

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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WILLOW PARK

History making police chief saying goodbye

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Just when everyone was ready to head home at the end of another city council meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 28, some big news came.



Carrie Ellis

Willow Park Police Chief Carrie Ellis announced she is retiring from the department after six years leading the department, effective March 24.

"Thank you for your confidence in me," Ellis told the council, adding with a chuckle, "I have enjoyed almost every moment."

"Thank you for the opportunity to serve Willow Park."

Ellis, formerly West, recently married Belton Chief of Police Gee Ellis. She said she can't reveal what her next stop will be, only to say she is going to stay in law enforcement as a chief.

"I'm excited for new challenges and opportunities," Ellis said. "The city of Willow Park has been exceptional to me, to take a chance on someone outside of Parker County and the first female chief in Willow Park and Parker County."

Ellis, born in Fort Worth and a graduate of Paschal High School, came to Willow Park in 2017. Not only did she make history, she advanced Parker County's second largest police department greatly in her time at the helm.

Under her leadership, the department attained the status of "Recognized Agency" with the Texas Police Chief's Association in 2020. That same year she received the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce's Pappy Thompson Community Service Award.

"It's never been this good at the police department before," Place 2 Councilman Chawn Gilliland responded to Ellis. "Whoever takes your place has some big shoes to fill."

City Manager Bryan Grimes said that even though he saw it coming, he didn't want to realize it, even when Ellis brought her retirement papers into his office.

"It didn't really hit me until she walked into my office with two pieces of paper. I didn't want to take them," Grimes said, then telling Ellis, "You're the best chief of police I've ever worked with. I always felt safer knowing you were our chief."

Before coming to Willow Park, Ellis had served more than 21 years with the City of Corinth police department, including being named

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Horrors of War, Glories of Life

Aledo's Schultz remembers

By John English
The Community News

Editor's note: This story will be presented in a three-part series.

Katie (Gisela) Schultz spent the first 10 years of her life in Nazi Germany.

Born in 1935 in Lower Saxony, the Aledo resident emigrated with her family to the United States in 1950 and began a whole new life — one that was far different, and in some ways similar to the one she had left behind in post-war Europe.

Schultz, now 87, has had time to reflect upon her life and the challenges she has faced throughout. And, in spite of everything, the octogenarian has maintained a cheerful disposition, an unrelenting optimism, and an unwavering faith in God.

Schultz grew up in a rural community just outside of the city of Oldenburg.

She still remembers the time as a young girl when she and her neighbors discovered that their fathers, uncles, male cousins, and the other men of their community had been drafted into service.

"It was very sad," Schultz said. "One of my dad's cousins, humorously, bypassed the service by smoking two entire packs of cigarettes right before he took his physical. By the



COURTESY OF DARRELL SCHULTZ

TOP: 'Katie' Gisela's childhood home just outside of Oldenburg, Germany. She lived on the left side. Animals were kept inside the back portion (an area called the 'diele'), where you'd also find indoor outhouses. Katie's paternal grandmother and two of her aunts can be seen in the windows. The home is still standing and occupied today. | **LEFT:** November, 1946: 'Katie' Gisela (11), her mother Mathilde, and her brother Hans (9). They were battling starvation. Mathilde knitted the outfits for her children from yarn scraps she collected. Mathilde is wearing the widow's blouse she wore the day her husband was buried six years earlier. | **RIGHT:** 'Katie' Gisela Schwantje--both a toddler and 'schlingel' (rascal)--has pushed the baby carriage onto the grass at the Schlossgarten.

time the war was over, there were very few men left in our area."

Vehemently opposed to the policies of the ruling Nazi Party, Schultz said that taking such a position put her family in constant danger.

"My parents and grandparents did the best they could to isolate us from the horrors of the war, though my grandfather listened to the radio every night," Schultz said. "None of them supported Hitler, and they kept

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WILLOW PARK

Council names committee to examine future of police station

Plat approved for 101-lot subdivision

By Rick Mauch
Community News

With Parker County Emergency Services District 1 being in the process of annexing the Willow Park Fire Department, the future of the city's police department headquarters is being considered.

ESD1 officials are in the process of purchasing the Willow Park Public Safety Building, pending a legal review of all documentation, and it will become solely a fire station. This means the police department will have to find a new location.

"The likelihood of the ESD purchasing the Public Safety Building is very high. They are dotting the 'I's' and crossing the 'T's,'" City Manager Bryan Grimes said. "We're probably going to need a new police station."

The location of the old city hall at 516 Ranch House Rd. is available, but city officials have



ROSE HOFFMAN/CITY OF WILLOW PARK

Carol Sutton of Freedom House (left) was presented with a proclamation by Willow Park Mayor Pro Tem Lea Young.

said if that is to be the site of a new police station, old city hall will be torn down and a new building constructed in its place.

"We're not starting from scratch, but we're starting close to scratch," Grimes said.

At the request of Mayor Pro Tem Lea Young, staff and council have been working to establish a police station committee to assist and consult to design, build, and construct a police station.

Turn to **COUNCIL**, page 3

Gun incident off campus lands AMS student in custody

Staff Reports
The Community News

An off-campus gun incident has landed an Aledo Middle School student in the custody of the Parker County Sheriff's Office.

The incident was explained to Aledo Middle School parents by Principal Mandy Musselwhite, who sent an email to parents on Feb. 21.

"I wanted to let you know that, out of an abundance of caution, we have additional administration and law enforcement officials on and around our campus this afternoon as we investigate an incident that was reported to us that occurred off campus over the weekend and included AMS students," Musselwhite wrote. "Our AMS students are safe and continuing a regular school day. We will communicate an update to you, as needed."

Musselwhite said the following day a parent provided a w to the school showing students off campus with a firearm. The video was

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SCHULTZ

from page one

their fears from us children of what would happen if the Nazis found out."

Not everything was bad for the German girl, however, as Schultz and her friends were able to play outside a lot and do things other children could do.

"I spent hours daydreaming in the fields across the street, water running in the irrigation ditches of gardens beneath my feet," Schultz said. "For a while, I had a rare bicycle, which I rode into the big city to run errands. These included weekly Saturday trips to tend my father's grave."

Schultz said that German graves in that particular cemetery looked like miniature gardens, each of them with their own unique design.

"If he was available, I'd chat with a blacksmith whose shop was close to the cemetery," Schultz said. "I liked to watch him work. Besides, I knew my bicycle was safe with him around."

Schultz has always loved flowers, and they were in abundance where she lived.

Finding temporary escapes

A self-proclaimed tomboy, Schultz excelled at the local sports club, "impressing boys with my ability to jump over ditches — even in dresses — using my grandfather's bean poles as if I were pole vaulting across."

One of Schultz's friends, who eventually became a famous actress of stage and television in Germany, used to entertain the neighborhood for her birthday parties with her theatrics.

But at night, the realities of war would set back in, and Schultz was reminded of just how different her lifestyle was from those who "haven't had war on their homeland," and it could be terrifying.



Read this story online



LEFT: 'Katie' Gisela Schwantje sporting a sweater made by her mother. As was customary, Gisela received a 'Schultüte' (candy-filled cone) for this, her first day of school in Germany (April 14, 1941). Oddly, her oldest son would be born exactly 19 years later. **RIGHT:** 'Katie' Gisela's Confirmation, April 10, 1949, surrounded by friends and relatives (several of which she stays in touch with today). Gisela (14) is by the tree, decked out in a dress with a white collar. In less than ten months, Gisela's family moved to the United States.



COURTESY OF DARRELL SCHULTZ

"Every night, we were in a grocery store basement that served as our 'bomb shelter,' hearing the planes fly overhead," Schultz said. "Mothers sat along the walls in benches, arms encircling their children, while we tried to sleep before going to school the next day. Not a word was spoken. I'm pretty sure the mothers — who probably didn't sleep much — silently prayed all night."

On one occasion, Schultz said a soldier held a gun to her head.

"I couldn't understand English and what he said to me, so I laughed," Schultz said. "That startled him to the point that he put down his gun and gave me a chocolate bar instead of a bullet."

One of the more frightening incidents came when Schultz and her family were outside their home and narrowly escaped with their lives.

"I'll never forget that day that a British plane flew over our garden at the house," Schultz said. "He fired his guns at my mother, grandfather, and myself in the yard. We ran for cover.

It wasn't until 2022 that I found out I wasn't the only one in the area that had that event occur."

Schultz said there were many moments of sheer terror for her during the war, but added that those episodes helped to foster within her an attitude that endures to this day.

"God was always protecting me," Schultz said. "He had plans, and they weren't what I expected would happen, but they worked out very, very well. I was happy and remain so today, looking for the simple joys and gifts He provides instead of dwelling on the bad things life throws at all of us."

Post-war struggles

When the war was over, the struggles continued for the German citizens, and Schultz and her family were no exception.

"We were starving," Schultz said. "Some of the soldiers threw their leftover bread into a nearby pond. I'm sure they were amused to watch my brother and other boys diving into the water after it."

On the other hand, Schultz said she also experienced some incredible acts of kindness just

after the war that helped to reaffirm her faith in humanity.

"We were happy when the British and Canadian occupation forces came in," Schultz said. "They fed us school children soup. We had to bring our own little pots with a handle for those delights. The occupation forces even threw a Christmas party for us. I'll never forget that party."

While things slowly began to return to normal, the fear of retribution from one of Germany's greatest and most bitter adversaries in the war remained ever present.

"We all feared a potential Russian invasion," Schultz said. "In fact, we had packed suitcases by our beds, always next to our bed the entire war, in case we had to flee or could immigrate to America."

That day eventually came in 1950, when the Schultz family would embark on a new chapter of their lives that would present a whole new set of challenges, and yet be one of the best decisions they ever made.

Next week: *Life in America*

CHIEF

from page one

Officer of the Year and Supervisor of the Year in 2009. She retired from the Corinth PD in July 2016. But, after working as a risk manager in the private sector, she was reminded her calling is in law enforcement.

Ellis said the thing she will remember most about her time in Willow Park is "how well everyone embraced me when I got here - and the continued support."

Of her work in Willow Park, Ellis said, "You're supposed to leave it better than you found it. I hope when they remember Chief Ellis in Willow Park they remember me fondly, that I looked after the city and I hope I did that to their expectations."

Then, the ever humble Ellis, added, "Without the men and women of the police department none of this works. They deserve every accolade."

Ellis has two grown daughters in the area, along with four grandchildren - and, of course, lots of friends. So, even though she is not going to be living in Willow Park any longer, she said it will remain a part of her life.

"This is another family to me," she said. "I'm not going to tell them goodbye, just I'll see you later."

INCIDENT

from page one

turned over to the Parker County Sheriff's Dept. for investigation.

Musselwhite provided additional information to AMS parents on Feb. 23.

"As I previously shared, the Parker County Sheriff's Office is investigating an off-campus incident and a video recorded off-campus involving students and a firearm," Musselwhite wrote. "As a result of this investigation, an AMS student has been taken into custody. Due to privacy laws, I cannot share any further details of this incident."

While the information was provided to Aledo Middle School parents, no information was provided to news media until, as the result of a tip, the information was requested by *The Community News*.



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COUNCIL

from page one

At Tuesday's meeting, the council voted to name to the committee:

- Mayor Doyle Moss as chairman.
- Young.
- Place 2 Councilman Chawn Gilliland.
- Police Chief Carrie Ellis.
- Assistant Police Chief Daniel Franklin.

Grimes said once the ESD purchase becomes official, he anticipates having about two years for the police department to move into a new facility. He said he'd like to see construction underway around this time next year. He also said he believes professional services toward that means should be procured within the next 90 to 120 days.

"There's a lot of work to do," he said. "I think we could do a lot simultaneously."

Final plat approved for Country Hollow

The council approved a zoning change for the new Country Hollow residential subdivision to allow for 101 lots on 19 acres. Of these, 98 will be residential and three common lots.

The applicant, Teague, Nall and Perkins, along with property owner Scott Moehlenbrock, Red River Development, made the request of the property located south of 5720 East I-20 Service Rd. South. The property is north of Hunters Glen residential subdivision.

A minimum of fifty percent of the homes will have square footage of 1,700 to 2,000. Maximum height for all the homes is two stories.

Also, a monument sign is planned to differentiate it from Hunters Glen. The property will also include two retention ponds with a five-foot safety ledge in each, and a walking path.

The property was annexed into the City of Willow Park in October of 2021.

Budget Amendment

Following up on a discussion at the Feb. 14 meeting, the council approved a change in sales tax revenue in the current fiscal year budget. City Manager Bryan Grimes had noted that the original budgeted amount for sales tax revenue of \$1.72 million will likely be exceeded. The council subsequently increased the estimated revenue to \$2 million.

The city would need to average \$150,000 per month for the remainder of the fiscal year to

reach this amount. Currently, they are averaging \$190,000 per month.

"We feel confident we'll easily get \$2 million this fiscal year," Grimes said.

The subject was brought up on Feb. 14 in connection with un-budgeted expenses related to moving into the new city hall at 120 El Chico Tr. in January. The expenses were also added in a budget amendment, allowing for \$205,000 to cover rent, moving expenses, and related utility expenses as needed.

Police budget amended

Like many places, the City of Willow Park experienced multiple days of freezing ice and rain that resulted in shutting the city down for a period of five days in late January/early February. The storm placed an enormous strain on the police department's overtime budget, forcing them to expend 392 hours of overtime costing the department a little more than \$17,000.

Council approved covering the additional expense out of the city's general fund.

Election canceled

The council voted to cancel the May 6 election as all of the candidates are running unopposed.

Moss will retain his position as mayor, as will Gilliland on Council Place 2 and Place 1 Councilman Eric Contreras.

Proclamation

The evening began with a proclamation to Freedom House in recognition of Teen Dating Violence Dating Awareness Month, which was February. Young made the presentation to Carol Sutton of Freedom House.

On their website, freedomhousepc.org, Freedom House cites statistics that include:

- 1.3 million women are physically assaulted each year.
- 463,634 people on average are victims of rape and sexual assault each year in the U.S.
- 76% of family violence victims are female.
- 81% of women reported some form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime.
- Three out of four Americans know a victim of domestic violence.
- One in five women experience completed or attempted rape during their lifetime in the U.S.

Freedom House can be reached at 817-596-7543. The hotline number to report abuse is 817-596-8922.

Their main address is 1149 Fort Worth Hwy, Weatherford, TX. 76086.

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

Area educators receive Jack Harvey awards

Aledo ISD, Trinity Christian Academy teachers among honorees

By Crystal Woerly
Weatherford College

McAnally Middle School teacher Kate Thomas and Trinity Christian Academy's Becca Perales were among 43 teachers honored when Weatherford College held its annual Jack Harvey Academy of Exemplary Teachers celebration on Friday, Feb. 10, in the Emerging Technologies and Workforce Building.

Celebrating its 27th year, the Harvey Academy honors exemplary teachers in memory of Professor Emeritus Jack Harvey, who taught at WC for 23 years and was considered among his peers as a "master teacher."

This year's keynote speaker was Shelley Jeoffroy, the 2023 Texas Teacher of the Year, a fifth-grade math teacher at Otis Brown Elementary School in Irving. Jeoffroy is a WC alumna who completed her Bachelor of Arts in English and Biology and graduate school at the University of Texas in Arlington.

Jeoffroy has served in a multitude of leadership roles during her 18-year career, including traveling to Kenya, Peru, Mexico and Morocco to serve students directly.

Thomas was nominated by McAnally Middle School Principal Josh Jenkins.

"When I think of an exemplary professional educator, I think of Kate Thomas," Jenkins wrote in his nomination. "Kate ensures that all her students learn at high levels. Her classroom is engaging and fun but also demanding. Kate builds outstanding relationships, even with the most difficult middle school students. She is a



COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

Trinity Christian Academy teacher Becca Perales was a recipient of the 2023 Jack Harvey Award.



COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

McAnally Middle School teacher Kate Thomas was a recipient of the 2023 Jack Harvey Award.

teacher leader who leads by example and in her own commitment to developing her professional practice. She is a reflective practitioner and regularly adjusts her practice to help fulfill her students' needs. Most importantly, though, Kate is an amazing human being with a kind heart and a positive outlook. The students and all her colleagues benefit from her presence."

The TCA nomination of Perales, who teaches first grade, said: "Perales

is exemplary because she is dedicated to a high level of academic excellence for her students and herself. Perales is an expert in phonics-based reading instruction, caring classroom management and exciting student-centered lessons which engage all levels of learning in her classroom. Perales is a caring teacher who exemplifies God's love in all that she does. She has been at TCA for 12 years, and we pray that she remains for many more!"

Visit the web link for a full list of honorees.



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Mail:

P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008

Physical:

1015 Champions Drive, Aledo, TX

Phone:

817-441-7661

Web:

www.community-news.com

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Randy Keck

rkeck@community-news.com

Direct Line: 817-386-1469

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Loydale Schmid

lschmid@community-news.com

Direct Line: 817-386-1467

CIRCULATION

Barbara Russell

brussell@community-news.com

PAGE AND AD DESIGN

Laura Finer

BUSINESS ASSISTANT

Emma Davis

DELIVERIES

Reagan Tomlin

EDITORIAL STAFF AND CONTRIBUTORS

Rick Mauch - News and Sports

Ryan Wade - News and Sports

Chris Amos - Features/Photography

Breleigh Mayer - Photography

Kristin Morales - Photography

Kathy Chruscielski - Photography

Kirstin Gallon - Photography

John English - Features

CONTACT POINTS

Business and Billing

billing@community-news.com

Pay bills at community-news.com/billpay/

Ad Design Materials

production@community-news.com

Purchase Advertising

lschmid@community-news.com

Legal Notices

legal@community-news.com

Subscription Questions

business@community-news.com

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Announcements, News, Obituaries

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www.community-news.com/submissions/

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Photos submitted should include names of the people in the photograph.

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.

Capital Highlights

Street takeover spurs governor's action



Gary Borders

gborders@texaspress.com

Gov. Greg Abbott has created a statewide task force after several "street takeovers" recently took place in Austin in which motorists obstructed intersections, shot off fireworks and drove recklessly.

Videos posted after the events showed vehicles doing donuts, crowds gathering around intersections, and people setting off fireworks, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

Seven people were arrested in the incidents, which occurred at four Austin intersections.

Abbott directed the Texas Department of Public Safety to investigate the events and "target the organized crime aspect" of the events, according to The Dallas Morning News.

"We are seeing fireworks fired at officers in crowds, lasers pointed at aircraft, drivers driving upwards of 130 miles per hour with no lights on in the dark of night — all of it is reckless, and it needs to be stopped," DPS Director Steve McCraw said.

Additional arrests are expected, law enforcement officials said.

TxDOT proposes \$100 billion transportation plan

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing a record \$100 billion, 10-year transportation plan to improve congestion, increase safety and maintain the state's roadways. That's a \$15 billion increase over the original plan and comes after record projected revenue for the state, generated by oil and gas fees that are dedicated to highway projects.

The latest plan would increase funding in a number of

areas, including "safety, energy sector, rural and urban connectivity, border infrastructure, maintenance and preservation," according to a TxDOT statement.

"Safety is a top priority for TxDOT, and these funding levels reflect that," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said.

TxDOT now has more than \$33 billion in transportation projects under construction throughout the state. More than 7,000 projects are either underway or scheduled to break ground this year.

Bills would ban COVID restrictions

A trio of bills by state Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham, would address Gov. Greg Abbott's calls to end COVID-related restrictions put in place as the pandemic began in 2020.

"This legislation is aimed at preventing future repeats of these controversial public health measures, which did little to slow the spread of the virus and did serious damage to the economy and education systems," Kolkhorst said in a statement, as reported by the Statesman.

The measures, if passed, would codify executive measures issued by Abbott in 2021 that prohibited employer or governmental COVID-19 mandates requiring people to wear masks or to be vaccinated.

Since Abbott has made the COVID-19 package an emergency measure, it bypasses many of the rules put in place by the state constitution to slow passage of legislation, the Statesman reported.

Senate revives effort to make illegal voting a felony

After lowering the penalty for illegal voting to a misdemeanor in 2021, leaders in the Texas Senate appear poised to again raise the penalty to a second-degree felony, the Texas Tribune reported.

Legislation filed by state Sen. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola,

would also modify the standard for determining a person's intent to vote illegally.

Current law says a person commits a crime if they "knowingly or intentionally" vote or attempt to vote and know they are not eligible. Under Hughes' bill, the language changes that to say anyone who votes or attempts to vote in an election in which "the person knows of a particular circumstance that makes the person not eligible to vote" could be charged.

That means, for example, that someone who knows they are not a U.S. citizen but did not know they were ineligible to vote could still be prosecuted. An attorney with the Texas Civil Rights Project criticized the proposed change as a "very nasty and very potentially consequential provision."

"That is why this intent requirement exists, because it's not fair for people to go to jail for good-faith mistakes," attorney James Slattery said.

State could foot AG office's legal bill

A \$3.3 million settlement of a whistleblower complaint filed against the Texas attorney general's office should be paid by the state and not personally by Attorney General Ken Paxton, an agency attorney said. The AG's chief of general litigation told lawmakers that the agency, not Paxton personally, is the defendant under the Texas Whistleblower Act, and that taking the case to trial would cost even more.

"The agreement itself is contingent on legislative funding," he said. "It's a settlement that we made in order to save money for the state of Texas. It was the prudent thing to do to minimize litigation risk," Chris Hilton of the AG's office said, according to kut.org.

However, House Speaker Dade Phelan has said he does not support using taxpayer dollars for the settlement. Abbott

has said "this is an issue that the attorney general is going to have to fully explain to both the House and the Senate."

TEA releases teacher vacancy recommendations

A task force appointed last year by the Texas Education Agency has released its recommendations to address the teacher and staff vacancy crisis in Texas, as record numbers of both leave the education field in the wake of the pandemic and other issues.

The Teacher Vacancy Task Force, established last March, was comprised of teachers and school system leaders from across the state. The recommendations include:

- A significant increase in overall teacher salaries
- Enhancing teachers' total compensation package, including reducing cost of health care insurance.
- Provide incentives and support for hard-to-staff areas, such as special education and bilingual education teachers.
- Improve the pipeline and pre-service preparation of novice teachers.
- Expand training and support for teacher mentorship.
- Provide access and support for high-quality instructional materials.
- Demonstrate respect and value for teacher time.
- School culture and discipline supports.

The task force urged the Legislature to increase funding for teacher salaries, noting the state ranks 28th in the nation for average teacher salary.

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.



Read this story online

State Representative Update

Mothers and Fathers of Texas Education



Dr. Glenn Rogers

glenn.rogers@house.texas.gov

"Cultivated mind is the guardian genius of democracy..."

These are the wise words of Mirabeau B. Lamar, President of the Republic of Texas from 1838-1841. This phrase helped inspire the Texas Legislature to do something great for future generations. Even as a proud Texas Aggie, I appreciate, as Texas Longhorns may recognize, the motto and Latin version of this quote, *Disciplina Praesidium Civitatis*.

Lamar knew how to fortify Texas for years to come: Teach our children. He advocated to endow public lands in order to create a public education system in every county; an endeavor that came to fruition well after his death and earned him the title "The Father of Texas Education."

Texas is blessed to have free schools statewide and it is the duty of the legislature to ensure education is effective. As Texans, we expect our children's learning experiences to be safe,

fair, and of high quality. On the local level, education should be a partnership between students, teachers, school administrators, and most importantly, parents.

An educational partnership can only be successful if parents are afforded certain rights. Parents deserve access to scholastic material their children are provided. Parents deserve the ability to meet with teachers and principals about their child.

Parents deserve to be heard by local school boards.

Parents should be allowed to request a change of class or teacher. A parent is entitled to every written document concerning their student. Parents should be allowed to observe learning sessions involving their children. Fundamentally, schools should never prevent a parent from exercising any of these rights.

In the media, discussions of parental rights are more prevalent than ever before. Politicians seek to win the approval of parents by pledging to fight for these rights. The topic is on the minds of many conservatives, and rightfully so.

Yet, there is good news that the media is not reporting and is conveniently overlooked. In Texas, these rights are lawfully

Turn to **EDUCATION**, page 6



5 APPS THAT Track & Protect TEENS

By Liz McGehee

Just like the training wheels you place on your child's bike, phone monitoring apps help you protect and guide your child through the modern, technological world. Unfortunately, it's all too easy for teens to be targeted by predators on social media and online chat rooms. Most teens also fail to recognize that what they post online now can come back to haunt them in 10 years. As a parent, it's your job to help them navigate the world, and these 5 apps let you do just that:



1 THE PHONE SHERIFF (\$7.50/month)

Features: Real time GPS; shows downloaded apps, imessages/texts, contacts, photos, internet and call history; can restrict phone and tablet usage; block specific numbers. **Compatibility:** iPhone, Android and BlackBerry.

2 RETHINK (Free)

Features: stops cyberbullying; non-intrusive; uses context sensitive filtering to determine potentially offensive posts then gives the teen a chance to rethink their decision; 93% of the time teens change their posts; offensive messages reduced from 71% to 4%; Global Finalist for the MIT Aristotle Award **Compatibility:** iPhone and Android

3 MAMABEAR (Free)

Features: 24/7 family newsfeed and map; automatic check-in when they get to school, work and home so they don't have to text when they get there; know when they exceed the speed limit while driving; family messaging, photo sharing, like Facebook but more private; emergency panic button that alerts parents to the child's location. **Compatibility:** iPhone and Android

4 LIFESAVER (Free)

Features: vetted by the DMV; passcode lock to prevent tampering; provides automatic scoring, rewarding, arrival notifications and in-drive status; monthly driving stats, fast auto-detection of driving without hardware; emergency call and Passenger unlock with notifications; automatic arrival notifications; family views that avoid calling or texting loved ones that are driving, part of the 4Parents solution protecting families on the go. **Compatibility:** iPhone and Android

5 MOTOSAFETY (\$20/month)

Features: Easy installation, rates driver performance; monitors safe driving behaviors, shows location in real time; generates alerts for speeding and more; signals unauthorized usage; maintenance reminders. **Compatibility:** iPhone and Android ■



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EDUCATION

from page 4

afforded to every parent. In the “Texas Election Code, Title 2. Public Education, Subtitle E. Students and Parents, Chapter 26. Parental Rights and Responsibilities,” each and every one of these wonderful rights mentioned above are protected. Numerous parental rights have been secured for decades. Throughout the years, the legislature has amended the code and continuously improved these rights.

In the code, it states “Parents shall be encouraged to actively participate in creating and implementing educational programs for their children.” Our students deserve the best education, which means parents and schools must take advantage of the partnership and

rights the Great State of Texas has given us all.

Significant Parental Rights are in the Texas education code; but what about “School Choice?” Texas already has one of the most robust “school choice” systems for parents in the nation. Between open-enrollment public schools, private schools, charter schools, home-schools, and online learning, parents have plenty of available options to place their child wherever they see fit.

A hundred-and-eighty-five years after Mirabeau B. Lamar earned his title, parents should also lay claim to their title: “MOTHERS and FATHERS of Texas Education.”

Glenn Rogers is the representative for Texas House District 60, which includes Parker County.



Read this story online

McKay promoted in Army Reserve

Special to The Community News

Ethan McKay Taylor has been promoted to the rank of sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Taylor is a 2015 graduate of Aledo High School and a graduate of Tarrant County College of Aviation. He is with Alpha Company 7th Battalion 158th General Support Aviation Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas.

Taylor is employed by the U.S. Department of Defense at the Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth. He is the son of Mrs. Jeremy Gossett and is the grandson of Ron and Dorothy Wood of Aledo, and great-grandson of Loweda Wood.



Read this story online



Aledo's competitive high school robotics teams hosted 33 teams from North Texas in a day-long FIRST Tech Challenge Power Play competition.

RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

ALEDO ISD

Robotics teams functioning optimally

Hosted competition and competed

Aledo's competitive high school robotics teams hosted the largest event of the regular season at the Daniel Ninth Grade Center on Saturday, Jan. 21, when 33 teams from North Texas participated in a day-long FIRST Tech Challenge Power Play competition.

Teams made a presentation to a panel of judges summarizing their team's engineering and outreach activities in the morning, and then played in head to head matches for the rest of the day.

In addition to hosting, the Aledo teams also participated in the competition. All of the teams performed very well both on and

off the field. Teams 20325, Maximum Resistance, and 9161, Overload, scored highly enough to advance to the semi-final rounds of the competition.

Team 9161 received second place for the Design Award and third place for the Innovate Award. Team 20325 earned first place for the Control Award and third place for the Think Award. Team 6566, Circuit Breakers, was awarded third place in the Connect Award category.

All teams competed at the Semi-Regional Tournament in Arlington on Feb. 18.


Team 20325, Maximum Resistance finished fifth out of 40 teams and captained a semi-finals alliance. They were also awarded the second place Innovate award for their robot design.




Read this story online

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

MARCH 25
AdvoCats Run, Walk, or Crawl
The Aledo Children's AdvoCats have announced that the annual Run, Walk, or Crawl Glow Run will be held Saturday, March 25, at Bearcat Stadium. The Glow Run is a nighttime fun run in the heart of Aledo that raises money for the programs of the AdvoCats. Participants in the Glow Run can choose to participate in a 1K or a 5K race that begins and ends at the Aledo High School track. Additional event information will be provided as available. For more information, visit <https://aledo-advocats.com/index.php/advocats-rwc/>.



p.m. on Friday, March 31, at the Hilton Downtown in Fort Worth. Live entertainment will be provided by Lonestar. The event will feature live and silent auctions, a three-course meal, an open bar, and complimentary valet parking. Tickets range from \$3,000 for a table of 10 \$15,500 for platinum investor. To purchase tickets, make a donation, or browse auction items, visit <https://one.bidpal.net/bnb2023/welcome>.

MARCH 31
Bearcats 'n Boots
The Aledo Education Foundation will present its annual Bearcats 'n Boots gala fundraiser from 6-10



APRIL 15
Weatherford College Flute Festival
Weatherford College will host its second annual



Flute Festival from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 15 in the Alike Fine Arts Center at Weatherford College.

Guest artists are Stephen Clark and Greg Patillo. Registration is free. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3ClikX4>. For a Spotify playlist, visit <https://bit.ly/3IP7piy>.

EVENT SUBMISSIONS
Send event submissions to events@community-news.com

ACROSS

- TXism: "he's holding all the ___" (in control)
- boot underside
- shoe, Texas
- West Texas climate
- "keep a stiff upper ___"
- TXism: "fits like scales ___ fish"
- golfing mistake
- many diets call for this (2 wds.)
- wax your car, e.g.
- TX Larry Hagman 1960s sitcom: "I ___ Jeannie"
- the first King Ranch land was purchased for 2-cents
- TXism: "cowboy ___" (jukebox)
- flower stalk
- "if I ___ then what I know"
- electrical installation in a house, e.g.
- Marie Osmond's "___ Wanted You"
- long-tailed parrot
- end result of a terrorist situation? (2 wds.)
- TX Dan Jenkins novel (hyphenated)
- TX Ty who was a skating cowboy in "Mighty Ducks" films
- type of drilling used at Spindletop (2 wds.)
- Benny of UH's "Phi Slama Jama"

DOWN

- TXism: "cautious as a big bone:"
- Elgin newspaper
- sets of dots indicating omission of words in writing
- what you spit when eating a watermelon
- film with TX-born Steve Martin: "All ___" (1984)
- renown Texas poet (3 wds.)
- agcy. that tried to serve a warrant on Branch Davidians near Waco in 1993
- pamperin' place
- Texas bars/dance halls (2 wds.)
- Rock of 1956 Texas epic "Giant" (init.)
- song "___! San Antone"
- vehicle sideways slide
- ___ City, Texas
- parent to child: "because ___ so"
- certain sandwiches
- agreeable head movement
- TX Willie has lived 89 of these (abbr.)
- TX Oliver, a DT for the Buffalo Bills
- Ladd of 1957 film "The Big Land" about Texas cattle
- "___ work if you can get it"
- once an FM in Childress, TX
- admission test for any Texas college
- TXism: "___ two-steps to his own beat" (individualist)
- dir. from Canyon to Friona
- Spurs star power forward, Duncan
- historical periods
- slang for a Japanese car
- feel love for
- TX Roy Orbison's "___, Pretty Woman"
- TXism: "___ hill for a stepper"
- "___ and behold"
- TXism: "a sight ___ sore eyes"
- "I don't ___ it" (don't believe it)
- when hungry, ___ a bite at Whataburger"
- populous South Asia country disadvantaged
- a fish in brackish water of East Texas
- helper to a teacher (abbr.)
- 19th governor of Texas: ___ Ross
- this Perry pitched for the Rangers
- garage sale deal (2 wds.)
- Dak scores (abbr.)

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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BASEBALL

Taylor's no-hitter highlights Bearcats' 5-1 record in Southwest Ford Classic

Twin brothers in 1-2 spots on the field

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

It may not have been what most would consider baseball weather when the Aledo Bearcats' 2023 season got underway over the weekend with the Southwest Ford Classic. Aledo braved the cold along with six foes on the diamond and found a way to get off to a hot start as they went 5-1 from Feb. 23-25.

The weekend included a no-hit pitching performance from Luke Taylor while his twin brother Dylan was catching.

On the mound, Bearcat hurlers were dominant throughout. Matthew Clark and Luke Saunders tossed a combined shutout against Nacogdoches in the final game of the night on Friday, Feb. 24.

Luke Taylor followed up that performance with an

absolute gem of his own to start the day on Saturday, Feb. 25, against Arlington Martin. Taylor threw a complete game no-hitter against the Warriors with his twin brother, Dylan Taylor, catching behind the plate.

"I can't sing [Luke Taylor's] praises any more than I already have," said Bearcat head coach Chad Barry after the no-hitter. "The way he commanded the zone, he just seemed to get stronger as the game went on. I thought it was pretty neat with him throwing and his twin brother catching. I thought that was a unique deal for both of those kids being seniors."

Aledo outscored the opposition 37-17 as the offense, led by Trace Mazon, came alive early and often to get the season underway. In his first five games this season, Mazon is hitting .667. He's collected 10 hits in 15 at bats with a pair of doubles, a triple, three stolen bases, five runs scored, six RBI's, a walk,

a pair of hit-by-pitches, and zero strikeouts.

In the first game of the season against Chisholm Trail, the Bearcats lit up the scoreboard all throughout the middle innings. Down 1-0 early, Aledo scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the second, third, and fourth innings before tacking on one more in the bottom of the fifth to seal the 7-3 victory.

Aledo's diamond dogs trailed late in Game 2 against Timber Creek before a five-run fifth inning put the Bearcats up 9-5, closing the door on the visiting team.

Game 3 got out of hand early as the Bearcats rallied for seven runs in the first inning en route to an 11-1 win over Birdville.

The Bearcats won the battle of the ice box in a frigid Friday night contest against Nacogdoches. Aledo used three singles, a trio of walks, and a defensive error by the visiting team to put five runs on the board in the bottom of the first. That's where the



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Luke Taylor is swarmed by his teammates following his complete game, no-hitter against Arlington Martin on Saturday, Feb. 25. The Bearcats won the game 2-1.

game stayed until the final out.

Luke Taylor's first inning in near-freezing temperatures on the bump for Aledo started off almost as gloomy as

the day itself. Struggling with his command early, Taylor hit the two and three-hole hitters to put runners on first and second with one gone. A wild pitch allowed both runners to

advance a base into scoring position before a sac fly to right center drove in a run for Martin. With two away, he

Turn to **NO-HITTER**, page 11

SOCCER

Aledo teams send Rough Riders off into the sunset

Bearcats, Ladycats come away with wins

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

With the district season winding down, both Aledo soccer teams continue to hold onto playoff spots following their latest wins over the visiting Rough Riders from Saginaw on Friday, Feb. 24.

The Bearcats took care of business in the early match as they pulled off a 3-2 win. Their 4-3-1 record in District 5-5A action (10-4-5 overall) has Aledo currently sitting in third place in the standings with three district matchups remaining on the schedule.

In the nightcap, the Ladycats lost their leading scorer, Sydney Mcguire, early due to a knee injury. They battled valiantly in honor of their fallen teammate as they secured their second shutout in a row, winning 2-0. Aledo sits squarely in second place in the District 5-5A rankings, boasting a 7-2 district record (13-5-2 overall).

"We've got to win out," Ladycats head coach Bryan Johnson emphasized. "That's the goal. These girls overcame a lot tonight. With [Mcguire] going down less than five minutes into the game, that affects every one of them, because they all want her out there."

Turn to **SOCCER**, page 12



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Sydney Mcguire chases down a Saginaw player during the Ladycats 2-0 shutout on Friday, Feb. 24.

GOLF

Bearcats win own tourney

By Rick Mauch
Community News

Led by Braylon Mahaney's top medalist performance, the Aledo Bearcats Black Team won the championship of the Bearcat Brawl, played Feb. 24-25 at Split Rail and Squaw Creek golf courses.

The boys played the first day at Squaw Creek and the second at Split Rail. The girls played a reverse schedule with Split Rail first and Squaw Creek second.

The Bearcat Orange Team placed third as did the Ladycats, playing in the event for the first time. Argyle and Mansfield finished first and second among the girls.

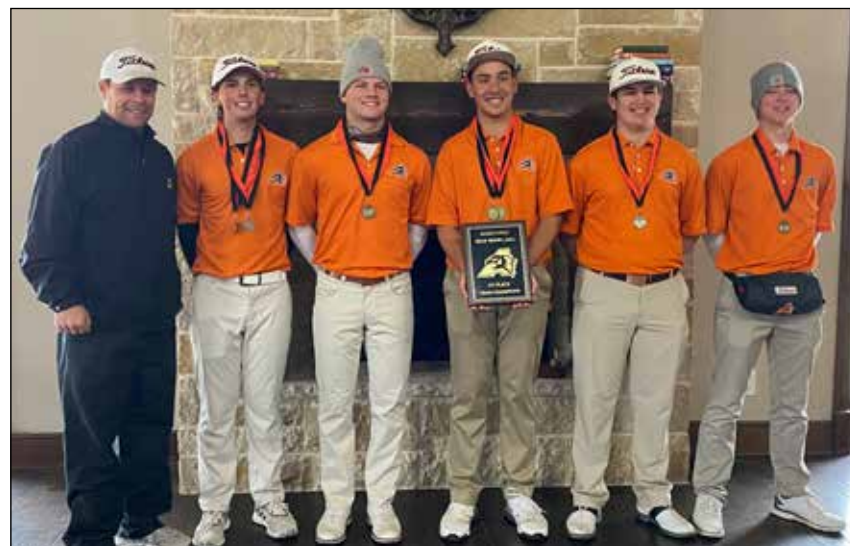
Aledo Black shot a 604 over two days, outdistancing runner-up Brock's 638. The Bearcats opened with a 295 and followed with a 309.

Mahaney fired a two-day total of 144 to take low medalist honors, shooting one-over-par 72 at Squaw Creek and even-par 72 at Split Rail. His teammate, Bryce Wolf, was third individually with a 150 (74-76).

Also for Aledo Black, Jake Phillips shot 153 (74-79), Jett Moore posted a 157 (75-82), and Logan Ban came in with a 178 (93-85).

Aledo Orange finished with a 649 (319-330), led by Helton Mossiello's 157 (79-78). Dylan Kiser had a 161 (77-84), Braden Stokes a 162 (82-80), Ethan Elmore a 179 (91-88), and Cade Moore a 180 (81-99).

Turn to **TOURNEY**, page 9



DALIA SMITH/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Aledo Bearcats Black Team won the championship of the Bearcat Brawl, played Feb. 24-25 at Split Rail and Squaw Creek golf courses. Shown are (from left) Coach Brian Mourning, Bryce Wolf, Jake Phillips, Braylon Mahaney, Jett Moore, and Logan Ban.



DALIA SMITH/SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Bearcats Orange team placed third at the Bearcat Brawl. Shown are (from left) Coach Brian Mourning, Helton Mossiello, Ethan Elmore, Dylan Kiser, Cade Moore, and Braden Stokes.

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FOOTBALL

Allen de-commits from Texas

Keeping options open

By Rick Mauch
Community News

Aledo Bearcats junior defensive back Jaden Allen has de-committed from the University of Texas Longhorns football team, he confirmed Monday.



Jaden Allen

Allen, a third-team all-state selection by the Texas Sports Writers Association, had committed to the Longhorns more than a year ago following his sophomore season. He is the younger brother of 2022 UT signee Bryan Allen Jr. and is considered a four-star recruit and one of the top high school defensive backs in the nation.

"I just wasn't 100% sure," Allen said of his de-commitment, adding that he hasn't ruled out still playing for the Longhorns. "I'm still considering going there."

The 5-foot, 9-inch, 150-pounder posted 41 tackles this past season,

including 34 solo. He also had three interceptions in helping the Bearcats to their 11th state championship in team history, defeating College Station 52-14 in December at AT&T Stadium for the 5A Division I title.

Allen's de-commitment brings back into play a host of other schools that are waiting with offers of their own. They include perennial power Alabama, along with LSU, USC, Mississippi State, Michigan State, and others.

Already at Alabama from Aledo is former Aledo standout running back Jase McClellan.

When asked what he is looking for mostly in whatever school he chooses, Allen said, "I just want a good connection with the coaches and for them to want me as much as I want to be there."

Allen has been a key part of the varsity program ever since he was a freshman. In 2020 he won a 5A Division II state title alongside his brother in a 56-21 finals victory against Crosby.



Read this story online

TOURNEY

from page 8

Madison Warner paced the Ladycats with a 166 (84-82), while Mallory Miller shot 169 (95-74). As a team Aledo shot 688 (361-327).

Also, Emily Crick had a 173 (90-83), and Sanaa Lemen (93-89) and Kyla Morales (94-88) each finished with a 182.

The four lowest individual scores in each round comprise the team score.

"The girls struggled on day one but fought back on Day 2," noted coach Brian Mourning. "I'm proud of both teams, especially the girls, for bouncing back on Day 2 to place. Mallory Miller's 74 on Day 2 was great to see. Madison Warner also had a great tournament.

"The boys (Aledo Black) jumped out to a Day 1 lead and continued the great play on Saturday. Aledo Orange also played well on Day 2."

The Bearcats are playing in the 5A State Preview at White Wing Golf Club in Georgetown this weekend,

March 3-4. The Ladycats return to play in the Regional Preview March 10-11 at Rawls Golf Course in Lubbock.

Junior varsity

The Bearcats placed first at the Saginaw Invitational, while the Ladycats took second in their respective divisions at The Resort at Eagle Mountain on Feb. 27.

The Bearcats shot a 348, led by low medalist Gavin Beard's 79. Playing only as a medalist, Brian Yarbrough was second, shooting a tiebreaker but losing a tiebreaker.

Also for the Bearcats, Johnnie Reed, 87; Maddux Jessup, 89; William Kirkman, 93; and Eli Snead, 94.

The Ladycats had a team score of 426 with Aubrey Morin placing third individually with a 101. Also, Catherine Haney shot 102, Harper Price 105 and Chandler Edwards 118.



Read this story online

TRACK AND FIELD

Bearcats run away from field at Haltom

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

The Aledo Bearcats remained perfect in regular-season track meets over the past two seasons, easily topping the field in the Haltom Hays Relays on Thursday, Feb. 23. It was the eighth consecutive regular-season meet Aledo has won.

They also won a postseason meet in 2022, capturing an area championship.

"For a windy and cold meet the kids ran great, competed well in the poor conditions," said first-year coach Andrew Clark.

Hauss Hejny and Aven Lawrence each won three gold medals for Aledo as part of the three winning relays. Vincent Luffey and Evan Thompson won two individual golds.

In all, Aledo captured 10 gold medals, one silver and four bronze.

The Bearcats are competing in the Northwest meet Friday, March 3 before hosting the Bearcat Relays on Thursday, March 9.

"This week will be our toughest invitation meet of the season," Clark said, noting temperatures with a high in the mid-50s and a 70% chance of rain forecast. "We need to run well and get healthy to keep the streak alive."

Haltom Hays Relays • Thursday, Feb. 23

Aledo Varsity Boys
Team score: 180, first place.

Top individual results (distances in meters)
400: 3. Nathan Wood, 53.55.
800: 1. Vincent Luffey, 2:00.22 (PR).
1600: 1. Jack Fink, 4:41.48 (PR).
3200: 1. Luffey, 9:49.79 (PR); 3. Fink, 10:02.00.
110 Hurdles: 1. Evan Thompson, 16.23.
300 Hurdles: 1. Thompson, 44.34.
400 Relay: 1. Keiran Patrick-Daniels, Hauss Hejny, Jaden Allen, Aven Lawrence, 42.92.
800 Relay: 1. Blake Burdine, Hejny, Patrick-Daniels, Lawrence, 1:30.73.
1600 Relay: 1. Wood, Burdine, Lawrence, Hejny, 3:32.69.
Shot put: 1. Isaac Sohn, 44-09.50; 3. Carson Dempsey, 42-07 (PR).

Pole vault: 1. Sean Gribble, 15-0; 2. Brad Campbell, 14-06; 3. Braylon Brown, 13-0.

Junior Varsity Boys

Team score: 181, first place
Top individual results
400: 1. Adam Everett, 54.50 (PR); 2. Jacob Gillespie, 56.79.
800: 2. Trey Warner, 2:13.44 (PR).
1600: 3. Luke Schabel, 5:05.13.
3200: 1. Schabel, 10:41.14 (PR).
400 Relay: 2. Raycene Guillory, Caden Hix, Ben McElree, Dahvon Keys, 45.32.
800 Relay: 2. Lawson Stewart, Hix, McElree, Keys, 1:37.16.
1600 Relay: 1. Gillespie, Cory Tilley, Jackson Parker, Christopher Johnson, 3:45.02.
Shot put: 1. Cody Cartwright, 39-04 (PR); 2. Alex Arana, 37-10.
Discus: 1. Waldron Byars, 112-07 (PR); 2. Christian Sandoval, 110-03 (PR); 3. MatthewNestor, 104-00 (PR).
Pole vault: 2. Thaddeus Keller, 11-06 (PR); 3. Evan Murdock, 10-00 (PR).
Long jump: 1. Kaydon Finley, 18-10 (PR).



Read this story online

TRACK AND FIELD

Ladycats win Haltom Relays

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Competing for the first time in all events this season, the Aledo Ladycats dominated competition at the Haltom Hays Relays on Thursday, Feb. 23.

The Ladycats scored 193 points to easily outdistance runner-up Eules Trinity with 110.

"Great day for the Aledo Ladycat track team!" said an excited coach Mike Pinkerton, adding, "Even in the cold wind, kids are really competing well. The best news, we are only going to get better. Tough meet this week, and once again much cooler on Friday."

The Ladycats won eight gold medals, seven silver and two bronze en route to the title. Emery Thompson, Sofia Brandenburg, and Sarah Tillotson led with two gold medals each.

The Ladycats were coming off a second-place finish at the Kangaroo

Relays on Feb. 16. However, they did not field a full contingent in all events.

The Ladycats and Bearcats are competing at Northwest Friday, March 3 before hosting the Bearcat relays Thursday, March 9.

The weather forecast at press time for Friday called for a high of 55 degrees with a 70% chance of thunderstorms.

Haltom Hays Relays • Thursday, Feb. 23

Aledo Varsity Girls
Team score: 193, first place.

Top individuals (distances in meters)
400: 1. Emery (Tiny) Thompson, 1:01.09.
800: 1. Sofia Brandenburg, 2:19.44 (PR); 2. Sarah Tillotson, 2:20.64 (PR).
1600: 1. Brandenburg, 5:22.64; 2. Molly Garrison, 5:25.91.
3200: 2. Liz Griffin, 12:07.66 (PR).
100 Hurdles: 2. S. Thompson, 17.84; 3. Natalie Anderson, 18.59.
300 Hurdles: 1. Sa. Tillotson, 48.59.

1600 Relay: 1. Sidney Tillotson, E. Thompson, Sa. Tillotson, Addison Smith, 4:14.90.
Discus: 2. Taylor Paetzold, 87-00.
High jump: 1. Taylor McKenzie, 4-10.
Pole vault: 1. Taylor Hindman, 12-01 (PR); 2. Maggie Kilburn, 10-06; Austyn Johnson, 9-06 (PR).
Triple jump: 1. S. Thompson, 33-04 (PR); 2. Victoria Crews, 33-01.

Junior varsity

Team score: 121, fourth place.
Top individuals
400: 1. Jady N Rowls, 1:04.10; 2. Mykel Murry, 1:05.14.
800: 2. Sadie Williams, 2:43.29 (PR).
1600: 3. Williams, 6:16.63 (PR).
3200: 2. Sophia Frank, 13:34.86 (PR).
1600 Relay: 1. Rawls, Taelynn Price, Joanna Zenteno, Murray, 4:28.88.
Shot put: 3. Haley Farmer, 26-06.50.
Discus: 2. Jailyn Cherry, 80-03 (PR).
Pole vault: 1. Claire Campbell, 9-00 (PR).



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March 3, 2023
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BANKRUPTCY SALE, Fort Worth. 50,000± SF Data Center/Flex/Warehouse, 9100 NW U.S. HWY 287. Bid deadline Mar. 23. Built 2018 w/ \$6.7M in upgrades, expansive warehouse, 13.7± AC with 6.6± AC for expansion, 22 drive-in doors & 2 loading docks, heavy power (10 MW electric), modern 2-story office space, leased 5,000± SF storage warehouse. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstate.com.

EVENT
RUN WITH SAM 5K – SAT., MARCH 4, Sam Houston State University Campus, Lot Z2-5 17th St. & Bobby K Marks Dr., Huntsville, TX. Check in: 7-7:45 a.m. Race begins at 8 a.m. \$20 Pre-registration at www.RunWithSam.org, \$25 day of race. Email: runwithsam1793@gmail.com.

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The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision



Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023 by 3 p.m. CST
Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105

All proposals and scope or work will need to include materials, equipment, and labor for 10 new wood frame homes. Proposals must be received in a sealed envelope labeled: CONSTRUCTION OF 10 NEW HOMES IN THE VEGA LAND SUBDIVISION. A performance and payment bond will be required for this project. All proposals should be sent/delivered to: PURCHASING DEPARTMENT, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Government Building, 2212 Rosita Valley Rd., Eagle Pass, Texas 78852

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Bear Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant – Phase I Improvements and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

12:00 Noon, Friday March 17, 2023

And publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to mariaf@barronstark.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Bear Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

A performance bond, payment bond, and maintenance bond in the amount of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon payment of all persons supplying labor or furnishing materials **WILL** be required by the Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Rio Vista Off-Site Sanitary Sewer Improvements to include approximately 2500 linear feet of twelve inch sanitary sewer line and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

12:00 Noon, Friday March 17, 2023

And publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to mariaf@barronstark.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Rio Vista Off-Site Sanitary Sewer Improvements.

A performance bond, payment bond, and maintenance bond in the amount of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon payment of all persons supplying labor or furnishing materials **WILL** be required by the Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

ALEDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT-RISK SERVICES,
ONE-STEP PROCESS

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Government Code Chapter 2269, Subchapter F, it is the intention of the Aledo ISD to select a Construction Manager At-Risk (CMAR), via a one-step Request for Proposal (RFP) process, for the potential construction of an Elementary School (Project), pending the outcome of the District's May 6, 2023 bond election.

Aledo ISD is seeking a CMAR at this time for the construction of the Elementary School to avoid any delay in the Project's planning and construction if voters approve the bond election in May. If voters do not approve the bond election in May, Aledo ISD will not proceed with the construction portion of the Elementary School, and the CMAR's services on this Project will be limited to the completion of the preconstruction portion of the work.

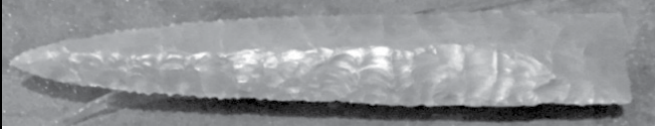
Information and documentation concerning the RFP may be found on the Business Office Purchasing page of the Aledo ISD website: <https://www.aledoisd.org/Page/4288>. Questions regarding the RFP must be directed in writing via email to Mr. Chris Campbell, Aledo ISD Chief Facilities and Construction Officer, at ccampbell@aledoisd.org.

Sealed responses marked "CMAR Request for Proposal 23-030323" will be received until 2:00 PM CST on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at the Aledo ISD Administration Building, 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, Texas 76008.

All responses must be received prior to the above stated time and date. Late responses will be returned unopened.

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SOFTBALL

Ladycats face another week of tough competition

Open district with win over Rider

By Rick Mauch
Community News

Continuing to run the gauntlet of tough competition to start the season, the Aledo Ladycats won three, lost three, and tied a game last week, which including six games in the Mansfield Tournament Feb. 23-25.

“We definitely have been playing high caliber teams of late. These games are meant to expose our weaknesses, and we feel that’s just what they have done,” Ladycats coach Heather Myers said.

“We are excited to focus on these things and work through them so that we can be better as we move forward in our season. Very thankful to have a team who wants to compete against some of the best. They are gritty to say the least.”

The Ladycats, 9-4-1 on the season, have played a schedule that has included some of the top teams in Texas, including numerous at the Class 6A level. The Ladycats are hoping such a schedule will result in getting one more victory at state this season, and with it a championship.

Two years ago Aledo fell in the state final and last season they lost in the semifinals.

Prior to the tournament last week, the Ladycats made a trip to Waco Midway to face the No. 6 ranked Class 6A team in the state. They let a 5-3 lead slip away late in a 6-5 loss.

In the tournament, Aledo began with an 11-1 win over V.R. Eaton, followed by a two-hit shutout by pitcher Nathalie Touchet in an 8-0 win over Burleson on Thursday. Friday, they dropped a 4-2 contest to Keller and tied Mansfield 4-4. Saturday, Touchet pitched a three-hitter in a 10-3 victory against Boswell before Mansfield Lake Ridge blanked the Ladycats 7-0 on a one-hitter by their pitcher Avery Hoang.

District opener

The Ladycats made short work of visiting Wichita Falls Rider Tuesday, Feb. 28, winning their District 5-5A opener 18-1 behind the two-hit pitching of Touchet and four hits each from Addie Perry and Maddy Jarvis.

Reagan Davis and Claire Byars also had three hits each, with Davis also stealing three bases.

The Ladycats are playing in the Marshall Tournament this weekend before

returning to district play on Tuesday, March 7 at home against Northwest.

Waco Midway 6, Aledo 5 Feb. 21

| | R | H | E |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Aledo | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Midway | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Aledo hitting: | Ana Flores 2-4, 2B, RBI; Brenlee Gonzales 2-3, RBI; Addie Perry 1-3, 3B, BB, RBI; Claire Byars 1-3, BB; Texas Ray 1-4; Taylor McKean BB; Reagan Davis BB; Presley Hull HP; Delaney Rosser HP; Chloe Cox SB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Gonzales 4.1 IP, 6 H, 5 R (4 ER), 4 K, 6 BB; McKean (L) 1.2 IP, 0 H, 1 R (0 ER), 3 K, 3 BB. | | |

Mansfield Tournament • Feb. 23-25

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Aledo | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| V.R. Eaton | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Rosser 2-3, 3 RBI; Perry 1-1, 2 BB, 2 SB; Hull 1-2, BB, RBI, SB; Flores 1-2, BB, SB; Byars BB; Ray BB, HP; Cox BB; McKean BB; Davis SB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | McKean 2.1 IP, 5 H, 1 ER, 2 K, 0 BB. | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|---|---|
| Aledo | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Burleson | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Rosser 2-3, 2B, RBI; Perry 1-3; Byars 1-3, RBI; Ray 1-3, RBI; Hull 1-3, 2B, 2 RBI; Flores 1-3; Maddy Jarvis 1-3, RBI; Davis 1-3; Maddy Flora BB. | | |
| Pitching: | Nathalie Touchet 4 IP, 2 H, 0 R, 3 K, 2 BB, HP. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Aledo | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Keller | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Perry 1-3; Gonzales 1-2, 2B, BB; Flores 1-3, RBI; Rosser 1-2, BB, RBI; Davis 1-2. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Gonzales 5 IP, 5 H, 4 R (3 ER), 5 K, 0 BB. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Aledo | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Mansfield | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Byars 1-3, 3B, 2 RBI; Touchet 1-1, BB; Davis 1-2; Cox BB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | McKean 0.1 IP, 1 H, 2 ER, 1 K, 2 BB; Touchet 3.2 IP, 4 H, 2 R (1 ER), 4 K, 0 BB, HP. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Aledo | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Boswell | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Byars 3-4, 2-2B, RBI; Perry 2-4, 3B, RBI; Hull 2-3, RBI; Flores 1-1, 3B, RBI; Rosser 1-2, 2B, 2 RBI; Touchet 1-2, HR, BB, RBI; Jarvis 1-3, RBI; Davis 1-3, RBI, SB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Touchet 4.2 IP, 3 H, 3 R (0 ER), 3 K, 3 BB, 2 HP. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Aledo | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lk Ridge | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Davis 1-2, Perry HP. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Gonzales 5 IP, 7 H, 7 ER, 6 K, BB, HP. | | |

District 5-5A opener, Feb. 28

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Rider | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Aledo | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| Aledo hitting: | Perry 4-4, 2B, 3 RBI; Jarvis 4-4, 2 RBI, SB; Byars 3-3, 3B, 2 RBI, SB; Davis 3-4, RBI, 3 SB; Gonzales 2-4, 2B, 3 RBI; Hull 2-4, 2B; Flores 2-4, 3 RBI, SB; Ray 1-3, 2 RBI. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Touchet 5 IP, 2 H, 1 ER, 9 K, 2 BB. | | |

while Sydney Byrd and Natalie Nawrocki were third in girls doubles.

Also placing in the top 10 in the A Division were Craig Mason and Hogan Posey, fourth in boys doubles, along with Paige Federman and Benjamin Farmer, fifth in mixed doubles.

The team will compete at a tournament hosted by Chisholm Trail Friday, March 3.

TENNIS

Six Racquetcats medal at Cowtown event

Staff reports
The Community News

Five members of the Aledo varsity tennis team medaled at the Cowtown Classic Tournament Feb. 24-25.

Earning medals in the A Division were Kenley Germany, third place in girls singles, along with Scott Mason and Bryanna Orr, third in mixed doubles.

Capturing medals in the B Division were Will Beyer, second in boys singles,

NO-HITTER

from page 8

worked his way out of an early jam to close out the first inning.

From the top of the second on, Taylor faced 18 batters in the remaining six innings of play.

Only one hitter for the Warriors reached base the rest of the game via an error by Mazon attempting a throw from deep in the hole at short.



Read this story online

That runner was quickly grounded down by Dylan Taylor behind the plate while trying to steal second to end the inning.

In the final game of the weekend a three-run, third inning ended up being the difference maker for Mansfield Legacy. Aledo hurler Garrett Addington gave up a single

to start off the inning. A pair of walks later and the bases were loaded as Parker Ibrahim stepped into the box. Ibrahim jumped on the 2-0 offering for a base-clearing double that put Legacy up 4-1 at that point.

Aledo battled the rest of the way, but fell just short as the Bearcats took their first loss of the young season.

“Where we are right now, I like,” Barry said. “We’ve got a lot of things we still need to work on. I think our approach at the plate needs to improve.

Our discipline at the plate really needs to improve. We’ve still got a lot of guys swinging at pitches early in counts out of the zone. Those are things, I think they’ll come with experience and more reps. Where we’re at right now, I couldn’t be much happier.”



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Bearcats designated hitter Andrew Cambre slides safely into third base during the fifth inning of the game against Arlington Martin on Saturday, Feb. 25. Cambre doubled to left center in the inning, driving in the winning run for Aledo.

Southwest Ford Classic, Feb. 23-25

| | R | H | E |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Chs Tr | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Aledo hitting: | Boyd Thompson 2-4, 3B; Trace Mazon, 1-3, 3B, RBI, BB; Ryan Jones 1-2, 2B, RBI; Bosten Dwinell 2 BB; Bryce McCain 2-3, 2 HR, 4 RBI; Luke Saunders HBP. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | McCain 5.0 IP, 2 H, R (1 ER), 6 K, 3 BB; Jon Paulsen 1.1 IP, 2 H, 2 R (1 earned), BB, K; Eddie Howard 0.2 IP, 2 K. | | |
| Timber | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Aledo | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Thompson 2-3; Bo, Dwinell RBI, BB; Mazon 1-3, 3 RBI; Jones BB; Brooks Dwinell 1-1, 3 BB; Dylan Taylor BB; Brooks Burdine 2 BB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Jenson Huffman 4.0 IP, 6 H, 5 R (4 earned), 4 K, 2 BB; Connor Mitchell 1.0 IP, 2 BB; Jake Bumgardner 1.0 IP, 2 K, BB. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| B'ville | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Aledo | 7 | 0 | 2 |
| Aledo hitting: | Mazon 3-3, 2-2B, 2 RBI, HBP; Bo, Dwinell 3 BB; Jones BB; Andrew Cambre 1-3, 2 RBI; Brennon Evans 1-3, 2B, RBI; Garrett Rester 2-3, RBI; Brady McAnear 1-3, 3B, 2 RBI; Burdine BB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Robert Burk 4.0 IP, 5 H, 1 ER, 3 K, 4 BB; Thompson 1.0 IP, H, K. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Nac. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Thompson 2 BB; Bo, Dwinell 1-3; McCain 1-3, RBI; Drew Weckel 1-2, BB; Taylor 1-3, RBI; Saunders RBI; Baumgardner RBI; Ben Carruthers BB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Matthew Clark 5.0 IP, H, 0 R, 7 K, BB; Luke Saunders 2.0 IP, 0 R (0 earned), 3 K, BB. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Martin | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Thompson 1-2, BB; Bo, Dwinell BB; Mazon 2-2, SB; Cambre 1-3, 2B, RBI; McCain 1-3; Burdine BB, SB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Luke Taylor 7.0 IP, 0 H, 1 ER, 4 K, 0 BB. | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Legacy | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Aledo | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aledo hitting: | Thompson BB; Bo, Dwinell 1-3, HR, 2 RBI, BB, SB; Mazon 3-4, SB; Br. Dwinell 1-3, RBI, BB; Jones RBI; Evans 1-3; McCain 1-3; Saunders BB. | | |
| Aledo pitching: | Garrett Addington 3.0 IP, 3 H, 4 ER, 4 K, 3 BB; Howard 2.0 IP, 2 H, 2 R (1 earned), 3 K; Bumgardner 1.0 IP, 0 H, 1 R (0 earned), 2 K, BB. | | |

TRACK

Aledo Middle School dominates at Mineral Wells

Staff Reports
The Community News

The Aledo Middle School seventh- and eighth-grade girls track teams easily won the Mineral Wells meet on Feb. 21, while the seventh-grade boys also won and the eighth-grade boys were second.

The seventh-grade Ladycats scored 295 points to more than double second place Stephenville Henderson’s 136. The eighth-grade girls scored 200 to edge Henderson’s 191.

The seventh-grade boys collected 227.5 to best Henderson’s 161.5, and the eighth-grade boys scored 161 to finish runner-up to Henderson’s 240.

Top individual results: Eighth-Grade Girls

(distances in meters)
200: 3. Macie Laidley, 28.65.
400: 2. Eden Anderson, 1:07.13.
800: 2. McKenzie Spain, 2:37.91; 3. Kathryn Jackson, 2:55.78.
1600: 1. Ella Dority, 6:45.50; 3. Kelsey Kimberling, 6:53.31.
2400: 1. Mia Thompson, 10:37.64;
300 Hurdles: 2. Dority, 11:02.18; 3. Kimberling, 11:12.39.
100 Hurdles: 1. Ainsley Elmore, 17.81; 3. Laidley, 18.60.
300 Hurdles: 1. Spain, 55.42.
400 Relay: 2. Abigail Myser, McKenna Smith, Kyla Pierce, Laidley, 55.41.
800 Relay: 3. Elmore, Ellie Connor, Peyton Mullins, Smith, 2:00.89.
1600 Relay: 2. Pierce, Spain, Jackson, Anderson, 4:39.74.
High jump: 1. Brooklyn Dempsey,

4-06 (won tiebreaker); 2. Laidley, 4-06.
Long jump: 2. Laidley, 15-02.
Discus: Pierce, 80-03.

Seventh-Grade Girls

100: 2. Avery Pipkins, 14.04.
200: 1. Avery Sands, 28.34.
400: 1. Elizabeth Brethauer, 1:10.24.
800: 3. Ashlynn Durnil, 3:03.71.
1600: 1. Durnil, 7:00.28; 2. Kinley Garcia, 7:04.22; 3. Ramona Willis, 7:20.59.
2400: 1. Juliet Sloan, 10:47.85; 2. Avery Jules, 10:57.02; 3. Cecilia Frank, 10:58.63.
100 Hurdles: 1. Emma Ralph, 20.58; 2. Blakely Spain, 21.14.
300 Hurdles: 1. Hailey Wuenstel, 58.50; 2. Brynlee Schneider, 1:00.07.
400 Relay: 1. Brooklyn Taloa, Spain, Addison Fields, Sands, 56.01.

Turn to TRACK, page 12

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Kelly Road Water Well Improvements to include three (3) Trinity Wells to a depth of approximately 750 feet capable of producing a well yield of 100 gallons per minute, constructed in accordance with TCEQ PWS standards (TAC Chapter 290), and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

12:00 Noon, Friday March 17, 2023

And publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to mariaf@barronstark.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Kelly Road Water Wells.

A performance bond, payment bond, and maintenance bond in the amount of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon payment of all persons supplying labor or furnishing materials **WILL** be required by the Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Cresson Estates PWS well to include one (1) Trinity Well to a depth of approximately 900 feet capable of producing a well yield of 100 gallons per minute, constructed in accordance with TCEQ PWS standards (TAC Chapter 290), and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

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And publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to mariaf@barronstark.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Cresson Estates PWS Well.

A performance bond, payment bond, and maintenance bond in the amount of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon payment of all persons supplying labor or furnishing materials **WILL** be required by the Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Kelly Road Water Plant Improvements to include a single 100,000 gallon ground storage tank, a single 10,000 gallon pressure vessel, a CMU control building with dual service pumps and chlorination system, standby generator, and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

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And publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to mariaf@barronstark.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Kelly Road Water Plant.

A performance bond, payment bond, and maintenance bond in the amount of not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon payment of all persons supplying labor or furnishing materials **WILL** be required by the Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

TRACK

from page 11

800 Relay: 1. Brinley Stokes, Fields, Spain, Sands, 2:00.82.
 1600 Relay: 1. Alyssa Giles, Sloan, Frank, Jules, 5:01.40.
 High jump: 2. Peyton Davis, 4-04.
 Pole vault: 1. Ralph, 6-06; 2. Elizabeth Gamez, 6-00.
 Long jump: 1. Wuenstel, 13-06; 2. Davis, 13-00.
 Triple jump: 1. Davis, 29-06.
 Discus: 1. Katelyn Lowe, 66-05.
 Shot put: 1. Bailey Kennedy, 30-04; 2. Lowe, 30-00.
Eighth-Grade Boys
 100: 3. Nathaniel Kirkpatrick, 12.46.
 400: 1. Garhett Lowe, 58.86; 2. Holt Frazier, 59.87.
 800: 3. Tobin Nelson, 2:31.78.
 1600: 2. Ethan Matthews, 5:41.80.
 2400: 2. Matthews, 7:38.80.
 110 Hurdles: 2. Colby Thompson, 20.95.
 300 Hurdles: 3. Robert Hill, 49.62.
 800 Relay: 3. Cooper Hull, Parker Phillips, Adam Jones, Cole Cox, 1:45.16.
 1600 Relay: 1. Frazier, Jones, True Voskamp, Lowe, 3:58.27.
 Pole vault: 3. Jace Schull, 7-06.
 Triple jump: 1. Thompson, 35-11.
 Discus: 3. Omari Din-Mbuh, 101-01.
 Shot put: 1. Din-Mbuh, 41-01.50.

Seventh-Grade Boys

100: 2. Jaxson Clifford, 13.64.
 200: 1. Maddox Nurse, 26.44.
 400: 1. Cade Nussbaum, 1:04.23; 2. Daniel Blair, 1:05.70.
 800: 1. Braxton Hamric, 2:30.67; 3. Blair, 2:40.05.
 1600: 1. Mick Sandefur, 5:59.26; 2. Kaiden Jones, 6:05.10; 3. Andrew Walsh, 6:08.81.
 2400: 1. Sandefur, 9:15.26; 2. Walsh, 9:45.33; 3. Gavin Molock, 9:52.90.
 400 Relay: 1. Cooper Cheak, Nurse, Kouper Wedgeworth, Bo Baskin, 49.63.
 800 Relay: 1. Cheak, Wedgeworth, Nurse, Baskin, 1:46.63.
 1600 Relay: 1. Cheak, Wedgeworth, Nussbaum, Baskin, 4:17.93.
 High jump: 1. Nurse, 5-00.
 Triple jump: 2. Wedgeworth, 31-11.
 Discus: 2. Zackery Verner, 77-04.
 Shot put: 3. Kason Evans, 31-11.50.

SOCCER

from page 8

The Ladycats got off to a fast start in their matchup as they sailed across the pitch. Georgia Zirbser took a shot from the far side of the field that found the back of the net less than a minute into the contest. However, the referee ruled Aledo was offside, negating the early score.

Two minutes later Mcguire raced down the home side of the field attempting to get by a Lady Rough Rider defender. As the pair neared the endline, Mcguire passed the ball back towards the middle of the field in hopes a fellow Ladycat would get a shot on the goal. She went to the turf writhing in agony, clutching her knee, and unable to return to her feet under her own power. She did not return.

With Zirbser's goal negated and Mcguire out with an injury, the remainder of the first half stayed quiet as the two teams jockeyed for control near midfield with neither able to garner a discernible advantage. At halftime the score stood 0-0.

Coming out for the second half with the temperatures wretchedly cold, both teams struggled to find their legs early. As play went on with players starting to get loose, the Ladycats took the advantage in the match. Emaree Gibson, Aledo's scrappy midfielder, broke open the goose egg on the scoreboard in the 27th minute of the second half with the first goal of the game.

Presley Clayborn was credited with the assist on the play.

In the 17th minute of the second half Aledo struck again. Zirbser brought the pressure from the near wing. Drawing the defense in, she made a pass to

Harper Smith who capitalized on the opportunity with a well-placed shot on goal to put Aledo up 2-0.

"That was just a perfect counterattack. We couldn't have drawn it up any better," said Johnson.

Aledo's defense throughout the game was impeccable. The Ladycats kept Saginaw away from the goal for most of the contest. Goalkeeper Jamie Smith was a perfect 1-for-1 in save opportunities (47 on the year) as she picked up her fourth shutout of the season.

Bearcats 3, Saginaw 2

The Bearcats took the lead in the first half of their match against Saginaw before entering halftime with a 2-0 advantage. As the sun set on Bearcat stadium, so did Aledo's early lead in the second half. The Rough Riders battled back to tie the match up at 2-2 with 10:39 left in the contest.

Determined not to end up in another shootout, the Bearcats pressured Saginaw's defense. With 8:59 remaining in the game, Austin Randriamahefa found the back of the net for what would end up being the game-winning goal.

"We battled back after they came back from 2-0, so it was good," stated Bearcat head coach Derek Vierling. "We got the win. That was a good win for us. We've got Granbury and Azle [coming up]. We've got to eliminate them, and we'll be in the playoffs. It's getting close with three games left."

With just three district games remaining on the schedule, Aledo will hit the road on Friday, March 3 to take on Brewer. The Bearcats will go to work hoping to avenge a 4-1 loss to the district-leading Bears in their previous matchup on Valentine's Day. That game will start at 5 p.m.

The Ladycats, meanwhile, will close out the night looking to repeat their 6-0 mauling of the Lady Bears on Feb. 14. Kickoff is slated for 7:15.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Cole Crawford presses the ball up the field while fending off a Saginaw defender during the Bearcats 3-2 win on Friday, Feb. 24.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Presley Clayborn battles a Saginaw defender for the ball during the Ladycats 2-0 win on Friday, Feb. 24.



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