) acre single family residential development with fifty percent (50%) of impervious area pays \$37,831.86.

Any member of the public has the right to appear at the public hearing and present evidence for or against the plan and the proposed storm water impact fee.

Candy Scott, Interim City Secretary

Publish in *The Community News* in the July 23, 2021 edition.

Aledo High School in the Majors

Aledo High School graduates who have made it to the majors

Name	Year	Round	Team	Drafted from
Lee Gwaltney	1998	28	New York Yankees	Aledo HS
	1999	29	Seattle Mariners	McLennan Community College
	2001	27	St. Louis Cardinals	Louisiana Tech
	2002	6	Philadelphia Phillies	Louisiana Tech
Sean Henn	1999	30	New York Yankees	Aledo HS
	2000	26	New York Yankees	McLennan Community College
Brent Allar	2005	11	Milwaukee Brewers	Weatherford College
Kane Holbrooks	2009	21	Minnesota Twins	Texas State University
Ryan Talley	2014	Anaheim Angels (free agent after senior year at University of Texas at San Antonio)		
Griffin Benson	2016	23	Atlanta Braves	Aledo HS
Reid "Taco" Anderson	2018	40	New York Yankees	Brown University
Cody Bradford	2019	6	Texas Rangers	Baylor University

WAY TO GO!



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Good Luck at Junior Olympics!**

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