

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Annual Glow Run returns to help children in need



ALEDO ADVOCATS

The annual Aledo Children's AdvoCats Glow Run returns to Bearcat Stadium on Saturday, March 26.

The Aledo Children's AdvoCats will host their 16th Annual Run, Walk, or Crawl Glow Run on Saturday, March 26, with proceeds benefiting Aledo ISD children in need and their families.

This family-friendly fun run offers racegoers the choice of a 1K or 5K race that begins and ends at Bearcat Stadium in Aledo. Light up gear will be provided on the night of the race to allow runners to cross the finish line glowing, not sweating. A virtual runner option is offered for those who just want to support the cause.

Since its inception in 2006, the Run, Walk or Crawl has become the flagship annual fundraising event for AdvoCats. Money raised from the

RACE DETAILS

Saturday, March 26, 2022
 Bearcat Stadium, 1000 Bailey Ranch Rd., Aledo, TX 76008
 7 p.m. Gates Open
 7:45 p.m. Opening Ceremony
 8 p.m. 1K Glow Run
 8:30 p.m. 5K Glow Run

com. Additional updates will be shared on the Aledo Children's AdvoCats Facebook and Instagram pages leading up to the event.

The Aledo Children's AdvoCats is a women-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of volunteers serving families in the communities of Aledo ISD. An estimated 12.6% (or one in every eight students) of the Aledo ISD population is economically disadvantaged. School counselors at each of the 11 Aledo ISD campuses identify students in need of assistance and refer them to the AdvoCats organization.

race provides vital services to children with the greatest needs in the communities of Aledo ISD. The organization is dedicated more than ever to continue its mission of improving lives and making a lasting impact.

For more race information or to register, visit www.aledoadvocats.com.

★ YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE ★

2022 ELECTION

POLITICS

Runoffs in store for some local races

Deen, Authier retain positions

By Randy Keck
 The Community News

Voters across Texas went to the polls on Tuesday to select standard-bearers for the Republican and Democratic Parties in primary voting.

Republican U.S. Representative District 12 Kay Granger handily defeated two challengers to receive her party's nomination. She received 75% of the vote district-wide and 778% in Parker County. Granger will face Democrat Trey J Hunt in the November general election.

In the Governor's race, Republican incumbent Greg Abbott was also a clear victor in his race, fending off strong opposition from Don Huffines and Allen West to garner 66.5% of the vote with almost all precincts reporting. Abbott collected 61% of the Parker County vote in the Republican Primary.

Abbott's opponent in November will be Democrat Beto O'Roark, who received 91% of the statewide Democratic vote, and 90% of the Parker County Democratic vote.

A bit closer to home, State Rep. Phil King dominated opponent Warren Norred in the race to see who will represent Republicans in State Senate District 10. King

received 75.5% of the vote district-wide and an identical share in Parker County. King will face incumbent Democrat Beverly Powell in November.

In the State Representative District 60 race, incumbent Glenn Rogers and Mike Olcott are headed for a runoff in May. Rogers received 43.7% of the vote district-wide to Olcott's 36%. Aledo Mayor Kit Marshall received 11.6% and Lucas Turner gained 8.6%.

In Parker County, Olcott received 40% of the vote compared to Rogers' 36.5%. Marshall received 13.68% and Turner received 9.49%.

The winner of the District 60 runoff will not have a Democrat to face on the November ballot.

"I'm so grateful that so many Republican voters rallied around our conservative message," Olcott said. "Four months ago I was at single digits in the polls and on election day we garnered overwhelming support. I was so appreciative of all the grassroots conservatives who stepped up to volunteer when I was in the hospital and recovering from COVID Pneumonia during the most crucial weeks of the election. We are looking forward to taking this momentum into the runoff and earning a strong victory in May."

Turn to **VOTES**, page 4



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

An estimated 200 people gathered on the Aledo overpass to show support for truckers in the American Freedom Convoy that passed through Aledo on Tuesday, March 1.

PARKER COUNTY

County Judge looks at key issues

By Randy Keck
 The Community News

Although he still technically has almost a year remaining in office before being sworn in again as County Judge in 2023, Pat Deen said he is continuing to work on key issues in the county.



Pat Deen

"We have a transportation meeting that's going to be public coming up in the next month and a half," Deen said, "And that is dealing with two things. One, the congestion that we face right now, and the growth that is coming to Parker County, which is dramatic."

Deen pointed out that Parker County lies in the third-fastest-growing region of the country.

"We have a responsibility to make sure our roads are safe," Deen said. "And so we have prioritized that and made transportation a key issue." He stressed that not only future roads need to be addressed, the roads that exist today.

Deen said public safety also resonated with voters. With about 60% of the growth happening in areas outside of city limits, it will fall on the county to provide services to those new residents.

"That puts a burden on us from a public safety standpoint, response times," Deen said. "I think we've done a good job — we've increased our officers pay by over 10% in the last year, and we've increased pay to retain our officers and keep good talent."

Taxes are also an issue that came up in the campaign.

"When you're the third fastest growing region in the nation, and your taxes are still lower than 85% of the counties in the state, we're doing something right. And so we need to continue to do that," Deen said.



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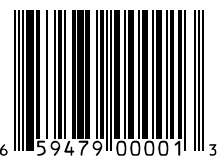
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In & Around Parker County

Holland Outfitters & Co. commits to high-quality products, happy customers

Holland Outfitters & Co. is a family-owned business that has served happy customers for nearly 20 years.

Founder Robin Holland first launched her independent shop under a different name in the early 2000s, selling screen-printed and embroidery clothing items.

Nearly two decades later, the business has grown to offer services for sports and cheerleading uniforms, business promotional products, letterman jackets, holiday decorations, and one-of-a-kind tees.

Holland Outfitters & Co. can also produce specialty items for wedding showers, bridal parties, baby showers and more — some of the most unique gift items she offers.

Holland's commitment to the stellar quality of her products and happiness of her customers elevates Holland Outfitters & Co. as a distinct local business.

"We stand behind everything we do," Holland said. "Our work speaks for itself."



Holland Outfitters & Co. vows to create only high-quality products, while providing extra services, such as improvements, touch-ups, and repairs when needed.

Rooted in Burleson, Holland Outfitters & Co. supports customers from around the North Texas region.

The shop is located at 12222 Rendon Road in Burleson, Texas. Call 817-478-6377 or 817-602-1999, or email hollandoutfitter@gmail.com.



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Legacy Dinner

Trinity Christian Academy hosted its Legacy Dinner at the Barber Gym on Feb. 26. Former University of Texas and current Arizona Cardinals quarterback Colt McCoy was the featured guest.

Photos by Randy Keck

LEFT: Matt Ticzkus (left) served as emcee and interviewer of Colt McCoy (right).



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Joel Robbins, pastor of Aledo United Methodist Church, makes the mark of the cross with ashes on the forehead of Betty Rodriguez. Robbins was providing ashes and prayers on Wednesday in the Brookshire's parking lot in Willow Park. Also shown is church member Geoff Mantooth.

WILLOW PARK

VanSant recalled to active duty, resigns council seat

Willow Park City Council member Place 2 Tyler VanSant resigned this week, and the city council will accept his resignation at the March 8 regular city council meeting.



Tyler VanSant

VanSant has been directed by the United States Air Force to return to active duty, and as such cannot hold an elected office. He was appointed to the city council in October of 2020. During his tenure, the city completed the connection to Fort Worth water, constructed Cross Timbers Park, and finalized plans for the city's new wastewater treatment.

"It was an honor and privilege to serve my community as a council member these past 18 months," VanSant said. "I know our community is undoubtedly in good hands with our mayor, council, and staff."

TxDOT to hold virtual public meeting on FM1187 expansion in Tarrant County

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will host a virtual public meeting regarding the expansion of FM 1187 from the Parker County line to the Chisholm

Trail Parkway beginning at 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 15.

The meeting is in the form of a pre-recorded presentation which will be available for comment until 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, March 30.

For more information, visit www.txdot.gov and search for "FM 1187 West of Chisholm Trail Parkway."



LEFT: Colt McCoy provided a Texas Longhorn helmet, which he autographed for high bidders Paul and Shannon Mauldin. | ABOVE: Amy Quinn shows off a male Pembroke Welsh Corgi puppy that brought in \$2,500 during the live auction. | BOTTOM LEFT: Kim Quarles modeled a black cashmere cape for the live auction. | BOTTOM CENTER: TCA Head of School Mike Skaggs explained the funds from the dinner would go toward a school bus. | BOTTOM RIGHT: Auctioneer Dean McCurry flipped a coin for the "Heads or Tails" game at the dinner. The winner received a free trip for two to a choice of destinations.



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VOTES

from page one

“My family and I are incredibly honored by the support of my campaign,” Rogers said. “Despite vicious attacks by special interest groups and PACs, so many took to the polls to allow me the privilege to continue serving House District 60. It is more important than ever for us to keep the momentum heading into the runoff. I look forward to continuing the fight to improve transportation infrastructure, strengthen public education, secure the border, and continue upon the gains made during my first term in office.”

Parker County

Incumbents ruled the day in county-wide offices. As there are no Democrats on the November ballot, any clear winner of the Republican Primary will most likely take office in January of 2023.

County Judge Pat Deen retained his seat, outpolling challenger Thomas Moorman 61-39%.

“I’m excited about the outcome of the election. I think that the voters saw the progression of the direction this county is going, and a lot of the accomplishments we’ve made both in transportation and economic development,” Deen said. “We have challenges ahead that we’re continuing to work on. I think elections are great — I had an opportunity to knock hundreds and hundreds of doors and get what’s important to the voters, and then take that back. It makes us better public servants. And it tells us what’s important to that to the community.”

SEE “County Judge looks at key issues, page 1

In the race to replace Jerry Buckner as the Parker County Court at Law No. 1 Judge, Kirk Martin fended off two opponents to garner 55% of the vote.

Incumbent Sheriff Russ Authier out-pollied challenger Marc Povero 54.4% to 45.6%.

“I just want to thank the citizens of Parker County for putting their trust in me to protect their families, property and constitutional rights,” Authier said.

In the race for County Commissioner Pct. 4, Eric Contreras and Make Hale appear to be headed to a runoff after finishing 1-2 among a field of four that included Michael Chandler and Fred Hammons.

At press time Contreras had 2,794 votes, about 110 votes shy of a majority to avoid a runoff. Mail in ballots were not scheduled to be counted until Friday, so that situation could change.

“It appears that I’m in a runoff, which I think is a good thing,” Hale said. “I appreciate all of the people that came out and voted for me and the support, and also the other candidates. I thank those guys for running. It was a clean campaign. It wasn’t dirty. They’re good guys.”

“We are extremely happy with the election results so far and we’re looking forward to seeing final counts after the mail-in ballots are tallied,” Contreras said. “If there is a runoff needed we will run the same pro-freedom, pro-business, pro-life campaign and continue to talk about the issues that effect Parker County.”

Likewise, the Justice of the Peace race for Pct. 4 will also have a runoff between Allison Bedore and Tim Mendolia. Bernard Suchocki and Michael K. Morris were also in the race.

“Thank you to my family and friends for your support,” Bedore said. “To those who voted for me at the polls, earning your votes is a great honor. I look forward to the runoff in May and would appreciate everyone’s continued prayers and support.”

DEMOCRATS		Parker County		State or District	
	Votes	Pct	Votes	Pct	
Governor					
Michael Cooper	76	3.65	32,266	3.05	
Joy Diaz	75	3.60	33,536	3.17	
Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez	14	0.67	13,019	1.23	
Rich Wakeland	27	1.30	13,120	1.24	
Beto O'Rourke	1,891	90.78	965,723	91.31	
Lieutenant Governor					
Michelle Beckley	602	30.16	300,797	30.24	
Carla Brailey	523	26.20	280,999	28.25	
Mike Collier	871	43.64	412,960	41.51	
Attorney General					
S. “TBone” Raynor	149	7.47	55,354	5.53	
Rochelle Mercedes Garza	877	43.98	432,367	43.16	
Joe Jaworski	369	18.51	196,242	19.43	
Mike Fields	266	13.34	123,176	12.30	
Lee Merritt	333	16.70	194,672	19.43	
REPUBLICANS					
	Votes	Pct	Votes	Pct	
US Representative, Dist. 12					
Kay Granger	13,884	77.32	46,248	75.15	
Ryan J. Catala	2,358	13.13	8,685	14.11	
Alysia Rieg	1,715	9.55	6,612	10.74	
Governor					
Rick Perry	963	4.02	62,032	3.21	
Paul Belew	105	0.44	11,212	0.58	
Allen B. West	3,225	13.46	237,652	12.28	
Kandy Kaye Horn	161	0.67	23,310	1.20	
Greg Abbott	14,625	61.03	1,284,983	66.40	
Chad Prather	1,392	5.81	73,835	3.82	
Don Huffines	3,412	14.24	231,603	11.97	
Danny Harrison	82	0.34	10,694	0.55	
Lieutenant Governor					
Daniel Miller	1,768	7.68	125,994	6.84	
Dan Patrick	16,702	72.55	1,409,827	76.55	
Trayce Bradford	2,789	12.12	119,643	6.50	
Zach Vance	816	3.54	71,013	3.86	

Todd M. Bullis	237	1.03	42,735	2.32
Aaron Sorrells	709	3.08	72,460	3.93
Attorney General				
Ken Paxton	10,595	44.67	815,052	42.73
George P. Bush	5,944	25.06	434,755	22.79
Louie Gohmert	3,186	13.43	324,703	17.02
Eva Guzman	3,995	16.84	332,993	17.46
State Senator, District No. 10				
Warren V. Norred	2,588	24.54	16,601	24.48
Phil King	7,956	75.46	51,204	75.52
State Representative, District No. 60				
Lucas Turner	2,126	9.49	2,393	8.60
Glenn Rogers	8,188	36.53	12,160	43.69
Kit Marshall	3,067	13.68	3,236	11.63
Mike Olcott	9,032	40.30	10,045	36.09
County Judge				
Thomas Moorman	8,727	38.97		
Pat Deen	13,667	61.03		
Judge, County Court-at-Law No. 1				
Zach Pettigrew	6,284	29.36		
Kirk D. Martin	11,780	55.03		
Kitty Wise	3,341	15.61		
Sheriff Unexpired Term				
Russ Authier	12,439	54.40		
Marc Povero	10,426	45.60		
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 4				
Michael Chandler	772	13.29		
Mike Hale	1,764	30.38		
Fred Hammons	477	8.21		
Eric Contreras	2,794	48.11		
Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 4				
Michael K. Morris	1,051	18.92		
Bernard R. Suchocki	824	14.83		
Allison Bedore	1,658	29.85		
Tim Mendolia	2,022	36.40		
County Chairman				
Rachael M. Watson	8,996	43.62		
J Scott Utley	11,628	56.38		

Matt Morris

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Capital Highlights

State high court hears challenge to abortion law



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

The Texas Supreme Court heard oral arguments last week on the question of whether state regulators can be sued by abortion providers hoping to block enforcement of the state's restrictive abortion law, known as Senate Bill 8.

The *Austin American-Statesman* reported that abortion providers bringing the suit argued that "state agencies regulating doctors, nurses, pharmacists and the health care system have an enforcement role that makes them an appropriate target of their own lawsuit against SB8."

Solicitor General Judd Stone II argued for the state that the law was written to say only private citizens can enforce SB8 by filing civil suits against abortion providers who violate the ban on abortions after the sixth week of pregnancy.

"The goal here is just to figure out the ordinary English meaning of this statute," Stone argued. "There simply is no ordinary English interpretation that entertains any possibility of public enforcement (by state agencies or regulators)," the *Statesman* reported.

Abortion providers have filed a number of lawsuits in federal courts, with the U.S. Supreme Court declining to keep the law from taking effect last September as appeals are heard. The case heard in state court last week also will likely end up before the nation's highest court.

Comptroller hosting broadband listening tours

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar began touring a dozen Texas communities this month to get insight from Texans about internet access and to receive input as the state develops its first comprehensive broadband internet plan.

The events are free but require registration in advance. The first forum was held March 1 at Prairie View A&M University, with others planned in Victoria, Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Amarillo, Beaumont, Waco, Tyler, Abilene, El Paso, Edinburgh and San Angelo.

Further information and a link to an online survey for those who can't attend can be found here: comptroller.texas.gov/programs/broadband/communities/tour

Abbott orders enhanced protection against cyberattacks

Gov. Greg Abbott has ordered two state agencies to "use every available resource" to safeguard the state's infrastructure as the potential for Russian cyberattacks increases. Abbott sent a letter to the Texas Department of Information Resources and the Texas Department of Public Safety to that effect last week. He ordered DIR and DPS to:

- Enhance Texas' cyber security through the use of best industry practices and other key measures.
- Ensure Texas can quickly detect a potential cyber intrusion through the use of

software services, such as antivirus and end-point detection and response technologies.

- Prepare for an intrusion by utilizing a cyber incident response team.
- Maximize the state's resilience to a destructive cyber incident.
- Track and report any attacks from Russian sources so the public is fully aware of their tactics.

"Protecting the state of Texas from cyber threats during this time of Russian aggression is paramount," Abbott wrote.

Arrest made in timber fraud case

Law enforcement investigators with the Texas A&M Forest Service arrested a Magnolia man last week on two counts of timber theft. Philip Eugene McKenzie, Jr., 60, was charged.

"Mr. McKenzie had timber harvest agreements with two Walker County landowners and failed to pay them for the timber that was harvested from their property," said Texas A&M Forest Service Law Enforcement Criminal Investigator Josh Mizrany. In addition, McKenzie has a pending charge for unauthorized timber harvest in Montgomery County.

Timber theft includes harvesting timber without the landowner's knowledge or consent, to entering into a formal agreement and not paying landowners the full purchase price, and even stealing timber from logging companies.

Landowners who suspect timber theft or suspicious timber sale agreements should call the forest service timber theft hotline at 1-800-364-3470.

Nominations sought for TEA student hero award

The Texas Education Agency is seeking nominations for public school students in all grades who provide an outstanding volunteer service benefiting their fellow students, schools, or their communities. One student from each of the 15 State Board of Education districts will be recognized and will receive a plaque and medal from SBOE.

Nominations may be submitted by anyone. The deadline to nominate an outstanding student is 5 p.m. March 31. The form can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/mubxb7af>.

COVID-19 cases continue dropping statewide

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas continues to drop steeply as the omicron variant fades, with 36,814 reported in the past week by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. That is less than 10% of the number reported at the variant's peak in mid-January. A total of 1,127 deaths were reported in the past week, also a sharp decrease. Hospitalizations are also down, with 3,949 reported as of Sunday by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The number of Texans who have been fully vaccinated is slowly inching up, with 17.22 million now fully vaccinated, according to DSHS, with 6.26 million Texans also getting a booster dose.

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.



Thistles & Roses



All State Band brings memories



Richard Henderson
richard@rahenderson.com

The Feb. 11, 2022 issue of *The Community News* front page story by Mercedes Mayer featuring the Aledo 2022 All-State musicians brought back a lot of memories of the All State 2010.

What caught my eye was the 2022 Aledo tenor saxophone player, Jerry Olazaran. I confirmed with Aledo Band director Jake Albin that Jerry is the first Aledo tenor saxophone All Stater since our son, Ian Henderson, made All State in 2010.

In the world of high school band lore, it is a little complicated to understand the various organizations. The University Interscholastic League (UIL) sponsors marching band competitions with various region and area competitions that culminate in state finals at the AlamoDome in San Antonio each November.

The Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) sponsors All State. All State begins with 33 regional auditions with 70,000 students auditioning. Next are eight area competitions. Then the winners of the areas go to state with 1,500 of the original 70,000 going to San Antonio in February of each

year. That is about two percent of the original auditions.

UIL and TMEA are separate organizations.

A comprehensive article by Cecilia Balli in the June 2007 issue of *Texas Monthly* tells in detail what All State is like. Balli made All State three times from 1992 to 1994 from a small south Texas high school. In the article she states that she gave up her clarinet and no longer plays.

Many all staters do not pursue music after high school. I guess that makes sense as most high school athletes do not play for college teams.

Ian received his bachelors degree in performance jazz from the University of North Texas and his Masters from the University of Texas at Austin.

Ian is now working on his Doctor of Music Arts at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music. His first doctoral recital took place on Feb. 28. If you are interested, you can watch it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29WIK8QGuEO>.

Ian studies under Professor Marcus Strickland, a renowned Grammy nominated recording artist.

From All State at Aledo in 2010 to a doctoral recital in music is quite a leap.

Many thanks to Joey and Karen Paul, Jake Albin, and many others for teaching our young musicians.

And, congratulations to Jerry Olazaran and all of the All Staters. Whatever you do in life, the All State experience and music will serve you well.

The Community News

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

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

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

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

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

Sports

MARCH 4, 2022

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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SOCCER

AHS teams poised for playoffs halfway through district

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

The district season is underway for both the Bearcat and Ladycat soccer teams. Midway through the district schedule, both teams have put themselves in good position to make the playoffs. However the season has come with drama to this point.

The weather has not been a friend to either team, causing changes to the schedule and making it harder to prepare for games. A second freeze pushed through the metropex the weekend of Feb. 24-26 which postponed a match for each team and forced another week of three games.

That was not the only drama that occurred for the Ladycats, as it was revealed that Wichita Falls Rider had played an ineligible player in six of its matches, causing a forfeit for three district games. The overturning of the results shifted the district standings in such a way that the Ladycats now hold the second place position in the district. Wichita Falls High remains at the top with a 6-0 record, while Rider now falls to 3-3.

The Ladycats held a district record of 3-2 going into the home district match with Brewer on Monday, Feb. 28. Aledo had control of the game from the start, keeping the pressure at the Brewer net all game long. McKenna Vela buried the first goal, and Ashlyn Laughly added another before the end of the first half to give the Ladycats a 2-0 lead at the break.

In the second half, the Ladycat offense exploded, scoring seven

goals before the final gun. Vela scored three more early in the second half, and Laughly added a pair to get the hat trick as well. Harper Smith and Reece Warren both added goals of their own in the latter stages of the match. Emma Davis was credited with the shut out in net, while Rebecca Vandenberg played the final 21 minutes of the match and recorded five saves. Aledo defeated Brewer 9-0 to improve their district record to 4-2.

Afterwards, the Bearcats took the pitch to take on Brewer as well, but it did not go as hoped. The Bears scored two goals in the first seven minutes to take the early lead, and then one more with three minutes left in the first half to take a commanding 3-0 lead into half.

The Bearcats came out in the second half and started to push back. With 27 minutes left, Cole Crawford scored the first Aledo goal to close the gap. Then with just little more than a minute to go before the buzzer the Bearcats scored again on a corner kick to pull them back to within one goal. Unfortunately, the Bearcats could not regain possession and the buzzer sounded with Brewer prevailing 3-2.

The Bearcats now stand at a district record of 2-4 but still hold spots above Azle and Granbury for the playoffs.

Both teams played two more district games this past week against Granbury and Azle. They will both play Wichita Falls Rider on Tuesday, March 8. The Ladycats will be in Wichita Falls, the boys will be at Bearcat Stadium.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Junior McKenna Vela pushes the ball in action against Brewer on Monday. Vela had a hat trick in the 9-0 Aledo win.

BASEBALL

Bearcats fall in season opener

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Due to the previous winter storm that pushed through, things have slowed down a bit for the Bearcats baseball team. While the Ladycats softball team got their regular season underway already, the Bearcats did not until Monday, Feb. 28, at Weatherford.

The Bearcats were scheduled to host the Southwest Ford Classic the weekend that the storm came through. Due to the frigid conditions, the tournament was canceled and Aledo had to find an alternative. Weatherford, who was also looking for alternatives, called up and the teams agreed to a double header at Weatherford High School.

The first game started off slowly as only one player from Aledo found his way in scoring position before eventually being stranded. Carter Shands started on the mound and held the Kangaroos at bay defensively. In the third inning, Adrian Guzman stole third base and a bad throw by the Weatherford catcher allowed him to score.

Shands put Weatherford down in order in the bottom of the inning. However the Kangaroos got on the board in the fourth inning when a pair of base hits drove home runners to give Weatherford a 2-1 lead. Aledo responded in the fifth when Hunter Rudel doubled to left field allowing Bryce McCain to score and tie the game.

Rudel moved to pitcher from third base in the bottom of the fifth inning and made quick work of Weatherford, striking out two batters and not allowing a baserunner. The game remained tied until the

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page 9



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Events

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

MARCH 4-5

Clay Shoot Dinner and Casino Night

The Business Development Group of Aledo will host its 13th annual Clay Shoot to benefit Parker County youth organizations on March 4-5. All shooters receive an admission to the Dinner and Casino Night at the Athletic Performance Ranch, 1590 FM 2871 between Aledo and Benbrook. The cocktail reception begins at 6, dinner and live auction run from 7-9 p.m., and casino games run from 9-12. Shooting will be at Defenders Outdoor Clay Sports Ranch, 8270 Aledo Road in Fort Worth. The youth shoot begins at 9 a.m. and the adult shoot begins at 1 p.m. Registration for individual shooters is \$250, and teams of five shooters are \$1,250. Sponsorships begin at \$1,500. For more information, visit myaledo.com or call Craig Harbuck at 817-925-0894.

MARCH 7

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.

MARCH 8

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.

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 second Tuesday of each month at Aledo United Methodist Church, 100 Pecan Dr. in Aledo. For more information, email Joan Ward at cjkat1959@gmail.com.

Free Concert

The U.S. Army Field Band & Soldiers' Chorus will present a free concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St. in Fort Worth. The U.S. Army Field Band presents "America the Beautiful," a celebration of all there is to love about our nation. The performance honors the veterans of every generation who answered the call to defend this country, and recognizes the Soldiers standing guard today in more than 140 countries around the world who are proud to call America "home."

Tickets to this event are free, but reservations are required. Seats can be reserved only online at www.basshall.com. The Performing Arts Fort Worth (PAFW) on-site box office is open 1 hour prior to and during PAFW presentations. The PAFW remote box office hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MARCH 11

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.

MARCH 26

Advocats Glow Run

The Aledo Advocats Will host their 16th annual Run Walk or Crawl at 7:45 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, at Bearcat Stadium. Participants can enter the 1K, 5K, or both, beginning and ending at the Aledo High School track. Gates open at 7 p.m. The opening ceremony will be at 7:45 p.m. The 1K begins at 8 p.m. and the 5K is at 8:30 p.m. The fee to enter the 1K is \$25 and the fee for the 5K is \$30. Virtual runners can enter for \$20. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/34yrhVp>. For sponsorship opportunities, visit <https://bit.ly/3AVXAJM>

APRIL 2

Bearcat Big Bass Fishing Tournament

The Aledo High School Class of 2024 Project Celebration will hold the Bearcat Big Bass Fishing Tournament on Saturday, April 2, in Rough Creek Park at the Lake Granbury Marina. Launch will be at safe light and weigh-in will be at 2 p.m. Payouts will go to the top

ACROSS

1 arrival guesses at DFW Airport

5 Livingston is the seat of this county

6 prefix for "against"

7 TXism: "raised concrete" (city boy)

8 nat'l ID

9 "Big D"

15 square dance walk: sa_____

16 he was UH's coach (1993-99) (2 wds.)

19 Carl Sandberg said "_____ valor and swagger"

21 "the echo" in Mexico

22 "fool's gold" minerals

27 carbonated soft drink

28 TXism: "he's too lazy _____ flies"

29 TXism: "has such a big _____ struts"

30 TXism: "all bought _____ for"

32 this state is about 251 times smaller than Texas (abbr.)

33 this Steven directed "Lincoln" with Tommy Lee Jones

36 Mexican "pineapple"

37 TX Orbison sang "You _____ Again"

38 TXism: "_____ baby's bottom"

39 Rice professor Max Apple wrote "The _____ of America"

41 some Texans ski at this NM ski valley

42 TXism: "he'll never down _____ own sweat" (lazy)

45 extremely small amount

46 police _____ (abbr.)

47 Mc _____, TX

48 rancher slogan: " _____ More Beef"

49 " _____ in the saddle" (be honorable)

52 TXism: "tapped like a _____ possum"

53 TX Nash's "I _____ See Clearly Now"

54 "got no _____ for it"

55 "tit for _____"

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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DOWN

1 environ. agcy.

2 TXism: "hit me like a _____ of bricks"

3 instrument for noted Texas jazz musician Ornette Coleman (2 wds.)

4 TXism for "very thin" (4 wds.)

8 TX Charley Pride hit: " _____ Too Good to Be True"

9 TXism: " _____ a coyote with a rubber chicken"

10 TX George Strait's " _____ I Blue" (1987)

11 this Hunt started the "Texans" who now are the "Chiefs" (init.)

12 this "Pappy" was the 34th governor (2 wds.)

13 " _____ well that ends well"

14 meaty dish

15 TXism: "attracted like _____ a magnet"

16 this Jason is the Mavs head coach

17 small egg-shaped wind instrument

18 marking down

20 TX Miranda Lambert won CMA " _____ of the Year" in 2012

22 measure of pool water acidity

23 "si" in Mexico

24 knocks

25 halfwits

26 TXism: " _____ is in the fire"

28 Fey of "Baby Mama" with TX born Steve Martin

31 " _____ his dirty laundry in public"

34 Eng. Lit. degrees

35 "mi casa _____ su casa" (generous)

37 Cuero is the seat of De _____ County

40 Cowboys want to cross this line

43 TXism: "get your _____ built" (be still)

44 TXism: "worthless as half a _____"

50 massive TX-based healthcare corp.

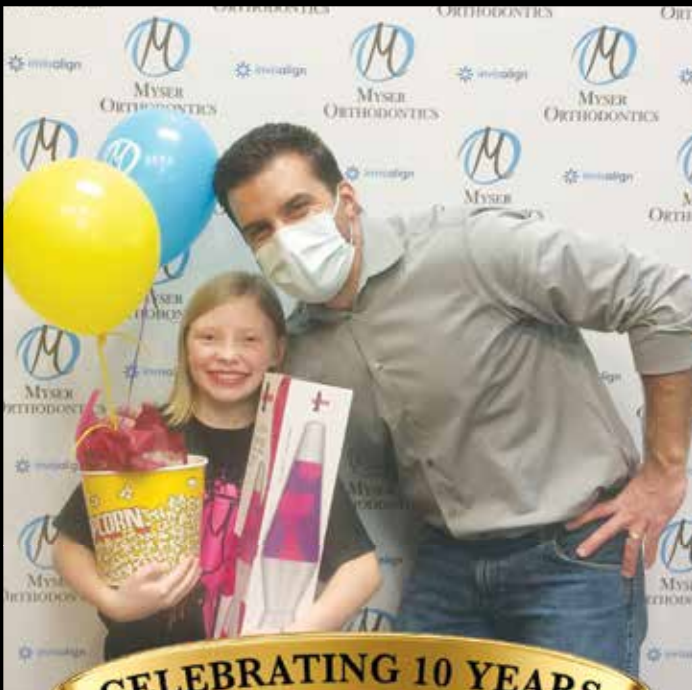
51 Tyler County Booster classified

three stringers. In addition to the tournament, there will be a raffle, games, entertainment, and kids' casting from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Entry fee is \$100 per two-person team. In addition, sponsorships are available from \$100 to \$5,000. To register a team or to become a sponsor, visit www.aledopc2024.com.

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Charles Dickens - Great Expectations

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

BASEBALL

from page six

seventh inning when Max Belyeu hit the first home run of the season to give Aledo a 3-2 lead. Unfortunately, in the bottom of the inning a throwing error allowed a Kangaroo player to score and tie the game. After a walk, the final Weatherford batter hit a walk-off single to seal the win 4-3 for the Kangaroos.

The second game had just as much intensity as the first. This time, the scoring started early as a two-run double gave Weatherford an early advantage in the first inning. The Bearcats got on the board in the third inning on a ground out by Estevan Flores that drove in Trace Mazon. The Kangaroos had a response, though, and added another run in the third inning, making it a 3-1 Weatherford advantage.

Aledo again closed the gap when Ryan Jones crossed the plate on a wild pitch. However Weatherford responded again, keeping it a two-run game after four innings. After three walks to start the fifth inning, Caden Pulido singled up the middle to bring Guzman home and Belyeu scored on an error by the first baseman to tie the game at four. The next batter, Bosten Dwinell, reached first on an error by the shortstop that allowed Flores and Pulido to score, giving the Bearcats a 6-4 lead.

Weatherford retook the lead in the bottom of the fifth inning, with three runs of their own and never looked back, holding off the Bearcats in the final two innings to win 7-6.

Aledo starts the baseball season with a record of 0-2 and will compete in the DFW CLASH Tourney across North Texas this weekend.

CLAY SHOOTING

TCA shooters score bests at Waxahachie



LEFT: Zeke Miller and his younger brother, Eli, competed in the event. | RIGHT: Max Skogsberg placed second overall at the event in Waxahachie.

The TCA Clay Target Team competed in the Winter Wonderland event in Waxahachie.

Max Skogsberg shot 97/100 in skeet, winning second place overall (134 total shooters competing) in varsity men's division. He also tied for third in sporting clays (87/100) and narrowly lost in a very difficult tie-breaking shoot off match. Max has been extremely busy with TCA

basketball and only recently was able to join the clay target team.

Zeke Miller led the team in prayer and then went on to shoot a personal best 96/100 in skeet. This resulted in a four-way tie for third place (134 total shooters competing). Zeke entered the high-pressure shoot off requiring him to shoot skeet doubles from more difficult stations than normal. Zeke hit all



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

targets and immediately eliminated the competition, securing a third place overall victory in the varsity men's division. He also shot a personal best score of 86/100 in sporting clays.

The following shooters also brought their best performance and topping their personal best scores:

Andrea Gulseth PR in Sporting Clays

Eli Miller PR in Sporting Clays
Brogan Chapman PR in Sporting Clays

Andrea Gulseth shot a personal best score of 52 in sporting clays

Eli Miller shot a personal best of 52 in sporting clays.

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SOFTBALL

Defense shines for Ladycats

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

As expected, with the way the weather has been lately, the Aledo Ladycats softball season has come to a bit of a standstill. After the Ladycats completed their first tournament, a winter storm forced a cancellation with their second tournament in Mansfield. This canceled a handful of games for the reigning state finalist. Luckily, the team had a game scheduled with Waxahachie on Tuesday, March 1, to keep from getting out of rhythm.

The game was a defensive masterpiece as Kayleigh Smith got the start for the Ladycats and did not allow a run through five innings and only allowed one hit. However, the game was just as good defensively for the Lady Indians who started the #1 pitching prospect in the 2025 class. Aledo only mustered two hits in the game. Fortunately it was just enough.

The only run of the ballgame came in the second inning. Aledo catcher Allison Mallard was hit by a pitch with one out. With Kaylee Lucas in as a courtesy runner for Mallard, Presley Hull laid down a sacrifice bunt to advance Lucas to second. The next batter, Reagan Davis, hit a bloop single to left field that fell just deep enough to allow Lucas to round third and score.

The game was at a standstill from that point on. After five fantastic innings, head coach Heather Myers pulled Smith from the circle and put in sophomore sensation Brenlee Gonzales. Gonzales went right to work and retired the next six Waxahachie batters to earn the save, and secure the win.

Aledo's record improves to 6-1 and the team will be on the road this weekend for a tournament in Coppell and Flower Mound to continue its quest for a state title.



BRIAN SNOW/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

TCA boys tennis players John Chrane, Braydon Lewis, Bo Blauser, Teegan Thomas, and Mican Harless



BRIAN SNOW/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

TCA girls tennis players Alexis Gardner, Rio Lipsky, Gracie Bruner, Ryleigh Bertschy, Meredith Cobble, and Merritt Brenner

TENNIS

TCA team competes in Argyle

The Trinity Christian Academy tennis team competed in the 2022 Argyle High School North Texas Spring Slam JV Tennis tournament on Feb. 22.

Bo Blauser led the way with an impressive first place finish in boys singles. Following Bo's lead, the boys

doubles team of Braydon Lewis and John Chrane finished third with an impressive come-from-behind win in their last match.

In girls singles, Ryleigh Bertschy competed at a high level and earned a third-place finish.

Graber inducted to NJCAA Foundation Hall of Fame

Former Weatherford College women's basketball coach Betty Jo Crumm Graber was announced as part of the National Junior College Athletic Association Foundation Hall



Graber

of Fame class of 2022 on Feb. 25.

This is the second annual event for this hall of fame and the new inductees will be recognized at the NJCAA Foundation Awards on June 10 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Inductees to the hall of fame include administrators, coaches, student-athletes, and meritorious contributors and influencers.

Graber paved the way for countless higher education and athletic professionals since 1954 and is one of five new inductees.

She pioneered the creation of the women's division of the NJCAA and the NJCAA Women's Basketball Coaches Association which both came to fruition in 1975.

Her career is decorated with honors and awards including the 1974 WC Faculty Member of the Year,

1976 Texas Junior College Coach of the Year, 1980 Stayfree National Junior College Coach of the Year, 1991 NJCAA Services Award recipient, 1991 Women's Sports Foundation Coaches Award,

among many others. Graber was a team manager for the 1984 Olympic Basketball Team that won gold.

In 1992, the NJCAA created the Betty Jo Graber Award to honor the tireless dedication put forth by Graber to the association and its student-athletes.

Graber coached at WC for 35 years and was later a member of the WC Board of Trustees.

As the NJCAA Region 5 Women's Director, Graber chaired the Association's women's basketball committee from its inception until her retirement in 1991.

In addition to her contributions to the NJCAA Board of Directors, Graber was a member of the NJCAA Women's Basketball Coaches Association's inaugural hall of fame class in 1998.

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