

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Serving Aledo • the Annettas • Hudson Oaks • Willow Park, Texas

WILLOW PARK

Residents react to public comments resolution

Land annexation approved

By Brandi Addison
The Community News

Willow Park City Council tabled a resolution Tuesday that would alter the policy for citizens' input during public comment and forum sessions.

Existing policy allows all citizens to speak three minutes during any public comment or public hearing.

The new resolution would also allow the meeting's presiding officer to issue time limitations — less than the regularly allotted three minutes — if an overwhelming number of residents speak during a meeting.

City officials do not anticipate this scene unfolding frequently, said Willow Park Communications and Marketing Director Rosealee Hoffman.

Citizens will continue to receive the existing three-minute time limit otherwise, she said. Additionally, the resolution would not impact written comments.

Resident KJ Hannah said the resolution is an "unreasonable attempt to silence (residents') voices and to discourage conversation.

"In seeking the counsel of the citizens of Willow Park, you are respected and supporting your constituents and your neighbors," Hannah said. "In curtailing the voices of the citizens you are indicating you have found other influences for your decisions who are more important to you than us."

"This ordinance does not represent the elected leaders who the citizens of Willow Park have followed, supported and respected," she added.

City officials said the resolution aligns with House Bill 2840, which state lawmakers passed in the 2019 legislative session.

Resident Amy Fennell said she took issue with the city citing HB 2840 — which she described as a "monumental piece of legislation" — because she believes issuing time limitations on citizen's voices contradicts the spirit of the bill.

"What makes it such a phenomenal act is that ... a Democrat and a far-right group worked together for the betterment of the community," Fennell said.

"Do not pervert the spirit of HB 2840 by giving the presiding officer the authority to reduce the amount of time that a resident has to speak,

Turn to **SPEAKERS**, page 3



Meeting the 'Cats



KRISTIN MORALES

Aledo High School held its annual Meet the Ladycats and Bearcats basketball event at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 8. The event was hosted by Girls Head Coach Nikki Hyles and Boys Head Coach JD Robinson. The community was invited to see team introductions and shooting contests from both varsity teams as well as get player autographs. The Gym Rats, a youth basketball team consisting of first through sixth graders run by Hyles and Robinson, was also featured. More photos can be found on page 6.

AHS students finalists in national photography competition

Three Aledo High School photographers have been named finalists in the National Scholastic Press Association 2021 Photo of the Year competition.

Taylor Tiberg, Ava Bathurst, and James Ward submitted the entries that were chosen. Tiberg is one of ten finalists in the Sports Game/Action Photo category.

Bathurst and Ward are two of the ten finalists in the Sports Feature Photo category.

Winners will be announced virtually at 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13,

2021. For more information visit <https://www.inforstudentpress.org/nsipa/2021-photo-of-the-year-finalists/>.



AVA BATHURST/ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL



JAMES WARD/ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL

LEFT: Ava Bathurst's entry in the Advanced Sports category featured Aledo junior safety Bryan Allen Jr. (7) and his brother, freshman cornerback Jay Allen (27) celebrating a touchdown against Weatherford on Sept. 26 along with senior linebacker Sam Foreman (20). | CENTER: James Ward's photo featured the emotional moment of an Aledo celebration. | RIGHT: Taylor Tiberg's "Hangin' On" was selected in the Advanced Sports category.



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In & Around Parker County

Overture Home Care moves boldly to address staff challenges and care concerns in the wake of COVID-19, while continuing to help your loved ones live independently and safely

Almost six years ago, Denise and Rob Helms founded Overture Home Care to provide local residents with a more personal level of care so that they can age with dignity and as much independence as possible.

“Denise and I made the decision to launch a home care business focused on caring for the elderly in their home, which is their number one desire — to age in place,” Rob said. “Denise has a long history of experience in the senior care arena. In the geriatric business as a registered nurse, she spent 30 years working in skilled nursing, hospice, and home health care and it seemed like a good transition.

“As people age, it becomes difficult to remain independent,” Rob continued. “We help people with a wide range of services. Our professionals do a customized plan of care specifically for each client, with everything from assistance with bathing and dressing, eating, light housekeeping, and errands. Then we also do chronic illness support for people with conditions like diabetes or for folks that may be suffering with Alzheimer’s, and we provide care for people with Parkinson’s or Multiple Sclerosis, and stroke recovery.

“In addition, we do quite a bit for people who are trying to overcome an illness that resulted in a hospital stay, whether it’s surgery or a cardiac event, something where they need a little help for a short period of time at home.”

Senior Vice President Paige Wolk, a social worker who spent 20 years in

the senior care arena, added, “Along with medication management and fall and injury prevention, our caregivers help seniors stay engaged and connected to their community — all top reasons why elder adults have to move out of their homes. With regular visits from caregivers, seniors need fewer visits to the ER and fewer hospital stays, and family members get improved peace of mind.”

One key member of the Overture management team is a face familiar to many students in the Aledo ISD: former McNally Intermediate School principal Zach Tarrant, who now serves as Overture Home Care Executive Director. Tarrant said joining the team has allowed Denise, Rob and Paige to spend more time focusing on business development, emerging client care needs, and the specific challenges of the recent pandemic.

One of those business developments has been the introduction of personal healthcare advocacy through Overture’s new Symphony Concierge Nursing plan. Along with providing traditional assistance, Concierge nurses can act as patient advocates: coordinating care by communicating with physicians, healthcare partners and specialists, breaking down confusing diagnoses and treatment plans into easy-to-understand options, and serving as a point of contact for multiple medical teams. Best of all, they are available whenever they are needed to offer advice, education and support.



Paige Wolk, Zach Tarrant, and Denise and Rob Helms manage Overture Home Care.

To continue growing and providing the highest level of service, Overture has moved swiftly to address regional staffing challenges. Under the guidance of new Human Resources Manager Crystal Brown-Tatum, Overture has increased wages across the board, instituted weekly payments and added quarterly bonuses as well as referral bonuses to their compensation packages. They have also added an onsite skills lab and provide essential Dementia Live® education to all new hires.

Overture’s business growth and service have caught the eye of the Fort Worth Business Press, which selected Denise as one of the Great Women of Texas.

Like Zach, Rob and Denise Helms are no strangers to residents of East Parker County. Their work on behalf of Aledo Children’s AdvoCats, the Thanksgiving Trot, Wilson’s Warriors, and Hearts of Hope are well known.

Overture would like to assist you and your loved ones. They offer a complimentary consultation to assess the home care needs of each client. Family members are encouraged to participate in this process. You may call anytime, day or night or visit OvertureHomeCare.com. For urgent needs, please call: 817-887-9401. The phone line is staffed 24/7.

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Obituaries

GiGi Phillips

Janet Hayles "GiGi" Phillips, 70, beloved mother, grandmother and friend, passed away on Wednesday, November 4, 2021 in Fort Worth.



GiGi Phillips

Janet was born on February 5, 1951 in Jackson, Tennessee, to James T. Hayles and Virginia Gray Hayles. She spent her childhood growing up in Tennessee, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. She graduated from high school in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1969.

Janet attended Kilgore Junior College where she met the love of her life, Britt Phillips. They then attended TCU where she was a Tri Delt. Janet and Britt were married September 17, 1971, in Fort Worth, Texas. They became Arlington residents in 1971 where they lived and raised their family.

Janet was a member of Fielder Road Baptist Church where she sang in the choir and taught Sunday school. She

was also an active member of the Arlington Junior League and Bible Study Fellowship for many years, among others.

Janet was a devoted Christian wife and mother. She loved being with and entertaining family and friends. Janet spent eight years as an American Airlines flight attendant before retiring. She courageously and graciously fought Huntington's Disease

for 17 years.

Survivors include her husband of 50 years, Britt Phillips; son, Brandon Phillips and wife, Tiffany; daughter, Claire Henderson and husband, Chris; grandchildren, Gracie, Jake, Chloe, Lane, and Lauren.

The funeral was scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday, November 9, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1200 W. Green Oaks Blvd. in Arlington. Interment will be at Moore Memorial Gardens, Arlington.

The Community News
November 12, 2021

Martin Siegmund

Martin O. Siegmund, 91, passed away Wednesday, November 3, 2021 in Fort Worth.



Martin Siegmund

Martin was born on October 26, 1930, the fourth of nine children born to Otto Bernard and Emily Louise Jander Siegmund in the Spring Creek community just outside of Gainesville, Texas. Martin, despite many high school pranks, graduated from Era High School and continued his education at The University of Texas at Austin after serving in the Air Force during the Korean War.

Martin married Jane Links in 1953, celebrating 60 years of marriage prior to Jane's death in 2013.

Martin graduated from the University of Texas with his BA in 1956, his LLB in 1958, and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1958. After going through college as a married couple, Martin and Jane moved to Fort Worth before settling in Aledo in 1972.

Martin was extremely proud of his life as an attorney, rancher, real estate investor, oil and gas investor, and self-proclaimed expert in just about any field of interest that anyone wanted to challenge his knowledge or expertise. He once said, "My life has been spent serving my country, my family, the State of Texas and my local community." Martin strived to live his life to the best of his ability, with honesty and dedication.

While enjoying success in a long and rewarding career in law, he also enjoyed partaking in the success of his children on the athletics fields and other school endeavors and taking his grandchildren fishing. Martin was a life-long member of the United Methodist Church, a Fort Worth municipal judge for about five years, and a former TCU professor. He also served on the Aledo school board in the 1980s for

two terms, was a former Fort Worth United Fund Agency president, and a member of the Masonic Lodge (Shriner).

Martin was preceded in death by his wife Jane; his son, Mark; his parents; three brothers, Raymond, Robert, and Joe; and his sister, Margaret Langford.

Martin is survived by son Scott Siegmund and wife, Melinda, of Aledo, and daughters Sharon Horn of Fort Worth and Susan Siegmund of Aledo. Martin is also survived by five grandchildren who affectionately referred to him as PawPaw: Rachel Siegmund of Oakland, California; Harrison Siegmund of New Braunfels; Thomas Smith of Irving; Colton Siegmund of Chicago, Illinois; and Sheridan Horn of Wichita Falls. Martin is also survived by two brothers, John Siegmund of Denton and David Siegmund of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and two sisters, Alice Davidson of Gainesville and Sally Bush of Arlington.

The Community News
November 12, 2021

PARKER COUNTY

ESD1 adding 20 new positions

Emergency call volume increasing

The Parker County Emergency Services District 1 Board of Commissioners recently approved a plan to hire 20 additional full time firefighter positions in the 2021/2022 fiscal year. ESD 1 is the Fire/Rescue Dept. for Aledo, the Annetas, Springtown, Peaster, Poolville, the Morning Star MUD, and the Silver Creek and LaJunta communities.

On most shifts ESD 1 has 16 firefighters on duty. A release from the district said "with a shortage of available part time personnel, it is often a struggle to maintain minimum staffing levels. This initiative will bring daily staffing up to 23 fire suppression personnel on duty across the ESD

1 territory, 24/7/365, including the battalion chief/shift commander position that ESD 1 filled earlier this year."

The plan was approved by voters in the May 2021 election, when almost 60 percent voted to support a sales tax funding measure.

The hiring of additional firefighters, as well as construction of new fire stations, is part of the strategic plan adopted by ESD 1 after conducting its master plan study with Emergency Services Consulting International in 2020. ESD 1 Board of Commissioners President Mark Jack described the need.

"We have experienced a dramatic increase in emergency call volume due to the rapid growth across the county, with over a

26% increase in calls for service year to date," Jack said. "It is important to make sure our citizens have adequate delivery of service when they need it most."

"We are committed to continue to deliver on our mission to protect the lives and property of Parker County residents, and grateful for the trust our communities have placed in us with their hard-earned resources to improve their protection" said ESD 1 Fire Chief Stephen Watson.

The positions are expected to be filled in early 2022. Certified Firefighter/EMTs interested in working for ESD 1 should monitor the district's website and social media outlets for updates.

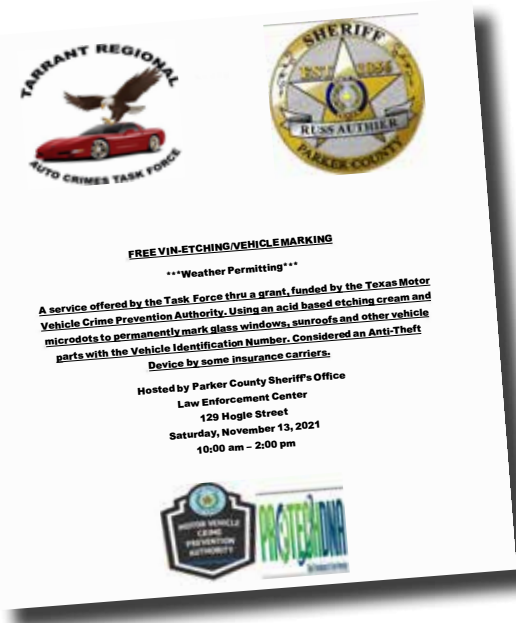
Free VIN-Etching event on Saturday

The Parker County Sheriff's Office will host a free Vin-etching/vehicle marking event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13, at 129 Hogle Street in Weatherford.

The event is sponsored by the Tarrant County Regional Auto-Theft Task Force through a grant funded by the Texas Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority.

Personnel will use an acid-based etching cream and microdots to permanently mark your vehicle's windows, sunroofs, and other vehicle parts with your vehicle's identification number (VIN) as an anti-theft device which is recognized by many insurance carriers.

There is no cost to the public.



SPEAKERS

from page one

just on a whim, based on how many speakers," she added.

Although city leaders did not determine a quantity of speakers that may prompt the potential time limitations, Hoffman said city leaders could discuss this number before finalizing their decision during the December or January meeting.

"The answer to 'how many speakers would prompt a change to the time limit' was left up to interpretation in the resolution,

so it's a possibility that a definitive number could be discussed when the time returns at a future meeting," Hoffman said.

Other action items

City Council unanimously passed all other items that required a vote, including:

The designation of The Community News as the official newspaper of Willow Park for the 2021-22 fiscal year;

The correction of city limit boundaries near the I-20 service road and Bay Hill Drive;

The consideration to file a petition requesting annexation of

a 19.16-acre tract of land east of Bay Hill Drive

The city also appointed two new city committee leaders, including Chawn Gilliland to the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone and Steven Gould as the Board of Adjustment's new Place 2. Gilliland replaces former board member Barry Tatum, who is no longer eligible to serve on the board. Gould succeeds Jay Atwood, who passed in July.

The city does not have a second council meeting scheduled this month. Additionally, it anticipates only one meeting in December.

Politics: New districts divide county, Page 5
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THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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WILLOW PARK
City expects to issue debt for streets in December
Construction of 14 miles should begin next summer

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Capital Highlights

Young appointed to Texas Supreme Court



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Evan Young, a former clerk to the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, has been appointed to the Texas Supreme Court by Gov. Greg Abbott. He will replace Justice Eva Guzman, who resigned in June to run for Texas attorney general. "Evan Young is a proven legal scholar and public servant, making him an ideal pick for the Supreme Court of Texas," Abbott said. "Evan's extensive background in private practice and public service will be a fantastic addition to the bench, and I am confident that he will faithfully defend the Constitution and uphold the rule of law for the people of Texas."

Young is a partner at the Baker Botts law firm in Austin and previously served as counsel to the U.S. attorney general, where he spent a year on detail to the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, Iraq. He earned his law degree from Yale.

State lost 616,600 jobs during pandemic

The annual cash report from the state comptroller outlines the economic damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. From August 2019 to August 2020, the state's economy lost 616,600 non-farm jobs, largely from the economic aftershocks of the pandemic and a drop in energy prices. However, sales tax collections, a major part of the state's revenue, increased two-tenths of a percent in 2020 because of increases in retail spending that offset declines in oil and gas-related sectors.

Sales tax collections comprise nearly 60% of the state's total revenues, according to the comptroller's office.

Workplace injuries, illnesses decline in Texas

The incidence rate of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported in Texas for 2020 dropped to its lowest rate in a decade, at 2.0 per 100 full time workers. That compares favorably to the national rate of 2.7 incidence rates per 100 workers.

The report was compiled by the Texas Department of Insurance. In 2020, a total of 178,600 cases of workplace injury or illness were reported by Texas employers. The highest incident rates were reported in the health-care sector, followed by agriculture and other outdoor-related occupations.

Preventing wildfires during hunting season

Dry weather and increasing drought conditions have prompted Texas A&M Forest Service officials to urge Texans to be mindful of activities that may cause a wildfire during the major hunting seasons now underway.

"Drought or freeze-cured grasses provide a very receptive medium for an accidental wildfire ignition and dead grass will readily ignite under a wide range of weather conditions," said Brad Smith of the forest service. "An additional factor that will contribute to the difficulty of extinguishing a fire burning in

dead grass this year is that there is a lot of grass on the landscape due to above-normal rainfall observed over much of the state during this year's growing season."

Nine out of 10 wildfires are caused by humans. The TFS reports that nearly two-thirds of wildfires that occur during hunting season are caused by debris burning and equipment use, such as parking in dry grass and dragging trailer chains.

SNAP benefits again extended

Once again, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is allowing the state to extend the maximum allowable amount of emergency food benefits in November. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is providing more than \$310 million to the state, allowing all SNAP households to receive a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotments in addition to their regular amount.

SNAP is administered in Texas by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Texans in need of such benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid, can apply at Your Texas Benefits.com.

Community colleges receive state grants

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recently awarded \$26 million in grants to 46 community colleges across Texas to support students affected by COVID-19. The grants, a result of a bill passed during the legislative session, can be used to create or expand workforce training programs in occupational areas with high demand.

"The COVID-19 pandemic clearly demonstrated how quickly specific jobs and necessary skills can change. We need to get our Texas students and displaced workers onto a fast track to lasting careers that equip them for greater economic mobility," said Harrison Keller, higher education commissioner.

More than 80% of the state's qualified two-year institutions received funding.

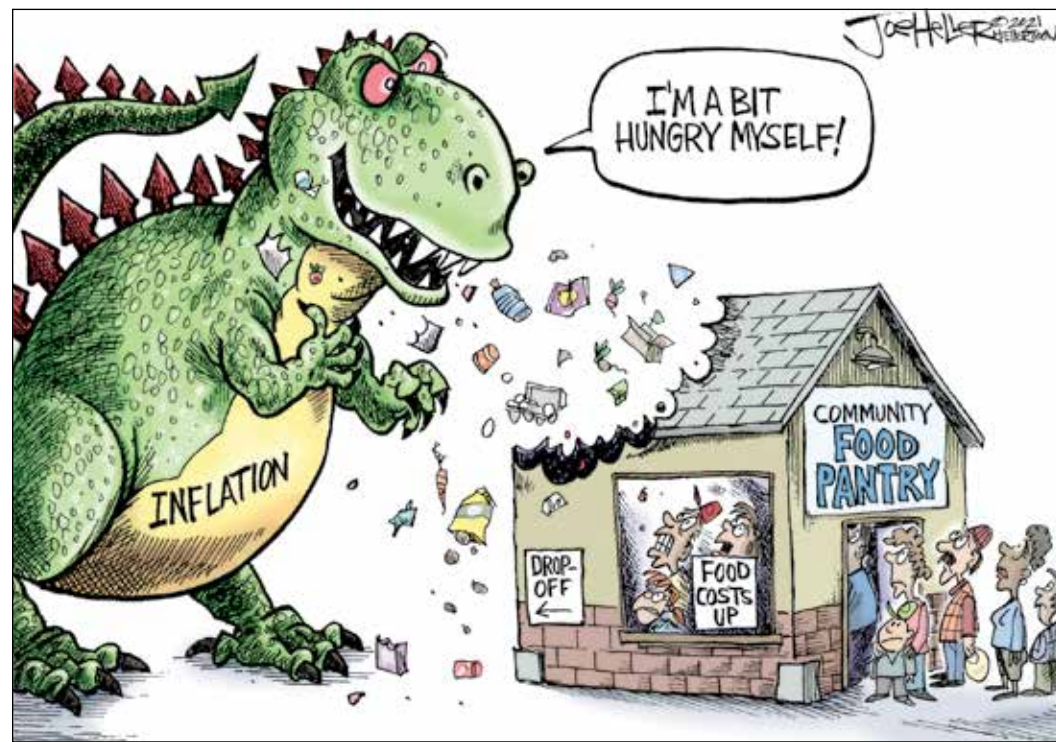
State gets 1.3 million pediatric doses of vaccine

The state is receiving more than 1.3 million doses of Pfizer's pediatric vaccine this week, which is being shipped to more than 900 providers across the state. The doses, which come in a different formulation than the vaccine approved for adults, are intended for children between the ages of 5 and 11. The federal Food and Drug Administration recently approved the emergency use of the pediatric vaccine.

New cases of COVID-19 continue to drop statewide, with 22,023 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week. New deaths stood at 775, also a marked decrease.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations dropped to 2,949, down by more than half from a month ago, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. Meanwhile, 15.54 million Texans are fully vaccinated, which is 53.3% of the state's population. In addition, 1.76 million Texans have received an additional dose of the vaccine.

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 Museum will honor veterans' stories

By Roz Brown

On Veterans Day the country takes time to acknowledge those who served in the U.S. military, and by next Veterans Day may see a museum taking shape to honor those whose service earned them the Medal of Honor.

The National Medal of Honor Museum is slated to break ground in Arlington early next year.

Chris Cassidy, CEO of Medal of Honor Museum Foundation, a retired U.S. Navy SEAL and NASA astronaut, said exhibits will acknowledge those who earned the highest military award for valor in combat. In addition to memorabilia, it will share the stories of medal recipients.

"Who are those people? And that's what we want to inspire Americans to go in and see those stories," Cassidy explained. "Not everybody is going to be on the battlefield, but everybody can take a little nugget of each story and apply it to their normal everyday life."

Of the nearly 4,000 soldiers who received the medal, Cassidy noted only 66 are still living.

"You have to define courage for people, and for me, the best definition is when you reach a breaking point, but you don't break."

- Gen. Patrick Brady

Gen. Patrick Brady, USA, Ret., a National Medal of Honor recipient from San Antonio, received the medal for his rescue of more than 5,000 wounded in helicopter combat missions during two tours in Vietnam. For the 85-year-old Brady, the medal is a symbol of courage.

"You have to define courage for people," Brady emphasized. "And for me, the best definition is when you reach a breaking point, but you don't break. I don't care if you're preparing for

an exam or what you're doing: The essential element of courage is you don't break."

Last weekend, the museum Foundation premiered a televised public service announcement featuring former presidents, including George W. Bush.

"The President of the United States meets so many extraordinary individuals, risking their lives to save others, overcoming incredible odds, often making the ultimate sacrifice," Bush stated.

Cassidy added the museum's goal is to tell a collective story.

"The recipients themselves are just normal people setting out to do their job on a given day," Cassidy stressed. "They're wearing that medal on behalf of their brothers and sisters in arms. It doesn't represent them; the medal represents all the ideals that make our nation great."

The group is also advocating for a national monument on the mall in Washington, D.C. A bill to establish the monument passed the House unanimously, and awaits a vote in the Senate.



The Community News

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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.

Eighth Trip to State

AHS Band Director Joey Paul reflects on the program's success

By Randy Keck
The Community News

Two of the big draws on Friday nights in the fall in Aledo are the football team and the Bearcat Regiment, which keeps the spirit up in the stands and provides a half-time spectacle of entertainment.

And like other activities, the band doesn't just start in September and stop in November after contests. *The Community News* took the occasion of the Bearcat Regiment's Seventh-place finish at the UIL State Marching Band Contest last week to look at the program with Aledo ISD Director of Bands Joey Paul.

Paul is a native of Aledo. He graduated from Aledo High School and has been the high school band director since 1998. He directed at Aledo Middle School for five years before that.

Along with the community, the band program has grown by leaps and bounds since he first started in Aledo. We asked him, when he first picked up his baton, if he could have imagined where the band program is now. There are more than four times as many students in the district now as there were when he graduated.

"It's funny. I did not," Paul said. "When I first took the job in Aledo, I wanted to be at another place. I wanted to be at a big, big school because Aledo wasn't that much different than when I left as a senior graduating from here."

He talked to his dad, who owned a music store in Aledo, and said he didn't want to interview in Aledo.

"He basically looked at me, he said, 'well, it looks like you don't have a job right now. So maybe you should go out there and interview,'" Paul said. "And once I started teaching and waving that baton, it just didn't matter to me. I didn't even think, 'oh, I graduated from Aledo.' Once I was in front of kids and just started teaching, I had the mindset of, 'if I can't have a big program and a successful program, or I can't get a job with somebody who's successful and big and all that, then I'll just build that myself. And so that's kind of the approach when I first started in Aledo.'"

That the program has become big, and has become successful, is clear. Marching season for the band members starts in July and ends in November, but the planning and preparation for next year's season has already begun among the faculty.

Paul said those new members who join the Regiment and learn to march in July continue that learning process all the way to the end.

"It's a constant process, especially for freshmen and sophomores," Paul said.

The upperclassmen take on leadership roles in the process.

"We have our section leaders, our drum majors, our leadership team," Paul said. "But it's even a lot more structured than I ever had in band when it comes to the president all the way down. There's so many students who have different roles in the program that help keep the day-to-day operation. And what I'm most excited about in that process is seeing all these kids run a little mini business."

"There are certain things about the band program, whether it be inventory, whether it be uniforms, whether it be teaching kids how to march, teaching kids how to play their instruments better. But there are so many roles that these students play on the leadership team. Section leaders play a huge part in our success when it comes to leading their sections and teaching them how to do things that we've carried on down through the years."



LUKE BATHURST/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Bearcat Regiment is shown at the 2021 UIL State Marching Band Contest. The shows are highly-choreographed.

The Aledo High School Wind Ensemble is a consistent sweepstakes award winner at UIL and invitational festivals.

- In 1999, the marching band was invited to perform at Texas Governor George Bush's Inauguration Parade in Austin.
- The AHS Wind Ensemble has advanced to the Texas Music Educators Association's State Honor Band four times in 2003, 2007, 2013, and 2015.
- The Wind Ensemble was selected as a National Winner in the Mark of Excellence/National Wind Band Honors Project in 2014, 2015, and 2017.
- The Wind Ensemble was named the 5A TMEA State Honor Band in 2015.
- The Aledo Band Boosters recognized Mr. Paul's 25 years of service to the Aledo ISD by having a piece commissioned entitled "What Greater Calling" by Willie Owens which was world premiered on May 18, 2018, at Aledo High School's 15th Anniversary of Night at the Pops.



HOWARD HURD III WWW.HURDIMAGES.COM



LUKE BATHURST/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS



LUKE BATHURST/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Director Joey Paul addresses the band at equipment trucks following finals awards and notification the band had qualified for state in 2017. | CENTER: Color Guard member Morgan Furlow performs in front of the band at the state contest. | RIGHT: Sharon De La Garza, senior trumpet player, waits to begin the show with her solo.

DIVISION I RATINGS

The Aledo High School Marching Band has received Division I ratings 26 times since 1994:

Region 5 1994	The Sound of Music (First Division One Rating in School History)
Region 5 1996	Miss Siagon
Region 5 1997	The Music of John Williams
Region 5 1998	Variations on a Korean Folk Song
Region 5 1999	The Music of 1941
Region 5 2000	Out of This World
Region 5 2001	Decades
Region 7 2002	Pitch Black
Region 7 2003	The Rise and Fall of Rome
Region 7 2004	Medusa
Region 7 2005	Music of the Day
Region 7 2006	The World of M.C. Escher
Region 7 2007	Universal Dimensions
Region 7 2008	Elements of Life
Region 7 2009	Rain
Region 7 2010	Urban Ninja
Region 7 2011	Rite of Passage
Region 7 2012	In Search Of
Region 7 2013	Halo
Region 7 2014	Defiance
Region 7 2015	Going Home
Region 30 2016	The Color of Film
Region 30 2017	Garden of Glass
Region 30 2018	Imagine
Region 30 2019	Uncaged
Region 30 2020*	Sands of Time - *UIL Cancelled due to COVID
Region 30 2021	Hieroglyphics

The band only has a possibility of getting to the state contest every other year. The University Interscholastic League governs the contests, and that's the way they set it up.

"I wish it was every year," Paul said. "I think back in the day, a lot of superintendents were against it being every year. But I think in that was over 25 years ago, and I think the shift is changing. I would hope that eventually will change."

To compensate, many bands, including Aledo, enter the national Bands of America competition during the off years.

Last year the UIL moved the Area contests from every other year to every year in 5A.

"Being in Aledo we're used to going to [state] in everything: sports, academics; and so it's kind of hard to explain to the kids and the parents why, because band is the only thing that is not allowed to go every year."

How to develop a successful program

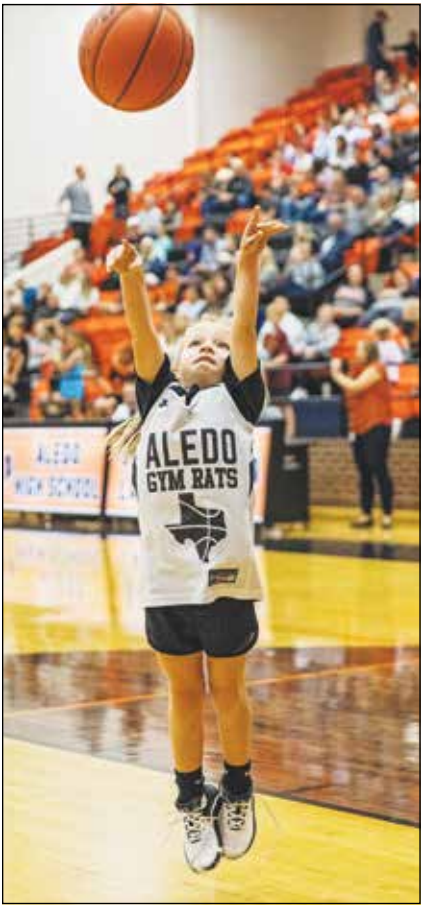
The Community News asked Paul why he thinks the program has been so successful.

"An incredible staff who's been with me and been very loyal to me, and will do things that I ask of them and that may seem to be 'out there' vision-wise, and that they just support the vision that I have for this program; that's definitely a huge part of it," Paul said. "The administration has been great. The principals that I've had throughout all the years have always been very, very supportive of this program; the athletic program, Tim Buchanan, has been very supportive. And that's not the same everywhere else when it comes to your athletic director and your band director."

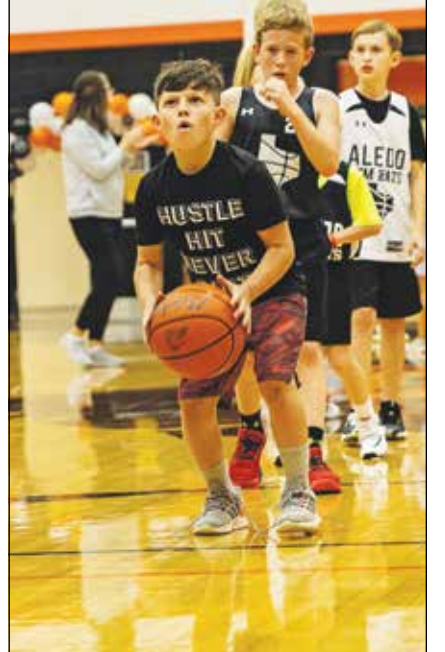
In a lot of schools you won't see a player in a football jersey marching with the band. One of those players from the mid-1990s was Matt Morris, who excelled in both football and the French Horn.

"We still have those Matt Morris in our program. And I love seeing that. Some of the hardest-working kids in the school do athletics and band — I love it," Paul said. "But to say one thing to why it's been successful — there are so many. It takes a village and I definitely have a strong village of parents in the Booster Club. And students

Turn to REGIMENT, page 8



PHOTOS BY KRISTIN MORALES



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Events

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More events can be found at www.community-news.com/events



NOVEMBER 12

Aldo Ladycat Charity Golf Tournament
The inaugural Aldo Ladycat Charity Golf Tournament begins at 9 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 12, at Squaw Creek Golf Course, 1605 Ranch House Road in Willow Park.

Registration fee is \$500 per team or \$150 per player. In addition to first and third place prizes, additional prizes include closest to the hole, women's and men's longest drive, raffle items, and a silent auction. Sponsorships are also available ranging from \$750 to \$3,000.

Proceeds benefit the Aldo High School softball program, and will primarily go toward the Senior Class Scholarship Fund.

For more information, call Chris Smith at 817-829-6005 or email AldoLadycatSoftball@gmail.com.

Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club
The Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club meets at 9:30 a.m. on the second Friday of every month at First United Methodist Family Life Center, 301 S. Main in Weatherford. The social hour, including Club Shop, begins at 9:30 a.m. The business meeting, including program, is at 10:30 a.m. Lunch is \$11. Please make lunch reservations by calling Shirley at 817-757-7379. For more information on the organization, visit pcwnc.org.

NOVEMBER 13

Veterans and First Responders Breakfast
The Twentieth Century Club of Weatherford will host a Veterans and First Responders Breakfast from 7-11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13 at 321 South Main in Weatherford. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/2174801135994172>.

Bearcats Dance Team Mini Dance Clinic
The Aldo ISD dance program will host a mini dance clinic from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Aldo High School cafeteria.

The mini dancers will perform with the Bearcats Dance Team at its fall show at 7 p.m. on Nov. 16. Fee for the camp is \$50. Checks made out to AHS Dance can be mailed to Aldo High School Dance Team, ATTN: Emily Robison, 1000 Bailey Ranch



Road, Aledo, TX 76008. Payment can also be made by visiting <https://tx-aledo.intouchrecepting.com/signin>. For more information, visit <https://forms.gle/VcdVbrTHabb8L7A9>.

NOVEMBER 15

Rotary Club of Aledo
The Rotary Club of Aledo meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Sunny Street Cafe, 229 Shops Blvd. Suite 103 in Willow Park. For more information, visit aledorotary.org.

NOVEMBER 23

Aledo Community Lions Club
The Aledo Community Lions Club meets from 5-6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Aledo Community Center. The public is invited. For more information call Bob Carlson at 817-718-4902.

DECEMBER 14

Cancer Support Group
A support group to create a space for those who have battled or are battling cancer meets at 6:30 p.m. the

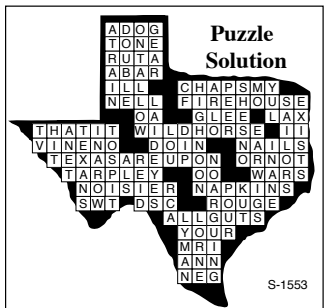
TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- TXism: "happy as ___ with two tails"
- TX had "Sheep ___" (1870-1910)
- "don't use that ___ with me!"
- actress Lee in 1964 film "Bullet for a Badman" with TX Audie Murphy
- TX Audie Murphy saloon (2 wds.)
- TXism: "green around the gills"
- TXism: "that ___ hide" (angers)
- Gussie ___ Davis created the famous "Rangerettes"
- "Texas ___ Chili" has no beans
- "___ Bum" Phillips
- TV series for TX Kevin McHale
- indulgent
- "not ___ matters"
- it once roamed Mustang Island on Texas coast (2 wd.)
- TX Audie Murphy was a WW ___ hero
- TXism: "all ___ watermelon" (facade)
- TXism for "murder someone" (2 wds.)
- hammer targets
- "The eyes of ___ you ___"
- in Grand Prairie: "Ripley's Believe It ___" Odditorium
- this former Dallas Maverick. Roy, was kicked out of NBA
- TX Shelley Duvall's role in film "Popeye" (init.)
- more clamorous
- needed for TX Bar-B-Que
- 23rd governor of Texas: ___ Lanham
- a "cross" medal won by 34-across (abbr.)
- cheeks cosmetic
- "___ but no glory"

DOWN

- TX Dana Andrews starred in a radio version of "Two Strangers on ___" in 1954
- flat-topped buttes in Stonewall County: "___ Mountains"
- TXism: "put ___" (heavier)
- one of a 6-speed
- TX-born outfielder for the Cardinals, Curt (init.)
- noted Gary Cooper western (2 wds.)
- this Guthrie was in eight of TX Willie's Farm Aid shows
- person on a jury
- TX Lyle Lovett's "___ Lady"
- this Marina lived in Dallas when JFK was assassinated (init.)
- this Brynner was in 1960 western "The Magnificent Seven"
- TXism: "best I ever ___ on"
- mariners
- lives
- "boob tube" (abbr.)
- TXism: "___ the trail" (leave)
- guacamole, e.g.
- insects in Texas
- silly, stupid
- Texans Carrell and Neiman
- TX cartoonist "Ace"
- "it's not up for discussion" (2 wds.)
- TX Waylon label
- "___ me a beer"
- Austin public radio station, run by UT
- this Wyllys fought TX Indians in 1874
- Panhandle batte
- this Green was "Ben Cartwright"



second Tuesday of each month at Aldo United Methodist Church, 100 Pecan Dr. in Aledo. For more information, email Joan Ward at cjkjat1959@gmail.com.

FEBRUARY 26
TCA Legacy Dinner
Colt McCoy, former University of Texas quarterback and current NFL quarterback, will be the keynote speaker at Trinity Christian Academy's Legacy Dinner and Auction at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022. The Legacy Dinner is

invites the community to join in this fun and inspirational evening. To secure an individual sponsorship before individual tickets go on sale, call Kim Quarles at 817-441-5897 or email quarles@tca eagles.org.

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REGIMENT

from page five

really have bought in to the culture that we've created the last several years, and so it's so much more than one thing. And also, there is the consistency of the traditions that we've built."

Seventh place at state among 253 schools is a feather in the program's cap.

"Our goal (overall) was at least the top six," Paul said. "And we were one away from that." The band received a sixth-place in the music sub-category.

"Some of our visual stuff was a little bit lower in the finals. And so, overall score was seventh," Paul said. "This was a brand new adjudication system this year. We went from five state judges to seven state judges. We have one music ensemble judge, we have a brass judge, a woodwind judge, a percussion judge. And then

State Appearances:			
2000	3A	Finals	6th
2005	4A	Prelims	9th
2005	4A	Finals	10th
2007	4A	Prelims	7th
2007	4A	Finals	6th
2011	4A	Prelims	13th
2015	5A	Prelims	10th
2015	5A	Finals	10th
2017	5A	Prelims	9th
2017	5A	Finals	8th
2019	5A	Prelims	8th
2019	5A	Finals	9th
2021	5A	Prelims	10th
2021	5A	Finals	7th



LUKE BATHURST/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The post performance interview - from left to right: Emma Bathurst (Drum Major and Saxophone soloist), Gavin Daves (Euphonium soloist and Band President) and Daniel Lasater (Drum Major) are interviewed by Jeremy Spicer from the UIL media.

we have a content design judge, and then we have a percussion judge and a visual individual judge. And those two judges of percussion and the individual visual are actually

walking on the field, so, it is totally changed."

If it sounds like bands these days might need Hollywood choreographers, it's not far off the mark.

"We have a design team that will come in and they will basically - once I pick the music and what I want to do - we bring in people and our staff and we all get together, and it's meeting after meeting after meeting to figure out what we want to do and how we want to do it," Paul said. "But it is a production on the field now, and to see some of the 6-A bands compared to the 5-A bands, there's a huge difference."

In addition to the band's success, Paul received the Aledo ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year at the Marva Collins Teacher Ceremony 2008.

In 2013, Paul was selected as a top 10 A+ Educator by Fort Worth Texas Magazine and received the Bayard H. Friedman Hero Award from the School Incentive Program "Score A Goal in the Classroom." He was recently chosen as a nationally recognized Conn Selmer VIP candidate.

Coder Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Coder Elementary School recently held its annual pumpkin decorating contest. The four categories are Student Non-carved, Student Carved, Family Non-carved, and Family Carved.

UPPER LEFT: Student Non-Carved winners were (first-third) : Zane S., Marshall W., and Garrett R.

UPPER RIGHT: Family Non-Carved winners were (first-third) : Wells N., Javier R., and Maycee P.

Lower Left: Student Carved winners were (first-third) : Faith A., Zoe S., and Charlotte K.

LOWER RIGHT: Family Carved winners were (first-third) Faye P., Wesley J., and Mason W.





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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Isaac Hernandez finished the state cross country meet in 11th place and was named to the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas All-State Team.

CROSS COUNTRY

Bearcats complete state meet

The Aledo Bearcats cross country team finished 13th overall at the state meet last week.

Senior Isaac Hernandez finished 11th at state individually with a time of 15:32.5, and was named to the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas All-State Team.

Other finishers for Aledo included Jack Fink, who finished 56th with a time of 17:01.2.

Sam Houghtcame in 75th (17:26.4), just ahead of teammate Henry Zedler (17:26.5). Vincent Luffey was 97th (18:08.4), and Colton Snow and Luke Schabel took spots 101 and 102 just two seconds apart, 18:23.9 and 18:25.9.

CROSS COUNTRY

TCA competes at state TAPPS meet

The Trinity Christian Academy varsity cross country teams ran on Monday in Waco at the TAPPS 4A State Meet, with the Lady Eagles notching 11th place (259 points), while the Eagles earned a ninth-place finish (289 points).

Varsity Girls' 3200

- Sophomore Gracee Whiteaker, 5th, 13:26.0
- Freshman Jayde Scull, 27th, 14:37.6
- Junior Meredith Davis, 84th, 17:08.5
- Sophomore McKenna Kelley, 87th, 17:11.3
- Junior Madison Hooper, 97th, 18:02.3
- Freshman Ella Cockrum, 106th, 18:50.2

Varsity Boys' 5000M

- Junior Thomas Eaton, 35th, 19:38.3
- Senior Mason Brunson, 40th, 19:43.9
- Sophomore Wilson Winchester, 54th, 20:39.4
- Junior Micah Chesney, 87th, 22:15.3
- Senior Jack Mendoza, 90th, 22:42.6
- Senior George Brenner, 107th, 23:30.7
- Freshman Dylan Kelly, 113th, 23:56.8

Bearcats cap off perfect district season



KRISTIN MORALES

Junior Andrew Parkhurst makes a tackle during Aledo's win over Cleburne.



LEFT: Senior defensive end Jack Tregellas makes a tackle against Cleburne. Also shown is Dahvon Keys. The Bearcat defense held the Yellowjackets to one score, and did not allow them to cross midfield in the second half. | RIGHT: Senior Dalton Rapp dives into the end zone for the final touchdown in Aledo's 77-7 win over Cleburne at Bearcat Stadium on Nov. 5.



RAMON MORALES

Aledo defeats Cleburne 77-7

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

The sun set on yet another regular season for the Aledo Bearcats football team on Friday, Nov. 5 at Bearcat Stadium when Aledo defeated the Cleburne Yellowjackets 77-7. The win polished off another district championship season and the program's 12th undefeated regular season all-time.

"People don't realize how hard it is to go undefeated," head coach Tim Buchanan said after the game. "They don't come easy and for these kids to do that, it's the first one for this senior class, it was really good for them to go undefeated as far as the regular season goes."

The game could not have started better for the Bearcats, with the defense shutting down Cleburne early and often. Ryan Williams (4 carries, 79 yards, 2 TDs) scored the first points of the game on a one-yard run after setting it up with a 32-yard run.

After the defense forced a punt, Brayden Fowler-Nicolosi (5-8, 115 yards, 3 TDs) only needed one play to find a wide open Hauss Hejny (3 catches, 70 yards, 1 TD receiving, 2 carries, 33 yards rushing) deep over the middle for a 41-yard strike, making the score 14-0.

After another punt, Nicolosi went right back to work and found Oklahoma-commit tight end Jason Llewellyn (2 catches, 34 yards, 1 TD) who fought off defenders on his way to the goal line making it 21-0. The Yellowjacket offense started to

show signs of life on the next drive, but Aledo quickly squelched it and took back over.

Then it was Sammy Steffe's (1 carry, 20 yards, 1 TD) turn to get in on the action as he took the handoff and danced through the Cleburne defense from 20 yards out to make it a 28-0 score, still in the first quarter. The Bearcats got the ball back yet again and it only took two snaps. Nicolosi threw a screen pass to Brian Fleming (2 catches, 40 yards, 1 TD, 1 KO return, 60 yards, 1 TD) who raced down the sideline and scored from the 27 yard line.

Cleburne was able to get its only score on the next drive on a 52-yard pass over the middle, making the score 35-7 at the end of the first quarter. However, the Bearcats went right back to work, and on the first

play of the second quarter Williams ran it in from 40 yards out.

Aledo pulled its offensive starters for the next drive, and Connor Smith (14 carries, 112 yards, 2 TDs) took the reins, marching the Bearcats down the field and finishing off the drive with a four-yard scoring run, making the Aledo lead 49-7 going into halftime.

"We just treated it like any other game," Nicolosi spoke about the preparation and first half mentality. "We prepared the same, every week like it's a team that may beat us. I feel that we executed very well."

Things started with a bang in the second half as Fleming took the opening kick 60 yards for a touchdown. The Aledo defense went right back to work, not allowing Cleburne

Turn to **BEARCATS**, page 10



Matt Morris

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Farm Retirement Auction - Bruceville, TX, Saturday Nov 20th, 10 a.m. Live and Online Bidding. Coleman & Patterson Auctioneers, 888-300-0005 or CAPAuctions.com, TX Lic13489.

EVENTS

Texas Renaissance Festival - Oct. 9 to Nov. 28, Saturdays, Sundays and Thanksgiving Friday. 47th annual festival. Kids get in free on Sundays. Discounted tickets available at TexRenFest.com.

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BEARCATS

from page nine
to cross midfield for the rest of the game.

Midway through the third quarter, Smith led the offense down the field and scored on a two-yard run. Senior fullback Jacob DeLeon (2 carries, 5 yards, 1 TD) added one more score with a one-yard run, bringing the score to 70-7 after three quarters of play.

Things slowed down significantly in the fourth quarter, and multiple players were put into multiple different positions. Senior tight end Dalton Rapp (1 carry, 12 yards, 1 TD) came in at quarterback late and added the finishing score on a 12-yard keeper to seal the deal 77-7.

"We're 100 percent confident," defensive end Kyle "Boogie" Thompson said about the upcoming playoffs. "I feel like we can win it all again. It all starts next week and we're going to go into it like we did this week."

The Bearcats finish the regular season at a perfect 10-0 and were scheduled to face Dallas Hillcrest (7-3) in the bi-district round of the playoffs 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11, at Bearcat Stadium.

FOOTBALL

JV Orange completes perfect 10-0 season

Remains undefeated since the 2015 season

The Aledo Orange JV team finished a perfect 10-0 season by defeating the Cleburne Yellowjackets 34-0 on Nov. 4 at Cleburne.

The Bearcats dominated on both sides of the ball in the first half. After the Bearcats forced a three-and-out on the first drive, the scoring would start.

Ryan Jones found Trace Clarkson for a 38-yard touchdown pass. The point-after attempt was no good to give the Bearcats the lead, 6-0.

On third down, Nathan Wood got a key sack to force the Yellowjackets to punt on their next drive.

Caleb Pope broke a long run up the Yellowjackets' sideline for a 41-yard rushing touchdown. Austin Keith's point-after attempt was good to make the score 13-0.

The Bearcats would score on the next three drives. Tanner Wheaton and Caleb Pope had

rushing touchdowns, and Ryan Jones connected with Trace Clarkson again for a 9-yard passing touchdown, all in the second quarter. The Bearcats would take a halftime lead of 34-0, and that's how the game would end.

The Bearcats JV Orange finished their season with an undefeated 10-0 record. The streak continues as the JV Orange has not lost a game since the 2015 season.

The coaches expressed thanks to all the parents and fans for their continued support this season, as well as a big thanks to all the players for their hard work in practice and the games and for making this season a success.

Key Offensive Players:

Ryan Jones, Carter Campbell, Trace Clarkson, Caleb Pope, and Brett Turner

Key Defensive Players:

Nathan Wood, Cooper Kohan, Jack Nelson, & Jackson Parker

BASKETBALL

Ladycats off to 2-0 start

The Aledo Ladycats began basketball season with wins over Bridgeport and Brock.

Varsity vs Bridgeport - Nov. 6

Aledo	13	13	8	8	42
Bridgeport	9	1	5	20	35

Addy Hebel 13, Claire Byars 8, Kenzie Grau 6, Reagan Davis 6, Kandle Boggs 3, Presley Hull 2, Lauren Hawk 2, Olivia Tregellas 1, Abby Morrison 1

JV vs. Bridgeport

Aledo	13	13	8	8	46
Bridgeport	9	1	5	20	24

Haley Lowe 12, Caroline Browning 9, Kennix Marx 4, Hannah Good 4, Kinley Elms 2, Taylor Paetzold 5, Presley Bergen 2, Haley Farmer 4, Meredith Brown 2, Juliana Caggiano 2

Freshmen vs. Bridgeport

Aledo:	16	15	4	5	40
Bridgeport:	0	0	6	0	6

August Carlone 2, Maddox Lucas 5, Peyton Flores 2, Addie Smith 10, Morgan Gomez 4, Savanna Salas 4, Ella Isbell 11, Kinley Evans 2

Varsity vs. Brock - Nov. 9

Aledo	6	8	7	12	33
Brock	8	5	12	5	30

Kenzie Grau 12, Claire Byars 9, Addy Hebel 6, Abby Morrison 4, Reagan Davis 2

JV vs Brock

Aledo	4	14	13	14	45
Brock	1	3	7	10	21

Caroline Browning 10, Haley Lowe 8, Taylor Paetzold 6, Haley Farmer 6, Kinley Elms 5, Presley Bergen 4, Addi Durand 4, Juliana Caggiano 2

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Signings

Aledo High School athletes signed letters on intent to play collegiate sports on signing day, Wednesday, Nov. 10. Some are staying close to home, while three are headed out of state: two to Oklahoma and one to Mississippi.

Photos by Mercedes Mayer
Aledo ISD



Max Balyeu will play baseball at the University of Texas at Austin. He is shown with family members Diane, Owen, Jeremy, and Sam Balyeu.



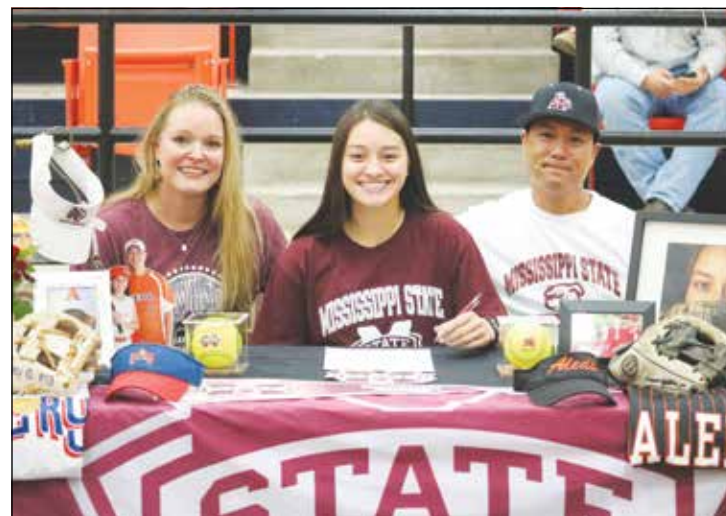
Caitlin Beaty will play softball at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. She is shown with family members Christie and Jason Beaty.



Madysen Boutwell will play softball at Cameron University. She is shown with family members Dylan, Ben, and Kerri Boutwell.



Mattie Gantt will play softball at the University of Texas at El Paso. She is shown with family members Mike, Erica, and Reagan Gantt.



Macy Graf, will play softball at Mississippi State University. She is shown with family members Jo Marie and Kenny Graf.



Adrian Guzman will play baseball at Grayson College. He is shown with family members Angel, Alex, and Gabriel Guzman.



Marissa Powell will play softball at Oklahoma Christian University. She is shown with Lesa and Gregg Powell.



Kayleigh Smith will play softball at the University of North Texas. She is shown with Chris, Austin, and Shelley Smith.




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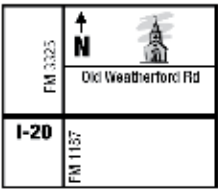


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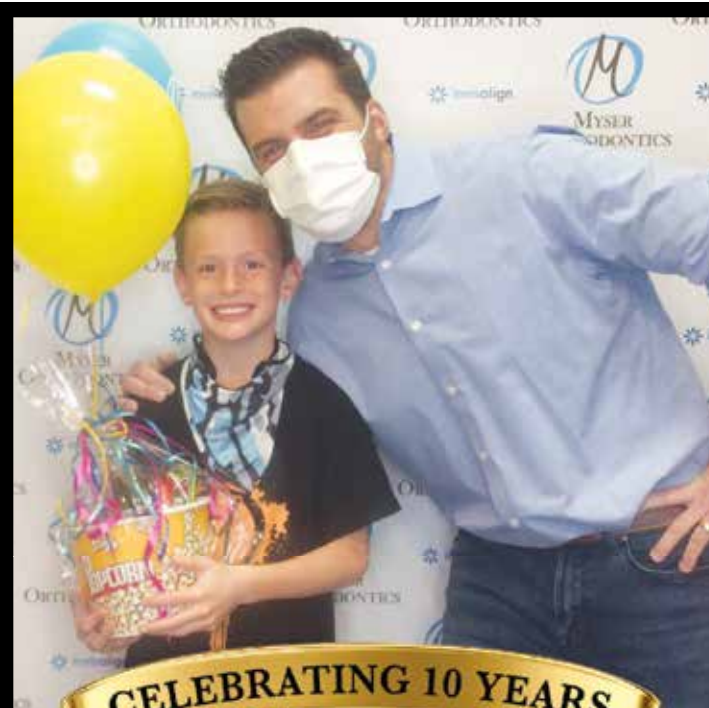



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