

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Changing the world one garden at a time

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

The word “garden” brings to mind beauty, delicacies, all things good for humankind.

What better way to make an impression on the community she calls home than by creating her own garden, Aledo High School graduate Gabby Shultz thought. So, as one of the top 10 honorees in the Ford Leadership Scholars program, that’s exactly what she did.

“When I first became part of this program I knew I wanted to leave an impact on my community, I just was not sure how. I experienced several roadblocks, failures, and barriers. From trying to build a splash pad to trying to update my local library I experienced several failures. But from both of these, I realized what I truly want to do,” Schultz explained.

Her passion for the outdoors, especially education outdoors, drove her on. She met with local government officials to discuss how she could help with the local master gardening program. The result: an even more beautiful Cross Timbers Garden for folks to enjoy.

“Meeting individuals such as Ms. (Cynthia) White, Ms. (Toni) Fisher, and Ms. (Lea) Young, this group of people has shaped me into the person I am today in the few short months they had with me,” Schultz said. “From the first meeting outside of the garden to speaking at the Parker County Master Garden Convention in front of hundreds of master gardeners, it has been an incredible experience.”

The garden, located at 631-799 Ranch House Rd. in Willow Park, was already a pleasant place to visit, and was made even more so through Schultz’s project.

“Right now, due to heat, it’s hard to see what plants are there, but they are working on tending extra water care to them,” Schultz said.

Some of the more notable plants among the many at the garden are lambs ear, several types of shrubs, Mexican honey suckle and several other plants that attract butterflies.

Schultz is one of two Aledo High School students to rank in the state’s top 10 among Ford Leadership Scholars, presented by the Texas Future Farmers of America program and Texas Ford Dealers. The other is fellow graduate Dylan Sweatt, and repeated efforts to reach him for comments



COURTESY PHOTO

Recent Aledo High School graduate Gabby Schultz (center) led a project to further beautify the Cross Timbers Garden in Willow Park.



Read this story online

“My family has always loved gardening. I grew up growing plants, foods, and more so I have always loved it.”

Gabby Schultz

and information for this story were unsuccessful.

The purpose of the program is to identify students who exhibit high levels of leadership at the chapter level of the FFA, engage these students in leadership development, and recognize the

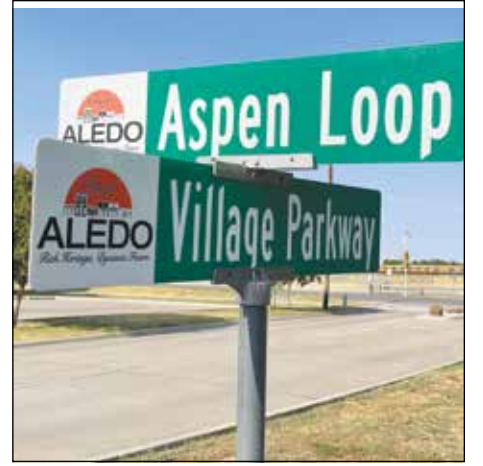
scholars to build a legacy in the future of the state and the nation.

Each got a \$1,000 scholarship. Schultz will attend Texas Tech University this fall and will major in animal science, though she also plans to remain in agriculture.

“I do love gardening due to being passionate about the outdoors and taking classes over my high school career,” she said.

Schultz’s project will also support outdoor education in the

Turn to **SCHULTZ**, page 3



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Thanks to Aledo City Council action, Aspen Loop and Taos Loop are now correctly designated with Parker County 9-1-1.

ALEDO

MISNOMER

Wrong street names caught after 27 years - Aspen Loop and Taos Loop now official

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

It took a while - a long while - but name corrections for a couple of streets were made at the Aledo City Council meeting on Thursday, July 28.

The thing is, most or all of the folks on those streets probably had no idea they were living on the wrong street according to Parker County 9-1-1. Now, however, thanks to a vote by the council, Taos Loop and Aspen Loop have their correct names with all involved.

Aledo City Planner Nathan Gonzales explained that when the roads were initially created in January of 1995 they were correctly named Taos Loop and Aspen Loop. However, after an adjusting of easements later in the year, a platting error resulted in the names Taos Circle and Aspen Circle being reported to Parker County 9-1-1.

Gonzales noted that 9-1-1 has to officially register what name was given them last. So, while the street signs remained with Loop in the title, as far as the 9-1-1 folks knew they were going to streets with Circle in the title. Ironically, no one caught it until Sharon Hayes served as interim city manager recently and brought it to Gonzales’ attention.

Yep, nearly three decades after the original creation of the streets.

“It’s a classic case of whodunit,” Gonzales said with a chuckle.

The mistake was easily fixed, however, when council agreed to officially name the streets Taos Loop and Aspen Loop. Now Parker County 9-1-1 can simply make the change in their system.

As for the residents on those streets, nothing changes.

“We don’t believe anyone is going to have to change their driver’s license or anything like that,” Gonzales said with a smile.



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In & Around Parker County

Texas Butane Co. promises safety, quality service to all customers

Founded in 1958, Texas Butane Co. is a true family-run business with deep roots in Parker County.

Co-owner Judy White — who shares the business with her husband, Morris — can recall riding to Austin with her parents Mary and V.E. Kemp Jr. for her father's TRRC exam, which certified his familiarity with gas and the safe delivery of it.

Judy and Morris, who met as some of the company's earliest employees in 1964 and married the following year, purchased the business from Judy's mother when her father passed.

The couple vowed, then, that Texas Butane Co. would continue to be recognized for its same great quality and high standards despite the change in ownership.

"One of my sons who works here once said, 'It's not a job, it's our heritage,' and that's how we all feel about it," Judy said. "We stick to ethical business practices and we think our customers recognize that."

Today, the company can store up to 150,000 gallons and has nearly a dozen delivery trucks. Judy and Morris are joined in company operations by their three sons, a daughter-in-law, two granddaughters, and many other valued employees.

"We have the greatest employees in the world," Judy said. "Everyone here is community driven. We all think it's a wonderful community to be part of, and we do everything we can to give back to Parker County and the surrounding areas."

The company offers a wide range of services, including the sale and lease of propane tanks, as well as tank installation. They offer propane delivery to residential homes and commercial businesses both.

Judy said propane is a multipurpose fuel used for several reasons: warming the house, heating swimming pools, cooking and grilling, RV travel, and more.

"If it's propane related, we pretty much take care of it," Judy said.

Over the last few months, Texas Butane Co. has seen increased interest in tanks for generators due to the recent winter storm.

One of the only differences in company operations, since the company's inception, was the shift from butane to propane for customers' benefit. The product is more consistent and stable in the winter's cold weather.

Judy said the company's point of pride lands in their priority for safety. The first step for all customers is a complete evaluation of systems to ensure there are no potential safety issues, such as leaks.

"Safety will always be our number one goal," Judy said.

The business has been awarded the Small Business Award from the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce and four consecutive Reader's Choice award for propane from 2017-21. It also received the Texas Treasure Business Award, which recognized businesses that have been owned by the same family for 50 years.



Now in its fifth generation of family, Texas Butane Co. has operated in Parker County for 64 years. Judy can date her family's history here back to her ancestors who signed the petition to create the county.

"We love Parker County," Judy said. "This is our home and where we want to be."

Texas Butane is located at 103 W. Church (on the square) in Weatherford. For more information, call 817-596-8758 or visit texasbutane.com.



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SCHULTZ

from page one

garden by providing educational interpretive signs that elaborate on the plants within. To add to the signs, she is incorporating a butterfly garden with interpretive signs over the native butterflies in the area. There is also a free little library in the garden.

Schultz raised almost \$1,500 in cash, along with many of the supplies for the garden, through donations. There was more than \$1,300 for maintenance left over once everything was finished.

Schultz said she got selected to participate in the program her junior year through an intense application, a test over the book "Daring Greatly," and then getting chosen for a round of six one-on-one interviews and one team interview.

When all was said and done, she and Sweatt were two of only 10 students across the state honored as Leadership Scholars.

Schultz's love of gardening also comes from her upbringing, she said.

"My family has always loved gardening. I grew up growing plants, foods, and more so I have always loved it," she said.

"Now, to say I found my place and project is most definitely correct, yet that's not to say I didn't struggle," she continued. "Several days and hours of feeling defeated were to come when it came to trying to make my project the best I could make it. Yet I learned to push through and could not be more thankful."

ALEDO

City encourages smart water usage

Rate restructuring, exceptional drought, heat affect water bills

By Erica Haney
City of Aledo

"What's going on with my water bill?"

Many North Texas residents and businesses are asking this question now as a result of an exceptionally hot and dry summer, and with forecasters saying there's more on the way.

The result has been record or near-record water use in Aledo as well as across the region.

That, combined with Aledo's recent water and sewer rate increase and restructuring means many Aledo property owners are now seeing unusually high water bills.

The city is on standby to help as needed. If you suspect your water meter may have been read incorrectly, call the city's Utility Billing branch at 817-441-7016 and request a re-read at any time.

What this all means is that it's more important than ever that

customers do everything possible to use water smartly – both to keep their own water bills manageable, and to reduce strain on the overall water supply.

Outdoor water usage can account for 50% or more of customers' water bills, even in a normal summer, but especially in an exceptionally hot, dry year.

Due to these issues, the City of Aledo prohibits outdoor watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. to reduce water loss to evaporation, and the twice-a-week maximum watering schedule following the City's Water Conservation Plan.

Resources:

For current water and sewer rates, see https://www.aledotx.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf6511/f/uploads/water_sewer_rates_01.15.22.pdf.

For more information on January's water and sewer rate restructuring, see https://www.aledotx.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf6511/f/uploads/water_wastewater_rate_restructuring_notice.pdf.

For Aledo's watering schedule details, visit the Water

Conservation page at www.aledotx.gov/utility-billing/pages/water-conservation.

For more water-saving tips, visit www.WaterIsAwesome.com.

For a more thorough investigation of possible water leaks or to

fix broken sprinkler heads and irrigation lines on your property, we encourage you to contact a plumber or irrigation specialist.



Read this story online

Aledo paving projects set to begin Aug. 8

E Oak, W Oak, Walnut, Elm, and Underwood to be resurfaced

The City of Aledo has contracted Advanced Paving Company to perform maintenance work on the following streets: E

Oak Street, Walnut Street, Elm Street, W. Oak Street, and Underwood Road. Construction is scheduled to begin on Aug. 8. The project will be completed within 45 calendar days.

The city requests patience on the part of motorists as the local streets are upgraded.



Read this story online

If you have any questions or concerns, call Advanced Paving Company Project Manager Trent Dagen at 972-245-0000 or the City of Aledo Assistant Public Works Director Kristian Sugrim at 817-441-7016.



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Capital Highlights

DSHS gets nearly 15,000 monkeypox vaccines



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

The Texas Department of State Health Services has received and distributed 14,780 doses of the monkey pox vaccine to local health departments and DSHS regional offices. Another 27,000 doses could be made available by the Strategic National Stockpile.

The disease causes a serious skin rash with painful lesions and appears to be spreading through direct contact with the skin or saliva of an infected person. The disease is preventable by avoiding skin contact with someone who has the disease.

"Risks include having sex, kissing, or hugging someone with monkeypox or sharing cups, utensils, bedding or towels with them," according to DSHS.

Through July 29, a total of 5,189 monkeypox cases have been reported nationwide, with 351 of those in Texas. While certainly painful, monkeypox is very rarely fatal.

Commuting times show increase in state

When it comes to commuting to work in Texas, two items stand out. Nearly 90 percent of Texans travel alone to work, and it takes longer to get to where one's going these days.

According to census data analyzed by the Texas Demographic Center, the number of commuters who from 2015-2020 spent up to an hour on the road getting to work stood at 17.2%, up from 15.7% from 2010-2015.

More than 95% drove a car, truck or van to work, while a scant 1.3% used public transportation, excluding taxis. Folks who walked to work totaled just 1.5% of all Texas commuters.

'Urban heat islands' exacerbate summer temps

It's been hot out there this summer, and cities are recording record temperatures. The Texas A&M Forest Service notes that developed areas often experience higher temperatures than rural areas.

"Areas in these microclimates of a highly developed city, known as urban heat islands, can be up to 20 degrees warmer than surrounding areas that are more rural, according to Climate Central, a non-profit news organization that analyzes and reports on climate science," according to the news release.

Mac Martin, with the forest service, noted planting or saving large expanses of trees in urban areas can go a long way toward cooling temperatures. Mature trees can release hundreds of gallons of water vapor daily through their leaves, cooling the air. Shaded areas can be between 20 to 45 degrees cooler than peak temperatures in unshaded expanses of concrete.

Five Texas courthouses get restoration grants

The Texas Historical Commission has announced \$22.5 million in grants to five counties to aid in preservation and restoration of their historic courthouses. Four of the counties — Hall, Kimble, Upshur, and Wise — received construction grants for full restoration. Comanche County received a planning grant that will be used to prepare for a future full restoration.

"We are thrilled to partner with these communities on these critical historic preservation projects," said THC Executive Director Mark Wolfe. "Their dedication to their historic courthouses will pay economic and quality of life dividends for decades."

Throughout the state, 104 counties have received grants from the THC program, with \$350 million allotted to fund the full restoration of 78 courthouses and smaller grants to assist with planning and emergency needs given to another 26 counties.

Despite rain, fire danger remains high

Scattered rain in the upper Texas Panhandle, the Upper Gulf Coast and East Texas have lessened the fire danger somewhat in those areas, but the risk remains high with temperatures hovering above 100 degrees. There were 14 active wildfires as of Sunday, the largest still being the Chalk Mountain Fire in Somervell County, covering 6,746 acres and 53% contained, according to the forest service.

With 224 counties now under burn bans, officials are urging landowners to be extra vigilant about preventing fires. The Austin American-Statesman reported a spate of fires in Central Texas in recent days.

"We just want people to have a hyper sense of awareness," Hank Jones, Williamson County Fire Marshal, told the Statesman. "We are so dry just this week alone we had a fairly large grass fire in Jarrell caused by a truck that blew a tire and when the rim hit the asphalt it created a spark that had 20 to 30 acres burning."

Cedar trees can especially cause problems in Central Texas because they drop needles underneath that can quickly ignite. Homeowners are urged to consider limiting the use of cedar trees around their houses.

New COVID-19 cases drop in Texas

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas dropped in the past week to 72,653, with 154 deaths reported, about even with the previous week, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at John Hopkins University.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations rose slightly to 3,624 across the state, according to DSHS. The BA.5 variant is now prevalent in Texas and elsewhere but seems to have less serious effects, especially for people who have been fully vaccinated and boosted, according to health officials.

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



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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.

Town role model is off to college



Emma Davis is shown with her father, JD, after she received Homecoming Queen honors on Sept. 25, 2021.

KAREN DAVIS

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Role models are an important part of life on Earth. Most everyone has theirs for almost every aspect of life. There are many personality traits that one can have to make them a role model to just one person out of the almost eight billion on this planet.

For the past 18 years, Aledo has been graced by the presence of one Emma Davis, who epitomizes the term role model to just about everyone she meets. The 2022 graduate has been active in the community for her entire life, and has tried just about everything there is to do.

“From the day she was born she needed to be doing stuff,” Emma’s mother Karen said. “She got into everything. She absolutely loves people, and she loves to be moving. And she really likes to be helping people. If she sees somebody that needs help or needs a hand, she sees it before anyone else and she’s on it.”

Ever since her teen years started, Emma volunteered her time toward many projects and causes, including the Pythian Home for children, Texas Ramp Project and she was a Holland Lake Nursing Home helper. Just as well, she has volunteered at the food pantry and assembled relief buckets for hurricane victims.

“She’s just always going out of her way to help people,” Emma’s boyfriend Cole Bohnen said. “We’ll be at the store and she’ll go help someone carry bags to their car, she’ll go out of her way to hold the door open for an elderly person, just all the small things that can make someone’s day a lot better.”

Bohnen also spoke to how admired she is at the school for her positive attitude and kindness toward everyone else.

“At school there are people that others won’t talk to,” Bohnen stated. “Emma goes out of her way to make them feel comfortable and make them feel welcomed.”

Emma’s positivity and involvement in extra-curriculars such as Leading Ladies, National Honor Society, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes would make anybody understand why she won homecoming queen in 2022 and was named Miss AHS 2022.



Emma Davis adds art to Lance Armstrong, aka “Mario,” as a volunteer at the Aledo United Methodist Church Lord’s Acre.

CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

However, she also shined on the pitch, as she earned Second Team All-State honors as goalkeeper for the Ladycats soccer team. Emma, or “TED” (The Emma Davis), as she is referred to on the team, had a personal-record 127 saves in her senior season, giving her a total of 427 on her career, which is a school record.

“She’s definitely being missed,” AHS girls soccer coach Bryan Johnson said. “Everybody just wanted to be around her. It helped that she was a great communicator and she just brought this really cool vibe. She was a positive influence, and always happy. Her smile, just her attitude about things, she’s a really good kid.”

“She was homecoming queen, Miss AHS and she’s an athlete,” Bearcats soccer coach Derek Vierling marveled. “And an athlete that could really bridge that gap. As a goalkeeper, you have to get down and dirty, and into the mud, so to speak. And she bridges that gap between homecoming queen and getting down and dirty. To me that just encompasses her.”

In addition to her school and volunteer activities, Emma spent the last year working at *The Community News*.

“Emma has been a joy to have at the office,” said publisher Randy Keck, “Her work ethic is unmatched, and she always has a positive attitude and a smile.”

On top of all of her kindness and athleticism, Emma is not afraid to try her hand at any new thing that comes her way.

“She’s very multifaceted,” Bohnen mentioned. “She said this year that it was her last year of high school and she wanted to try everything. She became the wrestling manager, she still played soccer, Leading Ladies, and National Honor Society, all the while keeping up her good grades.”

However, despite all of that, her mother was blown away at Christmas of 2021 when Emma told her what she wanted.

“Her only Christmas wish was for a big box of Bibles,” Karen recalled. “And I asked her



Emma makes a save during an Aledo Ladycats soccer game.

what she was going to do with that. Needless to say, we got them. She put them in the back of her car and carried around a box of snacks and water bottles. And if she saw a homeless person or someone in need, she would give them a Bible, a snack and a water bottle. She told me not too long ago that she was almost out of Bibles and I told her, ‘You tell me when you’re almost out and I’ll keep them coming.’”

Emma leaves for Texas Tech University on Friday, Aug. 12, where she will study business and industry. Though she is leaving Aledo to start the next chapter of her life, those around town who were impacted by her will continue to cherish her smile, kindness, and positivity.



Read this story online



Emma relaxes with her dog, Bella.

Achievements

Arwen Wise to attend Coast Guard Academy

Arwen Wise, 2022 graduate of Aledo High School, was offered appointments to four military academies as she approached graduation: the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Wise settled on the Coast Guard Academy where she will major in Marine and Environmental Science. Wise also plans to play soccer for the academy.

The Coast Guard Academy became her first choice after spending a week at AIM, a program for high school juniors interested in a realistic experience at a service academy. The Coast Guard has 12 missions they fulfill in a daily basis, and Arwen was especially attracted to the search and rescue mission as she plans to attend flight school and become a helicopter pilot.

Arwen grew up in Weatherford and attended Aledo High School since Kindergarten. She is a multi-sport athlete who participated in varsity soccer and varsity cross country as well as being a four-year captain of the Dallas Texans, a highly competitive select soccer team. Arwen is also heavily involved in robotics and a Second Lieutenant in the Phoenix Fort Worth Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS
Dr. Cleveland Brown presented an appointment to the United States Coast Guard Academy to Arwen Wise at the May 9 Aledo High School Senior Awards.

Sam Houston State names Dean's List

Three local-area students were named to the Sam Houston State

University Dean's List for the spring 2022 semester: Caroline Garlington, Logan Hewitt, and Brooke Jones.

Jones was also named to the President's Honor Roll for achieving a perfect 4.0 GPA.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 while carrying 12 or more semester hours.

Landry Smith honored at UT Tyler

Landry Smith of Aledo was named to the University of Texas at Tyler Spring President's Honor Roll by taking 12 or more hours and achieving a grade of "A" in all courses.

Alex Morales of Aledo named to Dean's List at George Fox University

Alex Morales of Aledo was among students who earned dean's list recognition at George Fox University for the spring 2022 semester. Traditional undergraduate students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on 12 or more hours of graded work to earn a spot on the dean's list. Morales is a sophomore majoring in English.

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

New AVP of student services named

Weatherford College President Tod Allen Farmer has named Dr. Scott Tarnowiecky the college's new assistant vice president of student services.



Tarnowiecky

Tarnowiecky has spent 12 years at the college as a professor of history and eight years as chair of the social sciences department.

In 2018 he founded the Weatherford College Interdisciplinary Conference and has administered the event on an annual basis. He also founded and organized the Kent Miller/Quinton Reeves Lecture Series and serves as chair of the Inclusive Access Task Force, overseeing a project to make textbooks more affordable for students.

"Dr. Tarnowiecky was the unanimous choice of the hiring committee," Farmer said. "Dr. T" has demonstrated his leadership abilities through his work with the WC Interdisciplinary Conference and his leadership as a department chair. Under his leadership, we will now be able to do an even better job of serving our students."

Tarnowiecky has also served as a visiting professor and instructor at institutions such as Texas A&M University, the University of Arkansas, Arkansas Tech University

and Missouri Southern State University. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from MSSU, a Master of Arts in History from Pittsburg State University and a Doctorate of Philosophy in History from the University of Arkansas. He was also the 2019 WC Faculty Member of the Year.

Tarnowiecky will report directly to the president and will serve on the Executive Cabinet.

As the Student Services Division welcomes a new leader, Farmer said he is appreciative of the team's efforts over the past several years.

"Under the leadership of Executive Dean Adam Finley, student services enhanced and expanded student orientations, improved student information systems, and expanded student life opportunities. Collectively, the student services team has been lean and mean, yet has worked very hard for a very long time. I am extremely pleased that we are now in a position to refill vacated positions and grow student services into a stand-alone division."

Finley will now serve as executive dean of enrollment management and registrar. Tarnowiecky began his new position August 1.



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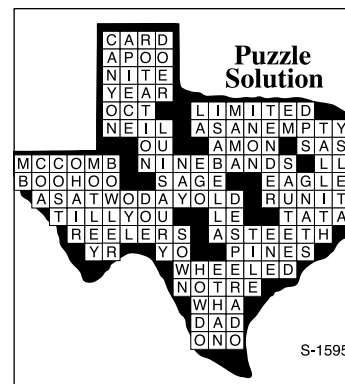
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PETS

German Shepherd recovers from porcupine attack

Be aware of presence of hedgehogs in area

By Randy Keck
The Community News

Jason Ricks, who lives just south of Aledo, had a rude awakening recently when he woke up and looked outside.

Ricks was getting ready for work and getting his children ready for the day when he looked out and saw a bloody scene on his patio.

“Honestly it looked like a crime scene out there. There was blood everywhere,” Ricks said, “all over the concrete and patio furniture.”

It was then he saw his three-year-old German Shepherd, Lexi, laying on the ground looking at him.

At first he thought Lexi might gotten out of the yard and tangled with a cactus, but when she came to the window he realized it was porcupine quills.

Ricks took Lexi to I-20 Animal Hospital in Hudson Oaks, where veterinary technicians pulled out almost 300 quills.

“They were pulled out of her out of her face, the inside of her mouth and her throat, in her tongue — they were everywhere,” Ricks said.

Still, Lexi may have gotten the better end of the encounter. Ricks found the dead porcupine in his back yard when he returned home, along with a few additional quills in his other two dogs.



JASON RICKS

Lexi as she was found on the Ricks' back patio on June 20.



JASON RICKS

Lexi was taken to I-20 Animal Hospital for treatment and removal of almost 300 quills.

In a new neighborhood surrounded by horse and cattle ranches, Ricks speculated that the porcupine may have been after water from the family pool.

After her encounter and treatment, Lexi rebounded quickly.

“We picked her up that same afternoon from the vet and brought her back home and the first thing she did was to run out in the backyard and grab her ball. She loves to play ball,” Ricks said. “There were no side effects

whatsoever. You would never have known that anything had ever happened to her.”

Ricks recalled that even before the vet visit to remove the quills, Lexi did not appear to be in distress.

“She knew that something was wrong and that she couldn’t close her mouth and swallow, but everything was the same. She was still wagging her tail, she was still wanting to get in the truck. She still wanted to go. Like nothing else changed other than the fact that she couldn’t close her mouth.”

Lexi went back to the vet a week later for a recheck, and all was well except that a couple more quills were found embedded in her skin.

According to the healthcare portion of the Hill’s Science Diet website, quills “can get stuck in a dog’s soft tissue can move deeper into the body if they’re not removed right away. The more the dog moves, the more likely quills are to break and travel further into his face or paws.”

Pet owners are advised that, if your dog encounters a similar situation, try to keep the dog as still as possible and seek immediate veterinary attention.

In addition, porcupines are nocturnal animals, so an encounter would most likely be at night.

Porcupines can also carry rabies.

For more information, see <https://www.preventivetvet.com/dogs/dogs-and-porcupines>



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Sports

August 5, 2022
THE COMMUNITY NEWS
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TRACK AND FIELD

VaultCats prep for nationals

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

As the summer comes to a close and school sports start kicking off, the final national events for summer sports are taking place. For five Aledo students, it all comes down to the Pole Vault Summer National Championship in Navasota.

Sean Gribble, Brad Campbell, Braylon Brown, Taylor Hindman, and Claire Campbell are all a part of the VaultCats Pole Vault Club located between Aledo and Azle. All five qualified for the national meet by medaling at the state meet in Corpus Christi.

VaultCats was started by longtime Aledo pole vault coach John Rhodes when he saw that pole vaulting was taking off at the school.

"When I got to Aledo, more and more kids were starting to jump during the summer," Rhodes stated. "I didn't necessarily want the Aledo kids being coached by someone else. So I set up a pit and a runway at my house and it grew."

The summer program remained entirely Aledo students as a way to keep perfecting their craft during the summer, and the team started going to meets. Then, after Rhodes retired, it expanded past Aledo.

"It was kind of like having an open weight room or open gym," Rhodes explained. "They could just come to my house and pole vault. Then, when I retired about that time, I got a few kids from Weatherford and a few kids from Azle and that summer I had about 40 kids."

Despite being retired, Rhodes is still allowed to coach the Aledo High School pole vault team. The University Interscholastic



Left to Right: Claire Campbell, Brad Campbell, Braylon Brown, Taylor Hindman (not pictured: Sean Gribble)

League rule states that a retired coach can remain a part-time coach once they have surpassed 20 years of experience.

"The whole reason this started was to make Aledo pole vault better," Rhodes said. "I'm a school coach at heart. The club coaching has been good to me and been fun, but I still love coaching the Aledo kids."

The 2022 summer group is possibly the best Rhodes has seen come through his club. Including the five Aledo students, the VaultCats have four more members going to the national meet. A feat so rare in summer pole vaulting.

On top of that, multiple vaulters have set personal records. Of those personal records, one stands alone as what could become a new school record at Aledo.

Turn to VAULT, page 11



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS
Sean Gribble

Cerja wins Bassmaster National Championship

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Mark Cerja, Jr. has not even started at Aledo High School yet but has already made a name for himself. The incoming freshman competed in the Bassmaster National Championship on July 29-30 in Huntingdon, Tennessee, and brought home the title with a two-day tally of 18 pounds, 5 ounces.

Before nationals, Cerja, Jr., along with his partner Gus Richardson from Rockwall, competed in the Lone Star Junior Bassmaster tournament at Cedar Creek Reservoir just outside of Kemp and Malakoff back in June. With Cerja, Jr.'s father as the boat captain, the pair finished second in the state of Texas with a weight of 21.95.

"There was a bunch of tough competition in Texas," Cerja, Jr. recalled. "Actually, in Texas because there are so many teams, they take two teams to nationals as opposed to other states that only take one."

When the team arrived in Tennessee for the tournament, they had plenty of time to get on the lake and practice.

"We knew that there was a lot of grass in this lake," Cerja, Jr. explained. "Both two days of practice, the fish really like Texas Rigs. We couldn't get them to bite many moving baits or reaction baits and



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Mark Cerja, Jr. (right) and his partner Gus Richardson (left) show off their catch after winning the Bassmaster Junior National Championship.

everything really moving was getting choked out by grass."

Everything took a turn when the competition started on Friday, July 29 and storms started rolling across the state of Tennessee, delaying the start of the tournament by an hour. However, because of their practices, they were able to find the spots they knew could produce some large catches.

"We relied heavily on the areas we found in practice," Cerja, Sr. stated. "We relied on them on both Day One and Day Two. As a matter of fact, we didn't catch any fish in any of the areas we didn't practice in."

Unfortunately, because they were one of the later boats to take off, and with 65 boats on a 1,000-acre

lake, their number one area of the lake had been cornered.

"There were three boats there already," Cerja, Sr. remembered. "However they managed to catch a nice five-bass limit there and then head over to Rocket Creek just off the lake."

At the end of the first day, the team was in second place at 10 pounds, 7 ounces, only trailing by one pound.

Cerja, Jr. and Richardson hit the lake for Day Two in excellent position. They knew they needed to have another good showing to take first place. However, it appeared the bass were not as aggressive on Day Two.

Turn to CERJA, page 11

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

Walsh Kinder Camp
 Walsh Elementary School will host Walsh Kinder Camp from 10-11:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 5.

All kinder students and their families are welcome to participate in a Q&A with the principal, meet the kinder team of teachers, learn about campus procedures, connect with other kinder families, and learn about campus volunteer activities. The event will end with popsicles on the playground.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Red Summer Bash
 The Parker County Republican Women will host Red Summer Bash, a food and fellowship opportunity for Republicans, from 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Parker County Sheriff's Posse, 2551 Mineral Wells Hwy. in Weatherford.

Music will be provided by Sonny and Jolie Burgess. Admission is free, but reservations are required. To RSVP, call 817-550-8998.

Summer Sidewalk Shop

Carve & Cask will host a Summer Sidewalk Shop from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6 at 243 Willow Bend Drive in Willow Park. A variety of local small businesses will be on hand, and the shopping will be on Tax Free Weekend.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

Parker County Active Democrats
 The Parker County Active



JAVIER SANCHEZ MINGORANCE

College 1001

Democrats will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 8, in the Strain Room of Weatherford College's Doss Student Center.

Parker County Democratic Chair Kay Parr will report on the recent state Democratic convention. Local Democrats are also planning for an appearance by gubernatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke on Aug. 10 at the Crazy Water Hotel in Mineral Wells. For more information, visit parker-countydemocrats.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

College 1001

Lee Ancona, Ph. D. will present College 1001, a class for students who are about to leave for college, at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10, at The Quad, 213 Pecan Drive in Aledo.

Ancona is a retired teacher, advisor, tutor, and college instructor (UNT and TCU) who lives in east Parker County.

Navigating through the transition of leaving home

and beginning college can be a formidable task. There are distractions and pitfalls on every college campus. This time period is perhaps the biggest change that occurs in a young person's life and involves the pathway or conduit to adulthood.

Balancing academics and an active social life can be a challenge. Add a part time job and it can be overwhelming. Any student going to college this fall at any college or university is welcome to attend. Pizza, soft drinks, and good conversation will be on the menu, and attendees are asked to bring a notebook and pen or pencil.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

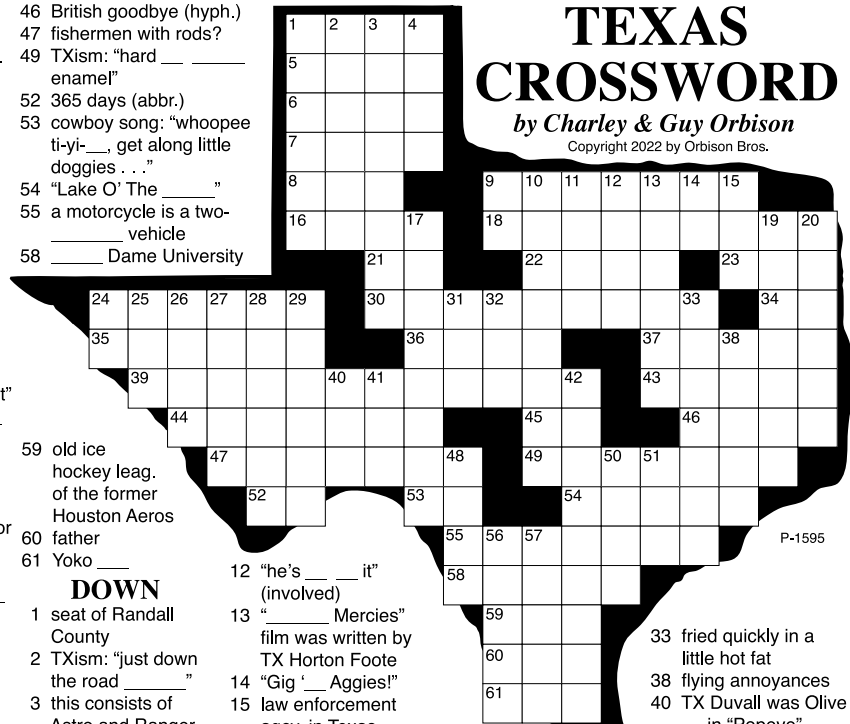
Native Plant Society Meeting

The Cross Timbers chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas will resume monthly meetings after the summer break at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 11, at Mount Pleasant School, 213 Raymond George Way in

ACROSS

- 1 ace of spades, e.g.
- 5 "Kick ___ Traditional Tribe of Texas"
- 6 "night," informally
- 7 Cowboys Jason Garrett was 2016 Coach of the
- 8 state fair mo.
- 9 Amtrak train that runs across Texas: "Sunset ___"
- 16 a brother of George W. and Jeb Bush
- 18 TXism: "light ___ egg shell"
- 21 UT opponent in the "Red River Shootout"
- 22 in Fort Worth: "___ Carter Museum of American Art"
- 23 shoemaker in the Alamo City
- 24 Corpus Christi mayor Joe (2017-21)
- 30 Texas armadillos generally have ___ of armor
- 34 TX Sissy Spacek played this Loretta in a 1960 film (init.)
- 35 crying sound
- 36 old wise person
- 37 ___ Pass, TX
- 39 TXism: "weak ___ ___ kitten"
- 43 TXism: "___ by a lawyer" (finalize)
- 44 TXism: "don't cross the river ' ___ come to it"
- 45 Joan Crawford was born in Texas as Lucille Fay ___ Sueur
- 46 British goodbye (hyph.)
- 47 fishermen with rods?
- 49 TXism: "hard ___ enamel"
- 52 365 days (abbr.)
- 53 cowboy song: "whoopie ti-yi-___ get along little doggies . . ."
- 54 "Lake O' The ___"
- 55 a motorcycle is a two-___ vehicle
- 58 ___ Dame University
- 60 father
- 61 Yoko ___
- 12 "he's ___ it" (involved)
- 13 "___ Mercies" film was written by TX Horton Foote
- 14 "Gig '___ Aggies!"
- 15 law enforcement agcy. in Texas
- 17 first governor of Galveston (2 wds.)
- 19 Jewish prayer shawl
- 20 "___ Mission" in El Paso
- 24 board game manufacturer (abbr.)
- 25 appellate court in Texas (abbr.)
- 26 TXism: "___ an arm and a leg"
- 27 Texas atheist, Madalyn Murray
- 28 Matador is the seat of this county
- 29 one who rolls a ball at ten pins
- 31 negative vote
- 32 TXism: "he could strut sitting down" (big ___)
- 33 fried quickly in a little hot fat
- 38 flying annoyances
- 40 TX Duvall was Olive ___ in "Popeye"
- 41 female deer
- 42 TX Don Henley sang this hit
- 48 the seed has been
- 50 kitchen floor surface
- 51 dir. from Coleman to Comanche
- 56 TXism: "a fine ___ you do"
- 57 TX-born actor Hawke

TEXAS CROSSWORD
 by Charley & Guy Orbison
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Weatherford. An educational program will follow a short business meeting. Visitors are always welcome. For information, visit npsot.org/wp/crosstimbers/.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Pythian Home to hold fundraising concert

The Texas Pythian Home on Bankhead Highway in Weatherford will host a fundraising gospel concert featuring the band Sacred

Call at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13, in the Durant Auditorium at Weatherford High School.

The Pythian Home has been caring for children since 1909. In the beginning it was established to care for widows and orphans and through the years has changed to presently care for children with families in need.

The goal of the home is to supply a loving atmosphere

so children entrusted in their care will have a role model after whom to pattern their lives and homes. Over the years the Pythian Home has served as a home for more than 1,000 children.

Tickets are on sale in increments of five, ranging from five for \$50 to 50 for \$500. For more information or to order tickets, call 817-594-4465 or mail Texas Pythian Home, PO Box 2798, Weatherford, Texas 76086.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE TOWN OF ANNETTA, TEXAS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 AT THE REGULAR ANNETTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE ANNETTA TOWN HALL, 450 THUNDER HEAD LANE.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs

Aledo ISD offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Business Management and Administration, Computer Science, Cosmetology, Education and Training, Graphic Design, Health Science, Law and Public Safety, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics(STEM), Student media, and Transportation, Distribution and Logistics. Admission to these programs is based on interest, age, grade level, and pre-requisite requirements.

It is the policy of Aledo ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of Aledo ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Aledo ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, at 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008, 817-441-8327 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, at 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008, 817-441-8327.

Notificación Pública de No Discriminación en Programas de Educación Técnica y Vocacional

Aledo ISD ofrece programas de educación técnica y vocacional en Agricultura, Alimentación y Recursos Naturales, Administración y Administración de Empresas, Ciencias en Computadoras, Cosmetología, Educación y Capacitación, Diseño Gráfico, Ciencias de la Salud, Derecho y seguridad pública, Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería y Matemáticas (STEM), Medios de Comunicación Estudiantiles, Transporte, Distribución y Logística. La admisión a estos programas se basa en intereses, edad, nivel de grado, y requerimientos de pre-requisitos.

Es la política del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Aledo no discriminar en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Es la política del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Aledo no discriminar en sus procedimientos de empleo por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Aledo tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos de quejas, comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Título IX, en 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008, 817-441-8327, y/o la Coordinador de la Sección 504, 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008, 817-441-8327.

Notice of Public Hearings

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council of the City of Aledo, Parker County, Texas will conduct public hearings in the Aledo Community Center, 104 Robinson Court, Aledo, Texas.

First Public Hearing Planning and Zoning Commission
 Location: Aledo Community Center
 104 Robinson Court
 Aledo, Texas 76008

Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

Second Public Hearing City Council
 Location: Aledo Community Center
 104 Robinson Court
 Aledo, Texas 76008

Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

The purpose of the hearings is to receive input regarding consideration the following:

- 1) Public Hearing to consider amending Section 28.2.3 of the City of Aledo Zoning Ordinance to change the rear yard setback for detached accessory storage buildings and open-air structures 200 SF or less from (15') to (5') to the main structure, rear, and side lot lines.
- 2) Public Hearing to consider amending Section 66-61, Sidewalk Installation Policy, of the City of Aledo Code of Ordinances to require sidewalks along local residential streets and collectors to be a minimum of five (5') feet wide, six (6') feet along arterial and through-fare streets, and to require sidewalks to be set inside the right-of-way against a five (5') foot landscape buffer adjacent to the street.

For further information or questions regarding these public hearings, please contact Nathan Gonzales, at telephone number (817) 717-4255 or cityplanner@aledotx.gov.

Published in *The Community News*, August 5, 2022, and posted at Aledo City Hall August 1, 2022.

Deana McMullen, City Secretary

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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SWIM

from page 12

huge. It's been a while since we've sent anyone to nationals. This is the first time for all of these swimmers, so back-to-back is a big accomplishment. I hope that their success will encourage schools in the area to add swimming to their athletic programs."

Also advancing to state for the WST this season were:

- Saphira Buchfink, Girls 13-14, 50 fly.
- Emma Circelli, Girls 11-12, 200 medley and 200 free relays.
- Katie Cox, Girls 15-17, 100 free, 50 back, 50 free, 200 medley relay, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Landry Crickman, Boys 15-17, 50 free, 200 medley and 200 free relays, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Blake D'Spain, Boys 15-17, 50 back, 50 fly, 50 free, 100 IM, 200 medley and 200 free relays, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Abbie Farber, Girls 15-17, 50 back, 200 medley relay, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Noah Farber, Boys 15-17, 100 free, 50 breast, 50 free, 200 medley and 200 free relays, mixed



PHOTO COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD SWIM TEAM

The Boys 11-12 relay of (from left) Corbin Lane, Kody Burlison, Cullen Costello and Max Gentry, shown with coach Tif Williams in the middle, won gold.

- 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Calla Ferguson, Girls 11-12, 200 free relay.
- Michael Goff, Boys 15-17, 100 free, 50 fly, 50 free, 200 medley and 200 free relays, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Ava Helmrick, Girls 15-17, 50 breast, 50 free, 100 IM, 200 medley relay, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Lily Helmrick, Girls 11-12, 200 medley and 200 free relays.
- Charlie Hixson, Boys 9-10, 100 free relay.
- Izy Hixson, Girls 11-12, 200 free relay.
- Campbell Hord, Girls 11-12, 200 free relay.
- Brendon Hughes, Boys 15-17, 50 breast, 50 fly, 100 IM, 200 free relay, mixed 200 medley, free
- relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Hali Hughes, Girls 13-14, 100 free, 50 breast, 100 IM.
- Bowen Judd, Boys 9-10, 100 IM, 100 free relay.
- Emma Kechnie, Girls 11-12, 200 medley and 200 free relays.
- Brookelyn Nowakowski, Girls 15-17, 50 back, 50 breast, 100 IM, 200 free, 200 medley relay, mixed 200 medley, free relays, mixed 100 free relay.
- Layla Olsen, Girls 11-12, 200 200 medley and 200 free relays.
- Colt Spillers, Boys 9-10, 100 free relay.
- Michael Spillers, Boys 13-14, 50 breast.
- Noah Wagnon, Boys 9-10, 100 IM, 100 free relay.
- Elizabeth Walter, Girls 11-12, 200 free relay.

SIGALA

from page 12

"It helped me grow," Sigala said. "It helped me learn how to move between the sand and the court. It opened my eyes to more things I could do."

It was not much longer before Sigala decided to play beach volleyball exclusively. She moved her training one last time, settling at 692 Beach in Lewisville, where she remains to this day. Since her last move, Sigala has competed in many tournaments across Texas earning multiple honors and national bids.

"I travel all across Texas," Sigala explained. "I've been to Austin, San Antonio, the DFW Metroplex and in these tournaments you have to finish first or second to earn the national bids."

Sometimes they will allow third but most of the time it's the top two."

In the summer of 2022, Sigala competed in the Beach Volleyball Clubs of America tournament, the Amateur Athletic Union National Tournament, and the BVNE tournaments on both the east coast and the west coast.

At the same time, Sigala has also been playing indoor volleyball for the TCA Lady Eagles in the fall.

"I still decided to play at TCA," Sigala mentioned. "My mom was the head coach there for a while and I figured I would still do school volleyball. It's less competitive and the schedule is more flexible compared to club indoor teams. School ball was more relaxed

and so it allowed me to do both."

Opposite of how it was when she started, Sigala stated that the time spent in beach volleyball has actually helped her indoor performance.

"It was definitely a switch having to go back and forth," Sigala said. "On weekends I would still play beach volleyball and then during the week I played indoors. There are a lot of rule differences but I got it down to a routine that I know when I'm on the court and when I'm on the sand. The sand definitely helped my vertical as well."

Sigala plans to play beach volleyball at the collegiate level while also going to school for nursing after she graduates from TCA in 2023.



Read this story online

CERJA

from page eight

"We went out with the same plan," Cerja, Jr. said. "We knew those fish were there, but it was just tougher. The pressure had built on the lake, I think the fish were just in shock."

The crew headed down one of the many creeks splintering off of the lake and almost instantly got two big catches.

"Gus immediately caught a two-and-a-half pounder," Cerja, Jr. recalled. "For that lake it was a nice one. The very next cast I bought in a four-pounder."

The Day Two catch weighed in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces for a two-day total of 18 pounds, 5 ounces. Cerja, Jr. and Richardson were the second team called to weigh in and they sat on the stage in the "hot seat" while every other team weighed their catches.

At the end, it came down to the team from Alabama that led after Day One. All it would take was 6 pounds, 15 ounces to take the tournament. However they weighed in at 5 pounds, 4 ounces and Cerja, Jr. and Richardson were the national champions.

"I was in shock," Cerja, Jr. described. "I really did think they would bring in a bigger bag. When I saw 5 pounds, 4 ounces I froze and the next thing I knew my dad was picking me up."

All three members of the team took home trophies and Cerja, Jr. and Richardson will split a \$2,000 scholarship for winning the championship.

Cerja, Jr. will be a freshman at Aledo for the 2022-23 school year and looks forward to joining the Aledo Anglers Club.



Read this story online

VAULT

from page eight

"Sean Gribble has probably been the highlight," Rhodes mentioned. "He jumped 15-3 during the school year and has kind of just clicked this summer. He jumped 16 feet and then 16-3 at back-to-back meets. Then, at one of our last practices he cleared 16-8, which is an inch over the school record."

Because it was for a club, and it was a practice jump,

the jump does not count towards the school record. However it is clear that Gribble's goal is to break the record.

"That's a great turnaround," Rhodes exclaimed. "To go from 15 feet during the school year to then jump 16 feet three weeks in a row, that's incredible."

Gribble is the only one among the national qualifiers to be an incoming senior. He cleared 16-3 in

Corpus Christi to take gold. Brad Campbell took the gold in 16U with a 14-foot jump, while Brown took bronze 13-6. In the girl's 16U, Hindman took home the silver due to a jumpoff after jumping 11-6. Claire Campbell competed in the girl's 14U and finished fifth jumping 6-7.

The National Meet will take place from Friday, Aug. 5 through Saturday, Aug. 6.



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VOLLEYBALL

Sigala competes at nationals

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Every athlete has their end-of-season goal. In the summer seasons, the goal is national tournaments.

For Trinity Christian Academy senior volleyball player Katherine “Bella” Sigala, the goal was reached not just once, but four times.

Sigala does not play traditional club volleyball during the summer, though. Instead, she travels across the state of Texas and plays in beach volleyball tournaments, competing for spots in national tournaments.

Sigala started playing volleyball at a very early age, exclusively indoors. Then one day, she offered a passing glance at a few people playing the game she loved in the sand.

“It really interested me,” Sigala remembered. “I was like, ‘well I love being outside and I love volleyball, so let me give it a try.’ So I went to a local club in Fort Worth, TAV (Texas Advantage Volleyball) Beach Volleyball, and just fell in love with it from the first practice. It was something new, and it was an interesting change of pace.”

Despite her experience indoors, her abilities did not transfer to the sand immediately.

“I remember, that first practice I was so slow,” Sigala mentioned. “I didn’t know how to move correctly just because it’s so different. It took me a few months to get used to it and



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Bella Sigala in sand volleyball action

at that time I was still playing indoors at the same time. Also going from six players on the court to only having you and your partner was also a big switch.”

Around the age of 13, Sigala got more serious with beach

volleyball, starting to practice three times a week instead of once, and moved her training to Impact Fort Worth at the Game On facility.

Turn to SIGALA, page 11

Area swimmers win national, state championships

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Most folks don’t readily think of water when they hear Des Moines, Iowa. However, a few swimmers from Parker County made quite a splash there this past weekend.

Meanwhile, several members from that same Weatherford Swim Team brought home medals from the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation Swim Meet in Corpus Christi.

Competing in the State Games of America in Des Moines, Abbie Lane won three gold medals in the Women 19-99 category, taking first in the 50-yard butterfly with a time of 29.44 seconds, first in the 50-yard breast with a clocking of 35.81 and first in the 200-meter individual medley in 3:17.32. In addition, she captured a silver medal, placing second in the 50 freestyle, coming in at 27.85.

The short course consisted of yards and the long course was meters.

In the Boys 11-12 division, the 200-meter free relay of Cullen Costello, Max Gentry, Corbin Lane and Kody Burlison won gold, posting a 2:38.40.

The boys all swam long course (meters).

Individually, Costello was second in the 50 breast in 45.65, and eighth in both the 50 free and 100 free. Burlison was fourth in the 50 breast; Gentry placed sixth in the 50 fly, seventh in the 50 back and ninth in the 100 free; and Corbin Lane placed ninth in the 50 back, 10th in the 100 free and 11th in the 50 free.

State

Also, from the state meet, several swimmers qualified for national competition in California in 2024.

Leading the charge at state was 34-year-old Matt Williams, who took first place in both the 50-meter free and 100 individual medley, making him a national qualifier.

Brady D’Spain brought home the most medals. Swimming in the Boys 13-14 division, he was first in the 50 butterfly, second in the 100 IM and third in the 50 freestyle, also qualifying for nationals. He also qualified for state in a fourth event, finishing fourth on the 200 medley relay with Burlison, Zach Edwards and Michael Spillers.

The Boys 11-12 200 medley relay of Costello, Gentry, Carson Goff and

Eli Vanzant placed third and qualified for nationals. The same quartet was fourth in the 200 freestyle relay.

Goff also placed sixth individually in the 50 back. Vanzant was sixth in the 100 free and seventh in the 50 free.

Others who placed in the top eight at state were:

Elijah Helmrick, Men 18-25, fifth in 50 breast, fifth in 100 IM, seventh in 50 fly.

Noah Wagnon, Boys 9-10, sixth in 25 free, qualified in 100 IM.

“I’m really proud of our swimmers’ success this season. We’ve had to rebuild after COVID really impacted our season a few years ago,” said Tif Williams, co-coach of the team, along with her husband Matt. “These swimmers only get three or four practices a week for eight weeks, so it’s a fast and furious season. Looking at their times and progress over those eight weeks, you can see they are utilizing every opportunity to be in the water and to improve.

“Not only has that hard work gotten them to state but now to nationals, and for some it’s back to back nationals, which is

Turn to SWIM, page 11

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Pamela Joan Rodriguez, Deceased, were issued on January 12, 2022, in Cause No. 21P495 pending in the Parker County Court, Parker County, Texas, to: Michelle Marie Coffey.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Michelle Marie Coffey
197 Brandon Dr.
Weatherford, Texas 76087

DATED the 2nd day of August, 2022.

s/ David A. Levy
Attorney for Michelle Marie Coffey
State Bar No.: 24062848
PO Box 397 • Archer City, Texas 76351 • (940) 257-7419
dlevy0594@outlook.com

Notice of Public Hearing

The City of Willow Park Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the matter listed below:

PUBLIC HEARING to Consider Special Use Permit regarding request to add Boat Dealership/Sales as an allowable use for Lot 3, Block 1; Porter Addition, currently zoned as Commercial/I-20 Overlay District in the City of Willow Park, Parker County, Texas.

Planning & Zoning Commission: Tuesday, August 16, 2022
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Willow Park City Hall
516 Ranch House Rd
Willow Park, TX 76087

Any member of the public has the right to appear at the Public Hearing. Please contact the Development Department at 817-441-7108 or tfisher@willowpark.org with any questions.

The above notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex at the City of Willow Park City Hall, Willow Park, Texas on/ before August 5, 2022 by 5:00 p.m.

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