

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

## Homecoming

## Mayors' food drive underway



MERCEDES MAYER/ALEDO ISD

The Aledo Anglers float rounds a corner during the 2022 Homecoming Parade on Monday, Oct. 3. The Homecoming Queen and Coming Home Queen will be crowned at halftime of the Aledo-South Hills game on Friday at 7.

Food collections for Center of Hope continue through October

**Special to The Community News**

The annual Mayors' Food Drive is underway for Parker County Center of Hope to feed struggling families and runs through Oct 31.

"The Parker County Mayors' Food Drive is the Center's largest food drive," CEO Staci Markwardt said. "Over the summer, the need for food increased nearly 70% and with the number of families asking for assistance growing every day, this food drive could not have come at a better time."



Read this story online

The food drive was started by Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss 15 years ago in Parker County. This year 3,500 bags have been distributed to churches, businesses, and mayors to fill with food items.

Throughout the fifteen years, more than 130,000 pounds of food have been collected for Parker County Center of Hope through this food drive.

When asked why he chose Center of Hope to donate to, Moss said, "We're not just giving them groceries, Center of Hope gives them a hand up. It's like they are teaching them to fish."

Moss started food drives long before he moved back to Texas in 2006. He and his wife moved from Florida, where they ran food drives for hurricane victims. They took food, water, and other needed items to hurricane victims in the Florida panhandle. When they moved back to Texas, they wanted to get involved and do something similar to what they had done in Florida. They saw a need in Parker County and wanted to help and chose Parker County Center of Hope as their partner.

"I don't know of too many organizations that go the extra mile like Center of Hope does," Moss said. "They offer classes and give students the tools needed to get a job or go to college."

Bags for the Mayors' Food Drive are filled with non-perishable food items, such as beans, pastas, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats, fruits and vegetables, and toiletries for struggling families.

Representatives of the Center of Hope said "If you feel God calling you to give, donations can be taken directly to the Parker County Center of Hope at 1318 Clear Lake Road in Weatherford Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m."

Parker County Center of Hope is a Christ-centered ministry offering crisis assistance such as daily meals in the dining room, groceries, counseling, and financial assistance for utilities, dental, and medical needs. In addition, Center of Hope provides long-term solutions out of poverty through its adult education and career development program. The Center is located at 1318 Clear Lake Rd and is open Monday - Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit centerofhope.tx.com

A GIFT OF MOBILITY

## New ramp dedicated for Aledo resident

By Randy Keck  
The Community News

This year was a game changer for Robert Seely.

Seely lives with his mother, Michelle, in the Yes mobile home community of Aledo. Robert, 33, was born with Spina Bifida, a condition in which a baby's spinal cord does not develop properly.

Robert is now in a wheelchair, but it wasn't always so. As a young adult he lived on his own and maneuvered on crutches. But in 2016 he had a massive stroke and has been in a wheelchair ever since.

Robert's movement was restricted because the home didn't have a ramp.

On Sunday, Sept. 25, the Rev. Troy Miklos from The Summit in Aledo, representatives from the Center of Hope, friends, and volunteers gathered to bless and celebrate a newly-completed wheelchair ramp for Robert.

Miklos explained how the ramp came about. In partnership with the Center of Hope, The Summit has participated in Camp Hope each each of the past 12 years in the Yes community. About two summers

ago a manager from the community made Miklos aware of Robert's situation.

Miklos reached out to the family, but the onset of COVID 19 pushed back the plans and preparation for a ramp. Because of the slope, the ramp was going to be challenging.

Craig Brown was retired from a business of designing specialty staircases, and he designed the ramp. The original plan was that volunteers from The Summit would build the ramp in pieces behind their church, but then Miklos had health issues that prevented that from happening.

Miklos took to social media to see if he could find someone to build the ramp, but this was during the post-COVID building boom and he couldn't find any takers.

"And so it wasn't until construction kind of took a burp earlier this year that I saw Joshua Hope recommended for something. He was the first one I called," Miklos said. "What better name to have! He's a neat guy Christian."

Hope is part of a company that mainly does drywall, but they take

Turn to RAMP, page A3



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Robert Seely is surrounded by family and friends at the dedication of his new ramp on Sept. 25.



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# Bearcats of Character

As a part of the Aledo ISD's character education program - the Positivity Project or P2 - the district each school board meeting recognizes Aledo Bearcats of Character, honoring the good character on display by students across the district. In September, Aledo ISD Trustees recognized Bearcats of Character for Curiosity!

P2 says that someone displaying curiosity likes to explore and discover. And that curiosity is an important character strength because curious individuals are more likely to ask questions and try new things, which is how we all learn and grow. At its core, curiosity is a form of courage because everyone is naturally curious, but not everyone is willing to experience it and share their curiosity.



Read this story online

## Aledo High School: Paul Mulenga, 12th grade

"Paul has an incredible gift of compassion and consideration for humanity. He is the voice for all students. Paul has empathy and connection and is inquisitive, especially when understanding things from other perspectives. Paul seeks out opportunities to open new doors not only for himself but also for others. He actively serves Aledo High School in many ways. Perhaps the greatest is his service to others. Paul will actively go out of his way to brighten someone's day, even someone he doesn't personally know. He is witty, driven, and has the gift of connection. He is an incredible asset to our Aledo community!"

## Aledo Learning Center: Angel Morales Bays, 11th grade

"Angel has come into this school year ready to learn! He asks questions about course content and has a desire to dig deeper into whatever he's learning that day. Ms. Fernandez, Angel's science teacher, was reminded of him during the P2 lesson when curiosity was defined as "a gateway to knowledge." She said

that Angel's eagerness for growing and learning as a student and a person is evident each day in her classroom."



Mulenga



Bays

## Daniel Ninth Grade: Lincoln Durnil, 9th grade

"Curiosity" is often defined as "a strong desire to know or learn something." Curious people are often described as inquisitive, quizzical, and questioning. Lincoln Durnil displays these traits, along with many more. Even though the year has just gotten started, Lincoln has asked the "Why" behind everything we have done in class. He is always positive and brings a sense of curiosity to class every day. Recently, in an advisory, we discussed the definition and importance of curiosity which describes Lincoln's attitude and character."



Durnil



Timmerman

## Aledo Middle School: Dean Timmerman, 8th grade

"Dean Timmerman is a natural born leader, but also exhibits exceptional curiosity. Last week, students were offered the opportunity to visit the website [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com). We

discussed how this website donates grains of rice for each question answered correctly and the impact that can have on impoverished families on a global scale. Immediately, Dean began brainstorming and questioning how he could make this a widespread social activity for Aledo ISD - from parties to Free Rice Fridays. The ability to use his curiosity to think beyond himself should be recognized and modeled."



DeLuca



Kyle

## McAnally Middle School: Nicholas DeLuca, 6th grade

"Nicholas is a 6th grade student at McAnally this year. He has been involved in all activities and meetings so far this year! He attended McCat Camp, Bearcat Nation 101, McAnally Mingle, the beginning of the year band meeting and theater meeting. His teachers share that he is inquisitive and engaged in every class. We are so excited to have Nicholas at MMS this year and appreciate his enthusiasm and curiosity for learning and being involved."

## Annetta Elementary School: Brody Kyle, 4th grade

"Brody's classroom teacher, Mrs. Chasteen, says "Brody is curious about how and why things work, and when he finds this out, he is the ultimate supporter! Brody loves helping others that are curious to understand also! Brody is curiously amazing!"

## Coder Elementary School: Addison Kemp, 2nd grade

"All of Addison's teachers agree that he is quick to ask why. It doesn't

matter if it's why the sky is blue or why we stand in a line at school. He's keenly interested in knowing more about everything."



Kemp



Lyle

## McCall Elementary School: Oliver Lyle, 1st grade

"Oliver's curiosity at school helps to make him a wonderful learner! He is constantly engaged in his learning and lessons and inspires our whole class to get curious about the world! His attitude toward learning and his drive to learn as much as he can is infectious!"

## Stuard Elementary School: Henry Bitler, 2nd grade

"Henry is a very inquisitive student who is always thinking of questions to extend learning. His thirst for knowledge is a beautiful thing and I hope that he carries it with him for life!"



Bitler

## Vandagriff Elementary School: Hadley Felczak, Kindergarten

"Hadley is always asking about how many different ways a task can be done. She enjoys trying to figure out the different ways to achieve something. She is not afraid to ask the "why" and "how" when asked to work on projects or skills. her curiosity of learning new things inspires others to ask questions and to get the

most out of the learning experience."

## Walsh Elementary School: Nolan Crenshaw, 3rd Grade

"Nolan is a shining example of the character trait, curiosity. Nolan is excited for new opportunities to learn, not only about the world around him, but about his classmates too. He leads discussions with questions that ask "why" and "how" and has a natural desire to build knowledge. His excitement for learning brings an abundance of positive energy to our classroom community!"



Felczak



Crenshaw

### QUOTABLE

Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.

Abraham Lincoln



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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Shown displaying food collection bags are (from left) Parker County Center of Hope CEO Staci Markwardt, Moss Insurance Group owner Doyle Moss, and Director of Operations Megan Hendricks.

# Homecoming Court



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Trinity Christian Academy will play its first true Homecoming Football Game at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, against Lake Country Christian School. TCA homecoming court nominees are (left to right) juniors Elle Smith and Walker Merrill; seniors Rio Lipsky, Shane Houston, Libby Tovar, Ben Camp, Margaret Cowley, and Seth Roetman; sophomores Olivia Quinn and Ryan Leet; and freshmen Ava Luecker and Christian Valdez. TCA High School students voted for Mr. and Miss TCA on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

## TENNIS

### Aledo captures district title

By **Cathy Mason**

Special to The Community News

On Tuesday, Aledo High School walked away with the District 5-5A team tennis championship with a 17-2 home victory against Granbury.

Doubles scores were as follows: Bryanna Orr/Kenley Germany 6-4, 6-3; Elli Kate Bussmeir/Paige Federman 6-0, 6-0; Natalie Nawrocki/Patrice Loftin 6-3, 1-6, 10-6; Ben Farmer/Craig Mason 6-2, 6-0; Jacob Heckathorn/Francois Britz 6-0, 6-1; and Scott Mason/Eleanor Jack 6-0, 6-1.

Boys doubles Line 1 Ian Leslie/Hogan Posey fought to split sets, but lost in the tiebreaker, 3-6, 6-3 4-10.

All boys singles matches were victorious. Line 1 Leslie fought off a first-set score of 0-6 to come back

with a second set score of 6-0 and a 10-4 tiebreaker. Line 2 S. Mason defeated his opponent 9-7 in a pro set.

The remainder of the boys lineup had no problem with their competition, posting the following scores: Posey 6-3, 6-1; Farmer 6-0, 6-2; C. Mason 8-0; Heckathorn 6-3, 6-0 and Will Beyer 6-3.

In singles, the girls posted the following scores: Orr 6-0, 6-1; Bussmeir 6-0, 6-0; Germany 8-3; Federman 8-0; Gracie Heydman 8-2 and Sydney Byrd 6-4. Line 5 Jack fought to a 8-8 tie, then narrowly lost her match with a 7-9 tiebreaker.

Aledo will host Fort Worth North Side, the fourth-place finisher in District 6-5A, in the bi-district play-offs Tuesday at 5 p.m.

## RAMP

from page A1

on other jobs as well, and they built the ramp and completed it in July.

In the interim, Robert's mother Michelle, an avid radio listener, heard about Michelle's Miracles on KSCS. She informed her daughter, who wrote an essay and sent it to the station.

The station put Robert on the air and presented him with a new wheelchair.

Michelle said the ramp has opened a whole new world for Robert, providing him the opportunity to come and go, and go out with his friends.

On the day of dedication, Robert wheeled down the ramp for a group photo with representatives from The Summit, the Center of Hope, and friends and family.

Miklos, ever the pastor, said a prayer to dedicate the ramp.

"Father, some days the world is so broken. And yet some days we get to celebrate some joys that were unexpected. Who would have thought 12 years ago, when we did our first Camp Hope, that it would lead to today — that we'd be standing here right now. And celebrating the ramp, and some mobility and just the opportunity to just be Christ out in this world that so desperately needs it."



Read this story online

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Aledo runners have big day in Granbury

From Staff Reports

The Community News

The Aledo cross country teams had another sterling day as the varsity boys won the Granbury Race for the Loot event this past Friday, while the varsity girls took second. The 5K races were run on the Granbury Disc Golf Course.

"Another great day for the Bearcats and Ladycats Cross Country teams! We were missing two of our varsity girls runners, which allowed some JV girls to run in the varsity division — and they did a fantastic job," Aledo coach Mike Pinkerton said.

The varsity girls saw several new PR times, while all seven runners on the varsity boys clocked below 18 minutes.

The JV boys also finished second, while Pinkerton was also impressed with the four runners on the JV girls, though they did not have enough for a complete team.

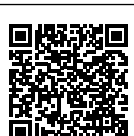
Individual results are: Varsity girls - Elizabeth Griffin, fourth, 20:00.20; Sophia Brandenburg, fifth, 20:10.50; Aubrey Connally, 21st, 21:35.21; Sadie Williams, 49th, 22:48.30; Emily Lewis, 51st, 22:52.30.

Varsity boys - Jack Fink, third, 16:26.21; Vincent Luffey, fourth, 16:37.22; Henry Zedler, 11th, 16:53.94; Dominick Barrera, 14th, 17:09.07; Sam Haught, 24th, 17:31.85; Anderson Smith, 30th, 17:42.47; Luke Schabel, 37th, 17:55.10.

JV girls - Caroline Browning, fourth, 23:16.00; Catie Weimer, 25th, 24:46.00; Maddy Shepard, 79th, 27:39.00; Ashton Teague, 128th, 34:49.00.

JV boys - Daniel Stephens, third, 18:28.05; Lincoln Tuin, fifth, 18:55.10; James Price, sixth, 19:11.97; Bo Merrill, 38th, 20:35.71; Caden West, 53rd, 20:59.63; Ian Robbins, 64th, 21:11.45; Christian Flores, 96th, 21:52.10.

The Aledo cross country teams will be training through next week in preparation for the District 5-5A Cross Country Championships on Friday, Oct. 14. This meet will be held at Central Park in White Settlement.



Read this story online



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Elizabeth Griffin led the Ladycats with a fourth-place finish in Granbury (file photo). | RIGHT: Henry Zedler contributed to the Bearcats' win at Granbury (file photo).

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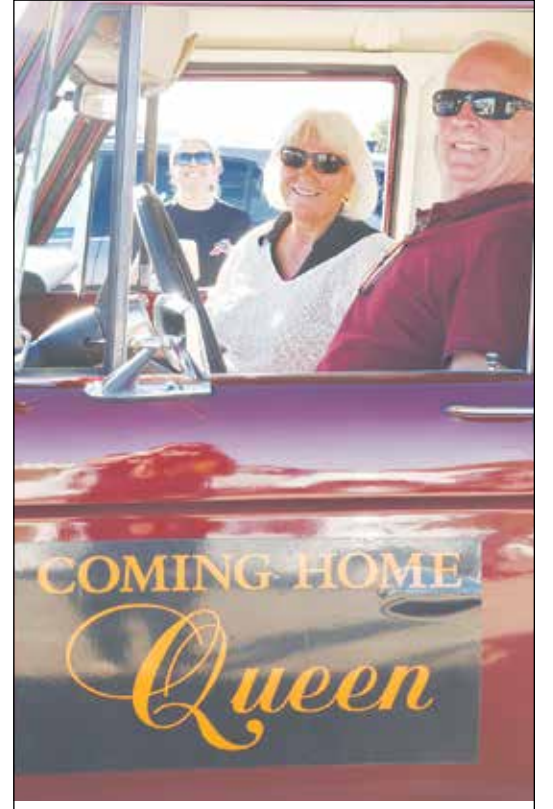
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## Aledo Homecoming Parade

The theme of this year's Aledo Homecoming Parade on Oct. 3 was "Road Trip." Student organizations went all out to deck up their floats with a range of destinations. Photos by Mercedes Mayer



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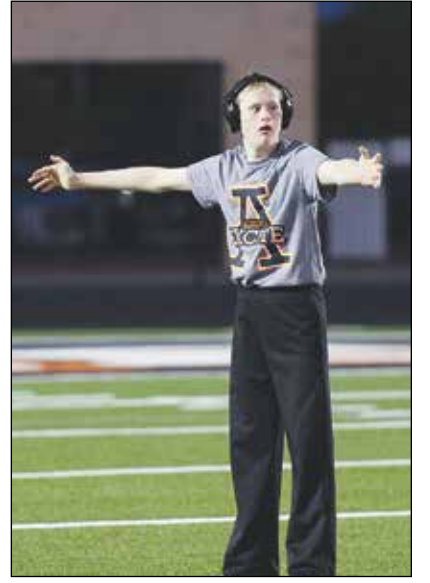


# Homecoming Pep Rally

The Homecoming Pep Rally on Monday night was open to the public, and included lots of fun and music. Photos by Breleigh Mayer



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# Events

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



**SAFE HOWL-OWEEN**

The Weatherford College Police Department will host its annual Safe Howl-oween from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at the Weatherford College campus parking lot. The event will open at 5 p.m. for special needs children. Booths will be set up for children to enjoy games and receive prizes and candy. The event is free, but attendees are asked to bring canned goods to support the Parker County Senior Living Center. Due to the growth of the event, the Weatherford College Police Dept. is asking for additional support from the community in the way of vendors who would like to set up booths with interactive games that hand out candy and prizes.

Monetary donations are also appreciated. For more information, call the WC Police Dept. at 817-598-6316 or email [wcpd@wc.edu](mailto:wcpd@wc.edu).

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8**

**Ex-Students' Association Banquet**

The Aledo ISD Ex-Students' Association will hold their banquet on Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Aledo Learning Center Training Room.

Visitation will begin at 4:30 p.m. and the meal will be served at 6:00 p.m.

All ex-students of Aledo ISD are encouraged to attend. The cost will be \$20, which covers the meal, expenses, and \$5 for dues.

If you did not receive an invitation and would like to attend, send a note to Aledo Ex-Students' Assn., P. O. Box 737, Aledo, Texas 76008. For more information, call Lillian Haile at 817-441-8862.

**Fall Festival**

Aledo United Methodist Church will host their annual Lord's Acre or Fall Festival on Saturday, October 8 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a Kids' Zone, Country Kitchen, Live Auction, Silent Auction, Vendors, Food, and Music.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16**

**Aledo golf fundraiser planned**

From Staff Reports The 19th Annual Bearcat/Ladycat Golf Fundraiser is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 16 at Split Rail Links & Golf Club.

The tournament, with four-person teams, will have a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Entry fee is \$600 per team. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three teams, along with hole-in-one prizes.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available, including: Hole sponsor, \$100, business logo or personal wording for player or team. Hole-in-one sponsor, \$500, four available slots for signage on par-3 holes with hole-in-one prize details. Par sponsor, \$500, large sign on practice green or large sign on short game area. Birdie sponsor, \$1,000, signage on all golf carts, signage on course, recognition on Facebook page. Eagle sponsor, \$2,000, four-person team, signage on all golf carts, signage on the course, recognition on Facebook page. Artwork is due by Oct. 3 to [daliasguard-aledo@yahoo.com](mailto:daliasguard-aledo@yahoo.com).

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28 Texas critic, Rex

29 Cowboy assistant coach, Leon

30 this Tom starred with TX Zellweger in "Jerry Maguire"

31 Texas millionaire maker

35 Texas hill country food: \_\_\_ wurst

36 TX Pecos Bill sweet-heart (3 wds.)

42 TXism: "can't carry \_\_\_ bucket" (bad singer)

44 TX Clay Allison was a \_\_\_ gun

46 TX Carroll Shelby did this (2 wds.)

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
 by Charley & Guy Orbison  
 Copyright 2022 by Orbison Bros.

48 TX Ginger Rogers line: "Cigarette me, \_\_\_"

49 TXism: "\_\_\_ horn" (amateur)

50 golf ball holder (2 wds.)

51 first disk drive: IBM's "\_\_\_ 350"

52 Gable of Texas-based "Boom Town" (init.)

53 TXism: "plain as the top line \_\_\_ eye chart"

54 barn rodents

56 TXism: "as welcome as a skunk \_\_\_ picnic"

57 Austin's "Capital of Texas \_\_\_"

58 a Texas governor serves four of these in one term (abbr.)

**DOWN**

1 first chance for a Cowboy or Texan TD? (2 wds.)

2 Dallas Jewish group

3 paper: "Abilene \_\_\_-News"

4 \_\_\_ gallon hat

9 TX Bruce McGill's first film: "Handle with \_\_\_" (1977)

10 mid-life crisis film made in TX (3 wds.)

11 bitter beer

12 O.J.'s judge, Lance

13 in Ellis County on U.S. 287

14 former Cowboy RB, Tommie

15 rush of wind

16 \_\_\_ Bernard, TX

18 "you'll \_\_\_ the day you did that"

20 "Alamo City" initials

23 Ranger film: "Lone Wolf \_\_\_Quade"

24 TXism: "got knocked down a peg \_\_\_ two"

25 "baby moon," a \_\_\_ cap back in the day

26 TX counties must comply with the "Clean \_\_\_"

27 noted Comanche medicine man

32 TXism: "sort \_\_\_"

33 TXism: "fair \_\_\_ middlin'"

34 TX Audie film: "\_\_\_ Hell and Back"

36 TX Nash's "I Can \_\_\_ Clearly Now"

37 TX Whelchel of "Facts of Life"

38 AC

39 UT frat. "\_\_\_ Nu"

40 Texas film "\_\_\_ Cowboy" (1980)

41 national equality commission (abbr.)

43 Louis L'Amour birth state (abbr.)

45 dysprosium symbol

47 one who uses "not"

48 Texas Crossword partnership: "Orbison \_\_\_"

55 ski destination for some Texans

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Separate sealed bids for the construction of **2022 Street Improvements** will be received by the City of Willow Park, Texas until **11:00 AM on Friday, October 21, 2022** at Willow Park City Hall, 516 Ranch House Road, Willow Park, Texas 76087, and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud. This project consists of removing and replacing approximately 36,500 square yards of existing asphalt pavement with concrete paving and replacing approximately 18,600 square yards of asphalt pavement with 2" HMAC. The City may elect to award the contracts for concrete street construction and for asphalt street construction separately or as one.

The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Agreement, Performance and Payment Bonds, General Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Plans, and Specifications, may be examined at the following location:

Jacob & Martin, LLC  
 1508 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 203,  
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A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at **2:00 PM on Monday, October 17, 2022** at the Willow Park City Hall, 516 Ranch House Road, Willow Park, Texas 76087.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any infor-

malities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the contract.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS must be ordered online at [www.jacobmartin.com](http://www.jacobmartin.com). Orders for CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may include hard copies for pick up, mail out or digital download via [www.jacobmartin.com](http://www.jacobmartin.com). Upon verification of online payment, hard copies may be picked up at Jacob & Martin, LLC, located at 1508 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 203, Weatherford, TX 76086. Cost for hard copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be **\$100.00** for 11x17 half size plans. Cost for digital download of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be **\$0.00**. Contractors must purchase a set of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS to be considered a registered plan holder eligible to bid the project.

Bid Bond: A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of the City of Willow Park, negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with each bid.

City of Willow Park  
 Doyle Moss, Mayor  
 September 30, 2022

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## Capital Highlights

# State sends resources to Florida



**Gary Borders**  
gborders@texaspress.com

Texas has deployed state resources to Florida to assist in response and recovery efforts in the aftermath of the devastation caused last week by Hurricane Ian, one of the most powerful storms to hit the United States in the past decade.

"Texans understand the urgency of hurricane disaster response and recovery efforts, and our state is swiftly sending more support and resources to Florida as they continue responding to Hurricane Ian," Gov. Greg Abbott said.

The Texas Division of Emergency Personnel has sent more than 80 people to Florida, including nearly two dozen firefighters. In addition, more than 1,000 workers from Texas electricity providers were deployed to Florida to assist in restoring power.

### Court: Paxton can't prosecute election crimes

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals stuck with an earlier ruling that Attorney General Ken Paxton does not have the power on his own to investigate and prosecute suspected election crimes. The Austin American-Statesman reported the court turned down Paxton's request to reverse a December ruling which struck down a 1985 law giving the attorney general that authority.

That ruling by the court, which consists of all Republicans, said the 1985 law violated the state's separation of powers doctrine, since it gave the attorney general's office, which is in the executive branch, prosecution authority reserved for members of the judicial branch - district and county attorneys.

Paxton sharply criticized the ruling, the Statesman reported.

"The CCA's shameful decision means local DAs with radical liberal views have the sole power to prosecute election fraud in TX - which they will never do. The timing is no accident - this is devastating for the integrity of our upcoming elections," Paxton said on Twitter.

### Wildfires once again on the rise in state

Dry weather and low humidity have once again increased the prevalence of wildfires in multiple areas of the state, after a rainy respite in mid-to-late August. However, the rain has largely left the state once again. Texas A&M Forest Service firefighters responded to nearly 80 wildfires in the past week, with two still active Sunday in Young and Angelina counties. Both were nearly completely contained.

"The 2022 fire season has been significant for the state of Texas, as state and local firefighters have responded to more than 9,800 wildfires," said Wes Moorehead, Texas A&M Forest Service Fire Chief. "The state received beneficial rainfall mid- to late-August, which helped to significantly slow the operational tempo for wildland firefighters. However,

the benefits of that moisture have started to wane, and we are, once again, observing dry conditions across the state that are resulting in increased wildfire activity."

Nine out of 10 wildfires in the state are caused by human activity. Residents are urged to wait on conducting any outdoor burning until conditions improve, even if your county is not under a burn ban. A total of 95 Texas counties are still under a burn ban.

### New cable barrier saving lives

Motorists on Texas highways likely have noticed the addition of cable barriers along medians that prevent vehicles from veering into opposite lanes of traffic. Those barriers are saving lives, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

A review of four TxDOT districts where 130 miles of new cable barriers were installed - in Lufkin, Pharr, Waco and Fort Worth - showed the barriers have been hit and repaired 242 times since 2019.

"I'm going to assume that each of those 242 strikes was a potential fatality had that cable barrier not been there," Commissioner Laura Ryan said.

The agency has completed 88 "Road to Safety" projects in the state, with 120 more now under construction. The efforts seem to have had a beneficial effect, with 84 fewer traffic fatalities reported in Texas from January to August. The state also saw a 9% drop in distracted driving deaths, and an 18% decrease in work zone fatalities.

### PUC expands weather prep rules

The Public Utility Commission has expanded weather preparation rules for electricity generators and transmission utilities in hopes of ensuring the reliability of the power grid during summer and winter severe weather events.

"Reliability drives every decision we make when it comes to grid operations," said Public Utility Commission Chairman Peter Lake. "The grid has to be ready for any weather condition, from extreme heat to extreme cold."

Under the new rules, the state is divided into 10 geographically distinct areas in which minimum and maximum temperatures are set under which power generators must prove their ability to continue operating.

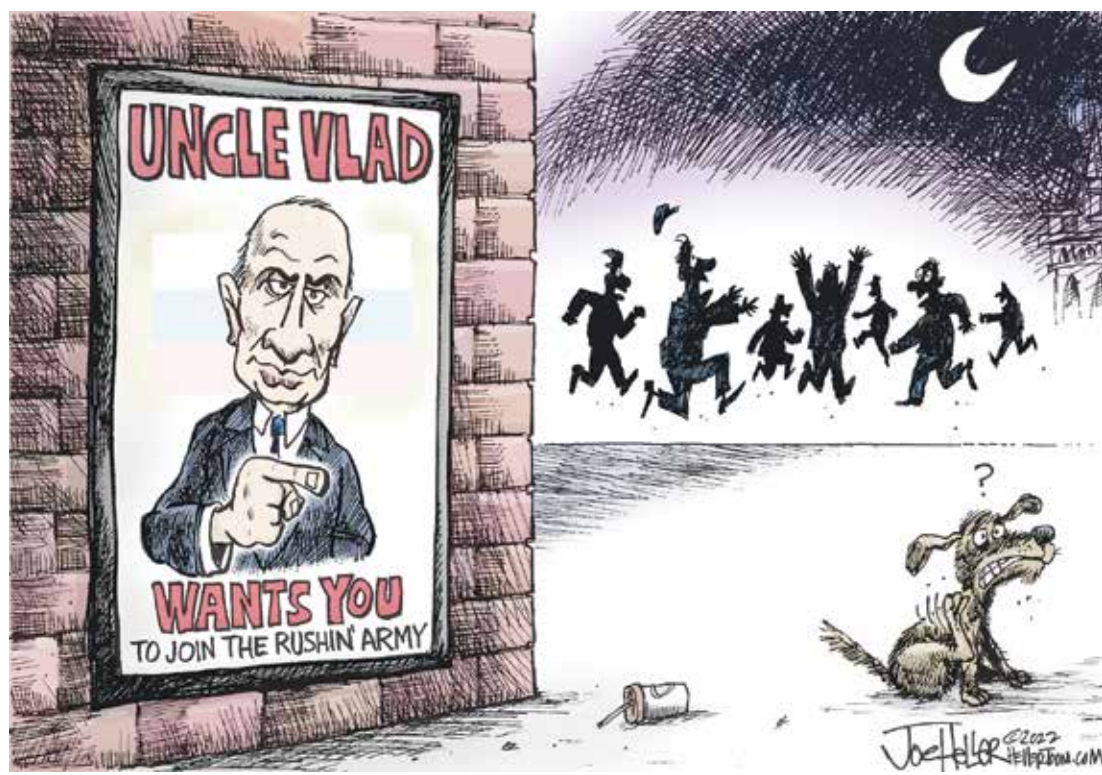
The temperature standards go into effect next year.

### COVID-19 cases continue to drop

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported in Texas during the past week was again down slightly, with 22,006 new cases reported along with 123 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 1,654 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday, down slightly from the previous week.

Since the pandemic began in early 2020, the state has reported nearly 8 million confirmed cases and 90,885 deaths. Just under 64% of the state's population is fully vaccinated.

*Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.*



## Guest Column

# Aledo Growth Committee is addressing future needs of the district

By Dan Reilley and Kelli Stumbo

A teacher, a preacher, and a lawyer were seated next to each other at a table. It might sound like the beginning of one of your uncle's poorly timed Thanksgiving jokes, but those were the actual professions of three consecutive people introducing themselves at the initial meeting of the Aledo Growth Committee last month.

At 53 members strong, the Aledo Growth Committee (AGC) is comprised of a diverse group of community members of different ages, unique backgrounds, and a variety of professions, including an active staff member from each of Aledo ISD's campuses.

Their experience and insight, coupled with the input of parents and community members in our district, is crucial in determining the needs of our current and future students. We have come together to understand the needs of our children and schools and to represent the expectations of the community in this process of planning for growth.

Also imperative to the process is the wisdom from those who came before us. The AGC includes older members of the community who never had or no longer have children in the district but have a vested interest in the success of our schools and community as a whole. They offer a point of view from somebody who helps fund things that they see

no direct benefit from other than what might be best for their neighbors' children and for the health and vitality of our community.

What a selfless perspective.

After our introductory meeting, we heard from the district's demographer (Population and Survey Analysts (PASA)), who presented a thorough report of current and projected development and how those might impact future enrollment.

Aledo ISD continues to grow, and families with students of all ages are moving here every year and throughout each school year.

The graduating class of 2023 began their schooling with 294 kindergarten students in the 2010-2011 school year across four elementary schools. Their senior class has grown to 542 current students. For comparison, this year's kindergarten enrollment currently sits at 617 students across our six elementary campuses.

The committee then heard from the district's financial adviser (BOK Financial Advisers), who highlighted the active management of the district's debt portfolio and projected capacity for future bond programs. They presented the impact of various tax rates on the bond capacity to fund any future projects, starting with no change to the district's Interest and Sinking (I&S) tax rate up to and

including the state's maximum allowable I&S tax rate (\$0.500).

The I&S tax rate funds large capital improvements for the district and cannot be used for the district's operating expenditures (teacher salaries, utilities, fuel, supplies). Contrary to what some of us thought, our I&S tax rate (\$0.425) is one of the lowest in the area in fast-growth districts like Aledo ISD.

As co-chairs of the Aledo Growth Committee, it is our responsibility to facilitate the committee discussions at each meeting and to make sure the community remains engaged in the process. We have stated often that our goal is to have the community know what this committee knows.

That is why every presentation the committee sees is available on our website for the community to see as well. There is also the ability for community members to submit questions for the committee to consider.

For more information regarding the work of the Aledo Growth Committee, please visit our website at [www.aledoisd.org/agc](http://www.aledoisd.org/agc). You can submit questions or comments to us at [agquestions@aledoisd.org](mailto:agquestions@aledoisd.org).

*Dan Reilley and Kelli Stumbo are co-chairs of the Aledo Growth Committee.*



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**SUBMIT STORIES, PHOTOS OR IDEAS**  
We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-441-7661, ext. 207 or email [news@community-news.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.

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GOLF

## Mahanay second in elite tournament

### Competes at Pebble Beach

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Aledo Bearcats golfer Braylon Mahanay got a glimpse at his possible future recently when he competed on one of the world's most renowned golf courses.

Mahanay competed on the Pebble Beach course in southern California, which has hosted several major golf tournaments, including the 2019 U.S. Open. He was there to compete in the PURE Insurance Championship, a PGA Tour event affiliated with the First Tee program.

"Before we went I was researching and watching the 2019 U.S. Open. It was amazing to step on that course," Mahanay said. "It was a golfer's dream."

Mahanay not only stepped on the course, he tamed it. He tied for

first place after the 54-hole tournament concluded on Sunday, Sept. 25. However, he lost in a scorecard playoff to Bryson Hughes from Florida.

Both players finished the tournament with scores of 198, 18 under par.

Mahanay posted rounds of 65 on the Pebble Beach course, 66 on the Spyglass course (part of the Pebble Beach complex) and 67 back on Pebble Beach. He held the lead alone entering the final day before Hughes finished with a 9-under-par 63 to come from behind. Mahanay was in a tie for third after the opening day.

The event features a unique format. A select group of junior players ages 14-18 from across the United States and Morocco are paired with a PGA player and amateurs from the business world. However, the professionals are competing at their

Turn to GOLF, page B7



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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

From left, PGA player Lee Janzen, his caddy Mike Darby, and Aledo High School golfer Braylon Mahaney, who was paired with Janzen while competing in the PURE Insurance Championship at historic Pebble Beach.

ALEDO FOOTBALL ADVANCE

## Bearcats hosting Scorpions at homecoming

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

While some coaches might be wary of the distractions of homecoming week, Aledo's Tim Buchanan isn't among them.

"There's not a player out there that wants to lose homecoming," Buchanan said. "Honestly, Senior Night is harder to prepare for. You have to alter your pregame (for all the seniors to be honored). Homecoming, you might have a little longer halftime. Really, homecoming is not that big a distraction."

Which might come as bad news for the South Hills Scorpions. They probably wouldn't mind if the Bearcats were a little distracted come Friday night when Scorpions are the homecoming opponents.

It would be quite the challenge to find two teams going in more opposite directions. After an 0-2 start, the Bearcats are 4-0 in District 3-5A Division I and have outscored their opponents 229-54.

The Scorpions' lone win was over Class 4A Division II Venus, 42-21. In fact, those are the only points South Hills has scored all season as they have been outscored in their four losses 227-0, including 185-0 in league play.

Ever the coach, Buchanan said, "We're going to prepare for them just like any other game. Hopefully they've gotten better and it'll be a good game. They've got good athletes in Fort Worth."

South Hills has enjoyed success in recent seasons. In 2017 the Scorpions were 10-0 and district champions in the regular season before losing in the first round of the playoffs. Since that season they are 11-33.

### Hauling 'em in

Through the first six games of the season, Aledo receivers have



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Freshman quarterback Gavin Beard saw action against The Colony, completing two passes for 36 yards.

been targeted 121 times and have just seven dropped passes. Six of those came in two games, three in the season opener at Dallas Parish Episcopal and three against Azle.

"We work really hard on that. Hopefully, when we get to the playoffs we won't have any drops," Buchanan said. "We work really hard to eliminate drops and turnovers as the season progresses."

"We're getting better. Our turnover ratio is back in our favor (10 takeaways, 7 turnovers) and Hauss' (Hejny, quarterback) completion percentage is up."

### Jumping out early

In their four district contests, Aledo has outscored its opponents

97-7 in the first quarter. The second quarter hasn't been much better for foes as Aledo has an 84-21 advantage there.

"It's important (to get a big lead early), especially if you're playing somebody who doesn't think they can beat you but has the potential to," Buchanan said. "I call it, 'Don't give 'em any courage.' You know, like the lion in the Wizard of Oz who was looking for courage. You can't let them have it."

Out of the 16 quarters Aledo has played in district, they've scored in 14, including all eight first-half periods.

And once the big lead is built, opponents aren't doing any rallying around the substitutes in the second half as Aledo has a 48-26 advantage.

Turn to BEARCATS, page B2



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GOLF

# Knight notches another record in tourney

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Former Aledo Ladycat golfer Cheyenne Knight now has a pair of records at the Old American Golf Club in The Colony.

In the final round of this past weekend's Ascendant Volunteers of America Classic on the LPGA Tour, Knight posted an 8-under-par 63. It matches the lowest score ever recorded in the tournament and vaulted her from 21st to a tie for fifth in the final standings.

"It was nice to finish the tournament with a great round on Sunday. I feel like I've been playing well as of late — but nice for it to all come together," Knight said.

Knight finished the tournament at 11 under par 273.

Lilia Vu also shot a 63 on the final day but did not finish as high as Knight in the standings. The other 63s shot in the tournament were by Dori Carter in 2017, Stephanie Meadow in 2019, and Jin Young Ko last year.

In her rookie year on the LPGA Tour, Knight won this tournament in record fashion. She shot an 18-under-par 266 over four days, the lowest score in tournament history. Her rounds were 66, 67, 67, 66 as she became the first female player from the University of Alabama to win on the LPGA Tour.

"I have a lot of great memories at Old American. I've played the course a lot and the course fits my game well," she said.

In her record-tying round Sunday, Knight made the turn after nine holes at 5-under-par 30. She birdied holes 1-3, along with No. 6 and 8. On the back nine she birdied No. 14, 15 and 17 for a 3-under 33.

Perhaps her best shot of the day, however, was on the final hole. She chipped in to save par and salvage her share of the record.

While she has yet to win a tournament this year, Knight is enjoying a good season on the tour. She has three top-five finishes and two more inside the top 12.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS  
Former Aledo Ladycat golfer Cheyenne Knight

She also tied for 15th at the U.S. Women's Open.

"I've had a really solid year. Made every cut in all the majors. I've focused on what I need to do to play well. Process over result has been my mentality," Knight said.

After winning back-to-back individual state golf championships for Aledo in 2014-15, Knight went on to great success at the University of Alabama. She was a three-time All-American and the 2017 Southeast Conference Player of the Year. She, along with the aforementioned Meadow and Camilla Lennarth, are the only Crimson Tide female golfers to earn first-team All-SEC honors three straight years.

Knight finished fourth in her final NCAA Championships for Alabama in 2018, opting to forego her senior year of eligibility and turn pro. She led the Crimson Tide to a runner-up team finish, their highest finish since winning the national title in 2012.

Knight tied for fourth in the NCAA Championships as a freshman and tied for 10th as a sophomore.



## BEARCATS

from page A1

### State rankings

The Bearcats moved up a notch to No. 6 in Class 5A Division I in this week's state rankings from Dave Campbell's Texas Football and the Associated Press. Also from the district, Denton Ryan was once again in the No. 3 spot.

In other rankings:

\*MaxPreps has Aledo No. 3, Burleson Centennial No. 8 and Ryan No. 19.

\*Padilla has Centennial No. 4, Aledo No. 5 and Ryan No. 12. Ryan travels to face Centennial Friday. Aledo goes to Centennial on Oct. 14 and the Bearcats travel to Ryan on Nov. 21.

### District 3-5A Division I standings

Team	District	Overall
Denton Ryan	4-0	4-1
Aledo	4-0	4-2
Centennial	3-0	5-0
Northwest	2-1	3-2
The Colony	1-3	1-5
Azle	1-3	1-5
FW Brewer	1-2	1-4
South Hills	0-3	1-4
Saginaw	0-4	0-6

### Last week's results

Aledo 52, The Colony 7

Ryan 50, South Hills 0  
Brewer 42, Saginaw 14  
Northwest 58, Azle 7  
Centennial bye  
**This week's games**  
Friday, all at 7 p.m.  
South Hills at Aledo  
Brewer at The Colony  
Ryan at Centennial  
Northwest at Saginaw  
Azle bye

### Game at a glance

South Hills Scorpions (1-4, 0-3 in District 3-5A Division I) at Aledo Bearcats (4-2, 4-0)

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Bearcat Stadium

South Hills offensive leaders: Not available.

Aledo offensive leaders: RB Hawk Patrick-Daniels 85 carries, 691 yards, 10 TD; QB Hauss Hejny 43-for-81, 866 yards, 7 TD, 3 interceptions passing, 35 carries 324 yards, 4 TD rushing; WR Jalen Pope 22 catches, 479 yards, 6 TD; TE Tyson Timms 14 catches 196 yards, 1 TD; WR Kaydon Finley 8-225, 3 TD; RB Caleb Pope 26 carries, 182 yards, 7 TD; WR Gavin Olenjack 8 catches, 111 yards.

South Hills defensive leaders: Not available.

Aledo defensive leaders: LB Dahvon Keys 43 tackles, 2 for loss, 1 interception returned

73 yards for a touchdown; LB Andrew Parkhurst 32 tackles, 6 for loss, 2 sacks; S Jake Gillespie 33 tackles, 1 for loss, 1 interception; LB Ky Howington 23 tackles, 1 for loss, 1 interception; CB Chris Johnson 19 tackles, 2 for loss, 2 interceptions returned a total of 60 yards, 1 fumble recovery; S Boogie Owens 22 tackles, 1 for loss, 1 fumble recovery.

Team rushing yards per game: South Hills NA, Aledo 252.0.

Team passing yards per game: South Hills NA, Aledo 187.7.

Team rushing yards surrendered per game: South Hills NA, Aledo 105.5.

Team passing yards surrendered per game: South Hills NA, Aledo 195.7.

Turnovers: South Hills NA, Aledo 7 (3 fumbles, 4 interceptions)

Takeaways: South Hills NA, Aledo 10 (7 fumbles, 3 interceptions)

Notable: Aledo has won 107 consecutive district games dating to 2007...This is the third meeting ever between the Bearcats and Scorpions. Aledo won both, 49-0 in 2012 and 77-16 in 2013...After posting a 10-1 record in 2017, the Scorpions are 11-33 since.



Ryan Cox finds an opening against The Colony.

BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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FOOTBALL

# Bearcats gain confidence after big win against The Colony

Three quick scores in the first quarter set tone for 52-7 win

By **Ryan Wade**  
The Community News

Confidence. Beyond just a blow-out win on their home field in front of a capacity crowd, Aledo's young Bearcat football team came away with more confidence following their 52-7 shellacking of the visiting Cougars from The Colony High School on Friday. "Those first two losses, they were really draining to our confidence," said junior starting quarterback Hauss Hejny. "Our coaches have been working on us about keeping humble; working day-in and day-out; focusing on us and not listening to the outside noise. Being able to rack up some points on this team, who barely lost to Denton Ryan last week, definitely gave us some confidence that we are a good football team, and we can win some big-time games."

Aledo improved to 4-0 in district play with the win over The Colony on Friday night, and 4-2 overall in the 2022 gridiron campaign.

Hejny had one of his personal best performances to date against the visiting Cougars. The young signal-caller completed 75-percent of his passes on the night going 8-of-12 for 267 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

As efficient as he was in the passing game, Hejny was just as effective in the Bearcat rushing attack. He added two rushing touchdowns to his highlight reel on eight carries while amassing 77 yards on the ground.

When asked about the development of his first year starting quarterback, Coach Tim Buchanan said, "Every game he gets better. That's all you can ask of any high school kid, especially a young kid like him. He just continues to get better every game, and you can't ask for anything else."

The Bearcats wasted little time putting The Colony in a bad way. Aledo's defense came out strong forcing the Cougars into an early three-and-out situation on the first possession of the game. A quick sack coupled with a near interception forced The Colony to punt the ball away from their own 20. A botched punt sailed out of bounds at the Cougars 47-yard line giving Aledo a short field in their first possession.

Following an incomplete pass on the first play from scrimmage for the Bearcats, the offense chipped away with small gains the next two plays bringing up a fourth-and-three situation, potentially giving the Cougars the ball back with no damage done.

Aledo's offense stayed on the field, however, attempting to convert the short yardage to keep the drive alive. Hejny took the shotgun snap, faked the handoff on the option before tucking the ball, making his way around the weak side of the defense as his offensive line sealed the edge. From there a couple shifty moves on a pair of would-be tacklers gave him room to run as he scampered across the goal line from 40 yards out to put the Bearcats on the board. Cole Crawford's extra point sailed through the uprights to make it a 7-0 affair less than three minutes into the contest.

Big plays and quick scores were a common theme for the Bearcats



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Davhon Keys (3) and Cap Mooney (20) make a tackle against The Colony.

in the first half. On Aledo's ensuing possession Hajny connected with wide receiver Gavin Olenjack on a 33-yard pitch-and-catch that put the Cougar defense on its heels. Eight plays later Davhon Keys found paydirt on a one-yard run that put the home team on top 14-0 with 3:14 left in the first following Crawford's extra point kick.

The third Bearcat possession of the night lasted just 14 seconds, but ended the same as the first two. A wide receiver screen pass to Jalen Pope from Aledo's own 33-yard line ended up going all the way after he broke a pair of tackles along the visiting sideline. A foot race ensued with Pope crossing the goal line ahead of a swarm of Cougar defenders for the third Bearcat touchdown of the night.

The Bearcats kept the pedal to the metal in the second quarter as they added three more scores before the end of the first half.

Kaydon Finley made a gorgeous basket catch on a pass from Hejny picking up 41 yards on the play before being brought down just shy of the goal line at the Cougar one-yard line. Hawk Patrick-Daniels capped off the drive with a run up

the middle for the score putting the Bearcats up 28-0.

On the following Cougar drive Bryon Wheeler burst through the offensive line from his defensive tackle position and nearly came away with a sack as he forced The Colony's Carson Cox to make an ill-advised throw. Keys came up with the interception before running untouched 73 yards for the scoop-and-score as Aledo took a 35-0 advantage with 6:11 remaining in the half.

The Colony finally managed to crack open the goose egg on their side of the scoreboard with 4:26 remaining in the half. However, Aledo quickly answered back as Hejny picked up his second rushing touchdown of the game with a four-yard scamper into the end zone with just 29 seconds left until the break.

When play resumed in the second half Hejny and Finley connected on one more big play that went 70 yards for the final Bearcat touchdown of the evening.

The Bearcat defense showed a lot of grit in the contest as well. The Colony came into the game

averaging 31 points per game in their five previous starts. Aledo's defense held the Cougars to their lowest output of the season while forcing three turnovers in the game. Chris Johnson joined Keys with an interception of his own. Meanwhile, Skyler Frank forced and then recovered a fumble late in the game to all but seal The Colony's fate.

Looking around the corner at what awaits the Bearcats on the schedule Buchanan emphasized the importance of his team continuing to improve.

"Getting better fundamentally day-by-day. We're trying to get bigger. We're trying to get stronger. We're in the weight room four days a week. We're just trying to become a better football team. We just got to keep getting fundamentally better."

Next up on the itinerary for Aledo is a visit by the South Hills Scorpions for Bearcat Homecoming. The Scorpions are 1-4 on the season while still looking for their first district win of the year. Kickoff for Friday's matchup is slated for 7 p.m. at Bearcat Stadium.



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Ky Howington (5) and Davhon Keys (3) bring down a runner from The Colony in Friday night action.



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# LADYCAT OF THE WEEK



**Alyssa Gonzalez**  
 Alyssa Gonzalez was a key player in the Aledo Ladycats sweeping a pair of key District 5-5A volleyball matches against Azle and Granbury last week. In two matches, she a total of 26 kills, 28 defensive digs, a block and served two aces.

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# BEARCAT OF THE WEEK



## Braylon Mahanay

Aledo golfer Braylon Mahanay participated in the prestigious PURE Insurance Championship at the historic Pebble Beach golf course in California Sept. 23-25. He finished tied for first, taking second after losing a scorecard playoff. During the week he was paired with PGA golfer Lee Janzen, though each competed individually in their respective divisions, Janzen as a pro and Mahanay as an amateur. The event benefits First Tee.

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Specification information can be obtained at, and proposals should be submitted to:

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SOQ's must be received by Friday, October 14, 2022 by 2:00 pm and delivered or mailed to: City of Aledo, City Hall, P.O. Box 1, Aledo, Texas 76008. SOQ's will not be accepted electronically.

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## VOLLEYBALL

from page B8

Little led the Ladycats defense with 20 digs. Seniors Maddie Frank and Payton Himler tended the net effectively as they both finished the night with two blocks, respectively.

### Ladycats best hosting Rider on the road in four sets

Endurance has been a hallmark of the last two wins Aledo's netters have accumulated. Last Friday after a grueling first set the Ladycats appeared to be the fresher of the two teams, and it showed on the scoreboard when they defeated Granbury.

Tuesday's road win at Rider proved to be much the same. The Lady Raiders stole the first set from Aledo 28-26. Rider's lady netters took the early advantage, but at a great cost. Running on fumes the remainder of the match, they became easy prey for the Ladycats the rest of the way as Aledo rallied the next three sets to take the match by scores of 25-9, 25-14, and 25-15.

Mack led the charge for the Ladycats in the match with 17 kills, 14 digs, and a pair of aces. Parker compiled 22 digs and 14 kills on the night. Frank tacked on 14 kills of her

own while also coming up with a block at the net. Junior setter, Rylee Metts had one of her strongest performances to date with a whopping 37 assists and 13 digs to her credit. Sophomore setter, Ava Reding posted 20 assists of her own. Gonzales had her serve dialed in as she ended the night with five aces in the match.

McAnally Middle School volleyball splits with visiting Stephenville

- 8th Grade A - Win (25-17, 25-14)
- 8th Grade B - Loss (25-22, 25-11)
- 8th Grade C - Win (25-22, 25-22)
- 7th Grade A - Win (25-15, 25-20)
- 7th Grade B - Win (25-21, 24-26, 25-15)
- 7th Grade C - Loss (25-22, 25-16)

Aledo Middle School routs Richard Allie and Everman on the road

- 8th Grade A - Win (25-14, 25-18)
- 8th Grade B - Win (25-4, 25-3)
- 8th Grade C - Win vs. Everman (25-7, 25-8)
- 7th Grade A - Win (25-11, 25-4)
- 7th Grade B - Win (25-8, 25-6)
- 7th Grade C - Win (25-4, 25-7)

## GOLF

from page B1

own level and the juniors are playing in their own competition simultaneously.

Throughout the week, the teens applied their character strengths and the life skills learned from First Tee programs during the one-of-a-kind event.

Mahanay was paired with Lee Janzen of the PGA, a two-time winner of the U.S. Open in 1993 and 1998.

"He was a really cool guy," Mahanay said. "He gave me so much advice, especially about the grass being different there than back in Texas."

Junior participants in the prestigious tournament have to complete an application and go through a rigorous screening process to be selected. This year, only 78 teens were chosen.

"It was awesome to see. What a cool experience for him to have that opportunity. He deserves it," first-year Bearcats coach Brian Mourning said. "Just knowing him for the short time that I have, I can see why he was selected by the First Tee Program for this opportunity."

"And for him to go out play the way he did on Pebble and Spyglass is impressive. That is a testament to the hard work that he has put into getting better. Super proud of him and those who have helped him. I'm proud of our golf teams for the support they showed him and the support they have for each other."

Mahanay did more than play golf while in California. He and his family made a vacation out of the adventure as they visited such sites as the legendary Lone Cypress in Pebble Beach (one of the most photographed trees in North America), Big Sur, and the Majestic Redwood trees. He also played The Hay, a nine-hole course across from Pebble Beach designed by Tiger Woods.

And, he made it onto television.

"I was on a couple of times. I got interviewed by Phil Blackmar of the Golf Channel," Mahanay said. "That was really cool."

Mahanay continued what is becoming a tradition for Aledo golfers. Former Ladycat Aly Saunders competed last year and Ella Fisher participated in 2019. Also, former Bearcat Tanner Smith would have participated in 2020, but participants were not allowed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"When Ella went I thought, 'Oh man, that looks so cool. I have to go,'" he said. "Then, last year my friend Aly went and it made me want to go even more."

"This was the greatest experience, playing on two of the greatest courses in the entire world."

Mahanay, 17, volunteers at First Tee in Fort Worth teaching life skills and golf to young participants. He's been a part of the program for 12 years.

"I am so grateful to First Tee. I owe that program so much," he said. "I am so proud to say I'm a part of it."

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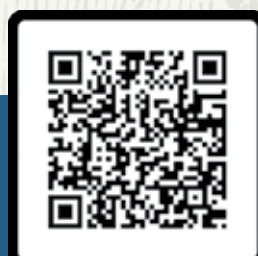
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VOLLEYBALL

# Ladycats record a pair of wins

## Revenge match coming up

By Ryan Wade  
The Community News

Aledo High School's Ladycat volleyball netters kept their hot hand going with a pair of wins. Last Friday the Ladycats sent Granbury's Lady Pirates off the plank in three straight sets. They followed up that performance with a four-set route on the road over Rider's hosting Lady Raiders on Tuesday.

The Ladycats have now won six matches in a row, improving their overall record to 25-14 on the season (6-1 in 5A Region I District 5). On Friday they host the last team to hand them a loss as they look to avenge the only blemish on their district record when the Northwest Lady Texans come to town.

Aledo's contest with the visiting Lady Pirates last Friday was reminiscent of a great heavyweight brawl in the first set as the two combatants were both dealt heavy blows before returning fire. The Ladycats opened the set with an early score. Granbury responded quickly ripping off several points of their own to put Aledo down by a small deficit early.

Then the battle started.

Back-and-forth the two teams went with neither willing to cede an advantage to the other. The set was so contentious, when the Ladycats rallied to go up by a

20-18 score, Granbury quickly called the first timeout of the match in an attempt to halt Aledo's momentum.

### It worked.

The Lady Pirates mustered a rally of their own forcing Ladycats Head Coach Claire Gay to use her first timeout as her squad fell behind 23-21.

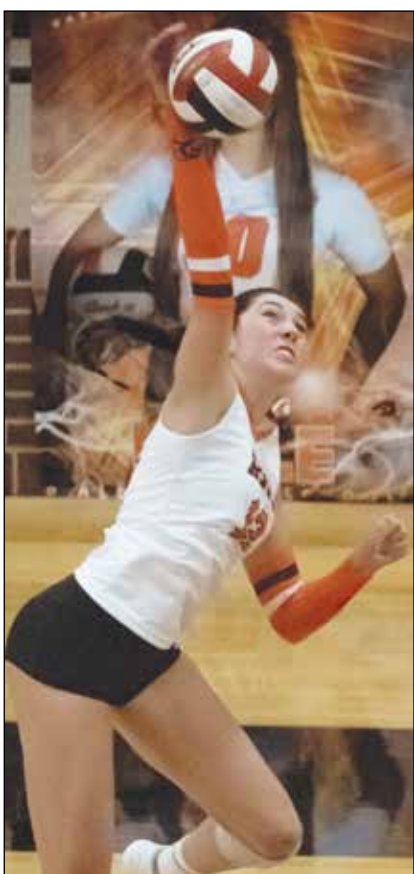
Aledo answered the bell coming out of the break with a 4-1 run of their own. With the Ladycats one score away from winning the first set as the score stood at 25-24, Granbury took their second timeout hoping to retake the momentum in the match.

Two quick scores later the Lady Pirates retook the lead as they were just one point away from taking the first set away from the hosting Ladycats. Gay called her second timeout in an effort to give Aledo an opportunity get back on top and make a run to close out the set.

That's exactly what happened. The two teams battled for supremacy all the way to the bitter end of the first set before the Ladycats pulled out the victory, 30-28, in front of the hometown crowd.

The Ladycats used that first win as they rallied past the visiting Lady Pirates. Aledo took the next two sets with relative ease as they topped Granbury 25-18 and 25-20 to take the match.

Senior outside hitter Alyssa Gonzales led the way for the



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS  
Alyssa Gonzales sends down a spike in a recent match.

Ladycats on the night as she combined for 15 digs, 10 kills, and one ace. Sophomore outside hitter Lauryn Mack had a good night as well, as she compiled 13 kills, five digs, and an ace of her own. Vivian Parker, junior outside hitter, led Aledo in aces on the evening with a pair to her credit while also amassing nine kills. Senior libero Mia

Turn to VOLLEYBALL, page B7



Read this story online

GOLF

# Aledo Orange team third in tourney

From Staff Report  
The Community News

The Aledo Varsity Orange boys golf team posted a 329 to place third in a tournament hosted by Flower Mound Marcus last week. The tournament was played on the Tour 18 course in Flower Mound.

The four lowest scores comprise the team total.

The Bearcats were led by Dylan Kiser, who shot a 73 to take first place medalist honors.

Also for the Bearcats, Ethan Elmore posted an 83, Brandon Stokes came in at 85, Helton Mossiello registered an 88 and Hudson Knox shot 94.

"The kids played well for their first tournament of the year," Aledo coach Brian Mourning said. "As a team we're not where we want to be right now



but it's a long season. These guys are putting in the work every day, and I am happy that they are out there competing."

Next for the Bearcats will be the District 5-5A Preview at Sugar Tree in Brock on Oct. 11. Also competing in this tournament will be the Varsity Black, along with both the girls Varsity Black and Orange teams.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

TOP: Dylan Kiser placed first at the Flower Mound tournament. | BOTTOM: The Aledo Orange golf team (from left) Dylan Kiser, Hudson Knox, Helton Mossiello, Ethan Elmore, and Bradon Stokes placed third at Flower Mound Marcus.

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