

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Love in the rocks

Painted stones bring positive messages to Clothes Closet

By Kathy Chruscielski
The Community News

When the Aledo Children's AdvoCats relocated its Clothes Closet to its current location on East Oak Street in Aledo four years ago, several painted rocks were discovered in the flower beds.

Clothes Closet Chair Jennifer Collins said "those rocks were used 'to bless another organization.'" This spawned the idea of having more painted rocks in the flower beds around the store and along the driveway.

Youth from the Church at the Crossing delivered a cart full of painted stones to the Clothes Closet and placed them around the flower beds on Sunday, March 27.

"This has been a dream of mine to get this done," Collins said.

A group from the Coder Elementary Student Council is planning to bring more painted rocks in May. Collins hopes that the stones will be a blessing to customers coming to shop and to the Aledo AdvoCats volunteers. "We would love to find your stone in our flower bed," she said.

For more information, email volunteer@aledoadvocats.com or visit www.aledoadvocats.com.

Photos by Kathy Chruscielski



Youngest Model



KCSTUDIOS KATHY CHRUSCIELSKI

Nevaeh Sky Whittington was the youngest model when the Aledo Children's AdvoCats held their "Feast & Fashion" celebration on April 21 at Stillwater Meadows. For more on the event, see page 5.

ALEDO

Mayor candidates share vision for city

Election day is May 7

By Randy Keck
The Community News

The City of Aledo has a lot of changes coming up.

Local voters approved the city Home Rule Charter election last year with will change the way the city operated.

For one, the city will have its first full-time, permanent city manager starting in May. Part of that charter was moving from a mayor-council form of government to a city manager-council form of government.

Second, this year's mayoral election will not have Kit Marshall on the ballot for the first time since 2006. Marshall has shepherded the city through tremendous change and development in her years both on the city council and as mayor. She first joined the city council in 2002.

There are two people who would like to assume that position, and both are city council members: Nick Stanley and Shane Davis.

Both candidates spoke with The Community News about their qualifications, the challenges Aledo faces, and their vision for the city.

Before he served on the city council, Stanley served on Aledo's Planning & Zoning Commission and the Aledo Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

"I'm a proactive member of my community, I've served with the Aledo Education Foundation on their board, first as a board emeritus member, when I worked for Congresswoman Kay Granger as her outreach director for several years, ... and now as a full board member," Stanley said about his qualifications for the job.

Davis served on the Aledo Parks & Recreation Board before becoming a member of the council.

"I've lived here in Aledo now for 12 years, and I've been a Parker County



Nick Stanley



Shane Davis

resident for 18. I feel like I have a good sense of what happens in our community, and how our government works. And so I feel like that's what makes me qualified to be mayor of our town," Davis said.

The candidate elected will be the first Aledo mayor with a full-time city manager. Both candidates were asked how they can best work with the council and new city manager.

"It's going to be an incredible step for us in the city to fully embrace that," Stanley said. "We've already taken the first step, and that's hiring that full-time city manager. That will be somebody who will oversee the professional staff. The city manager is essentially the CEO of the city, and letting him come in and really set the stage for success for us, given direction by the city council, of course, but primarily just for his expertise to take that and move in that direction is going to help us be successful."

"First, I think the best way to implement that is to make sure we communicate the change of what we've become," Davis said. "I think most people understand the differences between a general law city and a Home Rule city. So I think communication is really important. And I think to make sure that we highlight the achievements of the Council and the administration. So I think that's where the mayor steps in. He or she has to be

Turn to **MAYOR**, page 3

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The Community News (USPS 005-341) is published each week by TCN Ventures Inc., at 1015 Champions Dr., Aledo, TX 76008. Periodical rate postage paid at Aledo, Texas 76008.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to : The Community News, P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, Texas 76008

In & Around Parker County

Clear Fork Veterinary Clinic is committed to compassionate, quality care

Since May 2018, Clear Fork Vet has committed to providing quality care to all animals that enter their doors.

Born and raised in Aledo, Dr. Darryl McEndree brings 22 years of veterinary expertise to his hometown, serving his entire career in Parker County. Dr. McEndree received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Texas A&M University in College Station.

The Clear Fork Veterinary team has expanded over the last 18 months to include experienced veterinarians Dr. Kimberly Wise and Dr. Clare Williamson, who joined the clinic in 2021.

It also has a full staff of veterinary technicians, customer service representatives and a clinic manager to ensure customer satisfaction for all.

The clinic provides comprehensive full-life-stage care to dogs and cats, offering wellness exams, vaccinations, hospital care, end-of-life care, pain management, dental care, surgery, radiology and imaging, internal medicine, pharmacy service, emergency care, micro-chipping, heartworm and flea treatment products and prescription food products.

“We take the care of all pets very seriously,” Dr. McEndree said. “We always try to remain very understanding and compassionate. We try to stay on the front edge of their care, while also providing high-quality treatment and medicine.”

In addition to the pristine care it provides to its animal patients, Dr. McEndree said the practice maintains clear and open communication with their owners, and every visit will be one of compassion.

Dr. McEndree said they work to ensure all animals feel comfortable and safe when they are in their care.

“If anything is our niche, it’s the time we spend with the owner and the pet,” Dr. McEndree said. “We want to be able to make a difference in the lives of animals.”

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Obituaries

J.W. Stoker

J.W. Stoker, legendary trick rider and roper, passed away at the age of 94 on April 21, 2022, in Weatherford.

J.W. was born on September 30, 1927, on the Stoker Ranch near Colorado Springs, Colorado. Four years later, the family moved to Overland Park, Kansas. J.W. and his two younger sisters, Frankie and Bessie, developed an interest in trick riding and roping when attending a Tom Mix Circus performance in Kansas City.

In the winter of 1938, a cowboy named Pinky Barnes came to Kansas City to teach kids how to rope. From that point on J.W. knew he wanted to be a trick rider and roper. In the spring of 1939, J.W. got his first job in the Clyde S. Miller Rodeo Show. Miller also hired J.W.'s parents to help with the show, and his two sisters joined J.W.'s act; it was truly a family affair.

At the age of 12, J.W. appeared on the Wheaties cereal box as Juvenile World Champion Trick Rider. J.W. turned pro in 1942 and rodeoed steadily until the United States Army needed him. He served with the Soldier Show Section during the Korean War, entertaining the troops.

Upon his discharge from the Army in 1953, J.W. went on the road performing with black lights. His use of invisible ultraviolet lights was the first such use in professional rodeo.

Not only did J.W. work the biggest rodeos - Cheyenne, Madison Square Garden, Calgary, Boston Garden, Denver, Fort Worth, Houston, and Salinas - but his talents of trick riding, blacklight rope spinning, and fancy horse catches have been witnessed all over the world, including Dominican Republic, Cuba, Korea, Finland, France, Australia, and Venezuela. In 1973, J.W. spent seven months working for the Casey Tibbs' Wild West Show in Japan. He once performed for the Queen of England.

J.W. trick roped in President Harry Truman's inaugural parade in 1948, and entertained President Ronald Reagan and future President George H.W. Bush at the 1984 Republican Convention in Dallas.

J.W.'s talents also caught Hollywood's attention. He trick-roped and rode in The Kansan in the late 1940s and in

1956 performed stunts for the movie "Bus Stop" starring Marilyn Monroe. In 1980, he was a stunt double in the Clint Eastwood movie, "Bronco Billy."

J.W. also performed as a stunt rider for Roy Rogers, and Roy even rode one of J.W.'s favorite horses, Punkin, at the Houston Rodeo in 1969. J.W. was honored to share the horse with his friend.

J.W. won the Will Rogers Centennial Trick Roping Contest in 1979, and began his 1988 season performing at the Calgary Olympics Rodeo. He was a featured guest on NBC's Today Show, was an entertainer at the Smithsonian Institution, and appeared from 1990 to 1999 in Michael Martin Murphy's West Fest. In 2003, J.W. entertained at The Great American Wild West Show in Las Vegas.

In his later years, J.W. made numerous appearances at the Rose Bowl Parade with Trish Lynn and the All American Cowgirl Chicks, a trick-riding team from Parker County that travels the rodeo circuit. J.W. was instrumental in coaching the team and developing them into trick riders. The Cowgirl Chicks were his pride and joy. He loved to brag of their accomplishments and was immensely proud of the work they do to keep the art of trick riding and roping alive.

J.W. continued to perform special engagements and make appearances into his nineties, he even taught a roping lesson from his bed a couple days before he went to be with the Lord.

J.W. broke tradition by being honored two consecutive years (1985 and 1986) by the prestigious Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association as Specialty Act of the Year. He was inducted into the National Cowboys Hall of Fame in 1999, the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2007, the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 2011, and the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2015. In 2019, J.W. was the recipient of the Lane Frost Award in honor of his contributions to the image and growth of Rodeo. J.W. was recognized by the cities of Weatherford, Texas, and Overland Park, Kansas with



J.W. Stoker

mayoral proclamations of "J.W. Stoker Day" in both locations.

J.W. called Parker County home since 1969 and spent his final years working his beloved horses Romeo, Hollywood, and Blanco. While his trademark was white horses, Romeo, a paint stallion, was truly his favorite.

J.W.'s dream was to keep the western culture alive through teaching kids and young people the art of trick riding and roping. Throughout his life he quietly coached dozens of trick riders and ropers, and was willing to teach anyone who asked. He considered this his greatest career achievement. J.W.'s legacy will endure through the lives and careers of those he so graciously shared his immeasurable talents and gifts with.

J.W. is preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Wilma Stoker, and his sisters, Frankie Hill and Bessie Fugate, and nephew J.C. Hill.

He is survived by six nieces and nephews: Karen Krehbiel, Donald Hill and wife Sondra, Ronnie Hill and wife Gina, Wallace Hill and wife Rhealene, all of Canadian, Texas; Debbie Miller and husband Brad, and Hunter Fugate and wife Geri, all of Emporia, Kansas. J.W. is also survived by 15 great nieces and nephews, and 27 great-great nieces and nephews.

A funeral service is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at Parker County Cowboy Church, 5050 FM 5, Aledo, Texas.

J.W. will lie in state from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, April 29, at White's Funeral Home, 130 Houston Ave., Weatherford, Texas.

Interment will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 4, at Johnson County Memorial Gardens, 1200 Metcalf Ave., Overland Park, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in J.W.'s memory be made to All American Cowgirl Chicks, a 501(c)(3) organization, 4101 William D. Tate, Suite 100, Grapevine, Texas 76051 for the purpose of creating the J.W. Stoker Memorial Scholarship, to be used to assist young people in attending trick riding and roping camps.

The Community News
April 29, 2022

MAYOR

from page one

that person that shouts out to the community."

When asked about the biggest issues facing the city, both candidates responded with "growth." Both advocate working cooperatively with other government entities to handle issues like traffic congestion.

"We're looking for the right type of economic development," Stanley said. "With the growth comes challenges and growing pains, just like in anything. You have heard me talk about the need for an Aledo Police Department as we grow. We're very fortunate in Aledo to have a low crime rate as it is right now. With growth comes crime. It's just a statistical fact that with more density and more population will, unfortunately, sometimes bring more crime. And so that is one of the greatest challenges I think we face is figuring out how to fiscally (in a) responsible way fund, Aledo police department."

"We, of course, love new residents," Davis said. "But in order to keep ourselves away from the tax burden sitting only on the residents, we need to add in more commercial businesses. We need to have a good balance of that. And then it's going to be about really managing construction and infrastructure. To add people and businesses, we have to add sewer, water lines, we have to improve our current roads. It doesn't happen overnight. We've been working on Bailey Ranch Road to get it fixed now for almost four years. It takes a lot of coordination through a lot of people to get things done."

When asked about what their visions would be for Aledo in future years, both candidates alluded to the character of the community.

"My vision for Aledo is to continue in hopes that as we grow, that's done with the full thought and measure of embracing our heritage and culture in Aledo," Stanley said. "Whether you've lived here, 50-60 years, or you've lived

here two or three years, there's something I think we can all agree on. We love Aledo for what Aledo is, and we came here because we love what Aledo had to offer. There's a strong ranching culture here and heritage, and what we've had does not need to be lost. My vision for Aledo would be to not be a metropolis, to not have such an overwhelming density here that, that we feel like we have totally lost what we knew Aledo to be. We've driven conversation around how we grow, including the Velocity Group plan, what we want Aledo to look like when we grow. And so it's just sticking to our principles and our framework that we set to carry that out."

"Aledo needs to make sure we stay Aledo," Davis said. We are a great city. And what I find from campaigning and this is what really rejuvenates me about our city is every neighborhood I walk. It's neighborly; they know their neighbors and they get together and they enjoy each other's time, their kids play together. It's still a place where you can where you can be friends, you don't have to be scared to leave your house, you can go out and enjoy the community and understand that during times of need, this community is going to be there for you. Aledo will never be a community where anyone gets left behind because we have established long ago that this is a community that cares about everybody. The overarching goal of our community has always been, we will take care of each other. And as we continue to do that Aledo is going to be a beautiful place to live for 100 years to come."

Early voting is under way for election day, which is May 7. For early voting dates and locations, and for polling locations on election day, visit <https://www.parkercountytexas.com/DocumentCenter/View/9111/EVEDSitesMay072022>.

Some quotes were edited down in order to provide roughly equal space for each candidate. Full audio recordings of the interviews are available at community-news.com.

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ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL

Nationals experience enlightens future for cheerleaders

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Sometimes a competition is more than competing.

For example, recently the Aledo High School varsity cheerleading squad competed in the National High School Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida. While it showcased their skills on a national level, the team brought home much more.

For one thing, they have the distinction of being the first cheerleading team from Aledo to compete in the prestigious event, finishing fifth in the Super Varsity Game Day 1 division. They qualified by finishing sixth in regional competition for the Universal Cheerleaders Association last November.

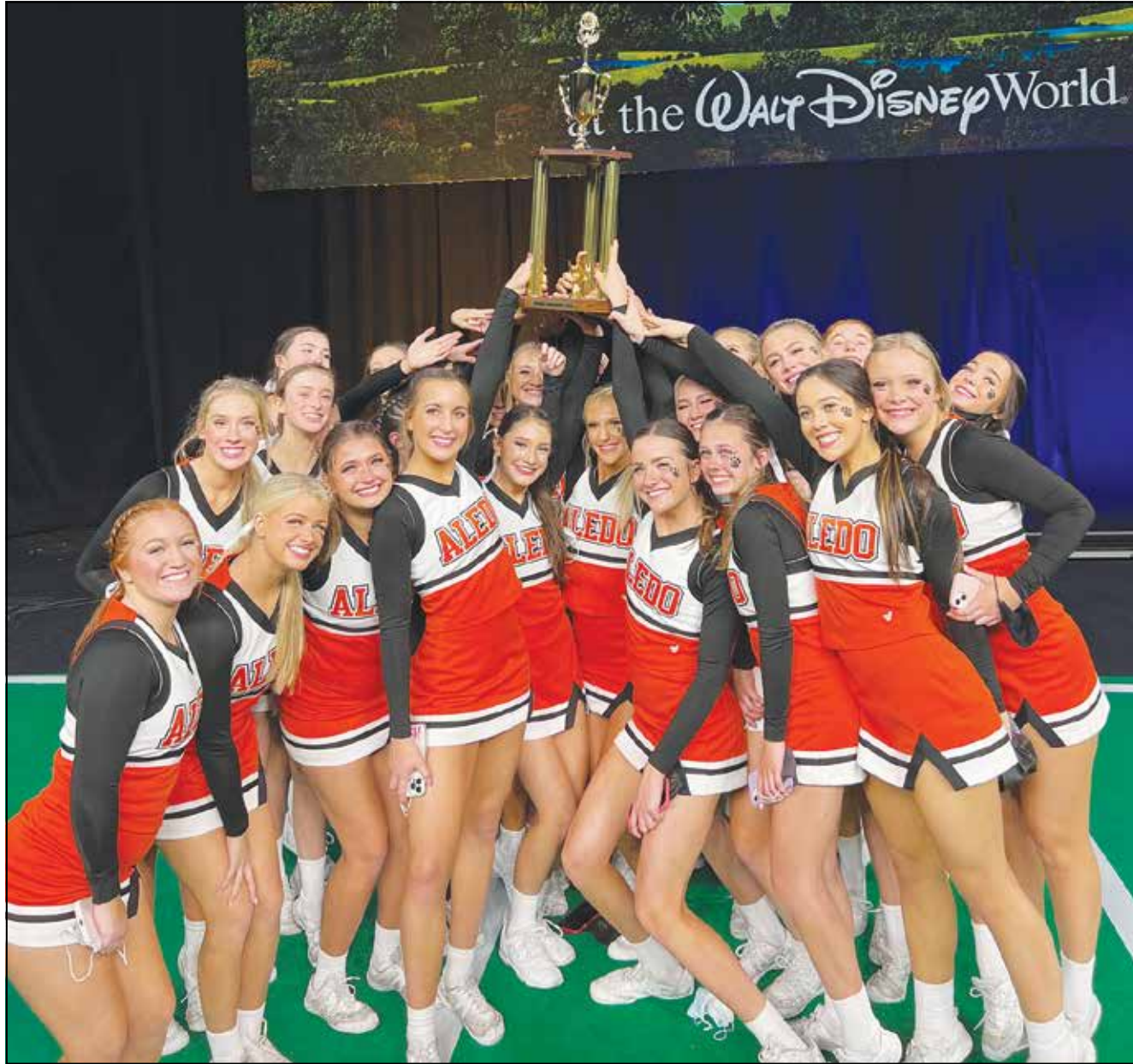
"For the past few years we have competed only at the UIL (University Interscholastic League) State Spirit Competition. This past year we decided to expand our competition season to showcase AHS varsity cheer's athletic ability," said Alyssa Clader, one of the team's sponsors along with Elmi Martinez.

"This experience was invaluable to helping the girls get more comfortable competing. They were able to watch some of the best teams from all over the country and compete against the best in the nation."

Along with getting valuable experience for future competition and life itself, the event was the experience of a lifetime, team members said.

"This past year was my first year on varsity. I was moved up from JV last year to compete in the UIL state competition in January of 2021. I immediately fell in love with the competition scene," Sidney Tillotson said. "I compete in track, which is an individual sport, so being able to be a part of a true team sport is an amazing experience."

"My favorite part of this past competition season, and competing at Disney, was meeting other teams from all over the U.S. and building friendships with girls on the team. I



Members of the Aledo High School varsity cheerleading squad celebrate a fifth-place finish at nationals, which was held in Orlando, Florida.

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

am so excited to compete next year as a senior, and I can't wait to see what this competition season looks like."

Senior Natalie Neill said it was a great way to end her career as a cheerleader at AHS.

"To be able to end it competing at nationals was nothing short of a dream. I have loved cheering on our

Bearcats, but it's a totally different experience competing as a team," she said. "I loved making memories with these girls, and all of the life lessons the cheer team has taught me. I have had the best experiences and cannot wait to see what these girls do next year."

Martinez said plans are already in the works to try and return next season.

"Yes, we plan on competing at UCA regionals and aim to get a bid to nationals. We are already planning fundraising efforts for our bid this year," she said.

"This experience was such a great life experience for the girls. They were able to bond with their teammates in ways no other squad has been able

to do," Clader said. "We experienced excitement, frustration, determination, and so much fun together."

"Many look into cheer not expecting to learn much except smiling and looking pretty, but these girls do much more than that," Clader continued. "The countless hours of dedication they have put into practice are more than we can count. Through the tears and occasional drama the girls have learned perseverance and teamwork above all else."

"We've had times when on the day of a competition a routine had to be changed. With nothing but smiles the girls learned how to adjust and work together under pressure."

Juniors on the team have been on the squad for one and seniors two years. Eight sophomores were pulled up from the junior varsity, Martinez said. The roster included:

Seniors: Taylor Douglas, Rilee Goggans, Scarlett Grimes, Kalee Mays, Addy Mosley, Natalie Neil, Elle Page, Makenzie Hill, Ashlee Thompson, Olivia Tregellas.

Juniors: Olivia Contreras, Madeline Dean, Georgia King, Karly Laughley, Lauren Lowry, Kylee Martin, Karin "Taylor" Parsons, Gracie Phillips, Ruthie Pulliam, Ella Stewart, Rachel Taylor, Sidney Tillotson, Brianna Watson, McKenna Weatherley, Morgan Wyss.

Sophomores: Ellis Johnson, Reagan Mitchell, Ashlyn Neeley, Ava Schmidt, Brinklee Steagall, Daniella Tregellas, Maryn Ward, Chloe Wilson.

"They've learned to perform in front of hundreds of people with the utmost confidence," Clader said. "Lastly, many have learned to juggle hard and stressful schedules between other extracurriculars, heavy school loads and jobs. Overall, the girls have learned skills that make them strong women and give them the ability to be successful in life after school."

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AdvoCats commemorate 20 years of service

'Feast & Fashion' celebration held April 21

Aledo Children's AdvoCats is celebrating 20 years of service to Aledo ISD children and families in need. To commemorate the occasion, the organization invited current and legacy members to attend a "Feast & Fashion" celebration at Stillwater Meadow on April 21. The event included a luncheon, vendor fair, and a fashion show that featured new spring looks from local boutiques, as well as the AdvoCats' upscale resale store located on Oak Street in downtown Aledo: The Clothes Closet.

Aledo Children's AdvoCats was established in 2002 by a small group of twenty-one founding members who recognized the unmet student needs within the Aledo ISD community. At the time, East Parker County lacked a place for families to go for support with medical and dental needs, food, clothing, school supplies, or basic living expenses. This group of servant-minded women banded together and started a 501(c)(3) non-profit that could help.

With an estimated one in eight Aledo ISD students being economically disadvantaged, it became the mission of this all-female volunteer organization to raise charitable funds that could help improve the lives of those children and families in our community.

After two decades, this mission continues to be carried out through strong collaboration among Aledo ISD counselors, generous local donors and event sponsors, and the tireless efforts of the organization's members - the AdvoCats Ambassadors. The



Courtney Adams, Christi Blackburn, Summer Wilkes



Carol Rowe



Becca Moore, Kim Mulkey

nonprofit has raised more than \$1 million and has assisted thousands of children and families since it began. AdvoCats members volunteer countless hours each year serving through three core community outreach programs: Children's Fund, The Clothes Closet, and Angel Project. Other local causes like the Adams Family House, the Hancock House of Hope, Bearcat Park, Parker County Teen Court, and Shattered Dreams have been previous recipients of support

and funding by the group. AdvoCats also invests in the dreams of Aledo High School seniors by providing need- and service-based college and trade school scholarships to deserving students each year.

The legacy of the small group of founding members of Aledo Advocats continues to inspire and support our Aledo community. If you would like to join, volunteer, donate or sponsor this cause, visit www.aledoadvocats.com for more details.



Natalie Martini checks the dessert table.

KCSTUDIOS KATHY CHRUSCIELSKI

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Commentary

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Capital Highlights

Early voting underway for May 7 election



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Early voting began Monday for local elections and two proposed constitutional amendments relating to property tax reductions. Early voting continues through Tuesday, May 3, with election day on Saturday, May 7.

One proposed amendment would authorize the Legislature to limit property taxes on homesteads of elderly or disabled residents, while the other would increase the homestead exemption for school taxes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

Voters return to the polls later in May for runoff elections in both the Democratic and Republican primaries. Voters cannot switch parties if they voted in the March 1 primary, but voters who didn't vote in the primary can participate in either party's runoff. A full list of runoff races can be found on the secretary of state's website: sos.texas.gov. Early voting for the May 24 runoff begins on May 16.

"With multiple opportunities to vote in the upcoming May elections, I strongly encourage all Texas voters to get informed about what's on the ballot and make a plan to cast one," Secretary of State John Scott said. To find out what is on local ballots, contact your county's local election office.

Material shortage bedevils TxDOT projects

Shortages of steel and concrete are slowing down road projects and driving up costs, according to an internal memo from the Texas Department of Transportation's construction division director, reported last week by the Quorum Report and kut.org.

"Due to recent circumstances affected by world events, there has been significant volatility in the market for various construction materials. We have seen the availability of some materials become very limited or the material lead time has increased significantly. We have also seen significant increases (over 100% in some cases) in some material prices," Duane S. Milligan wrote.

TxDOT has more than 15,000 projects in the pipeline across the state. The jobs total \$156 billion, with about half either underway or set to start soon. Milligan's memo to district engineers and construction managers suggested substituting construction materials when feasible, or removing work or materials from a road project "when the deletion will not affect the safety of the completed project."

Concert safety task force releases report

A task force has issued its findings after investigating the tragedy at the Astroworld Festival last November, when a crowd stampede resulted in multiple deaths and injuries.

The task force formed by Gov. Greg Abbott called for unified command and control, requiring permits even in unincorporated areas, crowd safety training, planning with risk assessment, and centralized resources. Details are available in an event production guide available from the Texas Music Office.

"The recommendations, findings, and solutions detailed in this report will help the state of Texas prevent another tragedy like that at Astroworld Festival from happening again," Abbott said.

Distracted driving spurs fatality increase

Distracted driving deaths increased 17% in 2021 compared to the previous year, taking the lives of 431 people and seriously injuring nearly 3,000. In the wake of that, TxDOT is stepping up its "Talk. Text. Crash." campaign. The initiative urges drivers to "keep their heads up, put their phones down and just drive."

"Texans are killed each year simply because someone was distracted by their phone, radio, navigation system, eating or drinking, or even by others in the car," Marc Williams, TxDOT executive director, said. "When your focus isn't on driving, you're putting yourself, your passengers, and everyone else on the road at risk."

The agency reminds drivers that any distraction is dangerous. It urges drivers to pull off the road entirely before talking or texting and turning off the phone while driving.

Go-kit urged for wildfires, other disasters

As wildfires and tornadoes sweep the state and with hurricane season just around the corner, the Texas A&M Forest Service urges Texans to assemble a go-kit that can be easily transported and includes supplies for several days. The kit should include:

- Supplies for both people and pets.
- Prescription medications or other necessary medical equipment.
- Important documents such as insurance and identification documents.
- Food, water, clothing, money and a first-aid kit.
- Priceless items, such as family photos and heirlooms.

"When disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes, winter storms and tornados arise requiring you to leave your home, being prepared ahead of time can save precious time and help keep your family safe during an emergency," said Karen Stafford with the forest service.

COVID-19 cases, deaths rise

The number of new COVID-19 cases in the past week in the state rose to 23,363, and deaths more than doubled to 209, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations dropped slightly, with 755 reported across the state by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

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.

Your Views

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Supporting Bedore

Our county deserves to have a person with experience and passion as our next Justice of the Peace for Precinct Four. Allison Bedore is a candidate for the position in the Republican primary run-off. She is an attorney who has had an office in Parker County for over 11 years. As an individual that has been involved with the Republican Party and the community, I can attest to her presence and engagement in local organizations and the party.

It is important that any candidate for a judicial position be knowledgeable in the laws of the Court in which they seek to hold. Ms. Bedore's experience is unparalleled, as she has litigated several hundred cases in Justice of the Peace courts throughout North Texas. Through her experience in this Court, she has attained the knowledge necessary to properly handle the job.

I personally endorse Allison Bedore as the right candidate for Justice of the Peace Precinct Four and encourage the people of precinct four to vote for her in the upcoming run-off. Early voting is May 16-20, 2022 and the last day to vote is May 24, 2022.

- MARVIN HERRING
REPUBLICAN CHAIR, PCT. 400

Supporting Mike Olcott

There were two letters sent to the editor, and recently published under "Your Views" by two persons who obviously do not know Mike Olcott. I have known Mike Olcott for years and I respect him as an active conservative, a leader, and a fearless advocate for conservative principles.

Mike has been endorsed by Senator Ted Cruz, who is one of the most outspoken senators, and who is constantly in the news, fighting against the satanic forces that are trying to tear this county apart.

Senator Cruz referred to Mike Olcott as "a conservative who has walked the walk for years"....as a "tireless champion for Texas." I absolutely concur! Mike Olcott is the principal founder of the Parker County Conservatives; Mike has organized caravans of volunteers to block walk for conservative candidates; he has fought against higher taxes; he has fought for individual liberties; he has organized trips to Austin to advocate for conservative values; he has knocked on thousands of doors, advocating for conservative candidates.

Someone said to me, "Don't vote for Mike Olcott. He wouldn't get along in Austin." I said, "Great! We need a fighter in Austin." I am confident that Mike Olcott will fight for... real property tax reduction... boarder security...rights of the

unborn...reducing the size of government, and fight against leftist ideologies that try to indoctrinate our children.

I am proud to be associated with Mike Olcott's campaign!
-BERNARD R. SUCHOCKI
WILLOW PARK

Supporting Rogers

Aledo Community and Friends,

I am exhausted with the political climate in our country. My stance in recent months when political matters are brought up is to change the topic. The political rhetoric on both sides has become off-putting and leaves folks with a bad taste in their mouth.

That said, this piece is about politics. Everyone has their "causes" and among those causes for me is public education. A lot of folks have moved to Aledo because of a great school system...so I'll say that I believe it's an important cause for you too.

Educators have always needed our support to help children be successful — this was true long before COVID; however, the game has changed. Students are behind academically, yet the pressure of achievement still exists. Schools are filled with students who suffer from depression, anxiety, and mental anguish, yet resources are slim. Teachers are exhausted. Administrators are spread thin. Educators are exiting the profession at an alarming rate. The problems that educators faced pre-COVID have only been amplified.

Without the proper funding, love, and support, it will be our children who pay the price. I'm not ok with that.

After evaluating the two candidates running for Texas House District 60, I am writing this to voice my support of Dr. Glenn Rogers. I had the privilege to meet with Dr. Rogers, and I find his concern and passion for supporting our educators to be genuine and encouraging.

I do not believe Dr. Roger's opponent shares the same passion and concern for supporting our public schools. He opposed the 2019 Aledo ISD bond and is supported by those who seek to defund education across the state.

While we may not be able to control every variable in these uncertain times, we DO have the opportunity to elect people to office that will support our Bearcats in Austin.

LETTERS POLICY

The Community News welcomes letters from readers on topics of local interest. Letters should be signed and should be limited to approximately 300 words. Please include a telephone number or other contact information so the identity of the letter writer can be verified.

If you are an educator or supporter of public education, I would encourage you to do your homework in this election and vote.

- ZACH TARRANT
ALEDO ISD PARENT
FORMER ALEDO ISD
ADMINISTRATOR (2012-2019)

Supporting Shane Davis

Shane Davis is my friend. I can't vote for Shane because I don't live in Aledo. Recently I asked why he wanted to run for mayor. Below is a portion of his response:

"I have a servant's heart and mind. My joys in life come from helping others succeed. I am an 18-year year Parker County resident and a 12-year Aledo resident. I understand where we have been. I consider the Wileys, Reids, Handleys, and Bennets friends and treasures to our history. That said, I also understand change is necessary. Growth is coming and the best thing we can do is to prepare for the inevitable. It is in our best interest to be part of that change.

"We need to make sure the values of Aledo carry on. Our faith in God is first, family second and our community is third. Living up to and supporting those values daily is the Aledo way.

"As for me, I work with the young, the old, the wealthy and the poor, the healthy and the health challenged. No matter who you are, you are important. I am a worker and thinker. I am not the smartest or the strongest person in the room, but I will never give up.

"When I joined the city council a year ago, I really understood very little how the city actually worked. Since then I have been on a quest for knowledge and understanding. I ask questions on both sides as a councilman, resident, and student to make sure I am making the best decisions for Aledo.

"Lastly I am accessible. I own a business in Aledo. People can reach me anytime and I respond to the best of my ability. I will serve and work for the people who have elected me."

Shane would follow in the footsteps of a lady whom I have the greatest respect for. Based on Shane's heartfelt response, I would vote for him if I could. I think a servant leader is just what we need more of in public elected officials

- RHONDA TORRES

The Community News

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- Texas Press Association
- North and East Texas Press Association
- West Texas Press Association
- East Parker County Chamber of Commerce
- Weatherford Chamber of Commerce

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Mail subscriptions are \$29 per year in Parker and Tarrant Counties; \$37 per year elsewhere. Subscribe at www.community-news.com/subscribe. Receive our e-version, print version, or both all for the same price.

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.

Classifieds

APRIL 29, 2022

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

APRIL 29, 2022
THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

APRIL 29

Romeo and Juliet

Theatre off the Square will present Romeo and Juliet at 6 p.m. on April 29 and 30 at the Hudson Oaks Amphitheater. Tickets are \$10 for people 12 and older, and \$5 for people younger than 12. Patrons may wish to take blankets and chairs. Picnic food, drinks, and coolers are allowed.

APRIL 30

Breakfast with Friends

Lakeshore Baptist Church, in partnership with Flames Seafood Restaurant, will host a community breakfast from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, at Flames Seafood Restaurant, 1917 Martin Drive in Weatherford. Breakfast will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, and a beverage: orange juice, water, or hot coffee. No substitutions or special orders. To-go orders are available. There is a recommended minimum donation of \$10. Meals can be purchased at the door or in advance at <https://onrealm.org/Lakeshore/give/Flames>. For more information, visit www.lakeshorebaptist.com/event.

Native Plant Sale

The Cross Timbers Chapter of the Native Plant Society will hold its annual Native Plant Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at Peacock's Feed & Supply, 122 W. Water St. in Weatherford. Chapter

members will be on hand to answer questions and offer educational materials to help you choose native plants for this region. There is also a list of recommended native plants for the North Central Texas region in a printable file on the chapter website, <https://npsot.org/wp/crosstimbers/>. The chapter holds monthly meetings in Weatherford and membership is open to all. The mission of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote research, conservation and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach and example. For details go to www.npsot.org.

MAY 1

Democratic Women Meeting

The Parker County Texas Democratic Women's group will hold its monthly meeting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 1, in the Strain community room in the Doss Student Center at Weatherford College. Parker County resident Claire Olson, a board member of the Tarrant County Coalition for Peace and Justice, will speak. The coalition is working on a memorial for Fred Rouse, a Black man who was lynched in Fort Worth in 1921. The coalition works with the Equal Justice Initiative, founded by attorney Bryan Stevenson, who's memoir "Just Mercy" inspired the poplar film by the same name. For details, see

<https://tccpj.org>. For more information, visit <https://parkercountydemocrats.org>.

Sunset On The Square

Downtown Weatherford, Inc. will host the second annual Sunset on the Square outdoor dining event beginning at 5 p.m. Sunday, May 1, in downtown Weatherford. Social hour begins at 5 p.m. with appetizers served from local favorite restaurants. Guests will then enjoy an al fresco dining experience with food served by Fire Oak Grill, Zeno's on the Square, and Downtown Cantina.

Individual tickets are \$150 and include a four-course dinner (hors d'oeuvres, steak dinner with salad entree and a side, refreshments, and dessert). A full table for eight guests is \$1500. To purchase tickets, visit <https://sunsetonthesquare.com/pages/buy-tickets/>. For sponsorships and information, email Info@sunsetonthesquare.com or call 817-381-8796.

MAY 2

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.

MAY 3

Candidate Forum

The Parker County Republican Women will host a candidate forum

ACROSS

1 "Dallas" character John _____ Ewing
TXism: "_____ late and a dollar short"

5 TX Blue _____ ice cream

7 Rice won 1966 _____ College Bowl

8 lineage based nat'l. patriotic grp. (abbr.) cattle feed

15 USAF was started in Texas with First _____ Squadron

16 TX Gipson's sequel to "Old Yeller" (2 wds.) city on Galveston Bay

19 TXism: "quit spittin' _____ handle" (get to work)

22 TXism: "as _____ outhouse on a cold morning"

27 Oklahoma city

28 Plano hosts a _____ balloon festival

29 TXism: "independent as _____ ice"

30 Belle Starr's first TX husband (2 wds.)

32 TX singer Kris (init.)

33 TXism: "_____ like a sore thumb"

36 TXism: "fast as _____ up a rafter"

37 ornerly insect from Mexico: killer _____

38 Dallas' _____ Marcus"

39 TXism for add it up (2 wds.)

41 this Heard was 1993 Mavericks coach

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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DOWN

1 poke with a stick

2 TX Benson 1976 film: "_____ to Billy Joe"

3 Canadian city

4 his father was SMU All-American & N.Y. Giants star in 1950s (3 wds.)

8 Martin of 1963 film "4 for Texas"

9 San Antonio author of "The House on Mango Street"

10 TX Willie's 1990 "Farm Aid _____" was in Indianapolis, Ind.

11 "hasta _____ vista"

12 TX Freddy Fender's "You'll Lose _____" (1976)

13 this Pete wrote "North Dallas Forty"

14 TXism: "como _____ (how are you?)"

15 TXism: "popular as _____ daughter"

16 "dog paddle," e.g. _____ in March we had _____ gas prices

18 Christmas tree place in Beckville: _____ Tree Farm

20 TXism: "never laid eyes _____"

22 TX Ginger Rogers' dance partner (init.)

23 money makers for Texas newspapers

24 TXism: "_____ gut" (liquor)

25 TXism: "getting long in the tooth"

26 TXism: "could wear his work shirt to a church _____"

28 TXism: "in a _____ of trouble"

31 this Andrews worked with Aikman on Fox MacLaine of Texas filmed "Terms of Endearment" (init.)

34 MacLaine of Texas filmed "Terms of Endearment" (init.)

35 TXism: "he's only got one _____ in the water" (slow witted)

37 ship's jail

40 Love arriv. guess

43 African antelopes

44 TXism: "the real McCoy"

50 TX Kenny Rogers' "_____ Need You"

51 Ranger pitcher in 1993, Robb

for the May 24 Republican Primary Runoff at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, in the second floor training room at the First Bank Texas Building, 100 Willow Bend Drive in Willow Park. No reservation is required.

MAY 5

Republican Party Meeting

The Parker County Republican Party will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, in the Stain Community Room

at Weatherford College. The guest will be Pat Hardy, who is our representative on the State Board of Education, and she will speak on how CRT is creeping into Texas' public schools. For more information, call J Scott Utley at 817-304-0144 or email parkercountygop@gmail.com.

Send event information to events@community-news.com

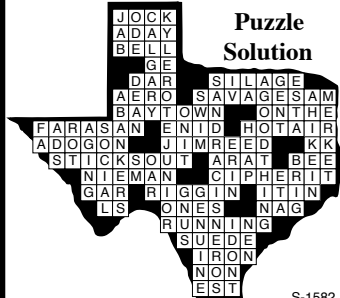
MAY 6

Shakespeare in Weatherford

Theatre off the Square will present Romeo and Juliet at 6 p.m. on May 6 and 7 at Chandor Gardens, 711 West Lee in Weatherford. Tickets are \$10 for people 12 and older, and \$5 for people younger than 12.

Chairs are available for the performance.

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126 RANCH HOUSE ROAD

GOLF

Ladycats joining Bearcats at state

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

For the first time since 2017 Aledo will have two golf teams competing at state.

Two days after the Bearcats qualified, the Ladycats followed suit by winning the Class 5A Region I Girls Golf Tournament at Rawls Golf Course at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

The Ladycats never trailed in the tournament, finishing with a two-day total of 638, 13 strokes ahead of runner-up Grapevine and 54 strokes ahead of third-place Burleson Centennial. All three teams advance to the University Interscholastic League State Tournament at White Wing Golf Club in Georgetown on May 16-17.

The Aledo boys will be playing at the same course May 9-10.

The top three teams and the top three players not on those teams qualified for state.

The Ladycats took a two-stroke lead into the second round after opening the tournament on the course renowned for its winds and tough back nine with a 326. On Day 2 they improved by 14 strokes for their best single day of the season, outdistancing Grapevine by another 11 strokes to expand their lead.

"The girls just continued to work and stay focused on each stroke, knowing that any mistake could cost the team the regional championship," Ladycats coach James Mullins said. "They calculated shots and risks about as good as I've ever seen them do as a team. The big difference was winning the mental game with the competition and heat."

Aledo was led by Mallory Miller, who posted rounds of 77 and 75 for a 152 total. She was sixth overall among medalists. Right behind was Sana'a Lemen with a 155 (78-77), seventh overall.

Alyssa Saunders shot a 158 (81-77) for 10th individually. Rounding out the scores were Madison Warner with a 173 (90-83) and Kyla Morales with a 183 (96-87).

The four lowest scores each round comprise the team score.

The top individual medalist was Granbury's Mason Lewis. The defending 5A state champion shot 4-under-par 140 (69-71) over two days.

"We talked about peaking around this time and it seems that is right on schedule," Mullins said. "Teams that can put two solid days together typically wind up in the top three. I couldn't be prouder and happier for the team. They earned it."

Every season since 2011 Aledo has sent at least one of its golf teams to state. The Ladycats have previously qualified as a team in 2012 (seventh at state), 2013 (10th), 2014 (fourth, with now LPGA golfer Cheyenne Knight winning individually),



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Ladycats golf team is making a return trip to state. Shown are (from left) From left, Coach James Mullins, Alyssa Saunders, Madison Warner, Kyla Morales, Sana'a Lemen, and Mallory Miller.

2015 (second, Knight repeated as champion), 2016 (12th), 2017 (10th), 2018 (fourth) and 2021 (10th).

The Bearcats previously qualified as a team in 2011

(fourth), 2015 (12th), 2017 (10th) and 2019 (12th). They also sent individuals in 2012 (Logan Lambert), 2014 (Lambert) and 2018 (Evan Pennington).

There was no state tournament in 2020, though the Ladycats did win the Region I preview and were projected for a third-place finish at state.

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- ✓ Co-authoring a bill to ban gender modification or gender transitioning. Dr. Rogers is strongly opposed to gender modification. (HB 1399, 2021)
- ✓ Banning the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Texas classrooms. (HB 3979, 2021)
- ✓ Increasing border security funding by \$2.8 billion and is committed to finishing President Trump's border wall. (SB 1, HB 9, 2021)



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TRACK & FIELD

Aledo teams capture area titles

Sending 26 to regionals

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

On the heels of sweeping the District 5-5A team championships a week earlier, the Aledo boys and girls track teams duplicated that feat by bringing home both team titles in the Class 5A Area 5/6 Track and Field Meet at Northwest High School in Justin on Thursday, April 21.

The Bearcats remained perfect on the season, winning their seventh meet in as many attempts. Meanwhile, the Ladycats now have five first-place finishes as a team and two runner-up placements.

The Ladycats scored 127 points to easily outdistance runner-up Denton Ryan with 85. The Bearcats tallied 134.5 points to Ryan's 121.

In all, Aledo qualified 26 athletes (13 boys, 13 girls) for the Class 5A Region I Meet this Friday and Saturday at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. From there, the top two in each event will qualify for the University Interscholastic League State Meet at the University of Texas in Austin May 12-14.

A pair of Ladycats set school records in their respective events. Kaylee Halfmann had a long jump of 17 feet, 0.50 inches to place second, and Natalie Anderson clocked a 16.09 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles to place fourth.

Also, the Bearcats' 1600 relay of 1600 relay of Nathan Wood, Jalen Pope, Bryceson Boss and Hauss

Hejny set a school record with a time of 3:22.23 for second.

The top four finishers in each event qualified for regionals.

The boys and girls each posted six personal records, including two from Addison Smith, who captured a pair of gold medals. The freshman won the 100 dash in a time of 12.09 and took the 200 in 24.58. Smith also won a third gold medal as part of the gold medal-winning 1600 relay.

Lauren St. Peters also won a pair of gold medals in the shot put and discus. Also, the Ladycats took second through fourth in pole vaulting with Maggie Kilburn, Taylor Hindman and Tara Nagy.

"Our team competed at a very high level at the area meet on Thursday. I couldn't be more proud of all of them! Anytime you go up against the schools in District 6, you have to bring your 'A' game," Ladycats coach Mike Pinkerton said. "Now the stakes are raised at regionals. There are some very lofty times, heights, distances in our region. I know our girls will be ready, and they will certainly compete!"

Hejny led the Bearcats by qualifying in three events. Along with running on the 1600 relay, he ran a leg of the winning 400 relay and placed fourth individually in the 100.

"I thought that our team performed well in every part of the meet. Our distance kids ran well, we competed well in the sprints. The Relays did a really good job of competing against some tough competition, qualifying all three relays

for regionals," Bearcats coach Robby Johnson said. "We also had good performances in the jumps, then in the throws. So, overall, it was a complete team victory."

Class 5A Area 5/6 Track and Field Meet At Justin Northwest High School

Aledo results

Team

Boys

Aledo 134.5, Denton Ryan 121

Girls

Aledo 127, Denton Ryan 85

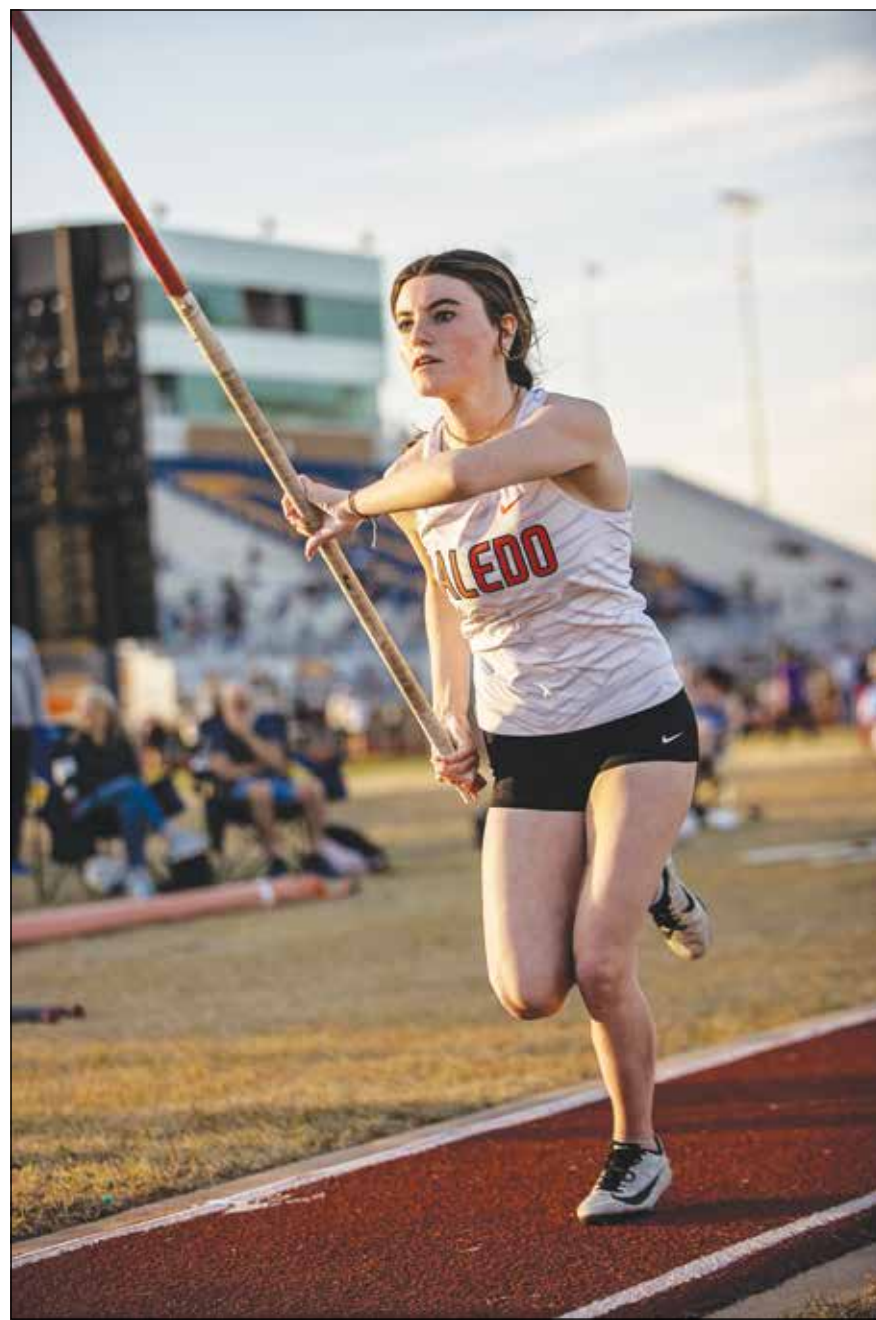
Top individuals/regional qualifiers

Boys

100-meters: 4. Hauss Hejny, 10.96.
400: 4. Nathan Wood, 50.95 (PR).
800: 2. Bryceson Boss, 1:56.79 (PR).
1600: 4. Isaac Hernandez, 4:23.98 (PR).
3200: 4. Hernandez, 9:25.24 (PR).
110 hurdles: 4. Evan Thompson, 15.68.
300 hurdles: 3. Thompson, 41.91.
400 relay: 1. Hejny, Brian Fleming, Jaden Allen, Sammy Steffe, 42.37.
800 relay: 2. Steffe, Fleming, Jalen Pope, Aven Lawrence, 1:26.93.
1600 relay: 2. Wood, Pope, Boss, Hejny, 3:22.23.
Discus: 2. Ansel Din-Mbuh, 156-11 (PR).
High jump: 1. Jack Mitchell, 6-02 (PR).
Pole vault: 2. Sean Gribble, 14-06.

Girls

100: 1. Addison Smith, 12.09 (PR).
200: 1. Smith, 24.58 (PR).
400: 2. Emery Thompson, 59.57 (PR).
800: 2. Sidney Tillotson, 2:24.06.
100 hurdles: 4. Natalie Anderson, 16.09 (SR).
300 hurdles: 4. Sarah Tillotson, 47.47 (PR).
1600 relay: 1. Delaney Deller, Thompson,



KRISTIN MORALES

Maggie Kilburn, shown at a meet earlier this season, qualified for region by finishing second in pole vault at the area tournament.

00 11 16 INVITATION TO BID

1.General Notice

1.1. The City of Aledo (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

Clear Fork Interceptor
ALO19554

1.2. Description of the Work

- Construction of one 1.82 MGD lift station
- 5,600 LF of 15", 18" and 21" PVC gravity outfall
- 170 LF of casing under railroad
- Decommissioning of existing lift station
- Pavement repair and various site improvements

1.3. The Owner's Budget for the Project is \$3,300,000. The Project is to be substantially complete and ready for operation on or before 210 days from Notice to Proceed. The Project is to be complete and eligible for final payment 30 days after the date for Substantial Completion.

2.Examination and Purchase of Documents

2.1. Advertisement and bidding information for the Project can be found at the following procurement website:

<http://construction.freese.com>

2.2. Prospective Offerors must register with the procurement website as a plan holder, even if the Contract Documents are obtained from a plan room or other site. All official notifications, Addenda, and other documents will be offered only through the procurement website.

2.3. The Contract Documents may be downloaded from the procurement website by prospective Offerors registered as plan holders. Offerors are responsible for ensuring that a complete set of documents, as defined in Section 00 52 13 "Agreement," are used in the preparation of their Bids. The documents are made available for the sole purpose of obtaining Bids for completion of the Project and permission to download does not confer a license or grant permission or authorization for any other use. Authorization to download documents includes the right for Offerors to print documents for their sole use, provided they pay all costs associated with printing or reproduction. Printed documents may not be re-sold under any circumstances.

2.4. The procurement website will be updated periodically with Addenda, lists of interested parties, reports, or other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project.

2.5. Printed copies of the Contract Documents, Technical Data, and other information may be examined free of charge at the following address:

City of Aledo
200 Old Annetta Rd.
Aledo, TX 76008
Hours Available for Viewing: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

3.Pre-Bid Conference

3.1. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on 2:00 P.M., May 3, 2022 at the following location:

Aledo Community Center
104 Robinson Ct.
Aledo, TX 76008

4.Questions Regarding Bidding Process or Solicitation Documents

4.1. Questions are to be submitted using the question and answer process on the procurement website. Responses to questions posted on the procurement website will be posted for the benefit of all Offerors. A response will be posted for questions submitted until 12:00 p.m. on May 13, 2022.

4.2. A response to a question posted on the procurement website that requires modification of the Contract Documents will be made by Addenda. Modifications to the Contract Documents prior to the award of the Contract can only be made by Addenda. Only answers

in Addenda posted on the procurement website will be binding. Oral and other interpretations or clarifications will be without legal effect.

5.Bid Security

5.1. Offerors must submit an acceptable Bid Security with their Bids as a guarantee that the Successful Offeror will enter into a contract for the Project with the Owner within 15 days of Notice of Award of the Contract. The Bid Security must be payable to City of Aledo in the amount of 5 percent of the proposed Contract Price. The Successful Offeror must execute the Contract and bonds on the forms provided in the Contract Documents and provide evidence of insurance as required by the Contract Documents.

5.2. Bid Security must be in the form of a bid bond. The bid bond may be submitted on the form provided in Section 00 43 13 "Bid Bond" or Offerors may provide their surety's standard penal sum bid bond form. The bid bond must reference the Owner and the Project by name as identified in this Section.

6.Delivery of Bids

6.1. Sealed Bids must be delivered to the Owner at the address below no later than 1:00 P.M., May 20, 2022 to be accepted. The Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time and place including the names of the Offerors and their Bids. Bids received after this time will be returned unopened. Address Bids to the Owner as follows:

City of Aledo
Attn: Bid – Clear Fork Interceptor
104 Robinson Ct.
Aledo, TX 76008

7.Award of Contract

7.1. It is the intent of the Owner to award this Contract to the lowest responsible Offeror. The Owner reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous interpretation of the Bids submitted in the case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating bid prices, to reject any or all Bids, and/or waive formalities. Bids will remain subject to acceptance and may not be withdrawn within 60 days from the date on which Bids are opened.

8.Other Contract Requirements

8.1. Any contract(s) awarded under this Invitation for Bids is/are subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of Section 608 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA).

8.2. The Contractor acknowledges to and for the benefit of the Applicant ("Purchaser") and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) that it understands the goods and services under this Agreement are being funded with monies made available by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and/or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund that have statutory requirements commonly known as "American Iron and Steel;" that requires all of the iron and steel products used in the project to be produced in the United States ("American Iron and Steel Requirement") including iron and steel products provided by the Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. The Contractor hereby represents and warrants to and for the benefit of the Purchaser and the TWDB that (a) the Contractor has reviewed and understands the American Iron and Steel Requirement, (b) all of the iron and steel products used in the project will be and/or have been produced in the United States in a manner that complies with the American Iron and Steel Requirement, unless a waiver of the requirement is approved, and (c) the Contractor will provide any further verified information, certification or assurance of compliance with this paragraph, or information necessary to support a waiver of the American Iron and Steel Requirement, as may be requested by the Purchaser or the TWDB. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, any failure to comply with this paragraph by the Contractor shall permit the Purchaser to enforce this Agreement and recover as damages against the Contractor any loss, expense, or cost (including without limitation attorney's fees) incurred by the Purchaser resulting from any such failure (including without limitation any impairment or loss of funding, whether in whole or in part, from the TWDB or any damages owed to the TWDB by the Purchaser). While the Contractor has no direct contractual privity with the TWDB, as a lender to the Purchaser for the funding of its

project, the Purchaser and the Contractor agree that the TWDB is a third-party beneficiary and neither this paragraph (nor any other provision of this Agreement necessary to give this paragraph force or effect) shall be amended or waived without the prior written consent of the TWDB.

8.3. Each offeror shall furnish a bid guarantee equivalent to five percent of the bid price (Water Code 17.183). If a bid bond is provided, the Offeror shall utilize a surety company which is authorized to do business in Texas in accordance with Surety Bonds and Related Instruments, Chapter 3503 of the Insurance Code.

8.4. Contractors for this Project must pay no less than the prevailing wage rates for the area established by the Owner per section 513 of the FWPCA and included in the Contract Documents.

8.5. Equal Opportunity in Employment – All qualified Offerors will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or handicap. The Offeror shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the Offeror to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.

8.6. All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by Offeror and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory Davis-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.

8.7. Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bonds are required for this project.

8.8. Compliance with the terms and conditions of United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 58, Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances (USACE Project SWF-2019-00398). This includes, but is not limited to, implementation of the best management practices (BMPs) for soil erosion control, sediment control, and post-construction total suspended solids (TSS) control in accordance with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Section 401 Water Quality Certification for Nationwide Permits.

8.9. In order to comply with requirements of the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding implementation of the Flood Insurance Act, Flood Disaster Protection Act, National Flood Insurance Reform Act, Federal Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, and to comply with related state statutes, proponents of construction projects in special flood hazard areas must coordinate in advance with the local floodplain administrator and have obtained a floodplain development permit.

8.10. Project activities must comply with the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species, and standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.

8.11. A governmental entity may not award a governmental contract to a nonresident bidder unless the nonresident underbids the lowest bid submitted by a responsible resident bidder by an amount that is not less than the amount by which a resident bidder would be required to underbid the nonresident bidder to obtain a comparable contract in the state in which the nonresident's principal place of business is located. A nonresident bidder is a Contractor whose corporate offices or principal place of business is outside of the state of Texas (Source: Texas Government Code, Chapter 2252, Subchapter A, Nonresident Bidders, § 2252.002). The bidder will complete form TWDB-0459, Vendor Compliance with Reciprocity on Nonresident Bidders, which must be submitted with the bid.

8.12. Offeror must certify that they are not an excluded party that is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549. (See 2 CFR Part 180 and 2 CFR Part 1532 for additional information on the federal governmentwide debarment and suspension system for non-procurement programs and activities.)

8.13. For further requirements related to Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) funding, refer to Section 00 74 00.

END OF SECTION

Sa. Tillotson, Smith, 3:58.68.
 Shot put: 1. Lauren St. Peters, 42-11.75; 2. Madysen Boutwell, 37-04.65.
 Discus: 1. St. Peters, 132-10.
 High jump: 3. Ashley Canady, 5-0.
 Pole vault: 2. Maggie Kilburn, 10-0; 3. Taylor Hindman, 10-0; 4. Tara Nagy, 9-06.
 Long jump: 2. Kayla Halfmann, 17-00.50 (SR).

Aledo athletes among regional leaders

(Top 5 with best performances of season)

Boys

800: 4. Boss, 1:15.79.
 800 relay: 3. Steffe, Fleming, Pope, Lawrence, 1:26.93.
 1600 relay: 5. Wood, Pope, Boss, Hejny, 3:22.23.
 Pole vault: 3. Gribble, 15-03; *4. Brad Campbell, 14-06.

Girls

200: 4. Smith, 24.58.
 1600 relay: 4. Deller, Thompson, Sa. Tillotson, Smith, 3:58.68.
 Shot put: 1. St. Peters, 43-09.5.
 Discus: 2. St. Peters, 135-11.
 Pole vault: 1. Hindman, 11-6; 3. Kilburn, 11-3.
 *Not competing at regionals

Aledo athletes among state leaders

(Top 10 with best performances of season)

Boys

800: 10. Boss, 1:56.79.
 800 relay: 8. Steffe, Fleming, Pope, Lawrence, 1:26.93.
 Pole vault: 6. Gribble, 15-03.

Girls

Shot put: 4. St. Peters, 43-09.5.
 Discus: 7. St. Peters, 135-11.
 Pole vault: T-7. Hindman, 11-6; T-9. Kilburn, 11-3.

SOFTBALL

Ladycats prep for playoff revenge tour



The Ladycats observed Senior Night at their final regular-season home game on April 21. Shown are Madysen Boutwell, Macy Graf, Rhett Gabbert, Hannah Pack, Caitlin Beaty, Marissa Powell, Kaylee Lucas, Kayleigh Smith

By Nolan Ruth
 The Community News

The time has come for the Texas high school softball playoffs. The Aledo Ladycats have waited almost a year for their revenge tour through the 5A bracket, after falling in the 2021 state final to Barbers Hill, 4-1.

The path to Austin appears to be tougher than it was in 2021, but the Ladycats (23-2) are prepared. After polishing off an undefeated 10-0 District 5-5A run, head coach Heather Myers scheduled an exhibition game with fellow powerhouse Prosper (27-4-1).

The Ladycats, ranked eighth in the state in Class 5A by the Texas Girls Coaches Association, got an additional boost of confidence by disposing of the No. 14 team in Class 6A, 6-3.

Now Aledo is preparing for its first-round playoff series with Denton Ryan (15-11-2), the fourth-place finisher in District 6-5A.

Ryan snuck into the playoffs in the final week of the season by virtue of holding a tiebreaker over Lake Dallas, who Aledo played in the first round of 2021. The Lady Raiders struggled against their district opponents and

are coming off of getting swept by Justin Northwest, 18-2 and 1-0.

Game 1 will be played at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 28 at Ladycat Park. Game 2 will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, April 29 at Ryan High School. If needed, a third and deciding game will be played at 1 p.m. Saturday at a site yet to be determined.

Against Prosper, things went well from the beginning as Marissa Powell started her big day with a home run in the first inning. Kayleigh Smith started in the pitching circle and dominated,

allowing only two baserunners in the first three innings.

In the fourth inning, Reagan Davis laid down a sacrifice bunt, scoring Ana Flores. Two batters later, Powell hit a three-run home run making it a 5-0 score.

Maryland-commit Sydney Lewis got Prosper on the board in the bottom of the fourth with a home run, and added two more runs with another one in the sixth.

Texas Ray added one more run for good measure with a line drive that was dropped by the center fielder, allowing Macy Graf to come home, bringing the final tally to 6-3.

BASEBALL

Bearcats in three-way tie atop district as league play wraps

By Nolan Ruth
 The Community News

To say it was a tough week for the Aledo Bearcats would be an understatement.

One week after sweeping Azle to take the sole lead in the District 5-5A standings, the Bearcats (18-10 overall, 6-3 in district) took on the Wichita Falls Rider Raiders (18-7, 6-3) who are also vying for the district championship.

Things did not go as planned for the Bearcats this week as they dropped both games 6-1 and 6-3.

The series loss for the Bearcats created a three-way tie for the top spot in district between Aledo, Rider and Azle (16-4, 6-3). Each of the three teams swept another throughout the season as Aledo swept Azle, Azle swept Rider and Rider swept Aledo.

All three teams won their separate contests on Tuesday, April 26, with the Bearcats blasting Wichita Falls 13-0, Azle topping Granbury 6-3 and Rider blanking Brewer 2-0. They each have one game left. If any team loses, the tiebreaker works as follows:

Aledo wins the district if Rider loses to Brewer (11-15-1.3-6), Rider wins the district if Azle falls to Granbury (16-8, 5-4), Azle wins the district if Aledo falls to Wichita Falls (8-17, 1-8).

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page 12

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BASEBALL

from page 11

If all three teams win their final game, a three-team playoff will take place on Saturday, April 30 at Hoskins Field in Wichita Falls to determine a district champion and the seeding for the playoffs. Time for first pitch was not decided at press time.

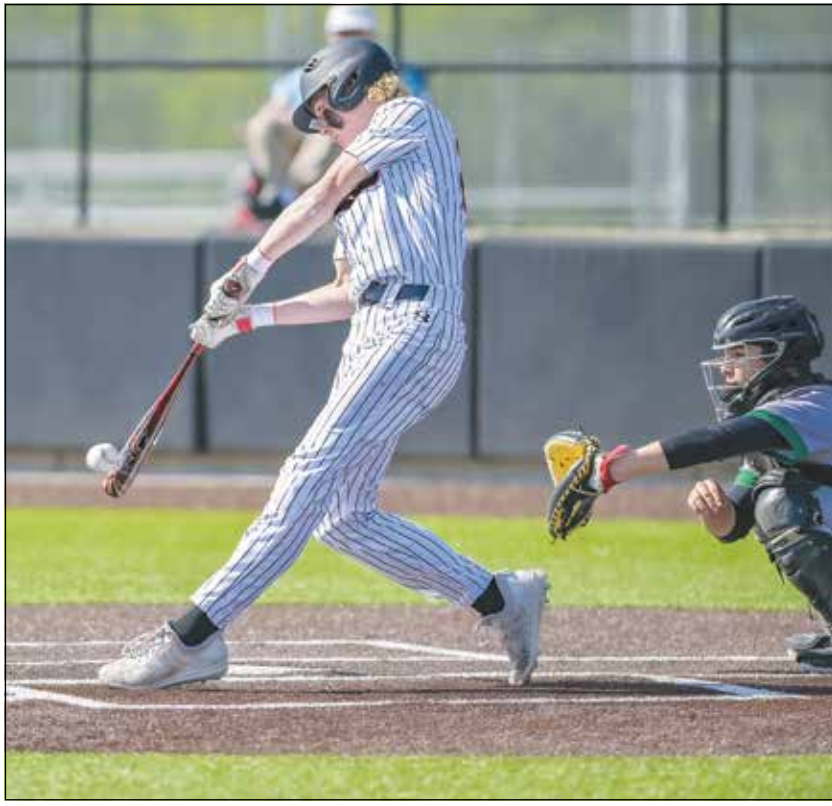
Game 1 against Rider had a promising start, as leadoff hitter Max Belyeu hit a triple and was driven home on the next play. However it proved to be the only Aledo run, as the Bearcats failed to register a hit for the rest of the game.

Rider was not able to do much at the beginning as Aledo pitcher Carter Shands retired the first nine batters. Then, the Raiders exploded with a four-run fourth inning, spurred on by an Aledo error and a hit by pitch.

Shands was pulled in the fifth and Ethan Jaques was brought in to pitch. Jaques kept the Raiders scoreless in the fifth and sixth innings, but gave up two runs in the seventh to put the game away for Rider.

The second game started even better for Aledo. Andrew Cambre doubled in the second inning to score Ryan Jones, and two more came in the fifth inning when Brooks Dwinell doubled to left field.

However, the Raiders got a run back in the bottom of the fifth. Then, in the sixth inning Hunter Rudel was in a jam with two runners on and was pulled for Adrian Guzman. Guzman felt good during his warmups, but unfortunately his first pitch was drilled to the



KIRSTEN GALLON

Brooks Dwinell, shown in action against Azle on April 13, hit a double in the fifth inning of the second game against Rider.

outfield for a two-run triple, tying the game.

Three more runs scored in the inning for Rider, and Aledo was unable to respond in the seventh, completing the sweep.

In the win over Wichita Falls at home, the Bearcats had little trouble, breaking the game open with a seven-run second inning. Shands and Guzman combined to pitch a two-hitter, with Shands striking out eight over four innings.

Dwinell had two hits for Aledo, while Cambre doubled and drove in two runs. Trace Morgan and Guzman also had a hit and two RBI each.

District 5-5A baseball standings

	District	Overall
x-Aledo	6-3	18-10
x-Azle	6-3	16-4
x-WF Rider	6-3	18-7
x-Granbury	5-4	16-8
Brewer	3-6	11-15-1
Wichita Falls	1-8	8-17

X = clinched playoff berth

Friday's games

(End of regular season)
 Aledo at Wichita Falls, 7 p.m.
 Brewer at Rider, 7 p.m.
 Granbury at Azle, 7 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

TCA qualifies load of athletes to TAPPS regional

By Rick Mauch
 The Community News

Led by three gold medal performances each from Kennan Dowling and Libby Tovar, the Willow Park Trinity Christian track and field program qualified 22 athletes (11 boys, 11 girls) for regionals from the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) District 1-4A Track Meet this past week.

By finishing in the top four in their respective events, the qualifiers were competing at the TAPPS 4A Region I Meet at the University of Texas at Arlington's Maverick Stadium at press time. From there, the top four in each event will advance to the TAPPS State Meet at Waco Midway High School May 6-7.

Dowling captured gold medals in the boys 110-meter and 300 hurdles, along with running a leg of the 400 relay. Tovar ran legs on the girls 400 and 1600 relays, and won individually in the 100 dash.

Dowling also brought home a silver medal in the triple jump. Likewise, Sophie Scott qualified in four events (400 and 1600 relays, first in long jump, fourth in triple jump), as did McKenna Kelley (400 relay, third in 100 and 300 hurdles, fourth in long jump).

As a team, the boys and girls each finished runners-up in their divisions.

"Our teams have had a great season, breaking nine track and field records, and we will be taking athletes in every event but the 3200 to regionals this year," said head coach Cody McKenzie.

TAPPS District 1-4A Track and Field Meet

Willow Park Trinity results
 (Top four in each class advance to regionals)

Boys

Team: Second.

- Shot put: 3. Ben Camp.
- Discus: 1. Camp.
- High jump: 3. Jackson Sykes.
- Long jump: 4. George Brenner.
- Triple jump: 2. Kennan Dowling.
- 400 relay: 1. Brenner, Hudson Quinn, K. Dowling, Reece Hargrove.
- 1600 relay: 2. Quinn, Mason Brunson, Toby Thomes, Hargrove.
- 110 hurdles: 1. K. Dowling, 3. Asa Dowling.
- 300 hurdles: 1. K. Dowling, 4. Landry Crumpler.
- 800: 2. Brunson.
- 100: 3. Hargrove.
- 200: 2. Caleb Nelson, 4. Brenner.

Girls

Team: Second

- Shot put: 3. Ella Cockrum.
- Discus: 2. Cockrum.
- Long jump: 1. Sophie Scott, 4. McKenna Kelley.
- Triple jump: 4. Scott.
- 400 relay: 1. Libby Tovar, Amberlie Daniels, Kelley, Scott.
- 800 relay: 4. Madison Hooper, Maverick Gonzales, EmmaGrace Bolz, Elle Smith.
- 1600 relay: 1. Tovar, Daniels, Gracee Whiteaker, Scott.
- 100 hurdles: 3. Kelley.
- 300 hurdles: 3. Kelley.
- 800: 1. Whiteaker.
- 100: 1. Tovar.
- 200: 2. Scott.
- 1600: 3. Whiteaker, 4. Jayde Scull.

What a journey!

New civic group takes form

by Randy Rock
 The Community News
 May 2, 2002

"If we can get a group of 200 women with a single voice, that will make a difference in our community."

Pat Johnson was referring to the formation of a new civic, philanthropic group being organized in east Parker County: the Aledo Children's AdvoCats.

A group of more than 100 women met Monday, April 22, at Santa Fe Grill to begin what they hope will be a long-term project to help families and children in need.

"We want to help families and children," said Johnson, "and facilitate their needs."

Lynn McKinney, Aledo Independent School District Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, spoke at the group's initial meeting, and in a later interview noted that needs do exist in the community.

"There is definitely a need in our community," she said. "Kids need dental care, they need eye exams."

McKinney also pointed out that while local events provide clothing for local children at Christmas, the kids outgrew the clothes during the school year. She said she hoped the organization could facilitate clothing purchases before school starts and in the spring.

She also speculated that funds could be used to sponsor students for summer enrichment camps or provide orthopedic equipment for special education students.

McKinney said help could also be provided for younger students.

While the group has no volunteer hour requirements for the organization, McKinney said she hopes some members will be able to give time as well as money.

"It's a mentor - reach out," she said. "There are some kids nobody ever has lunch with."

"This idea began as a small dream designed to alleviate the nightmare of some kids," said Alexander. "It's wonderful to know that there are so many women who have had the same visions."

For more information about AdvoCats, contact Denise Simpson at 817-596-9020 or Shari Hall at 817-441-1357.

Photos were taken at the Aledo AdvoCats initial meeting on April 22 at Santa Fe Grill. Photo credit: The Community News.

Pat Cox and Jill Veager

Aledo AdvoCats seek to make a difference in the community

(Continued from previous page)

As for clothing and school supplies, Alexander anticipates a sort of August adoption program in which members of the organization will "adopt" kids for the purpose of purchasing school clothes and school supplies. "Members will never know the names of kids they adopt for," said Alexander.

While Johnson said there are no volunteer hour requirements for the organization, McKinney said she hopes some members will be able to give time as well as money.

"It's a mentor - reach out," she said. "There are some kids nobody ever has lunch with."

"This idea began as a small dream designed to alleviate the nightmare of some kids," said Alexander. "It's wonderful to know that there are so many women who have had the same visions."

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Photos were taken at the Aledo AdvoCats initial meeting on April 22 at Santa Fe Grill. Photo credit: The Community News.

Pat Cox and Jill Veager

Photos from original organizational meeting on April 22, 2002.

Congratulations to the Aledo Children's AdvoCats on 20 years!

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