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WILLOW PARK

Council reassures residents before ESD vote

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

It's no secret that as Nov. 8 approaches, some folks in Willow Park are concerned about the future of their fire department.

That's why, at Tuesday's meeting, the city council offered reassurance that, regardless of the outcome on election day, there will be a fire department in Willow Park. Whether it will be run by the city or by Parker County Emergency Services District 1 (ESD 1) is up to voters as they will go to the polls to decide if the department is or is not annexed by ESD 1.

City staff, working with ESD 1 Fire Chief Stephen Watson, developed several transition points should the annexation be approved by the voters. The plan is to turn these talking points into a binding interlocal agreement between the city and ESD 1.

City officials note, however, the discussion is non-binding and anything beyond that is subject to the approval of the ESD 1 board and the city council — and everything is pending voter approval of the annexation.

"These are things we felt like were needed to get our thoughts out to the public, council and ESD1," Assistant City Manager Bill Funderburk said.

The transition deal points are:

1. ESD will guarantee employment of current Willow Park Fire Department personnel.

2. ESD will lease the current fire station, which is attached to the Willow Park Public Safety Building (PSB), and will purchase the existing city hall property for construction of a future fire station.

3. The city will lease the current fire station and the ESD will lease the current city hall to the other respective entity at an agreed upon fair market rate. The lease for both entities will be for a two-to-three-year period, or until the city can construct a city hall at a site to be determined.

4. The sale of real property will be an agreed upon amount based on appraisals and supporting documentation.

5. ESD 1 will acquire all assets as needed for the operation of the fire service. With respect to the current Willow Park Fire Department fleet, each entity will secure an appraisal on each vehicle, and then agree upon an amount for each vehicle based on the two appraisals.

6. ESD 1 will be required to have a ladder truck stationed in Willow Park.

7. The purchase of Station 2, located near the City of Willow Park Public Works Building, will be determined by ESD 1 to see if it is required for operations. If not purchased, the city of Willow Park has a need for the building and will utilize it. However, city officials said fire service operations are the priority with this facility.

8. Upon the transition of personnel from the city to the ESD, the city will pay the ESD for fire services. It is anticipated it will be for quarters three and four of the current fiscal year.

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MERCEDES MAYER/ALEDO ISD

Johnathan Gray and Hawk Patrick-Daniels celebrate after a play.

Gray working to coach others to greatness

By Rick Mauch
Community News

When it comes to high school running backs, Johnathan Gray is considered by many to be the best ever in America.

The guy rushed for over 300 yards and eight touchdowns in a state championship game, for goodness sakes, one of three consecutive titles to which he led the Bearcats. His 205 touchdowns as a Bearcat are more than any high school running back in history and his 10,889 career yards ranks sixth all-time nationally.

But despite all the memories Gray created for himself and others from 2008-11 as a Bearcat, one that stands out is his days as a freshman - before he became a high school legend.

"Coming to high school, I had to study film, defensive schemes. I wanted someone to teach me," he said.

Now, it is Gray, at age 29, who is doing the teaching in his first season as an assistant for his alma mater Aledo High School. Head coach Tim Buchanan, a legend himself in the coaching

ranks, brought Gray onboard to coach running backs.

"Johnathan is such a good young man, and he's as hard a worker as I've ever come across - that's what made him so great. He had amazing talent, of course, but his hard work ethic is what pushed him greatness," Buchanan said.

"He coaches like he played. He demands perfection, and if these running backs will listen to him they'll have the opportunity to do great things also."

Case in point is junior running back Hawk Patrick-Daniels.

After carrying one time for 3 yards in the opening game, Patrick-Daniels moved into the starting tailback position and over the past four games has picked up 628 yards and scored nine touchdowns.

"Hawk is very good. He's coachable, and that's only going to help him get better," Gray said. "All the running backs are competitive right now. They're growing and you can see it happening."

Gray is working with some athletes who weren't even in
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RANDY CUTSHALL PHOTOGRAPHY

Tony Dorsett

Great golf, great memories at Rayfield Wright Tournament

Annual fundraiser held Oct. 10

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Tony Dorsett paused for a minute as he reflected on his favorite memory of Rayfield Wright. Then, his face broke out into a big smile as it came to him and he couldn't wait to share.

"We were playing Philadelphia and one of their defensive linemen was giving me a hard time. Big Cat came up to him and said, 'Man, leave him alone. He's one of ours,'" Dorsett recalled.

"Then, he put that big hand on my shoulder — his hand covered my entire shoulder pad — and

he said, 'Rookie, you're gonna be alright. Follow me and you'll do just fine.' So that's what I did, all the way to the Hall of Fame.

"He had the most wicked forearm I have ever seen," Dorsett continued. "He could stop King Kong. When he hit you with that forearm, church was out and it was time to go home."

The Hall of Fame running back for the Dallas Cowboys (1977-87) was one of many former teammates who benefited from Wright's wisdom and kindness. Wright, a Hall of Fame offensive tackle himself after playing for the Dallas Cowboys from 1967-79, impacted everyone he came
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Copyright 2022, The Community News - Volume 32, Number 41 - Published Weekly
The Community News (USPS 005-341) is published each week by TCN Ventures Inc., at 1015 Champions Dr., Aledo, TX 76008.
Periodical rate postage paid at Aledo, Texas 76008.

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

GRAY

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elementary school when he performed his magic on the field. And those who were had barely walked through the front door as he was wrapping up his historical career as a Bearcat.

But they know of his greatness, Buchanan said.

"They heard the stories and the legend," he said.

Gray is also an eighth-grade health teacher at McNally Middle School in Aledo, where certainly none of those students ever saw him wear a Bearcat uniform. But, just as he embraced the challenge of rising to the top in football, he's equally excited to be the best teacher he can be.



Read this story online

"It's getting to their level, understanding their thinking," he said. "It's similar to coaching, in that you have to realize they're not just athletes. To teach them, you have to understand them.

"I'm really enjoying it. It's interesting, fun. It's a challenge, sure, but I like challenges."

One of Gray's greatest attributes has always been his ability to be humble, a trait he learned from his father, himself a record-setting running back for the Texas Tech Red Raiders from 1986-89. And, just like Johnathan, James went on to become a coach at Texas Tech, where he was likewise a standout running back.

So, after playing for the Texas Longhorns for four seasons and graduating from the University of Texas, Johnathan took the same path - though not right away. In 2017 he started Johnathan Gray Sports and Performance in Austin, later moving it to Athletic Performance Ranch in Fort Worth.

"Then I thought, why not get into coaching?" he recalled. "It's always been a goal of mine since I was a kid, not even to be a running back in the NFL, but to help others. And even had I played in the NFL, I'm sure I would have become a coach after."

Injuries in college prevented Johnathan from reaching his potential and getting drafted into the NFL. He tore his right achilles tendon in 2013 and his left in 2015. Still, he rushed for over 2,600 yards in four seasons and caught passes for over 400 more, scoring 18 touchdowns in all.

He played for the Frisco Fighters this past season in the Indoor Football League, helping them to a league-best 15-3 record and into the second round of the playoffs.

"I was one of the old heads on the team," Gray said with a laugh. "But it was a lot of fun. Football in a blender we called it. People were flying over the walls."

While admitting it would be tempting to return to the Fighters for another season, Gray said he is happy with his decision to move into the next chapter in life. He and his wife Marie, whom he met while at UT, live in Benbrook. She is a therapist with Wild Cactus Therapy in Fort Worth.

And he said he still finds it amazing that he's come full circle back to Aledo.

"Any time you can come back to a place where you did a lot of things with coaches and teammates, where you have so many great memories, it's really special," he said. "You want to give back to the kids and hope they can even do more than you. We preach growing greatness."

"To come back and be a part of something you helped build, that



MERCEDES MAYER/ALEDO ISD

Johnathan Gray (right) provides coaching to Aledo High School running back Hawk Patrick-Daniels.

feeling is really hard to put into words."

The Bearcats had one state championship - in 1998 - before Gray arrived on the scene. They won titles from 2009-11 and since have added more in 2013-14, 2016 and 2018-20.

My freshman year, when we lost (11-1, second round of playoffs) I remember looking around at the pee-wee teams and I thought we could always be special here in Aledo," Gray said.

What has made Aledo special, Gray said, is unity. As great as he was, he said he knew and he knows now that no one person wins championships.

"When I look back, it's always 'We accomplished a lot,'" he said.

Gray has been asked many times why he chose to play for the Texas Longhorns instead of the TCU Horned Frogs. He said he gave great consideration to playing for then coach Gary Patterson's team.

"If TCU had been in Austin it would have been harder to choose UT," he said. "But TCU was just too close to home."

"I remember my dad made me call the coaches of the schools I said no to - the few on my final list - and tell them I wouldn't be coming. I think that is still one of the hardest things I ever had to do, but I'm glad I did it."

Mack Brown left as head coach of Texas following the 2013 season. However, he and Gray became close and remain in contact to this day, Gray said.

"It took a toll on us when Mack left. Mack is more than just a coach to me. He's a father figure. He's a keeper," Gray said.

Gray is optimistic the Longhorns are on their way to greatness again under head coach Steve Sarkisian. He was impressed with their near

upset of mighty Alabama (a 20-19 loss), and he liked what he saw from another former Bearcat playing for the Crimson Tide, junior running back Jace McClellan, who had an 81-yard touchdown run in that game.

"I like the fact that Jace has grown. He scored against my Longhorns - that was an impressive run," Gray said with a chuckle. "I think he can do some things in the NFL."

"And what Texas is starting to do, that's what it's going to take when they join the SEC. I'm excited to see Sark get us back on the map."

Of course, he has to pinch himself to make sure he's awake and working alongside his mentor, Buchanan, isn't a dream.

"It's a surreal moment working alongside Buc. I just don't think it could get any better," Gray said.

Well, there is one thing that could make it better, he said with a smile. Now that he's back, Gray would very much like to add to that total, which is already the most of any high school in Texas history.

"To win a state championship as a player and as a coach, that would be phenomenal - much less at the same school," he said.

Buchanan believes Gray has what it takes to be a championship head coach in his own right.

"He's going to be a great head coach. He's got that 'it' factor," Buchanan said.

And while he and Marie don't yet have children, just as his own dad did, Gray has visions of his son growing up to be even greater than he was. That might mean he'd have to relinquish some of his records, but he's perfectly fine with that.

"Oh man, that would be an honor. That would be something to see and I'd love every minute of it," Gray said. "Only thing better would be if he did it all at Aledo."



MERCEDES MAYER/ALEDO ISD

Off the field, Johnathan Gray teaches at McNally Middle School.

PARKER COUNTY Tax statements on the way

Property owners in Parker County will soon receive a 2022 property tax statement.

The Parker County Appraisal District offers taxpayers several easy-to-use payment methods to make property tax payments. Taxes must be paid in U.S. currency by cash, check, money order, or credit/debit cards. Taxpayers can pay online at www.parkercad.org using an eCheck for free, using a debit card for a \$2.95 flat processing fee, or by credit card for a 2.15% processing fee. The processing fees are not charged or collected by the Parker County Appraisal District. These fees are charged by the processing company.



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Taxpayers can pay by mail or in-person at the Parker County Appraisal District office located at 1108 Santa Fe Dr. in Weatherford. For convenience, there is also drive-thru and an after-hours drop box located in the vestibule and drive-thru of the building.

As a reminder, if your property has a mortgage with an escrow account, the requesting mortgage company will be mailed a duplicate tax statement with the amount due on your account. You can obtain additional tax statements and receipts online at www.parkercad.org.

MUSIC

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line into the water and some days you catch something and some days you don't," but also added that with "Buy Dirt," he, like Matt, felt it was something different.

"Buy Dirt" just felt special from the day we wrote it," Josh said. "There are plenty of days where I feel like, 'man, this could be something special. I can see this doing well.' But, I mean as a songwriter, this journey is so unpredictable... a lot of it is do you believe in what you do? You have to believe in these songs. Some of them, actually most of them never see the light of day.

"But you have to love writing and keep your head down, and you keep digging for magic and believing, and the songs will find their way."

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WRIGHT

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in contact with — and continues to do so today with the annual Rayfield Wright Memorial Golf Tournament.

This year's tournament, played Monday at Squaw Creek Golf Course in Willow Park, was the first without his smiling face and jovial attitude as a highlight. Still, his big, kind heart and spirit was present as the event once again benefited first responders in Willow Park, along with the Community Food Bank.

The tournament, which began in 2019, was formerly named the Rayfield Wright Celebrity Golf Tournament. However, after his passing in April of this year, it became a memorial event.

Along with a great day for golf, Monday was a time for folks, particularly fellow athletes who knew him best, to reflect on the man they knew — as NFL Alumni President, Dallas Chapter, Liffert Hobley described, "So mean on the field and so kind off."

"He was a big man with an even bigger heart," Hobley said.

Norm Hitzges, whose show is from 10 a.m.-noon on The Ticket sports radio, was broadcasting from the tournament with his co-host Donovan Lewis. He said the thing he remembers most about his late friend is his laugh.

"He had this huge, full laugh. I was always amazed at how, when you heard the story of his life, how hard his childhood was, he came through it with such humor and I was amazed at the wonderful attitude he had. I'm fully convinced it's because he knew the Lord," Hitzges said.

"I loved Rayfield. That's why we're here today. Memories of Rayfield are always good memories, and I come back to that giant laugh out of that giant body."

Pittsburgh Steelers Hall of Fame defensive tackle "Mean" Joe Greene (1969-81), who squared off against Wright and the Cowboys in Super Bowls X and XIII (both Steelers wins, 21-17 and 35-31), echoed Hitzges' thoughts.

"Big Cat had a golden personality. He was always smiling. He always worked to see the best in people and life," Greene said.

Former Cowboys tight end Billy Joe DuPree (1973-83) remembers Wright, who started his career as a tight end before being moved to tackle, making a quick impression on him at their first practice together.

"He gave me a few pointers and here I am this kid he didn't even know, and that's when I realized he

was good at helping people," DuPree said. "I remember him telling me, 'It's Tom's (Landry, head coach) decision who starts, but if I can help you I will."

"What I learned from Rayfield socially and athletically gave me direction."

Former Cowboys Hall of Fame safety Cliff Harris (1970-79), like Wright, is one of only five players in NFL history to play in five Super Bowls. Wright was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2006 and it would not be until 2020 when Harris got in. All the while, Wright kept encouraging his friend, telling him his time would come.

"After he got in and I didn't, he was the first guy to call me, and he said, 'You're going to get in. It's going to happen,'" Harris recalled. "Then, when I got in he was the first to call me and congratulate me. But he also coached me through all I had to do as I was getting ready."

Hall of Fame defensive tackle Bob Lilly, known as Mr. Cowboy (1961-74), remembered the moment he knew Wright was on his way to becoming a fellow legend. The Cowboys were playing the Rams in Los Angeles and Wright was matched up opposite the great Deacon Jones.

"Deacon later came up to me and said, 'Who's this Rayfield guy?'"



RANDY CUTSHALL PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Lilly and Drew Pearson get a hug at the Rayfield Wright Memorial Tournament in Willow Park on Monday.

I said, 'He's gonna be your worst nightmare,'" Lilly said.

"My rookie year, it was a strike year (1974) and veterans weren't in camp. But once the strike was over Rayfield came up to me and said two things I'll never forget," said Former Cowboys defensive end Ed "Too Tall" Jones (1974-78/1980-89). "He asked me, 'Do you play poker?' I said no and he said, 'Don't learn, they'll

just take your money and you need to be studying the playbook anyway. Then he told me, 'I'm going to work with you and Harvey Martin a lot because you're gonna run into a lot of tackles my size."

"That's how I'm always going to remember Big Cat, always ready to help, always ready to make someone else's life better."

COUNCIL

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9. The interlocal agreement will be completed by April 1, 2023. This is also the transition date for fire personnel to go from the City of Willow Park to ESD 1. All talking points and action items will be concluded on or before Sept. 30, 2023 — the end of the fiscal year for both entities.

District 5 Council Member Nathan Crummel raised the question of if the vote is against annexation, when can it be put on the ballot again? Watson said citizens can petition to have it back on the ballot as soon as November of 2023.

"This is a dynamic process. There's a lot of moving parts," Watson said. "We have a good process and an agreement in principle"

A couple citizens addressed the council with questions and concerns. One accused city officials of wanting to "sell the fire department" to use funds to build a new city hall. Mayor Doyle Moss quickly responded with a comment that, while the city is desperately in need of a new city hall, such thinking is completely wrong.

"We did not look into this ESD thing for the sole purpose of building a city hall," Moss stressed. "It's right for the firemen, it's right for the city."

Willow Park is stretched to the max budget-wise. All \$1.9 million expected to be brought in from property taxes in the 2023 fiscal year city budget is expected to go to fund the police department. The fire department will take up \$1.4 million of the expected \$1.7 million income from sales tax.

So, money for streets, parks and other projects is at a minimum, to say the least. However, if the city is no longer funding the fire department, a significant amount of money would become available for such projects, along with a likely tax decrease, city officials are saying.

As for ESD1 having an interest, Watson has called it a strategic move to streamline services throughout the county with everyone working for the same agency. ESD1 covers 311 square miles and 70,000 residents, including Aledo, the Annetas, Springtown, Peaster, Poolville, Morningstar, Silver Creek, and Lajunta.

The ESDs are funded by a 1.5% sales tax in unincorporated areas and an ad-valorem (property) tax of up to 10 cents per \$100 in incorporated areas such as Willow Park.

In previous discussions Watson has even discussed the potential for

increasing the fire department staff in Willow Park should the annexation go through.

Honoring Freedom House

The council honored the Freedom House and its work to end violence and abuse.

The proclamation, read by Moss, included:

"In the City of Willow Park in recognition of the important work done by survivors, domestic violence programs and victim service providers, I urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by Freedom House and other community organizations to work toward the elimination of intimate partner violence.

"Whereas, in just one day, across the U.S. and its territories, nearly 75,000 victims of domestic violence sought services from domestic violence programs and shelters. That same day, more than 9,000 requests for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare and legal representation, could not be provided because

programs lacked the resources to meet victims' needs;

"Whereas, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community, throughout the United States and the world, and whereas, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and discrimination based on physical ability, nationality or other factors help to perpetuate domestic violence and make finding safety even more difficult for some victims; whereas, the need for safe house continues to be rated as survivors' most urgent need;

"and whereas, the City of Willow Park joins with others across Texas and the nation in supporting victims of domestic violence, as well as local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide who are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and sending a clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in Willow Park;

"Whereas, domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but it can be prevented. Preventing domestic violence requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families, institutions, and systems — each whose "No. 1 Thing" adds a valuable and powerful component to transforming our communities."

Moss then proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and asked that those in attendance give those working at Freedom House a round of applause.

Dispatch renewal

The council voted to renew an agreement between the city and the Parker County Sheriff's office for dispatch services. The cost for this fiscal year is \$77,048, with subsequent years and cost being \$84,096 in 2023-24, \$91,144 in 2024-25 and \$98,192 in 2025-26.

Willow Park Police Chief Carrie West said contract years' cost are based on 2021-22 salaries and benefits. She also noted that the agreement can be ended with 30 days notice.

Funderburk thanked West for saving the city money by negotiating a lower cost than was originally brought to the table, said to be in excess of \$100,000. West said it was a joint effort with other police departments throughout the county.

"It wasn't just me. It was a group effort," West said, adding, "This is a reasonable cost."

First November meeting moved back

The council voted to move the first meeting in November back a week to Nov. 15. The reason is so it won't coincide with the Nov. 8 election.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Former Bearcats penning music America loves

By John English
The Community News

Matt and Josh Jenkins still get a kick out of hearing people singing one of their songs.

The Aledo-based brothers grew up in a household where their father and fellow song writer, John Jenkins, nurtured a passion for Country music from an early age.

Having written or co-written such hits as “Fancy Like,” and “Buy Dirt,” the duo now make their homes in Nashville. On Sept. 21, the Jenkins brothers, along with Jacob and Jordan Davis, collectively won the Song of the Year award for their chart-topping hit “Buy Dirt,” at the fifth annual Nashville Songwriter Awards.

Matt Jenkins, 39, said the song’s genesis grew from a bit of advice he received.

“We were actually on a writing retreat with Jordan and his brother during Covid,” Matt said. “And we went out there, and we were just talking about family. We were talking about faith, and about things that matter. And I’d heard someone say the phrase ‘Buy dirt — they ain’t making any more of it,’ so we were like, ‘hey, that’s a cool idea.’”

“Buy Dirt” was also nominated for the American Country Music (AMC) Song of the Year award and Matt said he had a feeling it would resonate with people.

“It just felt personal,” Matt said. “I think that with those type of songs, you don’t really know what’s going to happen, but you just go ‘Man, I really feel like we captured this emotion in this song,’ whatever happens.”

The Jenkins brothers moved to Aledo from Haltom City when they were in the eighth grade in what Matt described as a “very musical family,” and he credits that move with setting he and his brothers’ lives on their current paths.

“I don’t think we would have experienced the high school life or probably been who we are without making that move to Aledo,” Matt said. “And just the community, the support... it’s just a different environment, you know?”

The Aledo brothers have been writing songs since the age of 11 or 12 and have composed more than a thousand tunes between them.

Matt said what appeals to him most about songwriting is watching the effect it has on people.

“It’s helpful for us, when you see somebody and really make that connection,” Matt said. “It’s like ‘dude, that’s amazing.’ That’s really what it’s all about. So I

think it puts a wind in your sail because, to be honest with you, it can beat you up and can make you feel like you lose your North Star a little bit.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

From left, Jacob Davis, Jordan Davis, Josh Jenkins and Matt Jenkins. Together, the quartet wrote the song “Buy Dirt,” which won Song of the Year at the Fifth Annual Nashville Songwriter Awards and was nominated for the same honor at the American Country Music Awards.

“So, I think when you see someone singing along or dancing to a song you wrote, you’re like ‘oh, that’s why we do this.’”

Josh Jenkins, 37, collaborated with Walker Hayes on the song that anyone who has recently attended a sporting event or seen an Applebee’s commercial will recognize immediately.

“Fancy Like,” which reached number three on the US Billboard Hot 100 at one point evolved from a relatively casual conversation the two friends were having last summer.

“I’ve known Walker for probably six or seven years,” Josh said. “We’ve just been buds and had a lot of fun, and we’ve been collaborating for quite some time. It was one of those days,

post-COVID, kind of early getting back into the room with everybody.

“Walker started talking about how people think he’s an artist and how as an artist people assume you roll big and eat at the nicest restaurants — and he has six kids. He said ‘man, to be honest with you, we just kinda roll Applebee’s or Waffle House. We’re just low key and he was like, ‘let’s write something about that’ and so that kind of spawned ‘Fancy Like.’”

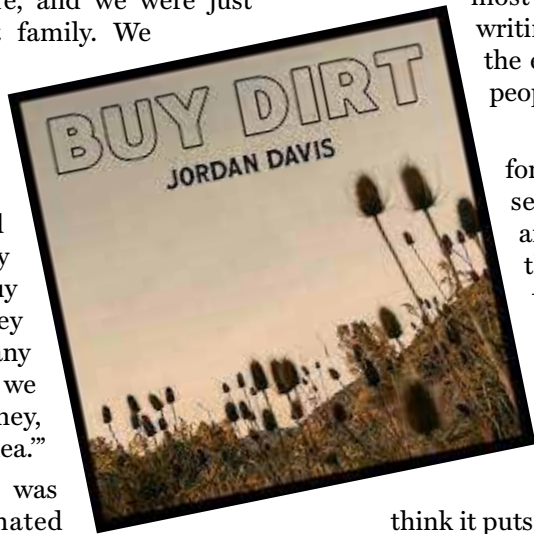
The song eventually went gold and platinum, and Josh said that one of the aspects of the song he most enjoys is how it incorporates other styles of music besides country.

“I grew up similar to Walker,” Josh said. “I grew up a product of the 90s, so I was around rock and

pop, and my dad was a country song writer, so country was always on. But then I also grew up around hip hop and rap, so it’s kind of been a little bit of all of it. I’ve always appreciated it and really enjoyed the diversity of music as a kid.

“So from a creative standpoint, it’s fun to work with artists that have that kind of palate — you can do a few different things. That’s what I love about collaborating with Walker, he can kind of mold all of those worlds together and make it his own thing.”

Josh said that songwriting is a lot like fishing for him, in that “You just show up and you throw your Turn to **MUSIC**, page A5



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Engagement



Tonroy-Mellina Engagement

Maura Tonroy and Christopher Mellina have announced their engagement to be married.

Tonroy is the daughter of Danny and Jan Tonroy of Aledo. She graduated from Aledo High School in 2012, and received degrees from Texas Tech University in 2016 and the University of Oklahoma in 2021. She is employed by Viaje Oil & Gas, LLC.

Mellina is the son of Dr. Scott and Natalie Mellina of Fort Worth and Ann Mellina of Fort Worth. He graduated from Trinity Valley School in 2010 and received a degree from Texas A&M University in 2014. He is employed by 6th Ave Homes.

The wedding is planned for 5 p.m. on April 22, 2023 at First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth.

The Community News
October 14, 2022



TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Ben Camp and Libby Tovar were elected Mr. & Ms. TCA during TCA's homecoming game held on Oct. 7.

Obituaries

Bill Bradle

William (Bill) Ramsey Bradle, a resident of Willow Park and Fort Worth in East Parker County, died on Monday, September 19, 2022, at the age of 72.

A good man, a good father, and a good husband, his life revolved around his love for his family and his many long-held friendships. His love deepened with time and enriched us all.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in history and spending his junior year abroad in Vienna, he went on to graduate with his MBA from the University of Illinois. He began his career in finance and then international finance with the Quaker Oats Company in Chicago followed by Alcon Labs in Fort Worth, then Sky Chefs and finally Dresser Industries/Halliburton.

Retiring from corporate finance at the age of 50, his creative mind turned to new pursuits beginning with serving as the CFO of a motorcycle company, followed by renovating older



Bill Bradle

homes, volunteering at the USO and the AT&T Stadium, and then turning to writing.

His interest in military conflicts that are not well-remembered led to his books, *Goliad: The Other Alamo* and *The Daring World War II Raid on Ploesti*. A master of detail, he packed his books with little-known bits of information while forming the focus pointing to the ending conflict and resolution.

A humble man, Bill truly admired the bravery and courage of the soldiers he wrote about in his books, never realizing it was his own bravery and courage that sustained him through nearly four years of pulmonary fibrosis followed by four and a half years as a double lung transplant recipient.

He played golf, as much for the game as for the friendships and the quietness of being outdoors. He enjoyed traveling, mainly to see friends and family. He was a voracious reader of all things history, and his quick wit and wide range of knowledge on a number of topics was legendary.

He always thought a person's faith should be reflected in actions, and his life was guided by God's truths found in the Proverbs verse, "Whoever pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honor."

His parents were Robert Dean Bradle and Hazel Zinn Bradle. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Sue; his son, Lt. Col. Marc Bradle, USAF, and wife Hillary Lee; daughter Margot Bradle and husband Brent Davis; and, most especially, his granddaughter Mollie Bradle. In addition, he is survived by his two sisters, Mary Roberts and husband Russ Roberts; Robin Johansen and husband Bob Johansen as well as many nephews and nieces.

A memorial will be held at 1:30 p.m. on December 10, 2022 at the Aledo United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the USO or to the IES Abroad program in Vienna.

The Community News
October 14, 2022

Dana Morea Brookshire

Dana Morea Brookshire, 78, of Annetta, passed away September 30, 2022.

Morea was born in Meadville, Pennsylvania, on February 28, 1944, to Stalter and Gladys Duval. Morea graduated from Lochaven State University, Edinburg State University, and the University of Pittsburgh.

She was married to Jeff Brookshire on December 17, 1977.

Morea was preceded in death by her parents, her brother David Duval, and her son Roderick.

She is survived by her husband Jeff Brookshire; her sisters Stalene, Jacqueline, and D'Etta; her daughter Anja Brookshire and husband Jan Rosinowski; and her daughter Kathryn Couch and husband Rick Couch, four grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Friday, October 7, 2022, at Laurel Land Memorial Park in Fort Worth.



Dana Brookshire

The Community News
October 14, 2022

QUOTABLE

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Helen Keller

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Events

October 14, 2022
 THE COMMUNITY NEWS
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More events can be found at www.community-news.com/calendar

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Parkinson Fundraiser
 A fun evening is planned to raise money for the National Parkinson Foundation and Carey's Clan Moving Day DFW from 6-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Read's BBQ, 7530 W I-20 (Brock exit). With your donation you will eat some great BBQ and enjoy live music by the Texas Backroads Band. Margaritas and beer will be available at the cash bar provided by The Beer Ranch. For more information, visit <http://www3.parkinson.org/goto/careysclan>

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.

COME JOIN A FUN EVENING
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WHEN: OCTOBER 15, 2022
TIME: 6:00 - 9:30 pm

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PLEASE COME AND HELP US RAISE MONEY FOR RESEARCH AND PROVIDE AID FOR THOSE WITH PARKINSON'S

Margaritas and Beer available at the cash bar provided by The Beer Ranch

RSVP by October 10th to careysclanfdw@yahoo.com
<http://www3.parkinson.org/goto/careysclan>

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 dalianguard-aledo@yahoo.com.

19TH ANNUAL BEARCAT/LADYCAT GOLF FUNDRAISER 2022

2022 REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

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Hole in 1 Prizes Available
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October 16, 2022
Split Rail Links & Golf Club
Shot Gun Start 1:00pm

TEXAS CROSSWORD
 by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- road coatings
- TXism: "blind as ___"
- horse hair
- wood, TX on U.S. 80
- first female to fly solo across the Atlantic (2 wds.)
- saving those lost in a remote location (abbr. for 3 wds.)
- formation of new and distinct species
- TXism: "frisky as ___ unsaddled horse"
- off the base without permission (abbr.)
- small Texas mountain range: "Sierra ___"
- Texas horsemint blooms in ___ colors
- TX Trini sang "If ___ a Hammer"
- this Alederly helped Cowboys win first Super Bowl in 1972
- Texas actress Darnell (init.)
- in Atascosa County on U.S. 281
- animal skins
- "Billy the ___"
- TXism: "between you, me, and the ___"
- short for picture-taking devices
- TXism: "___ his pallbearers the slip" (recovered)
- pastors do this on Sunday (2 wds.)
- TXism: "___ to the teeth" (equipped)
- "without further ___"
- TXism: "chew ___ awhile" (think about)
- big furry mammal (2 wds.)
- to gradually sink
- "Eagles" drummer born and bred in Texas (2 wds.)
- southern Houston suburb
- "split ___" (quibble)
- it can be run at a honky tonk (2 wds.)
- it's barbecued in Texas
- this TX Billy Joe was a back-up QB for six NFL teams made a head bid at a cattle auction
- car modified for extra power (3 wds.)
- Texas actress, Prentiss (init.)
- TXism: "he's ___ hat and no cattle"
- Texas ___ has a star of five points
- TX Johnny Nash hit: "I Can See Clearly ___"
- religious beliefs, e.g. (hyph. wds.)
- this town is part of the Iowa Park ISD
- TXism: "useless as speaking ___ a redneck"
- actress Garson who died in Texas
- winter precipitation
- competent
- poker stake
- TX Howard Hughes left a big one

DOWN

- TXism for "docile" (5 wds.)
- TX Audie Murphy film: "Bullet for ___" (1964)
- Texas pro baseball player
- Superman: "Man of ___"
- TXism: "I declare" (2 wds.)
- TXism: "two peas in ___"
- snakelike Gulf fish
- summer necessity in Texas (abbr.)
- people on horses

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
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. 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

Happy HALLOWEEN party

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.

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Capital Highlights

Texans urged to get flu shot



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Flu season is underway, and health officials are urging Texans to get their vaccinations as soon as possible, since it takes about two weeks for the shot to take effect.

“Because influenza can be a very serious disease, we recommend that all individuals aged 6 months and older get their flu vaccine every year,” said Dr. Jennifer Shuford, interim commissioner for the Texas Department of State Health Services.

“The flu vaccines for the 2022-2023 flu season have undergone substantial changes since last season, which will allow them to better protect against the flu viruses that are currently circulating,” she said. “So it is important to go get this season’s flu vaccine before flu activity increases even more in Texas.”

People over the age of 65 have a choice of three recommended higher-dose flu vaccines, which are considered more effective for this age group. People can also safely get a COVID-19 vaccine or booster at the same time they get the influenza vaccine, Shuford said.

Flu shots are widely available. To find out where, visit Vaccines.gov.

Colorful fall foliage looks unlikely

With much of the state still abnormally dry, or in some stage of drought, trees across the state are struggling with the effects of high temperatures and little rain. That means it is likely this year’s fall foliage won’t be as vivid as usual, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service.

“Many trees put on fewer, smaller leaves this spring or started to change color or prematurely drop their leaves in the summer,” said Karl Flocke, with the forest service. “All of this will most likely lead to fall colors that are less impressive than in years past.”

Deciduous trees drop their leaves in the autumn to conserve energy. However, due to the drought, some trees are already dropping their leaves before the green chlorophyll begins breaking down, which is what results in fall colors. Other trees still have their leaves, but they have already turned dead and brown.

There are other long-term effects from drought besides a lack of pretty colors, including a higher vulnerability to wood-boring insects. It could take months to determine the ultimate toll from the drought on the state’s trees.

Emergency food benefits again extended

More than \$329 million in emergency food benefits are being extended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for October,

marking 30 straight months of additional benefits.

All SNAP households will receive a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotments, in addition to their regular benefits. About 1.6 million Texas households benefit from the allotments. More than \$8.2 billion in emergency benefits have been provided by USA to Texans since April 2020.

“HHSC is proud to continue helping Texans who need a helping hand to put food on their table,” said Wayne Salter if the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, which administers the program.

School safety chief appointed

A new position of state chief of school safety and security has been created following the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde. Former Secret Service agent John P. Scott is filling that post.

“Protecting Texas children and making our schools safer for all are top priorities, and John Scott is uniquely qualified to help lead our efforts ensuring their safety and security in Texas schools,” Gov. Greg Abbott said. “Chief Scott’s wealth of experience in security and intelligence and exemplary service to our nation make him the perfect fit as the new Chief of School Safety and Security.”

Scott served in a number of positions in the Secret Service. He will report directly to Mike Morath, Texas commissioner of education.

Uvalde school district suspends entire force

The Uvalde school district has suspended its entire police force and placed two administrators on leave, following withering criticism to law enforcement response to the late May shooting, when an 18-year-old gunman killed 19 students and two teachers.

The Texas Standard reported the action came after investigations revealed that officers waited more than an hour before engaging the shooter, as students and teachers pleaded with 911 dispatchers to send help. The shooter ultimately was killed by law enforcement officers.

Family members of the victims camped out at district headquarters for 10 days demanding action, the report said.

COVID-19 cases continue to drop

The Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University reported new cases of COVID-19 in Texas during the past week dropped once again to 14,225, with 104 new deaths. The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 1,359 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations across the state, down slightly from the previous week.

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



Thistles & Roses

Humanitarian Immigration



Richard Henderson
richard@rahenderson.com

As Hispanic Heritage Month draws to a close, it is time to discuss Hispanic immigration from a practical and humanitarian point of view.

There have been a lot of Hispanics crossing the border illegally. These are people who are walking thousands of miles, some carrying their babies, to escape suppression of their freedoms and abject poverty — the kind of poverty where they are starving to death. We don’t have to welcome them with open arms, but as a civilized people we should have compassion upon them.

I have been bilingual most of my life, obtaining a Spanish degree from TCU. I have a great understanding of the language, the culture, and the people. In my 40-plus years of law practice about 40% of my clients spoke only Spanish. I have interpreted in court and many other situations. I have many friends in the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, Argentina, and many other countries. They are family

oriented and have an envious work ethic.

Most of our ancestors came here seeking the same things — a better life and a safe place to work hard and raise their families. My great grandfather James Gregg Henderson came to Fort Worth from Scotland in the late 1870s with the shirt on his back and stonemason skills. He eventually owned his own business building many historic buildings including the iconic St. Patrick’s Cathedral in downtown Fort Worth.

The problem with illegal immigration is that we have made it too hard to immigrate legally. These people want to work and they become assets to the local economy when given the chance. We can change those laws.

When Republican Comptroller of Public Accounts, Carolyn Strayhorn, did a detailed economic impact study in 2006, of what were then an estimated 1.4 million illegal aliens in Texas, the objective scientific results were surprising to many with preconceived notions that these people were costing Texans money.

The facts of the study showed that the undocumented workers cost the state \$1.16 billion in state services, but they produced \$1.58 billion in state revenues — a net plus to the state of over \$400 million.

In 2013 the Texas Tribune reported that a Pew study showed there were 1.7 million undocumented workers and the Tribune quoted a study by the Perryman Group that if the undocumented population disappeared from the state that there would be a loss of \$69.3 billion in economic activity, \$30.8 billion in gross state product and a loss of 403,000 jobs.

Just think what a recession that would cause.

For various political reasons it has been hard to get an updated study. I think many people did not want their false preconceived notions to be confused with the facts.

If there has been a home in East Parker County in the past ten years where some undocumented workers did not pour the cement, lay the brick, frame the walls, install the plumbing, or put shingles on the roof, someone tell me the address, I would like to see it. These folks mow the grass, trim the trees, work in the restaurants, etc.

These human beings are and can be assets to our society. There is a large Christian population here. As one of those, I think Christians should be among the first to extend the hand of compassion and hope to desperate people, many of them facing the same obstacles our ancestors did.



Read this story online

COLUMN SUBMISSION POLICY

The Community News is committed to freedom of expression and sharing of opinions. We are happy to provide a forum for our readers to express their views in an environment that provides for dialogue and respectful disagreements

Guest columns are evaluated on the following three criteria: if they are reasonable, if they are respectful, and if they are factual.

We invite your submissions at news@community-news.com.

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

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

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

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

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

In & Around Parker County

JW Mechanical operates as a family-owned, community-focused business

JW Mechanical Systems has serviced Aledo and the Parker County area for about half a decade.

The married co-owners Jeff and Carrie Woychesin have grown their business from the ground up during that time.

“We’ve been officially in Aledo for seven years,” Carrie said. “We got started out of the garage with Jeff running service calls, and now we’ve grown to eight trucks in that duration.”

Carrie said JW Mechanical is a true mom-and-pop shop.

Carrie — who runs the social media, accounting books, and advertising — grew up in Aledo and graduated in 1996. Her family has lived in the area since the 1980s, she said.

Jeff is one of the technicians, and their 16-year-old daughter Stella works in the family business throughout her summer and winter breaks.

Their dogs Otis and Lacy also work in the office, serving as the positive energy and the calming presence.

Beyond the familial employees, Carrie said they try to operate in a close-knit work environment.

“We’re always trying to do right in our community,” Carrie said.

An Army veteran family, Carrie said they always hire veterans when they can.

Founded in 2016, JW Mechanical Systems brings second-generation expertise — now cultivating third-generation expertise through Stella — and attention to detail with their service.

Additionally, all JW Mechanical technicians are EPA certified and verified by the state.

During the pandemic, JW Mechanical trained technicians from apprentices up, and that staff now has another Aledo High School graduate who has moved up from apprentice to lead installer. JW is proud that she is quickly moving into a lead service position.

JW Mechanical provides air conditioning, heating, and refrigeration services to both commercial facilities and residences, in addition to routine maintenance plans.

The business also offers financing options to its customers.

JW Mechanical Systems is a member of the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce and is proud of its community.

For more information, call 817-999-6062 or visit jwmechanicalsystems.com.



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4 COMMON REASONS FOR HVAC FAILURE

- Debris Around the Unit**
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FOOTBALL

History on line Friday night in Burleson



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Jake Gillespie outruns defenders against South Hills.

Bearcats take on undefeated Centennial

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

In February, when the University Interscholastic League's biennial realignment moved Aledo up to Class 5A Division I and put the Bearcat in the same district with fellow powerhouse Denton Ryan, folks everywhere circled Nov. 21 on their calendar.

However, with all due respect to Aledo and Ryan, another team was looming in the shadows, taking advantage of being out of the spotlight — Burleson Centennial.

Well, the Spartans aren't in the shadows any longer. They took care of Ryan last Friday at home, 23-16, and Friday night they will play arguably the biggest regular-season game in their short history since the school opened in 2011. The Bearcats are coming to town for a showdown that could decide the District 3-5A Division I championship.

A Centennial win would certainly give them the inside track to the program's first league title as the Spartans' remaining games are at home against Brewer (1-5, 1-3 in district), at Northwest (4-2, 3-1) and home against Azle (1-5, 1-3).

Meanwhile, a Bearcats' win over the Spartans, combined with a win the following week over Ryan in Denton, would secure a 15th consecutive

district championship for Aledo.

Record streak on line

The Bearcats bring a state-record 108-game district winning streak into the contest at Burleson. Not since 2007, when they started 0-2 in district with losses to Stephenville and Everman, has Aledo dropped a league contest.

To put that in greater perspective, none of the players in Friday's game were in school yet when the streak started.

"Heck, some of them weren't even born," Aledo coach Tim Buchanan said. "We've been tested before, (Mansfield) Timberview in 2020, Midlothian in 2019.

"I don't think about it (the streak) a whole lot, it's been going on so long, but it is pretty neat."

In 2019 visiting Midlothian took the Bearcats to overtime before Aledo survived 34-28.

Facing the Wishbone

The Aledo defense will be going up against a Centennial team that operates out of a wishbone offense, also sometimes referred to as a triple option.

The quarterback runs down the line of scrimmage with a running back trailing slightly to his left or right (depending on QB's direction). Depending on the defense, the quarterback can pitch to the running back, stop and throw a pass, or keep the ball himself and run.

"You get a lead and you can run the clock out," Buchanan said.

"I love watching it. It's fun and it's hard to simulate."

So what's the key to stopping it?

"Staying disciplined," Buchanan said. "Definitely, with the wishbone, discipline is the most important thing. If ever a player was going to their job, this is the week.

State rankings

The Bearcats moved up a notch to No. 5 in Class 5A Division I in this week's state rankings from Dave Campbell's Texas Football and the Associated Press. Also, MaxPreps has the Bearcats No. 3.

Centennial moved up to No. 6 in Dave Campbell's and No. 4 in MaxPreps. Denton Ryan, which lost to Centennial 23-16 last week, fell out of the state's top 10.

Other notables

- Aledo has won 108 consecutive district games dating to 2007.
- This is the fourth meeting ever between the Bearcats and Spartans and Aledo has won all four by an average score of 58-24.
- Each team has a long playoff streak, Aledo is now at 26 years (with at least one post-season win in each of the past 25) and Centennial is on the verge of its ninth straight.
- Centennial has never won a district championship since it began playing in 2011 and has finished runner-up to Aledo three times in 2014, 2018 and 2019.

Turn to FOOTBALL, page B2

VOLLEYBALL

Ladycats split twin bill in district action

Home stretch ahead

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

Aledo's Ladycats volleyball team moved to 7-2 in 5A Region I District 5 action and 26-15 overall on the season this week. The Ladycats came up just short in their bid to upend the only squad to hand Aledo a loss in district play this season when the Lady Texans from Northwest came to town last Friday. The hometown netters rebounded quickly on Tuesday defeating Saginaw in straight sets to take the match.

The Ladycats will have Friday off before hitting the road on Tuesday to face Brewer's Lady Bears as they begin the final two weeks of regular season play.

Aledo defeats Lady Rough Riders, returns to winning ways

After playing a total of nine sets in their two matches last week, the Ladycats made short work of Saginaw on Tuesday. Aledo sent the Lady Rough Riders off into the sunset by scores of 25-18, 25-17, and 25-16. Their improved

tally of 7-2 in district play has the Ladycats holding securely to second place coming into the last two weeks of the regular season.

Alyssa Gonzales led the Ladycats overall performance once again with 14 digs, nine kills, three blocks, and two aces. Vivian Parker finished the night with a dozen digs of her own to go along with a pair of blocks and two aces. Maddie Frank tended the net with authority as she accumulated nine kills and a pair of blocks. Mia Little tallied 11 digs across the three sets.

Lauryn Mack tacked on seven kills. Skyler Lambert blocked a trio of attempted spikes by the Lady Rough Riders. Rylee Metts and Ava Reding both ended with double-digit assists in the match, finishing with 15 and 10, respectively. Catie Messer rounded out the stat leaders for Aledo as she added five assists to the overall team tally.

Ladycats fall short in bid to avenge only district loss

Last Friday, Aledo sought to even the score against district rival Northwest when the Lady

Texans came to visit. The Ladycats took Northwest to the limit before ultimately suffering another tough defeat to the stalwart, district-leading Lady Texans squad. Aledo lost the match in five sets by scores of 25-9, 19-25, 19-25, 25-20, and 5-15.

The Ladycats pounced on Northwest early in the first set. The Lady Texans struggled to gain their composure in the face of the rapid onslaught by the hosting squad as Aledo ran away with the first set, 25-9.

However, during the break the Lady Texans managed to regain their composure. In sets two and three Northwest resembled the team that had bested the Ladycats in their initial meeting back on September 13th. Disciplined, mistake-free action by the Lady Texans put pressure on Aledo early and often in the middle sets resulting in numerous mistakes and miscommunications by the Ladycats.

Clinging to life, and one set away from the match being over, the Ladycats displayed tremendous resolve in the face of adversity as they rallied to take the fourth set 25-20, forcing a final frame.

Turn to DISTRICT, page B3



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Maddie Frank goes for a kill against Northwest Friday, Oct. 7, in Aledo. Also shown is Riley Metts (11).

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FOOTBALL

Bearcats roll over South Hills at homecoming

Showdown with Spartans next

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

The Aledo Bearcats have been to the playoffs every season since 1996. And in each of the past 25 years they won at least one postseason contest.

Thanks to Friday's 68-0 homecoming victory against Fort Worth South Hills, they'll get a chance to extend that streak as they clinched yet another playoff berth.

With the victory, the Bearcats (5-2 overall) improved to 5-0 in District 3-5A Division I. Next is a trip to unbeaten Burleson Centennial (6-0, 4-0) Friday, Oct. 14, in a showdown of state-ranked teams.

The Spartans, who are coming off a 23-16 home victory against Denton Ryan — also state-ranked — were No. 8 in the state according to MaxPreps and fourth in the Padilla Poll entering the weekend. Aledo was ranked No. 3 by MaxPreps and No. 5 in Padilla.

Dave Campbell's state rankings had Aledo sixth and Centennial unranked.

"They're good. We knew they were going to be good, so get ready," Aledo coach Tim Buchanan said.

Ryan, Aledo's opponent on Nov. 21 in Denton, came into the weekend No. 3 in Dave Campbell's, No 12 in Padilla and 19th in MaxPreps.

The game against Centennial is expected to be the most serious threat to Aledo's state-record 108-game district winning streak in years. Not since starting 0-2 in league play in 2007 have the

Bearcats been on the losing end of a score in a league contest.

"I do not worry about that," Buchanan said. "I worry about playing a good football game."

The Bearcats certainly did that against the Scorpions, and they did so up and down the roster. Nine different players scored, nine players carried the ball at least two times, and eight caught at least one pass.

And both quarterbacks threw for touchdowns.

"A lot of kids got to play and every kid had a good time," Buchanan said. "It's a dadgum game. It's supposed to be fun, and I think everybody had fun."

Well, maybe not the Scorpions (1-5 overall, 0-4 in district), who have now been outscored 295-0 in their five losses opposite their lone victory, 42-21 over Class 4A Division II Venus.

Aledo had Friday's win well in hand by the end of the first quarter as they led 28-0. They added 20 more in the second for a 48-0 halftime advantage.

Starting quarterback Hauss Hejny threw touchdown passes of 7 and 29 yards to tight end Tyson Timms within the game's first four minutes. Then, backup quarterback Brant Hayden connected with Jalen Pope for an 8-yard TD pass and Hawk Patrick-Daniels added a 4-yard run to wrap up the opening period.

Hayden scored on a 16-yard run and Caleb Pope tacked on a 5-yard score in the second quarter. The defense got in on the action as well, with Jaden Allen returning an interception 71 yards for a touchdown.



BREILEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Toby McDonald (12) pulls down a South Hills runner. Also shown is Brayden Thomas (46).

Third-quarter scores were a 1-yard run by Ryan Cox and a 5-yard run by Ryan Morton. Brett Turner capped the night with a 41-yard scamper to the end zone in the fourth quarter.

Unofficial statistics had Hejny finishing the night 5-for-6 passing for 102 yards, while Hayden completed six of 11 for 42 yards.

Aledo rushers were Patrick-Daniels, six carries for 59 yards; Cox, 9-54; Turner, 2-53; C. Pope, 6-48; Jedidiah Emeka-Okoye, 3-30; Hayden, 3-24; Ben McElree, 2-11;

Morton, 2-11; and Tanner Wheaton, 3-9.

Aledo receivers were Gavin Olenjack, 2-46; Timms, 2-36; Kaydon Finley, 1-20; C. Pope, 1-15; Ethan Smith, 1-12; Toby McDonald, 2-8; J. Pope, 1-8; and Austin Keith, 1-0.

The Aledo defense posted a pair of sacks and limited the Scorpions to 58 total yards, including 9 rushing on 23 carries. They stopped South Hills for negative yards on eight carries and zero yards on three others. Two passes also went for 0

yards while another gained just a yard.

Meanwhile, Aledo compiled 443 yards (300 rushing, 143 passing) and had 20 players of 10 or more yards (13 rushing, 7 passing).

The Bearcats also committed no penalties, while South Hills had just four. Each team had a turnover, the aforementioned interception by the Scorpions and a fumble by Aledo.

Aledo has now outscored its five district opponents by a combined 297-54.



BREILEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Gavin Olenjack pulls in a reception.

FOOTBALL

from page B1

District 3-5A Division I standings

Team	District	Overall
x-Aledo	5-0	5-2
entennial	4-0	6-0
Denton Ryan	4-1	4-2
Northwest	3-1	4-2
The Colony	2-3	2-5
Azle	1-3	1-5
FW Brewer	1-3	1-5
South Hills	0-4	1-5
Saginaw	0-5	0-7

Last week's results

Aledo 68, South Hills 0
The Colony 30, Brewer 7
Centennial 23, Ryan 16
Northwest 70, Saginaw 0
Azle bye

This week's games

Friday, all at 7 p.m.
Aledo at Centennial
The Colony at Northwest
Saginaw at Azle

South Hills at Brewer
Ryan bye

Game at a glance

Aledo Bearcats (5-2, 5-0 in District 3-5A Division I) at Burleson Centennial Spartans (6-0, 4-0)

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Burleson ISD Stadium.

Centennial players to watch (stats not available): QB Phillip Hamilton, RB Elijah K Zeh, FS Chapman Lewis.

Aledo offensive leaders: QB Hauss Hejny 48-for-88, 970 yards, 9 TD, 3 interceptions passing, 36 carries 335 yards, 4 TD rushing; RB Hawk Patrick-Daniels 92 carries, 765 yards, 11 TD; WR Jalen Pope 23 catches, 487 yards, 7 TD; WR Kaydon Finley 9 catches, 245, 3 TD; TE Tyson Timms 16 catches 232 yards, 3 TD; RB Ryan Cox 53 carries, 238 yards, 1 TD; RB Caleb Pope 30 carries, 210 yards, 8 TD.

Aledo defensive leaders: LB Dahvon

Keys 37.5 tackles, 2 for loss, 1 interception returned 73 yards for a touchdown; S Jake Gillespie 30.5 tackles, 1 for loss, 1 interception; LB Andrew Parkhurst 27 tackles, 6 for loss, 2 sacks; ; S Boogie Owens 19 tackles, 1 for loss, 1 fumble recovery; LB Ky Howington 17 tackles, 1 for loss, 1 interception; CB Chris Johnson 17 tackles, 2 for loss, 2 interceptions returned a total of 60 yards, 1 fumble recovery.

Team rushing yards per game: Centennial NA, Aledo 259.4.

Team passing yards per game: Centennial NA, Aledo 181.4.

Team rushing yards surrendered per game: Centennial NA, Aledo 94.4.

Team passing yards surrendered per game: Centennial NA, Aledo 174.9.

Turnovers: Centennial NA, Aledo 8 (4 fumbles, 4 interceptions).

Takeaways: Centennial NA, Aledo 11 (7 fumbles, 4 interceptions).

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Aledo freshmen teams shut down The Colony

Orange

The Aledo Orange freshman football team defeated the Colony 49-8 last week.

On offense:

- Lamel Swanson punt returned for a touchdown; Lincoln Tubbs 2pt conversion.
- Kaden Winkfield 9-yard run for a touchdown; Payton Shaffer PAT good.
- Kaden Winkfield 10-yard run for a touchdown; Malachi Behrens PAT good.
- Kaden Winkfield 3-yard run for a touchdown; Payton Shaffer PAT good.
- Evan Murdock 6-yard run for a touchdown; Malachi Behrens PAT good.
- Lincoln Tubbs 10-yard pass to Kaden Winkfield for a touchdown. Payton Shaffer PAT good.
- Evan Murdock 32-yard run for a touchdown; PAT no good.

On defense, Kyle Storck had two interceptions. The entire defense for the Bearcats played lights out and deserved to be recognized.

Black

The Aledo Black freshman football team defeated The Colony 57-0.

On Offense:

- Brady Powell 61 yard run for a touchdown; Robby Sloan PAT good.
- Anthony Flowers 57 yard run for a touchdown; Caleb Hart PAT good.



ZACK HALEY

Kyle Storck (14) with one of his two interceptions

- Christian Sandoval pass to Christian Aaron for a 60 yard touchdown; Robby Sloan PAT good.
 - Brady Powell 4 yard run for a touchdown; Caleb Hart PAT good.
 - Brady Powell 1 yard run for a touchdown; Robby Sloan PAT good.
 - Christian Sandoval pass to Bailey Hadley for a 37 yard touchdown; Caleb Hart PAT good.
 - Brayden Anderson fumble recovery returned for a touchdown; 2 point conversion good.
 - Rien Degregori 27 yard run for a touchdown; Caleb Hart PAT good.
- Defensive Standouts were Tanner Tover, Marco Morales, Briley Perkins, and Kai Giles.
- Photos courtesy of Zack Haley. Thanks to Ryan Miller for the game recaps.*

JV FOOTBALL

Bearcat teams have winning week

Aledo's JV football teams had a winning week last week as the JV Orange defeated The Colony 45-12, and JV Black won over Lake Worth, 28-0.

In the JV Orange game at The Colony, the Cougars received the opening kickoff and converted two first downs before the Bearcats forced them to punt.

On the Bearcats' first drive, Ethan Hodo connected with Jaydon Griswold for a 74-yard touchdown pass. Logan DeFranzo added the extra point to make the score 7-0.

The Cougars would answer on the ground when they broke a long run up the middle to even the score 7-7.

The Bearcats' offense would answer with solid running by Kade McCown and RJ Blake. McCown finished the drive with a two-yard touchdown run to score 14-7.

The Bearcats' defense would add to the score when Owen Henderson picked off a Cougar pass and returned it for 16 yards for a defensive touchdown to give the Bearcats a 21-7 lead.

Blake Burdine and RJ Blake added to the scoring on the ground to give the Bearcats a commanding 35-6 lead at the half.

The Bearcats received the second-half kickoff and drove deep into the Cougars' territory.

They were unable to convert on third down. Logan DeFranzo finished the drive with a 37-yard field goal to give the Bearcats a 38-6 lead.

The Bearcats continued to dominate the second half when Hodo connected with Cayden Hix for a 12-yard touchdown pass, and they added another rushing score to make the final score 45-12 in favor of the Bearcats.

The Offensive players of the game were Barrett Martin, Christopher Gomez, Peyton Williams, and Blake Burdine. The Defensive Players of the game were Owen Henderson, Brennon Evans, and Jaxon Richter.

The JV Orange team was scheduled to travel to Richland in a non-district contest on Thursday.

The Aledo JV Black defeated the Lake Worth Bullfrog JV 28-0 at Lake Worth on Thursday night.

Running back Micah Mason scored three rushing touchdowns and quarterback Will Cayce completed a 48-yard touchdown pass to Luke Trager. Kicker Adam Averett, was 4/4 on extra points.

Defensive standouts were Dillon McDonald and Samuel Pimental.

The J.V. Black is now 6-0 on the season.

They return to action Thursday for a 5:30 P.M. kickoff at Boswell's Pioneer Stadium.

DISTRICT

from page B1

In the final set of the match the momentum shifted once more as Northwest jumped out to an early lead and never looked back. Aledo's rally unfortunately ran out of steam allowing the Lady Texans to cruise as they closed out the night with the win.

Parker led the charge in the contest for the Ladycats as she amassed 26 digs, nine kills, four blocks, and an ace. Gonzales finished with 20 digs and 15 kills in the match. Reding and Metts lead the Ladycats in assists with 22 each. Metts also collected a pair of aces from behind the service line. Mack added 11 kills and a pair of aces of her own to Aledo's tally. Little added 20 digs on the night. Haley Lowe and Payton Hilmer ended the night with five blocks and two blocks, respectively.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Mia Little celebrates with teammates after a play.

FOOTBALL

Eagles drop district opener

From Staff Reports

The Trinity Christian Academy Eagles dropped their Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division III District opener at home Friday to Fort Worth Lake Country Christian, 42-7.

LCC led 14-7 at the half, but pulled away with a pair of third-quarter touchdowns and two more in the fourth.

TCA fell to 1-5 on the season, while LCC improved to 6-0. TCA will host Arlington Grace Prep (3-3, 1-0) Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Lions are coming off a 39-34 victory against Pantego Christian.

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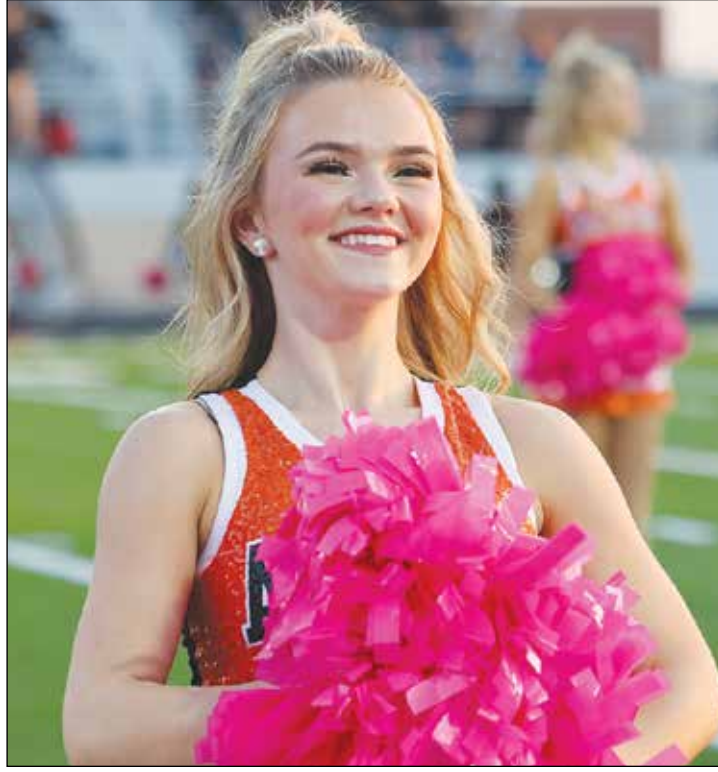
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LADYCAT OF THE WEEK



Vivian Parker

Vivian Parker was a standout on both offense and defense as the Ladycats volleyball team split a pair of matches last week, defeating Wichita Falls Rider 3-1 and losing to Northwest 3-2. She had 23 kills, four blocks and served an ace, while also delivering 48 defensive digs.

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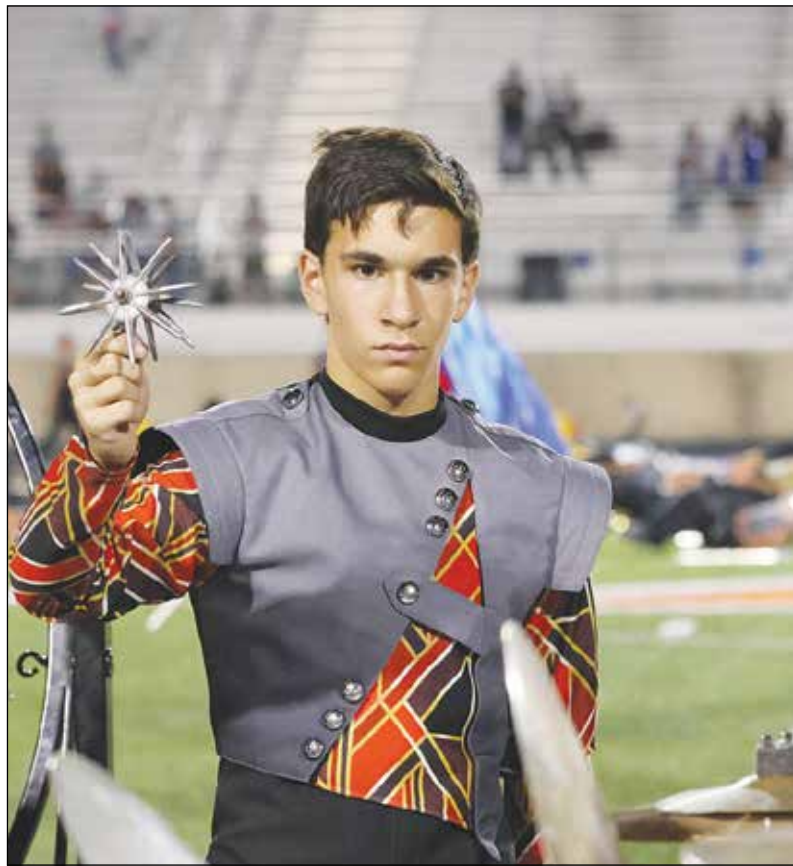
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BEARCAT OF THE WEEK



Tyson Timms

Tyson Timms had two passes thrown his way in Friday's 68-0 victory against Fort Worth South Hills. He caught both for 36 yards and a pair of touchdowns that got the Bearcats off and running en route to a football homecoming win.

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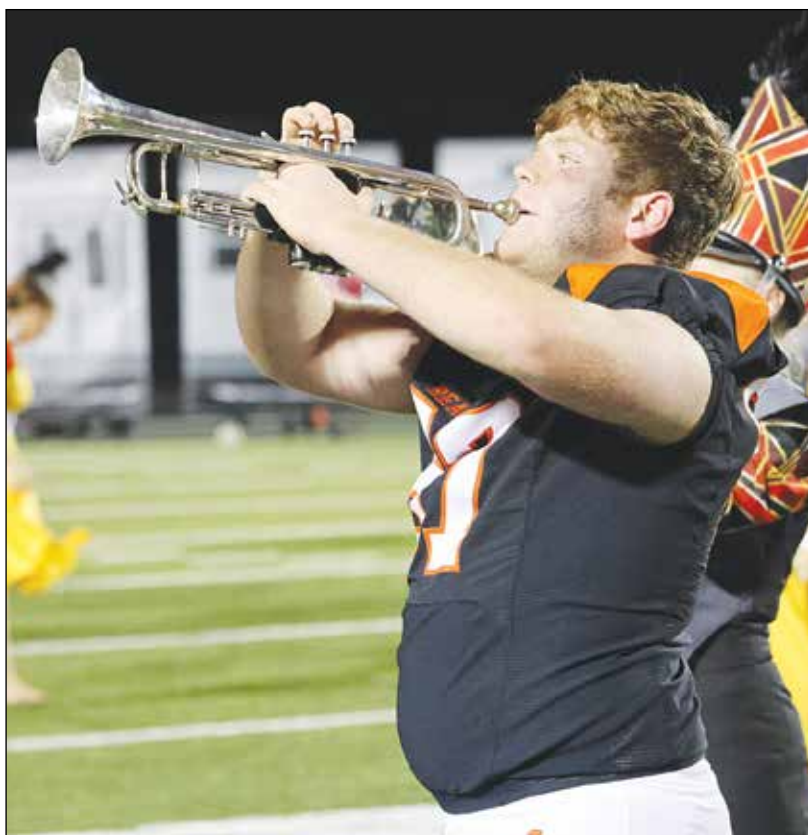
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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Zoning Board of Adjustment for the Town of Annetta will conduct a public hearing on November 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane, Annetta, and will act upon the following requests:

1. A Special Exception for 193 Portales Drive, a property containing .524 acres of land (Lot 22, Block F, Meadow Park Estates 3 Subdivision) to allow for an 840 square foot accessory structure that exceeds the allowed square footage as set forth in Section 8.10.B.2.c of the Town of Annetta Zoning Ordinance 215.
2. A Special Exception to Section 8.10.B.10 of the Town of Annetta Zoning Ordinance 215 for 193 Portales Drive, a property containing .524 acres of land (Lot 22, Block F, Meadow Park Estates 3 Subdivision), to allow garage doors on any size accessory structure to face the right-of-way with additional landscaping, exterior materials or colors and ornamental features to ensure compatibility with the neighborhood.

All interested persons are urged to attend.
 TO BE PUBLISHED: Friday, October 14, 2022
 /s/ Jamee Long, City Secretary
 Town of Annetta, Texas

MEMBER 2022

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ABOVE: Freshmen **LEFT:** Savannah Thompson and father Drew Thompson | **RIGHT:** Scarlet Wermuth (freshman) and father Wesley Wermuth

ABOVE: Sophomores **LEFT:** Kendra Pellegrino and father Jim Pellegrino | **RIGHT:** Abigail Souza and father figure Hank Lohomer

2022 AHS HOMECOMING COURT

PHOTOS BY BRELEIGH MAYER



LEFT: Homecoming Queen Samantha Elston and father Richard Elston

BELOW: Juniors **LEFT:** Hannah Clark and father David Clark | **RIGHT:** Landrie Thurman and father Paul Thurman

BELOW: Seniors **LEFT:** Ruthie Pulliam and father Tim Pulliam | **RIGHT:** Sidney Tillotson and father Jay Tillotson



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TPA MEMBER 2022
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News



Sports

TENNIS

Racquetcats advance in playoffs

By **Cathy Mason**

Special to The Community News

The Aledo varsity team tennis squad advanced to the second round of the Class 5A playoffs with an 11-0 thumping of Fort Worth North Side Tuesday on the Bearcats' home courts.

With the victory, Aledo (13-2) moved on to the area round and was facing Grapevine at press time at the Arlington Tennis Center.

Scores against North Side were:



Read this story online

Boys doubles - Line 1, Hogan Posey/Scott Mason, 6-0, 6-0; Line 2, Ian Leslie/Craig Mason, 6-0, 6-0. Line 3 did not play, as North Side did not have enough players.

Girls doubles - Line 1, Kenley Germany/Bryanna Orr, 6-0, 6-0; Line 2, Paige Federman/Elli Kate Bussmeir, 6-0, 6-0; Line 3, Eleanor Jack/Patrice Loftin, 6-0, 6-0.

Mixed doubles - Will Beyer/Natalie Nawrocki, 6-2, 6-1.

Boys singles - Line 2, S. Mason, 6-0, 6-0; Line 3, Posey won 6-0, 6-0.

Girls singles - Line 2, Bussmeir, 6-0, 6-0.

Even though the team had reached the required 10 wins, Line 1 Orr finished her match, winning 6-1. No other singles matches were required for the win.

In all, Aledo did not lose a set and won 108 of the 111 games played.



Members of the Aledoo Varsity Tennis squad.

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Bearcat golfers Ethan Elmore, Helton Mosiello, Jett Moore, Braylan Mahanay, and Grayson Freeman

GOLF

Bearcats compete in Texarkana

From Staff Reports

The Aledo Bearcats golf team competed in the Jay Brewer Memorial Tournament at Texarkana Country Club Oct. 7-8. The tournament was three rounds over two days and features some of the best teams from throughout the state.

The Bearcats posted a team score of 954, opening with a 325, improving to a 301 and finishing with a 328.

Braylon Mahanay led the Bearcats with a 228 total, posting rounds of 75, 76 and 77. Next was Jett Moore, 236 (81-76-79); Ethan Elmore, 246 (85-75-86), Helton

Mossiello, 246 (81-74-88) and Grayson Freeman, 252 (86-80-86).



Read this story online

All varsity teams were competing in the District 5-5A Preview tournament at Sugar Tree Golf Course in Brock on Tuesday, ahead of the 19th Annual Ladycat/Bearcat Fundraising Golf Tournament next Monday.

Anyone interested in playing in the fundraiser can contact Dalia Smith (daliasguard-aledo@yahoo.com), Becca Moore (beccamoore@hotmail.com) or Jamie Warner (ejami@hotmail.com).

Congratulations



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Congratulations to the AHS Homecoming Court

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