

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

INSIDE



Inside: the who, what, when, and where of Christmas in this area. Check out our 32-page guide.

ALEDO Former marine sergeant receives payment-free vehicle

Presentation made through program for wounded veterans

Staff Reports
The Community News

Wednesday, Nov. 3, was a special day for former U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant James W. Adair of Aledo.

Wells Fargo teamed up with the Helpful North Texas Honda Dealers and Military Warriors Support Foundation to present a payment-free 2021 Honda Passport to Adair at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Charlie Company Vietnam War Memorial.

“For combat-wounded veterans, transitioning from the military back to civilian life can be a challenge. That, combined with the cost of a new vehicle, can put added burdens on our nation’s military service members and their families. To help, Wells Fargo teamed up with the Helpful North Texas Honda Dealers and Military Warriors Support Foundation to present a payment-free 2021 Honda Passport to former U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant James W. Adair on Wednesday, Nov. 3, at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Charlie Company Vietnam War Memorial.

“Our current vehicle is much older and has been costly to repair. This vehicle will give our family reliable and dependable transportation,” Adair said. “Having a payment-free vehicle, and the mentorship program provided with it, will help us reach our goal to become debt-free in the future.”

Adair was born and raised in Fort Worth. He joined the military
Turn to **VETERAN**, page 3



KRISTIN MORALES

The Spirit of Aledo stands ready at Apogee Stadium in Denton, where the Aledo Bearcats defeated the Frisco Liberty Redhawks 57-14 for the Area Championship on Friday, Nov. 19. The Bearcats were scheduled to play South Oak Cliff at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 26, at Vernon Newsom Stadium in Mansfield.

HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Sheriff’s Reserve steps up for Center of Hope



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Parker County Sheriff’s Reserve Captain Rick Campbell, Sheriff Russ Authier, Reserve Sergeant Greg Borders, Brookshire’s Manager Mark Laundenheimer, Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss, and Center of Hope Executive Director Staci Markwardt gathered to celebrate the success of a food drive conducted by the reserves.

Members responsible for 3,000 pounds of food donations

By Randy Keck
The Community News

One image of both Christmas and Thanksgiving ingrained into our culture is that of a family gathered around a table to share in a bountiful meal.

But that image of abundance is not a reality for many Americans. In fact, according to the United

States Department of Agriculture, “10.5 percent (13.8 million) of U.S. households were food insecure at some time during 2020.”

Parker County is not immune from the problem, but organizations like the Center of Hope and Manna have stepped in to help provide food and life’s necessities to people who are struggling financially.

Turn to **RESERVES**, page 3

ALEDO

Council approves plat for Aledo River

City finalizes Home Rule City Charter

By Brandi Addison
The Community News

The Aledo City Council approved the final plats for the Aledo River subdivision’s first phase during the most recent council meeting on Nov. 18. The preliminary plat was approved by council on July 23, 2020.

The first phase of the 157-acre residential subdivision consists of more than 43 acres and 19 residential lots.

The property is not located within Aledo city limits and will not be annexed, though it is in the city’s extraterritorial jurisdiction, which still subjects the land to the city’s terms and standards, but developers proposed that inspections and construction aligns with Parker County standards.

City planning consultant Betty Chew told council the city has executed an interlocal agreement with Parker County officials for plat approval.

Located off Jenkins Road, which was reclassified to a residential street early this year, the developer is proposing to dedicate a 60-foot right-of-way to Parker County through the extension of Jenkins Road and North Aledo River Street, which they hope to extend by approximately 8,800 feet.

“That really should not be a problem, and staff has no objection to the length of the (street’s) cul de sac,” Chew said.

Because the property will not be annexed into the city, the property is not required to dedicate parkland or open space — or pay a fee in lieu of, Chew said.

City Council unanimously approved the final plat for phase one with three variances: the street design, review, inspection and construction to Parker County standards; the extension of North Aledo River’s cul de sac; and the waiver on the parkland dedication.

Other action items

City Council unanimously passed the ordinance that declared Aledo approved the adoption of a Home Rule Charter Commission. The ordinance was the last step in the process of formalizing Aledo as a Home Rule City.

City Council approved a professional services agreement with IMS Infrastructure Management Services, LLC, for a pavement condition assessment through the North Texas SHARE Purchasing program.

According to city documents, the company will assess all concrete and asphalt streets in the city — approximately 31 miles. The assessment will guide future maintenance and resurfacing plans by providing the city with an in-depth understanding of road infrastructure.

City Council also voted to move December’s meeting to Dec. 13 due to the Christmas holiday.



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In & Around Parker County

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RESERVES

from page one

Both organizations rely heavily on donations from the public.

This year, members of the Parker County Sheriff's Reserve stepped up in a big way to help make sure Parker County families get Christmas dinner.

It all started about 14 years ago when now Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss started a food drive for the Center of Hope. Moss would distribute grocery bags with a list of needed food items to residents and businesses, and then collect the bags and deliver them to the Center of Hope.

"I think in our first attempt we collected about 500 bags," Moss said. "It has blossomed into a county-wide effort."

In recent years, the other Parker County mayors have joined in the collection efforts, expanding the collections.

"We're shooting for 4,000 next year," Moss said.

"Food [from the drive] comes in October and November," said Staci Markwardt, the executive director of the Center of Hope. In October we received almost 10,000 pounds of food."

The Parker County Sheriff's Reserve jumped in this year. The reserve unit comprises 15 unpaid sheriff's deputies captained by Rick Campbell.

"Most of us have a pretty extensive law enforcement background, and our goal is to serve the community," Campbell said. "So this was an opportunity."

Campbell said Sergeant Greg Borders, who lives in the Aledo area, was aware of the need for different food items at the Center of Hope. While the Parker County Sheriff's Dept. was already taking part in the food drive, Borders brought the idea up at a meeting of the reserve unit.

"We voted on spending funds from our treasury, which everybody was in favor of, and Greg is the one that

really put it all together," Campbell said. "He reached out to Brookshire's, and they became very willing participants in it."

The new Brookshire's manager Mark Laundenheimer said the store could only donate \$200 at one time, but he offered to put cards at registers that could be scanned for items to be donated by customers.

Danie Huffman, public information officer for the Sheriff's Dept., said the Center of Hope provided a list of items they needed.

"So if customers wanted to donate a can of beans or a jar of peanut butter, they could scan it onto their bill and then Brookshire's would have employees go collect it," Huffman said. "And they ended up collecting about two pallets."

"We just kind of kicked it around the office, — and alpha male and alpha female cops, you know, they love a challenge," Sheriff Russ Authier said. "And we put a challenge out there and it just got bigger and bigger and bigger. And we were just thrilled to death that our people really stepped up."

Combining the personal donations collected by the reserve officers and the donations at Brookshire's required a truck, and the Center of Hope sent one to Brookshire's on Oct. 28, where reserve officers, Moss, and Authier gathered.

The reservists, combined with Brookshire's, collected about 3,000 pounds of food.

Markwardt said families go to the Center of Hope in December at an event where cars line up to receive the Christmas groceries. The Center provides additional activities during that event.

There are many good people in Parker County who step up to meet needs. It is appropriate at Thanksgiving to say a "thank you" to the Parker County Sheriff's Reserve, unpaid officers who went the extra mile.



James Adair is shown with his wife, April.

JENNIFER LUNDY/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

VETERAN

from page one

after high school in Arlington in the aftermath of the Sept. 11th attacks. He served four years of active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps, including two tours in Iraq.

During his first tour in 2004, Adair was wounded while supporting combat operations and received the Purple Heart for his injuries. In 2005, he was deployed again to Iraq and his vehicle convoy was hit with several improvised explosive device (I.E.D.) strikes.

Sergeant Adair was Honorably Discharged from the Marine Corps in October 2006. Besides being honored with a Purple Heart, he received the Combat Action Ribbon, an Iraq Campaign Medal and other awards for his service. In the future, Adair hopes to mentor veterans that have gone through similar situations. He

lives in Aledo with his wife and two children.

The donation of the vehicle was made through Military Warriors Support Foundation's Transportation4Heroes program, which awards payment-free vehicles and provides one year of family and financial mentorship to combat-wounded veterans and Gold Star families. Through the T4H program, they have enabled Wells Fargo vehicle recipients and their families to pay off more than \$740,000 in pre-existing debt.

Wells Fargo Auto, a division of Wells Fargo Consumer Lending, started its Sponsored Vehicle Donation Program in 2015. Since then, it has worked with auto dealerships across the country to sponsor the donation of more than 50 payment-free vehicles, including 11 in Texas, and to provide family and financial mentoring, valued at more than \$1.5 million, to combat-wounded veterans and

GoldStar families through Military Warriors Support Foundation's Transportation4Heroes program.

Military Warriors Support Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity, founded by LTG Leroy Sisco (Ret), in 2007. Their mission is to provide programs that facilitate a smooth and successful transition for the nation's combat-wounded heroes and Gold Star families. Their programs focus on housing and home ownership, recreational activities, transportation assistance, and leadership development. Through select programs, they have awarded nearly 900 mortgage-free homes and more than 100 payment-free vehicles to combat-wounded heroes, Gold Star spouses, and their families in all 50 states. Besides the home or vehicle, the families receive family and financial mentoring. For more information, visit MilitaryWarriors.org.



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Capital Highlights

Extreme weather could still threaten grid



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

The state's power grid could still be at risk under extreme winter conditions, according to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, but should operate fine under normal conditions.

The Seasonal Assessment of Resource Adequacy, issued Friday, said the grid can meet normal and even moderately challenging weather conditions but could break down if the state faces winter storms such as occurred last February.

During Winter Storm Uri, much of the state experienced prolonged blackouts.

"We expect there's a 10% chance that demand will exceed what ERCOT considers to be their extreme peak load scenario," Andrew Dessler, a professor of atmospheric sciences at Texas A&M who has been researching the grid, told KUT.org. "In my opinion that's not a great worst-case scenario. One in 10 things happen all the time."

The assessment from ERCOT came just days after a similar assessment from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, which said Texas is under "extreme weather risk" if winter weather conditions exceed projections, spawning rolling blackouts as experienced last winter.

KUT reported recently that natural gas producers and suppliers can opt out of any mandates to winterize their production facilities, while power plants must do so under a bill passed by the Texas Legislature during the regular session.

Election Audit Division funds allocated

Gov. Greg Abbott and GOP legislative leaders announced Friday that \$4 million has been shifted from the state prison system to the secretary of state's office to pay for county election audits as required under the state's new elections law.

The *Dallas Morning News* reported the secretary of state's office, which is under the governor's control, would create an Election Audit Division that could conduct random county audits of elections under the new law.

"Ensuring the integrity of our elections is critical to our democracy, and the Texas Secretary of State's office deserves the resources and support needed to thoroughly complete this ongoing task," Abbott said.

Abbott said the audit of Dallas, Harris, Tarrant and Collin counties is "the largest forensic audit in the country." Former President Trump called for a statewide review of the 2020 presidential election despite winning the state by more than 600,000 votes.

Shipping containers used to create border wall

Abbott directed National Guard and Department of Public Safety troops to place about 20 large shipping containers along the banks of the Rio Grande to form a "steel curtain" to prevent illegal crossings from Mexico.

The *Houston Chronicle* reported the move came while the world is facing a shortage in shipping containers that is contributing to the supply chain disruptions being experienced as a result of pandemic-related shutdowns.

The shipping containers were placed next to the international bridge at Eagle Pass.

"Large shipping containers, resources, and personnel are being used to protect communities and property owners. Texas is securing the border," Abbott said in a tweet.

Winter rainbow trout stocking begins

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department begins its annual stocking of more than 350,000 rainbow trout throughout the state this week, a program that continues until early March.

"TPWD stocks catchable-sized fish during winter months to create angling opportunities throughout Texas," Carl Kittel, rainbow trout program director, said. "Rainbow trout love cold water, can be caught on a variety of baits and lures and are great to take home and eat. Our winter rainbow trout program has been a favorite with anglers for over 40 years."

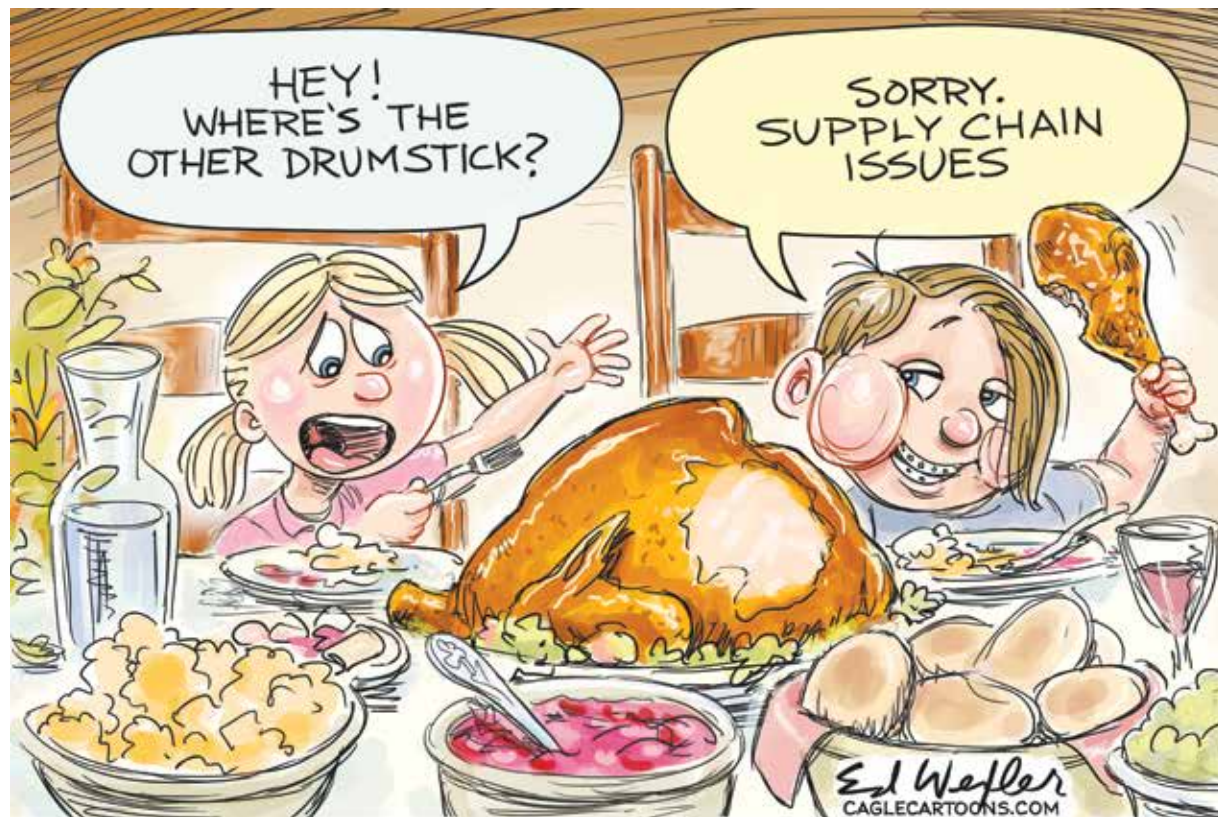
TPWD manages 18 neighborhood fishing lakes in the state's major urban areas, as well a number of city- and county-managed park ponds. Anglers are encouraged to take their daily legal limit, because the trout can't survive in the state's summer heat. The 2021-2022 Trout Stocking Schedule can be found online at: <https://tinyurl.com/8ayk2nbs>.

COVID-19 cases steady but deaths drop

The number of new COVID-19 cases in the past week in the state was largely unchanged from the previous week, with 22,976 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. A total of 591 deaths were reported, down 30% from the previous week. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in Texas stood at 2,663 as of Sunday, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That is down just slightly from the previous week.

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated totals 15.78 million, which is 54.1% of the state's population, according to DSHS. In addition, 2.42 million people in the state have received an additional dose of the COVID-19 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.



Guest Column

East Parker County Library at a Crossroads

Catherine Mason
masoncl@aol.com

Allow me to tell you a few stories of the East Parker County Library.

My affiliation with this library began in 2016 when I was hired as one of the part time library assistants. All the staff are part time, including the Director. I was one of three employees and worked 11 hours a week. I was the Saturday librarian; if I saw 10 people on the weekend it was a good crowd.

I worked in that position for a year and then took over as Director for the next two years. I resigned from the position in late summer 2019 to spend more time with my family.

Mostly, I, if truth be told, part of the reason for my resignation is that the Director position is literally exhausting. In addition to the expected Director duties of ordering books, paying bills, doing payroll, and generally keeping the place running, you are also the children's librarian and responsible for designing story times and obtaining guest speakers, not to mention planning and executing an entire summer reading program complete with logs, prizes, activities, and events.

You are the IT liaison between entities that don't always cooperate much with each other and understand WAY more about the system than you do. (Then I did at least).

You are responsible for outreach activities and attendance at local events.

You are responsible for remembering all the timelines to request budget money from the cities and county you serve; you are responsible for in fact raising

about half of the \$100,000 budget just so you can keep the doors open and the staff paid.

You are responsible for the survival of a non-profit organization. For someone who went into the library field for a love of books, research and helping people one-on-one, this becomes a daunting and stressful position.

Fast forward five years for another story.

I am now the President of the Library Board of Directors. Pretty much by default, though I do love that little library. Again, I am reminded that every fundraiser I have ever tried has not been super successful.

We need new shelves, as we literally cannot fit any more adult fiction in that building without them. They have been on order since the summer.

We need new staff computers, as the multiple upgrades of the circulation software are causing constant freezing of our seven-year-old system, which is driving the staff crazy.

Multiple lights don't work; we need new return bins. I am reminded that introverted librarian types such as myself do not make great fundraisers. There are organizations in this town that do extremely well with fundraising and I can't complain because they are such worthy causes! It's just frustrating to always struggle while serving a similar population.

It is frustrating to remind the community that we are not run by any of the cities that we serve, though I will take this opportunity to thank the City of Aledo, Annetta, Annetta North and Parker County for continuing to financially support us each year.

Then there is the story of accreditation. The library used

to be accredited by the state back when I started there. The process involves filing a yearly report with all kinds of statistics and information regarding the library including materials, population served, amount of assistance provided to patrons, computer use, etc. (The Director does that too!) Accreditation affords privileges such as being able to issue TexShare cards, which allow patrons to borrow items from any library in the state and more importantly allows libraries to apply for state grants. We are no longer accredited by the state. We lost that around 2018 when the population surge in this area significantly reduced our "money spent per patron" in the state's eyes. In short, we had a lot more people in our area while working within the same budget. So applying for state grants is not an option.

Ah, the story of Facebook. So very helpful in getting the word out regarding our activities. However, I really need to stay off the Aledo Daily Buzz when someone asks about library services in the area. It's disheartening to learn that for as hard as our staff works to create story time and fun things in the library (I even tried after-hours middle school karaoke!) we are not succeeding in some efforts.

Sometimes I would like to respond: Weatherford? \$1,000,000 budget. Benbrook? They are a Library District, which means they petitioned and got their community to vote to let them access the sales tax that the city receives as part of their permanent budget. Cha-ching. We would love to have the type of programs that these libraries offer. But recall from my above

Turn to **LIBRARY**, page 5

The Community News

Mail:
P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008

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Web:
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- Affiliations:**
- National Newspaper Association
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PUBLISHER/EDITOR
Randy Keck - rkeck@community-news.com

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Loydale Schmid - lschmid@community-news.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Emma Davis

CIRCULATION
Barbara Russell - business@community-news.com

BILLING
billing@community-news.com

CONTRIBUTORS

News
Brandi Addison

Photography
Christopher Amos
Kirsten Gallon

Sports
Nolan Ruth

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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.

Guest Column

Support local restaurants and stores on Small Business Saturday



Annie Spilman
Annie.Spilman@NFIB.org

Small business is the beating heart of Texas's economy. The national chains seem to get most of the attention, but small businesses account for an incredible 99.8% of all businesses in the state.

Small businesses do a lot throughout the year to help their communities. They sponsor our children's sports teams, donate to local charities, and create jobs. During the pandemic, they worked to keep their employees and customers safe while managing to deliver the goods and services people needed to get through the crisis.

This weekend, we can thank them by shopping local on Small Business Saturday.

Small Business Saturday is always the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and it's become such a part of Thanksgiving weekend that it's easy to forget it's been around only since 2010. Small Business Saturday was created as a response to another economic crisis, the Great Recession, a crisis that threatened to put many local businesses out of business.

Since then, Small Business Saturday become one of the busiest shopping days of the year. Sales figures for Texas aren't available, but nationwide people spent about \$19.8 billion at independent merchants last November on Small Business Saturday, according to American Express. That sales figure was up slightly from the year before - no small feat considering the social distancing and other precautions still in place a year ago.

I think a big reason so many people made a point of shopping small is they realize that small businesses aren't the same as the chain stores and restaurants. You'll find things at a small business you won't find at the mall, and when you shop or dine

small, you stand a good chance of dealing directly with the owner of the business, someone who has a vested interest not only in making you a satisfied customer but in turning you into a regular, someone who'll stop by throughout the year.

That's important because when we shop small, we make our communities stronger. American Express estimates that 67 cents of every dollar spent at a small business stays in the community.

Small businesses hold our communities together, which is why I'm encouraging everyone to shop local on Small Business Saturday. Texas's economy is a lot healthier than it was a year ago, but we're still not back to where we were before the pandemic began in 2020.

By shopping local on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year, we can help our communities not only recover but help our communities grow.

Annie Spilman is the Texas director of the National Federation of Independent Business, the nation's leading small business advocacy organization.

POLITICS

Lixey announces run for Hudson Oaks mayor

Hudson Oaks City Councilman Brian Lixey has announced that he will seek to become the sixth mayor of the City of Hudson Oaks following the announcement that Mayor Marc Povero will not seek a third term.



Lixey

Having served on Hudson Oaks' City Council since 2011 as a councilman and mayor pro-tem, Lixey said he feels a calling to serve his community in a much larger capacity.

Lixey said the city council has seen much success, and wants to continue. He said the city needs business-minded people for business solutions in the face of the rapid growth of the city and the eastern part of the county.

"We need a strong focus on controlled growth that will still attract and retain sales tax generating businesses. As mayor, I will fight any attempt to impose an ad-valorem property tax on our citizens and businesses," Lixey said. "I will also work with

council and city staff to ensure that we maximize our city resources to assist our community, as well as work to continue to strengthen relationships with the surrounding communities in Parker County.

"We have made public safety, economic development, and transportation our priorities on city council. Those key areas of governance will have my focus and commitment. I believe in a proactive, conservative approach when working with fellow council members and will take that same approach as mayor."

Lixey has served as a council member for five terms. He is a former board member of Texas Neighborhood Services and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Fort Worth, Finance Committee member of Catholic Charities of Fort Worth, and treasurer for the Weatherford Blue Bells.

Lixey said he looks forward to hearing the expectations of Hudson Oaks residents.

LIBRARY

from page four

story, the director is also the children's librarian. There is only so much time in the day. I do love that most people praise our staff as friendly and helpful (they are...they are awesome!). So for now we will remain small and charming (which may actually be code for old-post-office-that-needs-new-lighting).

Let's tell the story of Weatherford Public Library's line in the sand with Parker County as it relates to us. They want more money from the county. They deserve more, as over

half of the patrons they serve are outside the city limits and the city is bearing most of the burden for providing for everyone.

Refusing to accept what Parker County offered them, they made the decision that as of Oct 25, 2021, they are charging county residents \$50 if they want to maintain a card at WPL. Guess where county residents CAN get a free library card and still access materials at Weatherford? East Parker County Library. Guess where most of them are going? East Parker County Library.

Again, I read hundreds of Facebook comments on this issue. Whether you are for it, against it,

think the county should give more money to the libraries or think we are doing just fine...for us it boils down to more patrons. Our already stretched-thin staff now have the joy of hearing all about that \$50 decision.

My final story deals with the many decisions our library faces for the future. As the board president, I am struggling to lead us in the right direction. Do we stay crammed in our current building knowing the population is steadily increasing while our services remain limited, but also knowing that we own our tiny space? Do we wait indefinitely to take advantage of the generous

land donation on Bailey Ranch Road that has been discussed since before I started in 2016?

And if we take advantage of that and miraculously get a new library built, the question has always been how do we maintain that in our current non-profit status? Do we look for partners to share a new building with? Do we look for other existing properties and consider moving to another town that we serve? Would any of those towns want to adopt us as a city library?

There are many questions, and I don't have the answers.

I want to thank our staff for doing amazing things with little

resources and low pay. I want to thank our current director, Tracy Lambert Jack. She has had to put up with a break-in, courier changes, COVID...way more issues than I had to deal with. I also want to thank Bobbie Crosslin, who stepped in as our treasurer this year and cleaned up so many financial issues. If you have a love of libraries and want to join us, please come to a board Meeting. We'd love to hear your ideas for our future and perhaps we can write some new stories.

For more information, email Catherine Mason at masoncl@aol.com or call the East Parker County Library at 817-441-6545.

Puzzle Solution

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Events

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

DECEMBER 1

Holiday in The Park, Weatherford
Weatherford's Holiday in The Park will start with an inaugural tree lighting led by Mayor Paul Paschall at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 1. There will also be photos with Santa, a petting zoo, crafts and food vendors until 9:30 p.m. The 42-foot live tree and pathway of lights will be on display through Jan. 2.
For more information, visit: <https://www.experienceweatherford.com/events/2021/httpsfbmee4per8h75n2>

DECEMBER 3

CoHoHo Christmas Corridor tree lighting, Hudson Oaks
The City of Hudson Oaks will kick off its free holiday light display with a tree lighting, followed by an 'Elf' showing and free hot chocolate at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3.
For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/344855224075952/>

DECEMBER 4

December 4 Christmas Tyme in Aledo
The City of Aledo and the Aledo Economic Development Corporation will once again bring holiday spirit to Downtown Aledo with the 21st Christmas Tyme in Aledo event on Saturday, Dec. 4.
To kick things off, the 44th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair will begin at 11 a.m. in the gymnasium at the Church at the Crossing. Vendors will sell homemade and handmade items until 8 p.m. Food will also be available for sale by the Church at the Cross youth group.
The events downtown and at Aledo Community Center will begin at 5 p.m. and

will include many returning attractions.

For more information, visit Discover Aledo's Facebook Page.

Breakfast with Santa, Hudson Oaks

The Rock Team Gymnastics will host its Breakfast with Santa event from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Rock Gymnastics in Hudson Oaks. Advanced tickets are \$15 per child, while tickets at the door are \$20 per child. One adult plate is free with each child ticket. The event includes open gym and Santa pictures.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/breakfast-with-santa/187332653561449/>

Christmas on the Square/Lights the Night Parade, Weatherford

Weatherford Chamber of Commerce's Christmas on the Square is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4 in the Historic Downtown Square. The 2nd annual Weatherford Lights the Night Parade will follow at 6:30 p.m. at the Ninth Grade Center.

For more information visit: <https://www.weatherford-chamber.com/chamber-events/christmas-on-the-square.html>

Jingle Ball, Weatherford
Downtown Weatherford's Jingle Ball begins at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 with street dance and performance by the Royal Dukes. The event followed Christmas on the Square and the Weatherford Lights on the Night parade.

For more information visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/downtown-weatherford/jingle-ball/967451847138909/>

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 1970 western "___ Called Horse"
- 5 this Cockrell served two terms as mayor of San Antonio
- 6 "___ up" (support)
- 7 retire. accts.
- 8 indicate approval
- 9 "A" of AME church
- 16 Greek god of love
- 18 Daryl Sorenson is ___-law to TX Tanya Tucker
- 21 Santa ___ TX
- 22 in Hidalgo County on highway 107
- 23 doctors' assn.
- 24 hole-in-one requires ___
- 30 hit for TX Bob Will & TX Willie (2 wds.)
- 34 army cop (abbr.)
- 35 we will play golf "___ shine"
- 36 "bull" in Mexico
- 37 "the sun" in Mexico
- 39 it's served with rice on a Tex-Mex plate (2 wds.)
- 43 former name of the Congo
- 44 Paris, TX once had the "Chili ___ Cookoff"
- 45 state where TX Holly died (abbr.)
- 46 test replaced by TAKS in 2003
- 47 TXism: "he can ___ day and dance all night" (stamina)
- 49 "Jack ___ ran up the hill . . ."

DOWN

- 1 Brewster County seat with an elevation of 4,475 feet
- 2 newspaper in McGregor
- 3 TXism: "take ___" (sit)
- 4 "siestas"
- 9 first two letters of the alphabet
- 10 the first time some Texicans declared independence: "___ Rebellion"
- 11 cinnamon ___
- 12 TXism: "want ___ bad I could spit"
- 13 Mexico American labor leader, Cesar
- 14 this Alex played for the Mavs (int.)
- 15 gun rights advocacy group (abbr.)
- 17 car's safety restraint (2 wds.)
- 19 TXism: "he's got the morals of an alley cat"
- 20 in Morris County on U.S.67
- 24 legendary TX pitcher, Nolan (init.)
- 25 paddle
- 26 "___ Piper"
- 27 spread out the Texas flag, e.g.
- 28 lethargic
- 29 a secret society originating in China
- 31 female deer
- 32 1960-88 was the Tom Landry ___ of the Cowboys
- 33 what a fan feels when the Cowboys or Texans win
- 38 upper layer of the earth's crust
- 40 before, poetically
- 41 this agcy. looks for illegal drugs on the Tex-Mex border
- 42 told a horse to gallop immediately? (2 wds.)
- 48 TXism: "he couldn't ___ his upper lip" (weaking)
- 50 lineal assn. of TX founding families
- 51 TX "Mean" ___ Green
- 56 TXism: "worthless as ___ hair cut"
- 57 TXism: "he's a few bricks shy of ___"

DECEMBER 5

Aledo Middle School Honor Winds Send-Off, Aledo
The Aledo Middle School Band Honor Winds Send-off Concert (for the Midwest Clinic) at UNT Meyerson Symphony Center in Denton, will be held on Dec. 5 time TBD.

Holiday Memorial Service, Weatherford
Galbreath Pickard Funeral Chapel will host its 17th annual memorial service for passed family members from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5. Bring an ornament for the memorial ornament tree. RSVP is requested.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/17th-annual-holiday-memorial-s/287667969930582/>

DECEMBER 6

Aledo Middle School and McAnally Band Winter Concert Aledo
The Aledo Middle School and McAnally Band Winter Concert (No Winds) will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, at the Aledo High School Auditorium.

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.

DECEMBER 7

AHS choir concert, Aledo
The Aledo High School Choir Christmas Concert

will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the Aledo High School Auditorium.

DECEMBER 8

Breakfast with Santa
Faith Presbyterian Church in Aledo will host a potluck breakfast for dinner from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at 301 Bailey Ranch Road in Aledo. For more information, visit: www.faithaledo.com.

DECEMBER 9

AHS Band Concert, Aledo
The Aledo High School Band Christmas Concert (Symphonic Band, Wind Band and Jazz I Band) will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Aledo High School Auditorium.

DECEMBER 10

CoHo Christmas Corridor carriage rides, Hudson Oaks
The City of Hudson Oaks will host carriage rides and food trucks from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 10, Saturday, Dec. 11. Friday, Dec. 17 and Saturday, Dec. 18. The Weatherford High School Wind Symphony and Blue Belles will perform on Dec. 10.
<https://bit.ly/30KmdBB>

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.

DECEMBER 11

Breakfast with Santa, Weatherford
CASA - Hope for Children is hosting Breakfast with Santa at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 1602 South Main Street in Weatherford. Tickets are \$5 per child, securing opportunities for a free photo with Santa, crafts, a hayride and tattoos with the elves.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/breakfast-with-santa/413638703536425/>

Find more Christmas-related events in our *Christmas Guide*.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS
CITY OF ALEDO
BAILEY RANCH ROAD RECONSTRUCTION SECTION 2

Notice is hereby given that the City of Aledo is now calling for bids for construction of BAILEY RANCH ROAD RECONSTRUCTION SECTION 2. All bids must be sealed and clearly marked "SEALED BID - BAILEY RANCH ROAD RECONSTRUCTION SECTION 2" and returned to the City of Aledo, 200 Old Annetta Road, Aledo, Texas 76008, prior to 2:00 PM, CDST, Monday, December 6, 2021 at which time they will be publicly opened and read. The City of Aledo reserves the right to reject any or all bids received.

The Contract Documents, including plans, for this project will be available beginning Friday, November 19, 2021. The plans, contract documents and other information may be obtained digitally at no charge from the following website at <https://www.civcastusa.com/project/618c4074dda0da95f85c6b7/summary> or visit www.civcastusa.com and search for "Bailey Ranch Road Reconstruction Section 2". It is the downloader's responsibility to determine that a complete set of documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders, is received.

No prebid meeting will be held for the project.

Any questions or requests for information regarding this project during the bid process should be directed through the civcast project page. Alternatively, questions may be sent to David Smith, PE at 817-764-7486 or dsmith@half.com or Gretchen Vazquez at 817-441-7016 or publicworksdirector@aledotx.gov. Engineer will distribute to prospective bidders of record such Addenda as Engineer considers necessary in response to discussions or inquiries arising during the bid process.

This project includes construction of approximately 1,100 square yards of concrete pavement replacement on Bailey Ranch Road.

Bidders must submit a cashier's check, certified check, or acceptable bidder's bond with their proposal as a guarantee that the Bidder will enter into a contract for the project with the Owner within fifteen (15) days of Notice of Award of the contract. The security must be payable to City of Aledo in the amount of five (5%) percent of the bid submitted. Contractor must execute the contract, bonds and certificates of insurance on the forms provided in the Contract Documents.

Contractors for this Project must pay no less than the prevailing wage rates for the area established by the Owner and included in the contract documents.

Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bonds are required.

The City of Aledo reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous interpretation of the bids submitted in the case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating proposal prices, to reject any or all bids, and/or waive formalities. Bids may not be withdrawn within ninety (90) days from date on which bids are opened.

PUBLICATION DATES: NOVEMBER 19 AND 26, 2021 - THE COMMUNITY NEWS
CITY OF ALEDO

Classifieds

NOVEMBER 26, 2021
THE COMMUNITY NEWS
WWW.COMMUNITY-NEWS.COM



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS ALEDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S State Financial Accountability Rating

The Aledo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, December 13, 2021 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, Texas 76008.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Aledo Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

TOWN OF ANNETTA NORTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is given that the Town Council of the Town of Annetta North will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, at the Annetta Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 2836 FM 5, Annetta, Texas. This public hearing will be to receive comments about increasing the minimum floor area in zoning districts "AG", "R-6", "R-4", "R-2", and "R-1" from 2,000 square feet to 3,250 square feet for single story residences and 3,500 square feet for two-story residences. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and will be heard.

//Robert Schmidt, Mayor

TOWN OF ANNETTA NORTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is given that the Town Council of the Town of Annetta North will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, at the Annetta Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 2836 FM 5, Annetta, Texas. This public hearing will be to receive comments about a variance request from Wade and Kathy Gear, owners of the property located at 800 Jenkins Rd. for the relocation of a garage and driveway. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and will be heard.

//Robert Schmidt, Mayor

TOWN OF ANNETTA NORTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is given that the Town Council of the Town of Annetta North will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, at the Annetta United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 2836 FM 5, Annetta, Texas. This public hearing will be to receive comments about the proposed annexation by the Town of Annetta North of an approximate 50.525-acre tract of land out of the J. Kelsey Survey, Abstract 781, Parker County, Texas, and located southeast of the intersection of Dixon Rd. and Annetta Centerpoint Rd., contiguous to the current Town limits and within the Town's extraterritorial jurisdiction. A map of the area proposed for annexation is available upon request by contacting the Town Secretary at 817-222-8405.

//Robert Schmidt, Mayor

TOWN OF ANNETTA NORTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is given that the Town Council of the Town of Annetta North will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, at the Annetta United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 2836 FM 5, Annetta, Texas. This public hearing will be to receive comments regarding an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Annetta North, as amended, rezoning land generally described as approximate 50.525-acre tract of land out of the J. Kelsey Survey, Abstract 781, Annetta North, Parker County, Texas, and located southeast of the intersection of Dixon Rd. and Annetta Centerpoint Rd. from "AG" (Agricultural District) to "R-2" (Single-Family Residential District-2.0 Acre Lots). Members of the public are encouraged to attend and will be heard.

//Robert Schmidt-Mayor

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS City of Willow Park

The City of Willow Park has received an allocation from the American Rescue Plan Act program from the U. S. Department of Treasury and is soliciting proposals to provide administration services for the ARP Act eligible projects. Proposals must be received no later than December 9, 2021 by 3:00 P.M. Please electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email at bjgrimes@willowpark.org. It is the responsibility of the submitting firm to ensure that the proposal is received in a timely manner. The City of Willow Park reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Willow Park is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

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401 S. FM 1187

Shell - Midway Foods

100 S. FM 1187

The Community News

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Sports

NOVEMBER 26, 2021
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WWW.COMMUNITY-NEWS.COM

Aledo Ladycats Basketball

Nov. 11

AHS Freshmen

Aledo	21	10	4	4	39
Boswell	0	4	3	6	13
Addie Smith 18, Maddox Lucas 4, Rebekah Jarrel 4, Ella Isbell 4, Savannah Salas 3, Peyton Flores 2, Jaley Hockaday 2, Morgan Gomez 2					

AHS JV

Aledo	23	10	12	2	47
Arlington	0	0	1	0	1
Haley Lowe 10, Caroline Browning 4, Kennix Marx 2, Hannah Good 2, Kinley Elms 4, Taylor Paetzold 6, Presley Bergen 4, Haley Farmer 4, Addi Durand 3, Meredith Brown 4, Julianna Caggiano 4					

Nov. 12

AHS Varsity

Aledo	5	13	7	7	32
Argyle	17	10	10	20	57
Addy Hebel 7, Abby Morrison 5, Presley Hull 4, Sophie Smith 3, Kandle Boggus 3, Kenzie Grau 3, Claire Byars 3, Reagan Davis 2, Lauren Hawk 2					

Nov. 16

AHS Varsity

Aledo	5	8	7	9	29
Northwest	17	8	13	14	52
Kandle Boggus 10, Addy Hebel 7, Claire Byars 7, Sophie Smith 4, Reagan Davis 1					

AHS JV

Aledo	16	8	4	10	38
Northwest	8	4	1	7	20
Haley Lowe 17, Kinley Elms 8, Caroline Browning 4, Kennis Marx 2, Presley Bergen 4, Addi Durand 2, Julianna Caggiano 1					

AHS Freshmen

Aledo	13	13	19	12	57
Northwest	5	5	0	6	16
Ella Isbell 14, Addy Smith 14, August Carlone 9, Savannah Salas 8, Morgan Gomez 4, Peyton Flores 2, Jaley Hockaday 2, Kinley Evans 2, Ely Roach 2					

Nov. 19

AHS Varsity

Aledo	15	9	10	16	50
Trimble T	20	7	9	15	51
Kandle Boggus 4, Claire Byars 20, Reagan Davis 8, Abby Morrison 6, Presley Hull 2, Addy Hebel 10					

AHS Varsity

Aledo	9	10	10	8	37
Argyle	16	19	17	17	69
Reagan Davis 11, Abby Morrison 6, Sophie Smith 6, Claire Byars 5, Kenzie Grau 3, Addy Hebel 4, Team 2 (other team scored for Aledo)					

AHS Varsity

Aledo	10	8	10	16	44
Graham	6	13	15	14	48
Addy Hebel 17, Claire Byars 12, Reagan Davis 4, Abby Morrison 4, Presley Hull 4, Sophie Smith 3					

Nov. 20

AHS Varsity

Aledo	18	16	10	13	57
OD Wyatt	0	7	8	9	24
Presley Hull 13, Addy Hebel 13, Kylie Anderson 10, Reagan Davis 6, Natalie Anderson 5, Claire Byars 4, Kenzie Grau 3, Abby Morrison 3					

Nov. 22

AHS Freshmen

Aledo	10	12	9	22	53
W'ford	8	11	11	20	50
August Carlone 21, Maddox Lucas 2, Peyton Flores 2, Jaley Hockaday 2, Addie Smith 15, Morgan Gomez 2, Savannah Salas 9					

AHS JV

Aledo	12	12	18	10	52
W'ford	6	6	1	10	23
Haley Lowe 19, Caroline Browning 15, Kinley Elms 4, Haley Farmer 4, Addi Durand 3, Presley Bergen 3, Hannah Good 2, Taylor Paetzold 2					

AHS Varsity

Aledo	15	12	13	17	57
W'ford	2	12	14	15	43
Claire Byars 13, Kandle Boggus 13, Reagan Davis 7, Presley Hull 6, Addy Hebel 6, Kylie Anderson 5, Kenzie Gray 5, Olivia Tregellas 2					

Nov. 23

AHS Freshmen

Aledo	16	15	13	14	58
Fsl Ridge	5	9	13	8	35
August Carlone 8, Maddox Lucas 3, Peyton Flores 6, Jaley Hockaday 4, Addie Smith 17, Morgan Gomez 6, Rebekah Jarrell 2, Kinley Evans 2, Savannah Salas 8, Zion Kennedy 2					

AHS JV

Aledo	16	12	14	17	59
Fsl Ridge	2	9	6	7	24
Haley Lowe 22, Caroline Browning 9, Kennis Marx 5, Hannah Good 6, Daniella Tregellas 2, Kinley Elms 6, Presley Bergen 2, Haley Farmer 4, Julianna Caggiano 3					

Aledo Middle School vs. Cleburne Smith on Nov 19

7A won 41-34
7B won 36-14
7C won 38-5
8A lost 32-38
8B won 47-5
8C won 44-4



RAMON MORALES

Senior Ryan Williams crosses the goal line for one of his three touchdowns against Frisco Liberty in the Area Championship Friday at Apogee Stadium in Denton. The Bearcats won 57-14, and advance to face South Oak Cliff on Nov. 26 in Mansfield.

FOOTBALL

Defense dominates in Area win

Regional Semifinal against South Oak Cliff comes next after Bearcats crush Frisco Liberty

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

It is no secret that the Aledo Bearcats have and continue to be one of the most dominant teams in the state of Texas. However, it seems that every season there is one game that sets Aledo apart from the rest in just 48 minutes of football.

Two examples are the victory over Lucas Lovejoy on New Year's Day 2021 and the win over Ennis in 2019. That game may have come earlier than usual this year as the Bearcat rolled easily to victory, 57-14, over the Frisco Liberty Redhawks.

"Coach [Brad] McCone and the defensive staff had a great plan," head

coach Tim Buchanan said about the strategy, "keeping them contained. Our kids really executed the game plan extremely well."

Liberty, the only team to beat #2 Lovjoy, was expected to give Aledo a good fight but the Bearcats showed their utter dominance and proved that they just may be the best team in 5A.

The Bearcats made a statement with the first drive of the game, covering 55 yards in just less than four minutes. Ryan Williams (12 carries, 131 yards, 3 TDs) capped off the drive with a six-yard run into the end zone. In response, the Redhawks made a statement of their own when quarterback Keldric Luster scored on a sneak play to tie the game at seven.

The Bearcats responded convincingly on their next drive; that Sammy Steffe (14 carries, 117 yards, 3 TDs) took over and scored out of the wildcat formation from the one yard line. The Bearcats

took a 13-7 lead into the second quarter and never looked back.

After forcing the Redhawks to go three-and-out, thanks in part to the play of Ansel Din-Mbuh (5 tackles, 1 sack, 1 TFL), Williams broke free from 36 yards out and gave Aledo a 20-7 lead.

"Every day we got to get better," Din-Mbuh said of preparation for facing Luster. "We worked on the little things a lot for him because he is a ball player. If we can stop a dude like him and do what we're supposed to do, we can't lose."

On the ensuing drive, Texas-commit BJ Allen (2 tackles, 1 INT) dove for a deflected ball and intercepted it at the Liberty 35. Two plays later, Williams scored his third touchdown of the game. Both defenses stepped up and kept the rest of the half scoreless to make the halftime lead 27-7.

Turn to FOOTBALL, page 9

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KRISTIN MORALES

Brant Tubbs goes to the basket in recent JV action against Chisholm Trail.



RAMON MORALES

Junior Bryon Wheeler tackles Frisco Liberty quarterback Keldric Luster.

FOOTBALL

from page eight

The Bearcats went right back to work in the second half, forcing an early punt and scoring on a seven-yard run by Steffe. Another quick defensive series allowed Aledo to score again on yet another Steffe touchdown run. Once again, the Bearcat defense got off the field in three downs and gave the ball back to the offense before the third stanza ended at a 40-7 score.

On the first play of the fourth and final frame, kicker Jace Sims drilled a 25-yard field goal. However, the Redhawks were not done fighting, and Luster scored on a 59-yard keeper to cut the lead to 43-14.

With most of the starters pulled, running backs started being rotated in. Connor Smith scored from 14 yards out, and Caleb Pope added one more from 11 yards to bring the final score to 57-14.

“You can’t play this game without confidence,” senior tight end Jason Llewellyn said. “We go out there every day all week and we’ve practiced for this for four months now. We don’t want to stop yet. I couldn’t be more proud of these guys.”

The Bearcats improve to 12-0 on the season and will face the South Oak Cliff Bears out of Dallas ISD at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26 at Vernon Newsom Stadium in Mansfield for the regional semifinal.



RAMON MORALES

Senior Jason Llewellyn cradles the football on a catch against Frisco Liberty.

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How 'bout them Bearcats!



Photo by Kristin Morales

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