

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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ALEDO

## High speed internet coming to residents

City contracts for short-term answer while long-term options are explored

By Randy Keck  
The Community News

Residents in some portions of the City of Aledo will soon have access to a higher speed internet connection than is now available.

The internet data running to many homes and businesses in the city travels over copper wires. To achieve the speed needed to meet higher data demands, fiber connections are needed. But getting fiber to existing structures is very expensive.

The city council voted in November to commission a study with VantagePoint, a broadband and engineering consulting firm, to determine its options.

“They have completed their portion of the project and have provided the city with an overview of what is needed to provide fiber optics to the city,” Interim Aledo City Manager Sharon Hayes told the council in a memo. “This information will be helpful going forward when grant funds are available or when other providers are interested in this market. The fiber was always the longer-range plan and will take time to fund, design, and install.”

Wireless technology, however, can offer a short-term solution, and the city council voted at its April meeting to enter a contract with Nextlink to “install directional antennas, connecting cables and appurtenances that will provide LTE service to citizens with downloads of up to 500 MBPs.”

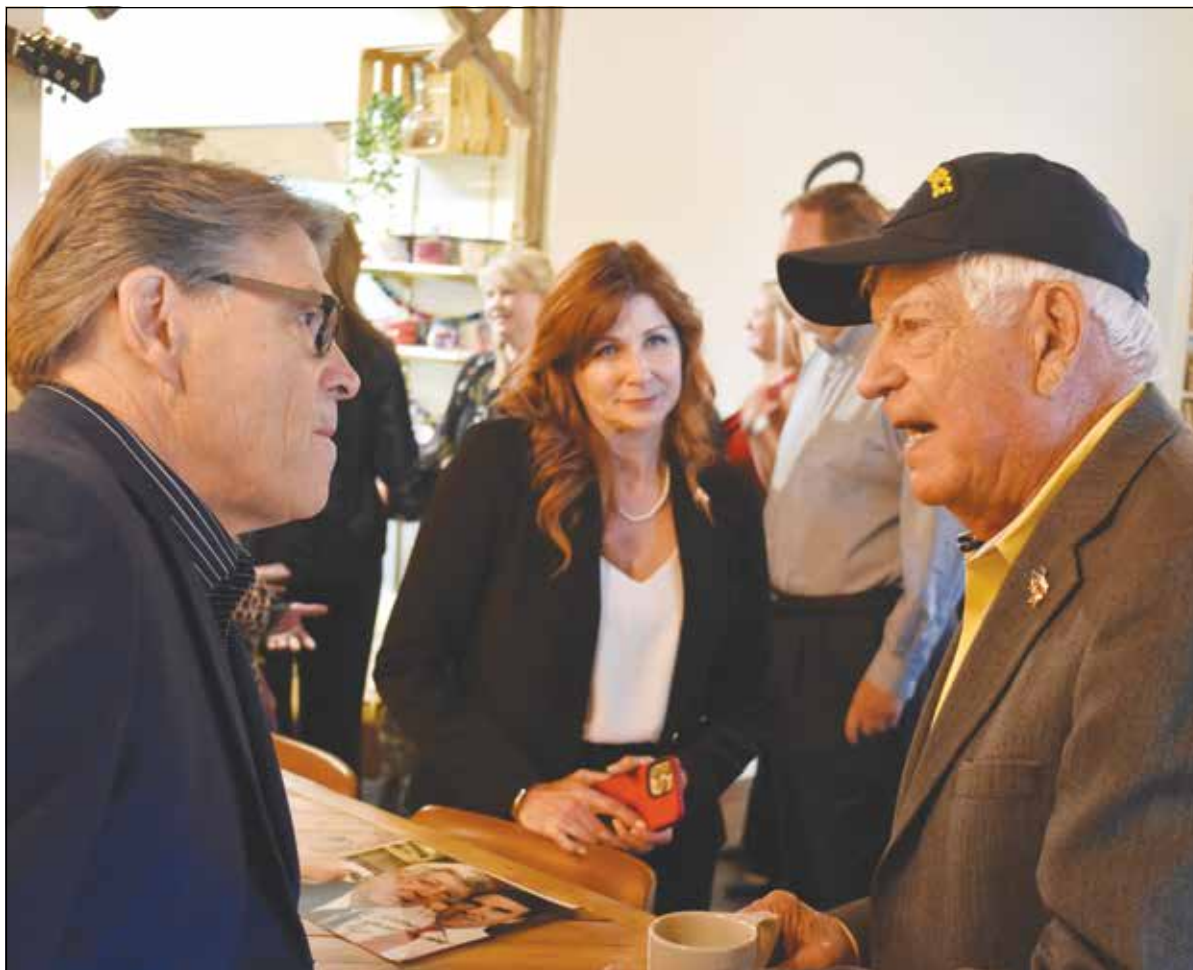
Under the agreement, Nextlink will provide free internet service to the city at three locations. Hayes said this arrangement will benefit the city as its SCADA system grows. (SCADA is a computerized control process used, for example, in city water systems).

The system should be in place within four months, according to the contract. In the meantime, the city will look for grants and other sources of funding to provide fiber connections to current residents and businesses.

“What we’re trying to do as a city is get an allocation to build out fiber to the residents that don’t have access to fiber,” said Todd Covington, who administers information technology and security for the city.

Once the fiber is in place, he said, “we would then make a long-term relationship to an Internet service

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RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Local resident Marvin Herring (right) and Amy Fennell converse with former Texas Governor Rick Perry at a campaign event in Aledo on Tuesday, May 3. Perry was in Aledo campaigning for State Rep. Glenn Rogers. For a video of Perry’s remarks, visit The Community News’ Facebook page.

ANNETTA

## Council candidates speak out

Election day is Saturday

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

As the Saturday, May 7, municipal and Texas Amendment election approaches, Annetta has two contested city council seats on the ballot.

The Place 1 race features incumbent Shane Mudge against challenger Tim Pierce. Place 2 has incumbent Danny Coffman taking on challenger Al Gloer.

The Community News offered each of the candidates an opportunity to talk about their qualifications, major issues and their vision for Annetta’s future. However, repeated efforts to reach Pierce were unsuccessful.

### Shane Mudge

Mudge has been on the council eight years and is seeking a fifth term in office. He said he has called upon the same mindset he uses in his career with BNSF Railroad as assistant director over signal operations throughout America and three Canadian provinces.



Shane Mudge

“What helped me in my railroad career is having a preparedness plan,” he said. “Coming in prepared, understanding the laws, policies and how to govern a city. I’ve learned a lot along the way.”

Among the major issues he said he plans to address if re-elected is better maintenance of 18 miles of road in Annetta.

“It’s expensive. We do a lot of chip sealing, and I think we do the best we can with what we have,” he said. “Staying within budget is another big task.”

He also believes Annetta should control its own growth. The town has increased in population from 1,288 in the 2010 census to almost 3,500 now, according to worldpopulationreview.com.

“I’ve lived here since 2001 and the growth has been huge,” he said. “I live on (farm to market road) 5 and it’s incredible the amount of traffic on that road.”

As for his long-term vision for Annetta, Mudge wants to make sure the citizens continue to have plenty of water amidst the growth. He noted during his tenure the city acquired a new sewer plant and automatic readers for the meters.

Turn to **ANNETTA**, page 3

## Art Winners



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

McAnally Intermediate School students Luke Nielsen, Lila Fickel, Jasmine Seeley, and Bo Davis show the works they entered in the Parker County School Art Contest.

Students at McAnally Intermediate School brought home awards from this year’s Parker County School Art Contest. This year’s theme was

“Rising Above.” The contest ran concurrently with National Crime Victims’ Rights Week and it was to promote victims’ rights and ending domestic violence.

McAnally Intermediate School winners were Lila Fickel, second place; Luke Nielsen, third place; and Jasmine Seeley, Phoenix Award.



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# In & Around Parker County

## Ring Leaders — 40 years of serving Parker County

Ring Leaders Kennel has served Parker County and its surrounding cities for 40 years, making it one of Aledo's oldest businesses.

Alaina Tenseth and her late husband, John founded the grooming and boarding business together in the mid-1970s.

When they decided to move west, the small-town business relocated from its original Fort Worth facility in October 1981 — and has stayed in Aledo ever since.

Its local facility offers 30 inside-outside runs that are climate-controlled and eight luxury suites, which are 8-foot-by-10-foot rooms with a patio area. Additionally, all animals have access to play areas.

When boarded, Tenseth, who shares property with the facility, said there's always someone physically present to watch the dogs and cats. There are also surveillance cameras.

"We never leave the animals unattended," Tenseth said.

Ring Leaders Kennel offers overnight boarding to all breeds and sizes of cats and dogs. It also offers full-grooming services to dogs and can provide specialized grooming for cats on an as-needed basis, though it is not a common service offered by the kennel.



Tenseth she has been grooming and boarding animals for more than 45 years. It's a career she receives joy from and doesn't plan on changing.

Her longest-lasting clients have been with her for nearly 40 years — since 1975 — through the move from Fort Worth to Aledo.

Many have used Tenseth's services through a long lineage of pets.

"We've gone through several generations of pets and several generations of people," Tenseth said. "And we've never taken any of them for granted."

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# ALEDO

from page one

provider to provide or deliver content, and then service that fiber and, in exchange, the city would get a small fee for allowing the ISP to use that fiber."

Covington estimated that the cost of running fiber to the local area would be \$5-6 million. He said current internet carriers won't make the investment to bring fiber to existing structures.

"I get it that they're not gonna get the return on investment to run fiber to existing construction," Covington said. "It's very expensive. Their focus is new construction where there you dig a trench, drop fiber and they're done"

The LTE service Aledo contracted for is on a private spectrum that does not require the line-of-sight connection used by current wireless internet providers.

Once in place, it is estimated that residents can get a high-speed wireless connection for about \$75 per month and up, depending on speed.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

**Aledo High School hosted the annual Top 10 Percent banquet on Monday, May 2. Students in the top 10 percent of the class honor teachers they felt made a big difference in their lives. There were 47 students in the top 10 percent.**

# ANNETTA

from page one

"I've had the privilege all this time to be on our council. It's taught me a lot. I feel like the council has done some incredible things," he said. "We're getting more independent, which is good for the citizens. We can handle quite a bit of growth, but you want to be able to make sure you stay on top of it, make sure it's done right and stay ahead of it."

## Danny Coffman

Coffman has, likewise, been on the council for eight years and is seeking a fifth term. He said he learned how to be a good servant by, well, serving in a lot of volunteer capacities.

Among them are having served 12 years on the Aledo Athletic Association, including as treasurer. He's also a charter board member of the Aledo



Danny Coffman

Education Foundation, working on the budget committee.

"The old saying, 'The cobbler's kid doesn't have shoes' applies to me," Coffman said. "I've never been a person who looks at today, tomorrow, or next week. I look at five, 10, 20 years down the road and the impact it's going to have."

Among the major issues in Annetta, Coffman said, is "We do not have a city property tax and I want to keep it that way."

He also said a big challenge is making certain the transition from Hudson Oaks' running water and sewer system is put in place properly.

"We are going to be managers of our own destiny, and it's going to save our citizens money," Coffman said. "I want to make sure our future residents don't have to pay for the things we didn't do."

Coffman stressed a strong belief in "The true job of an elected official is to represent the people - all the people."

Coffman noted among the council's biggest accomplishments during his tenure is improving the town's bond rating from a B to a AA.

"We are good at budgeting our money. We take fiduciary responsibility," he said.

Coffman said he moved to Annetta 22 years ago because of the schools and the quiet and peacefulness of the area. He understands the reason for the community's growth, but he wants to maintain that peace and quiet.

"I want us to be a place people seek to come live," he said. "But I want us to always keep what makes us special."

## Al Gloer

Gloer cites his qualifications for office as being a concerned citizen who believes there are some things that need to change. He believes the best way to accomplish that is to elect folks, like himself, who have a different viewpoint than the current leaders in office.

"I think the city government has become somewhat stagnant



Al Gloer

and unresponsive to the needs of an evolving community," he said. "As a result almost everything that happens with respect to our city government is rooted in the past with no consideration for how the town should evolve.

"I see a whole lot of 'Look what we did.' Okay, what are you doing now? What are you doing tomorrow. I'm an engineer by training. I don't come up with a solution then find a problem to go with it."

Gloer, a retired IT engineer and native Texan who moved to the area in the late summer of 2018 from Connecticut, said he believes town leaders need to look to the future instead of maintaining the status quo.

"I suspect that this is going to cause problems for the community as a whole, especially in the area of our town infrastructure as there seems to be no incentive to improve things," he said. "We also need to encourage a more involved citizenry and ensure that our local government is representative of all the citizens."

Gloer previously ran for council in 2021. "I've got two decades as a project manager, I've got military experience," he said.

Gloer said his vision for Annetta is to have a town where all citizens are considered when making policy. He said he believes that under the current system a sense of community is lacking. He said Annetta does not need to be run like a big city.

"What we don't need is an increasing set of overbearing ordinances that actually strip away the sense of community and replace it with laws," he said.

"We don't need more and more ordinances when we don't actively enforce the ones we have. The city government needs to reflect the changing demographic that makes up Annetta rather than stay rooted in thoughts that may have served us well in the past," he said.

One thing they all have in common, however, is refraining from taxes.

"This is not to say we need to start taxing and spending. Far from it," Gloer said. "We just need to make sure that what we are doing as a town represents who we are as a community.

"The people on the council, I disagree with them. I like them, but we disagree. I want to bring some voice to people who live like I do."



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## Capital Highlights

# Texas challenged by nursing, trucker shortage



**Gary Borders**  
gborders@texaspress.com

Texas has the fourth-lowest nurse-to-population ratio in the country, with only 9.25 nurses per 1,000 residents, according to a recent report by the comptroller's office.

The state's aging population, along with the COVID-19 pandemic, has put increased pressure on all categories of nursing. The largest shortage of registered nurses and licensed vocational nurses is occurring in inpatient hospital settings and nursing homes.

"COVID-19 has really increased the shortage," said Texas Board of Nursing's executive director, Kathy Thomas. "Nurses are walking out. They're worn out, they're burned out, and they're stepping away from their jobs."

Job shortages are also taking place in the trucking industry, which moves 72% of U.S. domestic freight, according to the American Trucking Associations.

A shortage of commercial truck drivers is contributing to increasing supply chain issues. John Esparza, chief executive officer of the Texas Trucking Association, said it will reach 160,000 drivers by the end of the decade.

"We are losing a generation of drivers, and we aren't replacing them with a generation of potential drivers that is large enough," he said.

Texas is home to nearly 200,000 commercial truck drivers, the most in the nation. The median wage in the state for truck drivers is \$47,000.

Turnover is extremely high, according to Ken Tidwell, dean of San Jacinto College's workforce development program, which offers a commercial driver's license program that is invariably full.

### TPWD backing wildlife recovery act

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department says the Recovering America's Wildlife Act now being considered in Congress could bring \$50 million to the state to protect wildlife, restore land, and provide the state's residents more ways to enjoy the outdoors.

"The litany of ways natural resources bolster the Texas economy and improve our quality of life is seemingly endless," said Carter Smith, executive director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

"While it would do much to protect fish and wildlife that need it most, the Recovering America's Wildlife Act would also mean a long-term investment in the public health and well-being of all Texans, as well as stewardship of our home ground," Smith added.

TPWD is urging the public to contact their representatives in Congress to support the legislation.

The bill would provide \$1.4 billion nationwide in dedicated annual funding, according to TPWD. It would come from existing revenues.

The Texas outdoor recreation economy generates 327,000 jobs and \$3.5 billion in state and local tax funds, according to the Outdoor Industry Association.

### Don't leave the lights on in May

It is bird migration season, and Texas is the epicenter of the annual voyage, with one of every three birds migrating through the United States this spring passing through our state.

BirdCast is urging homeowners and businesses to turn off the lights through its Lights Out Texas initiative. An estimated one billion bird deaths occur annually in the country from collisions with buildings and structures as birds become disoriented by night lighting.

Building owners, businesses and homeowners can protect migrating birds by turning off all non-essential lights from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m., according to BirdCast.

### Health insurer agrees to shut down

Houston-based Salvasen Health has agreed to stop selling unauthorized health insurance under a consent order issued by the Texas Department of Insurance.

The agency said Salvasen was providing health insurance without a license from TDI, which received "numerous complaints saying the insurance plans sold by Salvasen did not offer the health coverage buyers had been promised."

Under the terms of the order, Salvasen must keep paying claims until all obligations are met. If any assets remain after that, the company must pay back premiums it collected.

The company marketed health insurance policies across the country, selling roughly 65,000 unauthorized health plans.

### Texas again ranked #1 for business

For the 18th year in a row, Texas has been named the best state for business by CEO Magazine, although controversies over pro-life and anti-LGBTQ legislation have caused concerns for some CEOs according to the magazine, which polled nearly 700 chief executives and business owners.

The state of Florida finished second, followed by Tennessee and Arizona. At the bottom were Illinois, New York, and California.

"There's a big spread across the Sun Belt from Raleigh to Charlotte to Tampa and Jacksonville, and the big metro areas of Texas, on to Phoenix that are all in various respects growing fast," said Cullum Clark, director of the Bush Institute-SMU Economic Growth Initiative. "It's a distinctive model."

### COVID-19 cases, deaths drop in past week

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas in the past seven days dropped to 17,549, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, with 89 deaths recorded. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations rose slightly in the state, with 802 reported, according to 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

### Annetta City Council

During this election season, it has been amazing, but not surprising, to witness the level of deceit and dishonesty that some individuals running for office will employ to get elected. Please join us in supporting and voting for Shane Mudge and Danny Coffman in the upcoming Annetta City Council election. These two are honest, moral, and reliable gentlemen that have and will continue to represent all of the citizens, and do what is best for our growing community. Early voting has already begun. Thank you.

LEE C. AND MARSHA ANCONA  
ANNETTA

### Support Teachers

Teaching has always been the most overly-criticized, underpaid profession a person can have. We recognize the discouragement our teachers face so we shower them with accolades, gratitude, and words of encouragement. During Teacher Appreciation Week, we especially show them our love with flowers, treats, and inspirational coffee cups, but is it enough? I contend that it is not.

Over these past few years, our teachers have faced a relentless onslaught of attacks from various groups, the worst of which being from the super PAC Empower Texans.

On Jan. 8 of this year, the CEO of Empower Texans, Michael Quinn Sullivan, tweeted, "A reminder that 'public education' is a babysitting service offered at the convenience of the government employees. Public education in Texas is about employing otherwise unemployable adults, not educating kids."

Does this statement represent your beliefs about teachers? If he came to Parker County, into our schools, and said this to your child's teacher, what would be your response? Folks, we have a candidate running for representative who has given thousands of dollars to this guy! According to the Texas Ethics Commission, on April 13, 2016, Mike Olcott gave ET \$12,000. (page 17 of the Empower Texans GPAC report) That can't be explained away with, "Oh but he's a really nice guy in person. He says that he supports teachers" but that means nothing. The money he gave Empower Texans says it all.

I implore you, my neighbors, stand up for our teachers because Mike Olcott will not. You cannot give an inspirational coffee cup to a teacher and then turn around and slap her in the face at the polls.

Protect our teachers with a vote for Dr. Glenn Rogers. Early voting starts May 16th. Regular voting is May 24th. God Bless Texas!

- AMY FENNELL  
WILLOW PARK

### Supports Rogers

Recently the editor of our local newspaper wrote an article titled "Just say 'No' to negative campaigning," and I couldn't agree more.

Candidates who drag the citizens through very negative campaigns filled with misstatements, half-truths, and caricatures of their opponents looking like criminals lack a moral compass and are not worth voting for. Those who behave in such a manner during a campaign foreshadow how they will behave in office.

None of us agrees with our elected officials 100% of the time. We are all unique individuals with views on issues that may not be the same as those held by our friends or even our family. President Ronald Reagan, however, believed that if you could agree on 80% of the issues you were friends, not enemies. He helped bring dignity to the office and a sense of community to the nation.

I want my State Representative to represent me with dignity and bring back a sense of community to our county. I know both candidates well and am very disappointed, but not surprised, at some of the negative materials arriving at my house. There is only one man who I feel deserves my vote - the current Representative of District 60, Glenn Rogers. I hope you will join me in electing a man of integrity to represent our county.

- RENA PEDEN  
PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE  
PARKER COUNTY REPUBLICAN  
PARTY  
FORMER MEMBER OF THE  
STATE REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE  
FORMER SECRETARY OF THE  
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### House District 60

Our Forefathers took power away from the elite few and gave the power to the people. The struggle for true representation rages on today, as shadowy elites have seized control over some of our political actors. In Texas, powerful elitists send puppets to Austin to disrupt our sacred political systems, to craft legislation that only serves the interests of tycoons, and to smear anyone who stands against them.

Behind one of these plots: Farris Wilks and Tim Dunn. These West Texas billionaires pump millions of dollars into campaigns across the state, they control ultra-conservative media, and they push for legislation that serves their selfish interests. They ran Empower Texans. Like a bad acting corporation, the organization has rebranded. This election cycle, their name is "Defend Texas Liberty PAC." They have mailed out countless bogus attack mailers, trashing any candidate who refuses to submit to their orders.

They also fund the Texas Scorecard, the Texans for Fiscal Responsibility, and numerous single-issue PACs. Their websites "rate" state leaders. The best way to get a good rating is to accept huge sums of money from Mr. Wilks and Mr. Dunn.

These men are no friends of our wonderful public schools and teachers. The leader of the Scorecard tweeted, "Public education is a babysitting service...public education in Texas is about employing otherwise unemployable adults, not educating kids." Pretty vile, right?

We need to send conservative leaders to Austin, but we need to ensure that they are servants of the people, not pawns of any billionaire oligarchs. Do not trust the Scorecard or any flier from "Defend Texas Liberty;" their candidate of choice is a puppet who would not get any meaningful legislation passed and us common folk would suffer the consequences.

This time around, we must VOTE FOR Dr. Glenn Rogers, a man who stands up for the people, who refuses to bow down to kingmakers, and who has withstood a barrage of lies about his record. We must vote for this humble public servant to secure our Texan and American destiny of an ideal republic.

-HUNTER REYNOLDS

### 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. Send letters to The Community News, P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008 or e-mail to news@community-news.com.

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

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

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

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

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

## PARKER COUNTY

## New food bank location to serve seven counties

Parker County location adds to mission of Tarrant Area Food Bank

By Randy Keck  
The Community News

A seed planted in January of 2021 has grown to maturity with the recent opening of the Tarrant Area Food Bank West in Parker County.

Located near the entrance of Canyon West Golf Course, the new 20,000 square foot facility will share in the process of feeding more than one million people each week.

TAFB overall serves 13 counties. The new TAFB West will assume seven of those: Palo Pinto, Parker, Erath, Hood, Somervell, Hamilton, and Bosque Counties. The TAFB distributes food through many partner agencies, including the Center of Hope here in Parker County.

At its grand opening on April 14, TAFB President and CEO Julie Butner said "Tarrant Area Food Bank has a network of over 400 partner agencies in our 13 counties, and only 36 in this part. So we are in need of establishing more partner agencies to help serve the more remote and rural communities of our counties."

Butner said the new TAFB West will operate a bit differently from the primary location in Fort Worth.

"We're offering kind of a hybrid model here," Butner said. "We have fresh produce that we're growing, not only to teach people how to grow their own food, but to help them learn about what to do with that food that they grow."



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

**ABOVE LEFT: Julie Butner, president and chief executive officer of the Tarrant Area Food Bank, welcomed the crowd that gathered for the grand opening of the west Parker County facility on April 14. | TOP RIGHT: Congressman Roger Williams addressed the gathering, saying no one should ever go hungry in Parker County. | BOTTOM RIGHT: State Senator Drew Springer said that in the midst of rapid growth like that Parker County is experiencing, there is always a subset of people who need help.**

### The look of hunger

Butner said that picturing hungry people in the past conjured up images of people who were skinny and emaciated.

"And if you think about someone who is hungry today, what comes to mind? Somebody who is obese," Butner said. "That's largely driven by our food supply. If you think about the food today that is inexpensive, and readily available, it's

fast food, it's convenient food, it's food that you find at the gas station, and so many children who are growing up today have never seen fresh produce."

Butner said the learning garden at the facility will help people learn not only how to grow the food, but also how to prepare it and consume it.

"That's part of the hybrid," she said. "The other part of the hybrid is

the Mission Market. We don't have a market at our location in Fort Worth."

The Mission Market, donated by H-E-B, is an area where people can go to shop for food. Color-coded tags will guide the shoppers to more healthy choices.

On the other side of the facility is an apartment-sized kitchen that will train partner agencies on how to train the community.

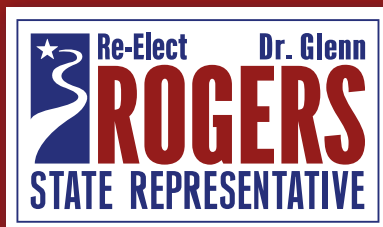
In the back of the facility is a 4,000 square foot refrigerated room and a 4,000 square foot freezer.

### The beginning

Weatherford Mayor Paul Paschall said the original seed that began the new facility began was call from then Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price early in the COVID-19 pandemic.

Turn to **FOOD**, page 6

PROVEN ★



★ CONSERVATIVE

## The Most Conservative Session in Texas History

The 2021 legislative session is hailed as the most conservative session in Texas history. Dr. Glenn Rogers co-authored and voted for numerous conservative priorities, including:

- ✓ 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)



As our area continues to undergo tremendous growth, it is critical that we have a state representative who has the experience and commitment to delivering real, conservative results.

### Republican Voter Alert:

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Don't be fooled by Mike Olcott!

Republican Primary Runoff  
Election Day: Tuesday, May 24  
Vote Early: May 16 - 20

# FOOD

from page five

Price told him the TAFB needed more space to store food and commodities.

“Little did I know that in reality they were planning to invest in our community and to serve six other counties from our community,” Paschall said. “The Tarrant Area Food Bank has a long standing history of serving the citizens of Weatherford that need assistance, we’re excited about their commitment to deepening their roots in our area.”

From that beginning a newly-constructed warehouse was found to house the facility, and construction began in early 2021 (see *The Community News*, Jan. 22, 2021).

The new facility serves 200,000 meals per week to a heavily-rural population.

Congressman Roger Williams, whose wife, Patty, serves on the TAFB board, said “Nobody should ever go hungry in this county or anywhere, and they’re not. Rural areas, as many of you know, have been underserved in many, many things.”

State Senator Drew Springer said he had recently attended a meeting where he was told Parker County was the fastest-growing county in the country.

“But you know what that means?” Springer asked. “When you have people moving in, there’s always a subset of the population that needs help. Maybe they’re not making a living wage. Maybe they have lost a spouse to death. Maybe they are recently divorced. Maybe they have a disability, and unexpected accident, and suddenly, that paycheck doesn’t carry. And that’s why we’re here.”



A wall mural shows the 13 counties served by the Tarrant Area Food Bank as a whole, and the seven counties that will be served by the west branch in Parker County.



A learning garden provides an opportunity to learn how to properly cultivate, grow, and process food.



The new food bank has an area where people can shop. Color-coded labels on shelves guide the shoppers to more healthy choices.



The Mission Kitchen will be used to teach cooking skills and healthy recipes.



The new food bank has ample space for storage and distribution of food.

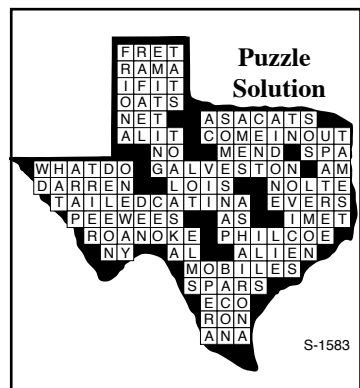
Photos by Randy Keck/The Community News



The facility's shopping area has refrigerated choices available.

## HOW TO CONTACT

People in need of food assistance can visit <https://tafb.org/find-food/>. To volunteer or donate, visit [tafb.org](https://tafb.org).



# Obituaries

## Carlos Jiménez

Carlos Hernán Jiménez, 62, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, son, and brother passed away surrounded by his family on March 7, 2022.



Carlos Jiménez

Carlos was born in Colombia on December 1, 1959. In 1969 his family moved to Fort Worth where he grew up. Carlos graduated from R. L. Paschal High School in 1977, and he received a BA in Radio-TV-Film at the University of North Texas in 1982. In 1993 he graduated from La Facultad de Medicina of La Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas as a doctor with a degree in General Medicine. While in Mexico he met his wife of 27 years, Norma.

Carlos' favorite pastime was spending time with his family and friends while going out to eat and watching sports; and he truly enjoyed playing with his beloved grandson Malachi. He was most proud of his two children, Michelle and Carlos Andrés.

Throughout his entire life, there were three things Carlos plainly expressed with great joy to all he met: his belief in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, his awesome sense of humor, and his extensive knowledge of medicine.

Carlos was preceded in death by his father Alfonso. He is survived by his wife Norma, daughter Michelle, son Carlos Andrés, grandson Malachi, mother Doris, sister Doris, sister Olga and husband Anthony, sister Martha and husband Pedro, many nieces, nephews, other extended family, and friends.

The service to celebrate Carlos' life was held March 19, 2022 at Greenwood cemetery in Fort Worth.

Carlos never knew a stranger. His outgoing personality and fun sense of humor will be remembered by all who knew him.

The Community News  
May 6, 2022

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# Events

MAY 6, 2022

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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More events can be found at [www.community-news.com/events](http://www.community-news.com/events)

## 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.

## MAY 7

### "Matilda Jr." auditions

The Weatherford College Teen Summer Musical will hold auditions for "Matilda Jr." on Saturday, May 7, in the Alkek Fine Arts Center. Auditions begin at 8 a.m. with callbacks starting the same day at 1 p.m. All students who have completed grades 9-12 by May 30 are eligible to audition for camp. A chorus camp is open to students who have completed grades 3-8 by May 30, but there are limited spots. Audition forms along with a full rehearsal and performance schedule are available at <https://wc.edu/calendar/calendar.php#event-details/3122c21b-9d4a-453e-b2cb-a585864a431b>. Camp runs Monday, May 30, through Friday, June 3 in the Alkek Fine Arts Center. The cost is \$200 plus an additional \$50 costume fee for performers. Performances are scheduled for 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on June 3-4. Tickets are available for purchase at <https://www.simplerix.com/e/matilda-jr-tickets-102295>.

## MAY 9

### Democrats to hear congressional candidate

Congressional candidate

Trey Hunt will address the Parker County Active Democrats at their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 9, in the Strain Room at Weatherford College's Doss Student Center. Hunt is seeking to represent the newly redrawn U.S. House Dist. 12 in the November general election. For more information, visit [parkercountydemocrats.org](http://parkercountydemocrats.org).

## MAY 10

### 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](mailto:cjkat1959@gmail.com).

## MAY 12

### Republican Candidate Forum

The Parker County Republican Party will host a candidate forum for House District 60 at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12, at the Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Drive in Weatherford. The forum will include both Rep Glenn Rogers and Mike Olcott. The event is designed to solicit thoughtful responses to complex issues that are challenging Texans daily and to provide Parker County voters an opportunity to hear directly from each candidate during the official program as well as one-on-one before and after the event. Additionally, candidates from the other Parker County runoff elections

will have tables set-up with campaign material and they will be prepared to address your questions regarding their respective races.

## MAY 13

### 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](http://pcwnc.org).

### Shakespeare in Aledo

Theatre off the Square will present Romeo and Juliet at 6 p.m. on May 13 and 14 in the park next to the Aledo Community Center. 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.

### Night at the Pops 2022

The Aledo High School Wind Ensemble, AHS Choir, and AHS Colorguard will present their annual Night at the Pops at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, May 13-14, in the Aledo High School Auditorium.

## MAY 16

### Rotary Club of Aledo

The Rotary Club of Aledo meets from 11:30 a.m. to

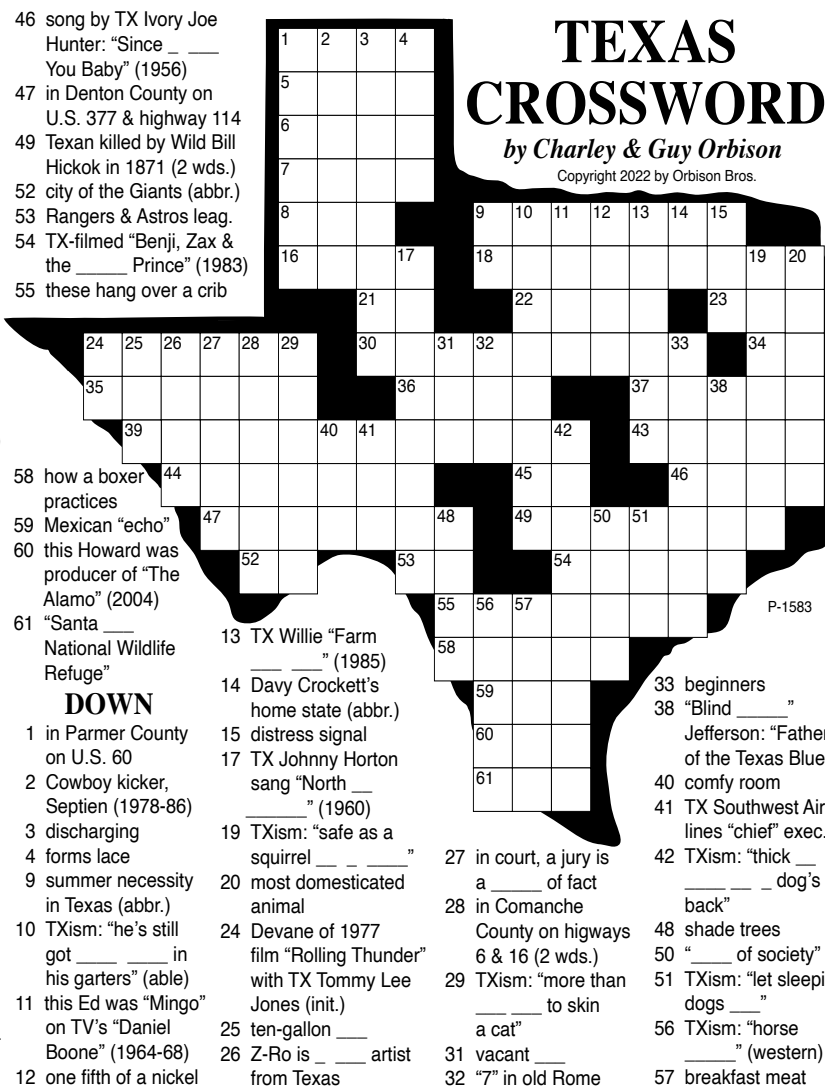
## ACROSS

- 1 visibly worry  
5 spring event in Austin: "Flora \_\_\_\_"  
6 TXism: "\_\_\_\_ ain't true, there ain't a cow in Texas"  
7 "feelin' his \_\_\_\_"  
8 Gulf shrimp catcher  
9 TXism: "high \_\_\_\_ back" (costly)  
16 got off the horse  
18 TXism: "doesn't know enough to \_\_\_\_ of the rain" (dumb)  
21 TX Willie song: "\_\_\_\_ Place for Me" (1957)  
22 "\_\_\_\_ our fences"  
23 health resort  
24 TX Tanya's "\_\_\_\_ I Do With Me"  
30 Glen Campbell hit about a Texas city before noon (abbr.)  
34 McGavin of "The Natural" with TX Joe Don Baker  
36 this TX Chiles was in "Moonraker" film  
37 Nick of TX-based "North Dallas Forty"  
39 TXism: "nervous as a long-\_\_\_\_"  
43 TX Martindale of "Ghosts of Mississippi" about death of this civil rights activist, Medgar Evers  
44 TX-filmed "\_\_\_\_ Big Adventure"  
45 TXism: "old \_\_\_\_ dirt"

- 46 song by TX Ivory Joe Hunter: "Since \_\_\_\_ You Baby" (1956)  
47 in Denton County on U.S. 377 & highway 114  
49 Texan killed by Wild Bill Hickok in 1871 (2 wds.)  
52 city of the Giants (abbr.)  
53 Rangers & Astros leag.  
54 TX-filmed "Benji, Zax & the \_\_\_\_ Prince" (1983)  
55 these hang over a crib

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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## DOWN

- 1 in Parmer County on U.S. 60  
2 Cowboy kicker, Septien (1978-86)  
3 discharging  
4 forms lace  
9 summer necessity in Texas (abbr.)  
10 TXism: "he's still got \_\_\_\_ in his garters" (able)  
11 this Ed was "Mingo" on TV's "Daniel Boone" (1964-68)  
12 one fifth of a nickel  
13 TX Willie "Farm National Wildlife Refuge"  
14 Davy Crockett's home state (abbr.)  
15 distress signal  
17 TX Johnny Horton sang "North \_\_\_\_" (1960)  
19 TXism: "safe as a squirrel \_\_\_\_"  
20 most domesticated animal  
24 Devane of 1977 film "Rolling Thunder" with TX Tommy Lee Jones (init.)  
25 ten-gallon \_\_\_\_  
26 Z-Ro is \_\_\_\_ artist from Texas  
27 in court, a jury is a \_\_\_\_ of fact  
28 in Comanche County on highways 6 & 16 (2 wds.)  
29 TXism: "more than \_\_\_\_ to skin a cat"  
31 vacant \_\_\_\_  
32 "7" in old Rome  
33 beginners  
38 "Blind \_\_\_\_"  
Jefferson: "Father of the Texas Blues"  
40 comfy room  
41 TX Southwest Airlines "chief" exec.  
42 TXism: "thick \_\_\_\_ dog's \_\_\_\_ back"  
48 shade trees  
50 "\_\_\_\_ of society"  
51 TXism: "let sleeping dogs \_\_\_\_"  
56 TXism: "horse \_\_\_\_" (western)  
57 breakfast meat

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](http://aledorotary.org).

## JUNE 3

### Aledo Summer Blast

The annual Aledo Summer Blast will run from 6-10 p.m. Friday, June 3, in the Aledo High School south parking lots. The event features numer-

ous free activities for families and children in addition to food trucks, live music by Sonny Burgess and Jolie Holliday Burgess, and a fireworks show after dark.

## JULY 9

### Parker County Peach Festival

The 37th annual Parker County Peach Festival will run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 9, in downtown Weatherford.

Peachy treats are always featured, including homemade peach ice cream, peach cobbler, peach pie, peach tea, peach smoothies, ice cream topped with fresh peaches, or just regular peaches.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, and free for younger than 5.

For more information, visit <https://www.parkercounty-peachfestival.org>.

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# Sports

MAY 6, 2022

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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## TRACK AND FIELD

## Trinity sending dozen to TAPPS state meet

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

The Willow Park Trinity Christian Academy track team, led by Sophie Scott among the girls and Kennan Dowling among the boys, will have a dozen athletes competing at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Class 4A State Track and Field Meet at Waco Midway High School Friday and Saturday.

Scott led all qualifiers by advancing to state in four events, while Dowling qualified in three events at the Region I Meet at Maverick Stadium at the University of Texas at Arlington on April 26. Those who finished in the top four of their respective events qualified for state.

Scott placed second in the 200-meter dash and was third in the long jump. She also ran legs of the winning 1600 relay and third-place 400 relay.

Dowling won the boys 110 hurdles, an event in which his brother

Turn to **TCA**, page 10

Jake Phillips of the Aledo Bearcats lines up a putt during practice as he and his teammates prepare to compete in 5A State Tournament.

RICK MAUCH/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

## GOLF

## Despite longstanding tradition, Bearcats are new to state

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

The Aledo boys golf program overall has a lot of tradition at state. However, this particular group of Bearcats are headed there for the first time and are

anxious to carve out their own place in that history by doing something they've been doing all season - play great golf.

"It's my first time, their first time, we're all newbies, but it's

still golf," said Bearcats head coach Joe Roquemore.

That attitude of just playing and letting your talent speak for itself has served Roquemore's team well this season, leading to their

Turn to **GOLF**, page 9

## SOFTBALL

## Ladycats sweep first round

By Nolan Ruth  
The Community News

The Aledo Ladycats revenge tour has begun. The reigning state finalist has spent the better part of a year waiting for a chance to get back to Austin for the State Championship.

After a 10-0 run through district and riding a 14-game winning streak, the Ladycats (25-2) started their playoff climb as the Denton Ryan Lady Raiders (15-13-2) came to town for a first-round series in the Class 5A University Interscholastic League postseason.

Ryan proved to be no trouble for the Ladycats as they swept the series by scores of 14-3 and 12-1.

The Ladycats are advancing to the second round where they will face Mansfield Legacy (22-6), who defeated Fort Worth South Hills in the first round. Legacy entered the postseason as the second seed out of district 8-5A despite having a share of the district title with Burleson Centennial.

Game 1 will take place at 3 p.m. Friday, May 6 at Aledo. Game 2 will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 7 at Legacy High School with a third game to immediately follow if needed.

Turn to **SOFTBALL**, page 11

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# GOLF

from page eight

first state tournament berth as a team since 2017. They will be among the teams competing at Georgetown's White Wing Golf Club Monday and Tuesday, May 9-10.

The Bearcats also qualified as a team in 2011 (finishing fourth), 2015 (12th) and 2019 (12th). They also sent individuals in 2012 (Logan Lambert), 2014 (Lambert) and 2018 (Evan Pennington).

"The job's not done," said sophomore Jake Phillips, in his second varsity season. "We've made it to state, but we've still got work to do."

Fellow sophomore Jett Moore, also in his second year on the varsity, said the competition they faced in the Region I Tournament at Rawls Golf Course in Lubbock - including one of the state's toughest courses and weather conditions - has the Bearcats ready for whatever comes their way at state.

"We were so tested in Lubbock. Any course now is easier than that," he said.

Not only is Rawls a challenging course, it is compounded by the notorious West Texas winds that can send a perfect shot 15 yards off the fairway or green in an instant.

"We expect this course to be easier than Rawls, about 500 yards shorter," Roquemore said. "I looked at the 10-day forecast before we played Rawls and it called for 75 degree temperatures with 10 mile an hour wind. When we got there it was 65 with 30 mile per hour winds."

Moore said playing well on Rawls, finishing third in a tough regional field, has the Bearcats entering state with a boost of confidence.

"We're playing good as a team. A lot of players are finding their form," Moore said. "I feel really good. A lot of things are going my way."

Turn to **STATE**, page 11

# BASEBALL

## Bearcats win district crown

By Nolan Ruth  
The Community News

The sun has set on the regular season for the Aledo Bearcats baseball team and for the second straight year, they are district champions.

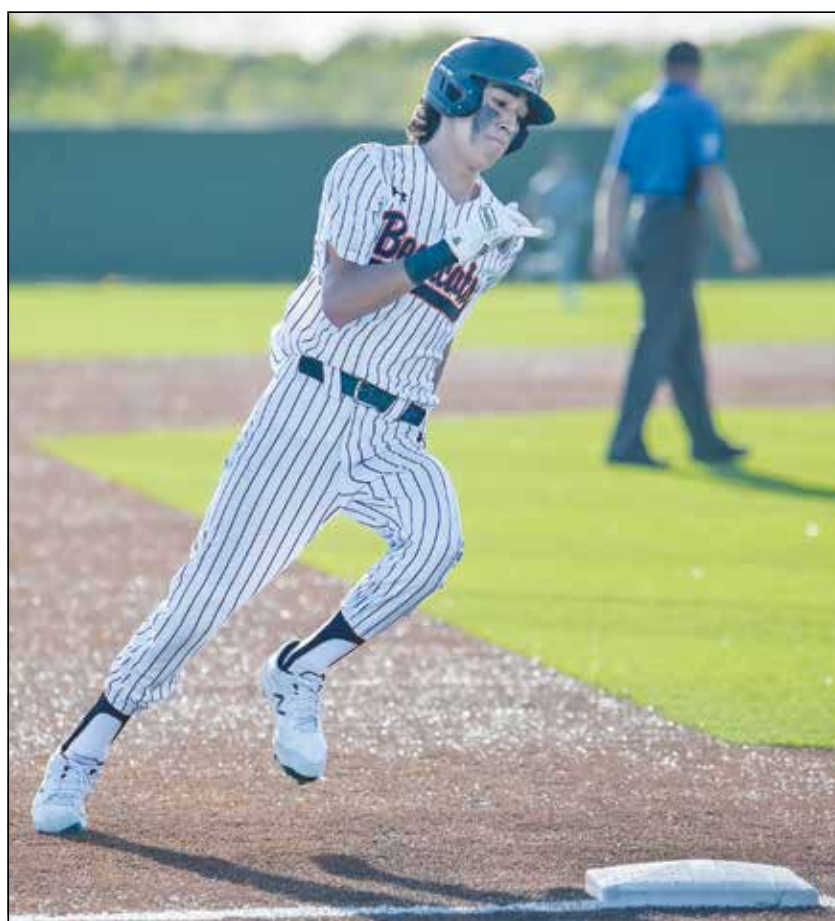
The season came to a hectic end on Saturday, April 30, in Wichita Falls, with three straight wins in 24 hours. After ending the regular season with a 7-3 mark in District 5-5A, Aledo shared the league title with Azle and Wichita Falls Rider, setting up a three-team playoff in Wichita Falls.

The Bearcats won that mini-tournament, blanking Azle 7-0 and edging Rider 4-3.

Aledo's first-round playoff series will be against the Denton Broncos (18-10), the fourth-place team in District 6-5A. The Broncos fell just one game back of their district championship in one of the toughest districts in Region I-5A.

"They're going to try to out baseball us," Aledo coach Chad Barry said of the Broncos. "They have a coach who is a great baseball mind. They're not going to beat themselves. They're going to play a clean game and we're going to have to match it."

The series will take place at Southlake Carroll High School. Game 1 will be at 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 6. Game 2 is set for a noon first pitch on Saturday, May 7, with an if-needed third game to follow 30 minutes after the completion of Game 2.



KIRSTEN GALLON

**Ethan Jaques rounds third base in action against Azle in April. Jaques was the starting pitcher against Wichita Falls Rider in the three-game playoff last weekend.**

But first, the Bearcats (21-10 overall, 9-3 district 5-5A) made the trip up north on Friday, April 29 for the final regular-season game with the Wichita Falls High Coyotes (8-18, 1-9).

"I reminded the guys of Brewer," Barry said. "Brewer beat us 1-0 earlier this year when we didn't

take them seriously and they're the same team that got run-ruled by Wichita Falls earlier this year. I told them that it is still a district game and anything can happen."

Aledo had no problem getting out in front early with two runs in the second inning on a double by Bryce McCain. The next inning

the Bearcats reeled off six runs to make it an 8-0 game.

The Coyotes scored three runs in the third but that was all they were able to muster. Aledo added three more runs in each the fifth and sixth innings and the game ended by run rule with a final score of 14-3.

The win guaranteed a share of the district championship and a chance to win the crown outright the following day. On Saturday morning the Bearcats took the field in Wichita Falls to take on the Azle Hornets (18-5, 7-4), who the Bearcats had already swept two weeks prior.

"We definitely had an advantage," Barry mentioned about the quick turnaround. "We played at 4:30 on Friday and most of our players decided to stay in Wichita Falls with their families so they didn't make the drive back. So they got rested as opposed to Azle, who had senior night and beat Granbury in a long game so they were a little more tired and that definitely played to our advantage."

Hunter Rudel took the mound for Aledo and pitched lights out for a full seven innings, only allowing two hits in his shutout performance. David Jones drove in the first run for Aledo with a single that drove in Andrew Cambre.

Max Belyeu followed up in the third inning with a two-run double to center field. Cambre drove in Belyeu two plays later, and Ryan

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page 11

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## TCA

from page eight

Asa placed third and also qualified. Kennan placed second in the 300 hurdles and ran a leg of the third-place 400 relay.

Scott narrowly missed qualifying in a fifth event, placing fifth in the triple jump. In all, TCA participants set 17 personal records (9 girls, 8 boys).

Dowling was the only boy to advance in three events, while two girls also qualified in three. Libby Tovar was third in the 100, along with running a leg on both relays, while Gracee Whiteaker was second in the 800, fourth in the 1600 and ran a leg of the 1600 relay.

Qualifying in two events for the Eagles were Reece Hargrove (fourth in 100, 400 relay leg) and Ben Camp (third in shot put, second in discus). Qualifying in two events for the Lady Eagles Amberlie Daniels (400 relay, 1600 relay).

In the team scores, the girls finished third with 89 points and the boys were fourth with 81.

**TAPPS Class 4A  
Region I Track and  
Field Meet  
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Arlington  
TCA results**

(Top four advance to state Friday and Saturday at Waco Midway)

### Boys

100-meter dash: 4. Reece Hargrove, 11.53 (PR).  
200: 6. Caleb Nelson, 23.66 (PR); 7. George Brenner, 23.78 (PR).  
800: 6. Mason Brunson, 2:10.32 (PR).  
110 hurdles: 1. Kennan Dowling, 15.75; 3. Asa Dowling, 17.30 (PR).  
300 hurdles: 2. K. Dowling, 42.86 (PR); 6. Landry Crumpler, 46.85.  
400 relay: 3. Brenner, Hudson Quinn, K. Dowling, Hargrove, 44.37.  
1600 relay: 5. Nelson, Brunson, Quinn, Hargrove, 3:37.22.  
Shot put: 3. Ben Camp, 43-10 (PR).  
Discus: 2. Camp, 128-03 (PR).  
High jump: 6. Jackson Sykes, 5-02.  
Long jump: 8. Brenner, 19-01.  
Triple jump: 6. K. Dowling, 39-03.

### Girls

100: 3. Libby Tovar, 13.17 (PR).  
200: 3. Sophie Scott, 27.29 (PR).  
800: 2. Gracee Whiteaker, 2:34.13 (PR).  
1600: 4. Whiteaker, 6:12.69; 5. Jayde Scull, 6:17.09 (PR).  
100 hurdles: 6. McKenna Kelley, 18.40 (PR).  
300 hurdles: 7. Kelley, 52.90 (PR).  
400 relay: 3. Tovar, Amberlie Daniels, Kelley, Scott, 51.63.  
800 relay: 8. Madison Hooper, Maverick Gonzales, EmmaGrace Bolz, Elle Smith, 2:02.93.  
1600 relay: 1. Tovar, Daniels, Whiteaker, Scott, 4:18.32.  
Shot put: 8. Ella Cockrum, 28-07.  
Discus: 2. Cockrum, 108-00 (PR).  
Long jump: 3. Scott, 16-02.25 (PR); 7. Kelley, 14-03.  
Triple jump: 5. Scott, 32-05 (PR).

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## STATE

from page nine

Roquemore said the aforementioned tradition is an inspiration for all Aledo athletes.

“No matter the sport, you see that big A and you want to beat Aledo. I like that everybody wants to beat us, you’ve gotta go prove you deserve to have that reputation,” he said.

And his team has done just that, following up the usual tough schedule by reaching state.

“We’ve seen the Texas Highs, Highland Parks, Southlake Carrolls, we’ve faced teams like that all season. Playing against the best makes you want to be the best,” he said.

The Bearcats have no seniors on their varsity roster, prompting most to already be optimistic about next year. But junior Braylon Mahaney said that before they can think about back-to-back state experiences, they have to play this year’s tournament first.

Also, he said if they hadn’t fallen short of expectations in 2021, this would be a back-to-back experience, something that has driven them all season, he noted.

“Last year we were actually favorites going into regionals. I’m just so proud of this team for coming back and getting to state this year,” he said. “We worked our butts off all year.

“Now we just go down there and play some golf like we know how to play.”

## BASEBALL

from page one

Jones drove in Cambre to make the score 5-0 after three innings.

Estevan Flores sparked the fourth inning when he drove in Trace Mazon, before Cambre polished off his big game by driving in Colton Whitmire. Rudel closed out the game with ease and the Bearcats defeated the Hornets, 7-0, setting up a district championship game with Wichita Falls Rider (20-8, 7-4).

The Bearcats were just one week off of getting swept by Rider, and had the disadvantage of being at Rider’s home field.

Things got off to an inauspicious start when pitcher Ethan Jaques walked the first two batters of the game. The next batter singled in the first run of the game for the Raiders. Another run was added in the fourth inning, making it a 2-0 deficit for the Bearcats.

“I think the boys were frustrated,” Barry recalled. “We left five runners on in the first two innings and we were already down. They seemed to be pressing and I just kept telling them to stay on course.

I said ‘You don’t have to hit a triple. A single up the middle works wonders. Just put the barrel on the ball.’”

Aledo got on the board in the bottom of the fourth inning and took a 3-2 lead with a three-run inning, including a bases-loaded walk by Belyeu. Rider responded in the fifth inning to tie the game.

Carter Shands came in for relief in the sixth inning and held the Raiders silent for the rest of the game.

In the eighth inning, Trace Mazon doubled to center field and found himself at third base on a sacrifice bunt by Jaques. Max Belyeu was intentionally walked in the next at bat to put the runners at the corners. Estevan Flores bunted on the first pitch he saw and Mazon raced home for the winning run.

“I told Trace to get a good secondary lead,” Barry recalled. “I said, ‘If you see it on the ground, you’re gone. Go full-on, dead sprint and slide if you have to.’ Then he did and it was just a sigh of relief. We finally beat those guys.”

The Bearcats got their revenge on Rider with a 4-3 win, the official district title, and the number one seed for the playoffs.

## SOFTBALL

from page eight

### Game 1 vs. Ryan

Ace pitcher Kayleigh Smith started in the circle for the first game and was on fire from the start, pitching four innings of shutout softball and not allowing a hit until there were two outs in the fifth inning.

The scoring started quickly for Aledo. Macy Graf led off the game with a four-pitch walk and Marissa Powell drove her home with a single to right field. Thanks to some shifty baserunning on the same play, Powell ended up scoring to make it 2-0 in one swing of the bat. Presley Hull closed out the inning by driving home Texas Ray to make it 3-0 after one inning.

The Ladycats batted around in the third inning, scoring six runs topped off with a two-run double by Graf to make it a 9-0 game.

The Ladycats were potentially one run away from ending the game by run-rule in the fifth inning, but a three-run inning from the Raiders prevented Aledo from getting the chance. Hannah Pack and Reagan Davis scored in the bottom of the inning, but the score remained 11-3.

Nathalie Touchet came in to pitch for Kayleigh Smith and shut down the Ryan offense. In the sixth inning, Ana Flores doubled home Hull. After back-to-back walks loaded the bases, Maddy Jarvis hit a walk off single to right field, scoring Flores and Hannah Pack for a 14-3 final score.

“They stayed pretty disciplined,” head coach Heather Myers said after the game. “We didn’t have a lot of stats or scouting on their pitcher or this team at all. We’re normally pretty prepared but I couldn’t do that this week. So they went out and took each at-bat one pitch at a time.”

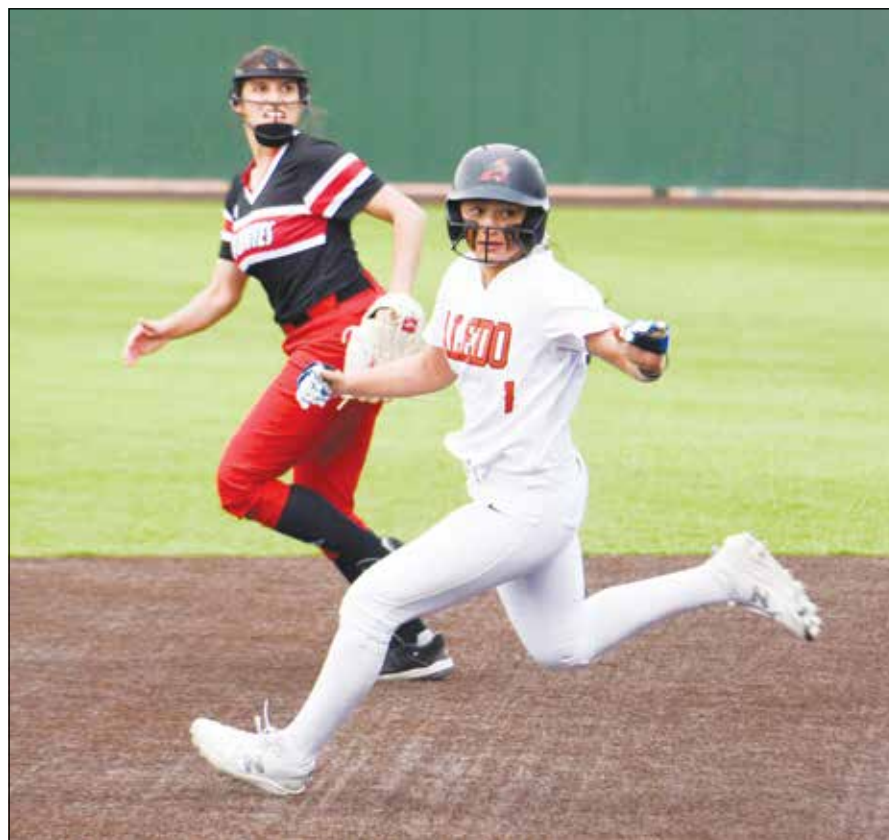
### Game 2

The following day the Ladycats went up to Denton for the second game and got off to a very fast start. Aledo scored two runs in each of the first, second and fourth innings, while Touchet dominated in the circle.



JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Texas Ray connects against the Wichita Falls Coyotes on April 19. She had four RBI in game two against Denton Ryan.



JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Macy Graf runs to second base on April 19 against the Wichita Falls Coyotes. She had three RBI against Denton Ryan in the bi-district series.

Ryan got one run back in the fifth inning, making it 6-1. However the Ladycats were on a mission and scored six runs in the top of the sixth, and Touchet polished off the sweep with a shutdown inning.

“Nathalie [Touchet] was firing on all cylinders,” Myers recalled, “She did a great job pitching. She did her job, the defense did their job and we got it done at the plate.”

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# AMS program turning heads

By Nolan Ruth  
The Community News

In just its second year of existence, the Aledo Middle School soccer program is in full swing. Both boys and girls in seventh and eighth grade have been working hard on the pitch in one of the newest additions to Aledo sports.

Derek Vierling, the head soccer coach at Aledo High School, had been trying to get the program launched for just less than a decade. In the past 10 years, middle school soccer has been sweeping across the state of Texas. After the past two years of working out the kinks, Vierling has already established a solid program.

"It has done wonders," Vierling commented. "Last year Cole [Crawford] scored three

goals in their first game, and then he and a few others made the varsity roster as freshmen. Even the girls had a couple of freshmen on varsity. I wouldn't be surprised if the trend continues and we have a few of this year's eighth-graders make varsity next year."

Both boys and girls will face Granbury Middle School starting at 5 p.m. Friday, May 13 at home and close out the season on Monday, May 16 against Azle at 5:30 p.m. The boys will be at home against Azle, while the girls will make the short trip up north. The Black Teams play first, followed by the Orange squads.

**Records**

**Boys Orange: 6-0-0**

**Boys Black: 2-0-0**

**Girls: 5-2-1**



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Five Aledo Anglers qualified to participate in the state tournament on May 14-15 at Belton Lake. The teams are Landon Benton and Samuel Belyeu; Christopher Suzow and Mason Fontenot; Hunter Stuart and Austin Martin; Kyle Freese and Macy Graf; and Isaac Knott and Toby McDonald.

CLAY SHOOTING

# TCA competes at Greystone and DFW

The TCA Clay Target Team competed in a 200 Sporting Clays event at Greystone Castle, on April 9. Wes Roddie placed second in varsity men's, McKenna Sims places second in varsity women's, and Kate Roddie placed third in women's.

The team competed in the Scholastic Clay Target Program DFW Championship on the weekend of April 23. This shoot was particularly challenging with the 30 mph gusting winds. 258 students and 16 teams competed in three events (Sporting Clays, Trap, and

Skeet). TCA finished fifth overall, adding another shooting trophy to the TCA gym.

Wes Roddie finished second High Over All (HOA). Wes Roddie's combined score of all three events was second in the highly competitive Men's varsity division. Wes was the top TCA scorer in all three events making him the most valuable performer on the team.

McKenna Sims placed fourth HOA in the varsity women's division.

Brogan Chapman, a first year shooter, had his first perfect station (shooting every clay) and achieved a personal best score.

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