

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

WILLOW PARK

Council votes to buy city hall building

Posting police chief position

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Shortly after moving into their new digs in January, Willow Park city officials were raving about the new home they were renting at 120 El Chico Tr.

In fact, they love it so much that now they have decided to purchase the entire building. At their meeting on Monday, April 3, the council voted unanimously to announce the approval of the issuance of certificates of obligation in the amount of \$8.5 million for the purchase, renovating, improving, and equipping the building.

Along with housing city officials and council, the building will serve as public safety facilities, judicial facilities, a city hall, and municipal facilities for administrative offices for city departments.

"I do not think we will be close to that, but I want a little cushion," City Manager Bryan Grimes told the council. "Based on all the facts we have today, I feel confident about this."

Grimes went on to call it, a "big day."

Mayor Pro Tem Lea Young said, "It allows us to grow without having to add on with construction later."

Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss called it, "A monumental day in the city," adding, "We've been talking about a city hall since I got elected in 2007."

Following the informing of the public of the intent to issue COTs, which includes posts in The Community News and on the city website, the council is expected to formally confirm a deal at the May 23 meeting.

The council has the option of paying off the note in 30 or 40 years. They can also pay off the debt early after nine or 10 years.

Grimes noted that the cost to lease the building annually is about \$200,000, which would be around \$6 million over the span of 30 years. Also, there are two other tenants in the building, Sylvan Learning Center and McKnight Title. Should they decide to stay for the remainder of their respective leases, one ends in July of 2026 and the other in December of 2026. Grimes said those leases bring in around \$100,000 annually.

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Aledo Lions honor McLain at annual dinner



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Leah and Aylett Miller drew the winning entries at the Aledo Lions Club 28th annual Charity Dinner on March 28. Among the prizes was a choice between a golf cart and \$10,000. Lions Club member Bob Carlson supervises.

By Randy Keck
The Community News

The Aledo Lions Club paid homage to deceased member Charlie McLain at its annual Charity Dinner on Tuesday, March 28, at the Don Daniel Ninth Grade Campus cafeteria.

"We came in here this evening and many of us noticed that someone's missing; someone's not here that's been here before — a glad hand, a smile, a greeting at the door and a

welcome," Bob Carlson, past president of the club, said to the people at the dinner. "We missed that this evening but it's wonderful that this person has made it his business over the years, and had been many years to see that people in the community get together and support our Lions Club."

Carlson was referring to Charlie McLain, who joined the club in 1977 and passed away on Oct. 19.

"He had 45 years of service in the Lions organization. And Charlie's passion really was to serve the youth of the community," Carlson said. "He was invigorated, he saw their willingness to serve, he saw their eagerness. And at the same time, Charlie was only too happy to teach them skills and to give up his wit and wisdom - and that he offered freely to anybody who would listen."

Turn to LIONS, page 3

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

WC signs first '4+1' agreement for master's program

Program allows for one-year master's degree post-graduation

By Crystal Woerly
Weatherford College

Weatherford College has inked its latest articulation agreement with Our Lady of the Lake University for students completing WC's Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science in Organizational Leadership.

While working on their BAAS degree, WC students can enroll in Master of Science in Organizational Leadership courses from OLLU that will count toward both degrees.

This arrangement will allow students to complete their master's degree in as little as one year after graduating with their bachelor's degree in what is known as a 4+1 program.

WC President Tod Allen Farmer and OLLU President Abel A. Chávez signed the agreement on March 24 in San Antonio.

"WC students may now earn a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership and an MBA in a total of five years without ever leaving Weatherford College," Farmer said. "Our students' educational opportunities continue to expand."

Turn to COLLEGE, page 3

WILLOW PARK

Willow Bark returning next week

Fun for dogs, kids, and adults planned

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

On April 15 the city of Willow Park is going to the dogs.

However, it won't be a taxing situation.

Willow Bark is returning that day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at McCall Elementary School, 400 Scenic Tr. The event is free for dogs — along with their owners and kiddos.

The event was set to debut in 2020, but was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first one was held in September of 2021, but event organizer and Willow Park Public Relations Director Rose Hoffman said it was designed to be held in the spring.

"This was always intended to be a spring event, so we skipped spring of '22 and now

it will be in the spring going forward," Hoffman said.

For the humans, particularly children, there will be a variety of bounces, along with a kids karaoke DJ. There will also be face painting, a caricature artist, balloon artist, and more activities including games.

For the dogs, there will be a costume contest at 1 p.m. and weenie dog races at 3 p.m. Prizes for both events will be provided by Pet Supplies Plus.

Numerous vendors will be on hand, including Fifty Fifty Food Trailer and Jackalope Bob's Food Box Spectacular.

Two raffles will be held. One will feature a drawing for a quilt shaped like a puppy, with tickets going for \$5 each or six for \$25.

The other features \$500 in gift cards/certificates from local businesses with tickets selling for \$10 each or three for \$25. Raffle proceeds benefit Parker Paws animal welfare group, which will also be onsite.



ROSE HOFFMAN/CITY OF WILLOW PARK

Firefighter Cody Boone (left) and Captain Jared Junker from Parker County Emergency Services District 1 Station 35 (formerly Willow Park Fire Department) show off a quilt shaped like a puppy that will be raffled off during Willow Bark, which is returning on April 15.

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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.

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

Texas leads nation in jobs added



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

The Lone Star State continues to lead the nation in jobs added with 58,200 new positions in February, bringing the state to nearly 14 million total non-farm jobs, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. February also marked two full years of uninterrupted job growth in the state.

"The past 24 months of uninterrupted job growth show the strength of the Texas economy and ongoing economic opportunities for Texans," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel.

The state's jobless rate in February was 4.5%, which is higher than the national rate of 3.9%, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The highest jobless rate in a Texas metropolitan statistical area is 6.8% in McAllen-Edinburg-Mission. The lowest rate in a MSA is 3.0% in Midland.

Rainy Day Fund hits cap for first time

The state's piggy bank is nearly full.

Comptroller Glenn Hegar predicts the state's so-called Rainy Day Fund, officially the Economic Stabilization Fund, will reach its statutory limit by 2025, which is 10% of what is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. Rising revenues fueled by spikes in energy prices and inflation have filled the state's coffers, Hegar said.

"The revenue increases that we have seen truly have been historical and unprecedented. We have never seen anything like this in the past, and I don't think we'll see anything like this in the future," he said.

The state experienced record growth in tax collections in 2022 of 25.6% from the previous year, filling the state's coffers with a surplus of \$32.7 billion.

"I am glad to see that lawmakers are giving careful thought to how this tremendous asset can be best put to work for Texans," Hegar added.

Senate passes bill to limit governor's powers

The Texas Senate unanimously passed a bill to rein in the governor's authority during emergencies or disasters, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported. A matching proposal in the House is awaiting a committee hearing. The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury, would require the governor to call the Legislature into special session if the executive office wants to extend a disaster or emergency declaration past 30 days. Only the Legislature would be able to put restrictions on businesses such as those imposed during the initial weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We must no longer allow a 19-month legislative interim to be leveraged against the Legislature, especially during times of emergency disasters that affect a significant number of Texans," Birdwell said.

Under current law, disaster declarations last 30 days but can be renewed by the governor. For example, Gov Greg Abbott has

extended a disaster declaration relating to illegal border crossings each month since May 2021, according to the *Statesman*.

Abbott expressed support in his State of the State address in January for involving the Legislature in disaster declarations that deal with public health crises.

Senate backs boost for retired teachers

The Texas Senate also unanimously approved a package that allocates \$4.7 billion from the budget surplus to increase monthly payments for retired teachers and gives a one-time bump to retirees older than 75, the *Statesman* reported. The bill is now headed to the House for consideration.

The measure calls for a 2% raise for teachers who retired between Sept. 1, 2013, and Jan. 1, 2022, and a 4% raise for those who retired before Sept. 1, 2013. Senate Bill 10 also provides a one-time stipend of \$7,500 for retirees older than 75. The bill affects nearly a half-million retired teachers.

"This is a significant financial commitment from the state," state Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, said. "Many TRS retirees have been struggling for so long. We needed to do this."

Retired teachers on average make \$2,100 a month through the Teachers Retirement System.

Boaters, anglers urged to avoid coastal rookeries

Anglers and boaters along the Texas coast are urged to watch

out for nesting birds during this peak breeding and nesting season, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Brown pelicans, roseate spoonbills, black skimmers, and reddish egrets are among the birds nesting in dense colonies, called rookeries. TPWD encourages folks to watch out for these nesting birds so they are not disturbed during a sensitive time.

"With too many disturbances, an entire colony of thousands of birds may abandon an island and give up on breeding for the year, which can potentially lead to drastic population declines," said Trey Barron, a diversity biologist with TPWD. "When approached too closely by boaters or people wading nearby, birds are frightened off their nests, leaving eggs and chicks exposed to the summer sun, which can cause them to overheat. The abandoned nests also allow opportunistic predators like gulls and grackles to quickly swoop in and feed on them."

Boaters and anglers are also encouraged to properly dispose of fishing line, tackle and other waste to ensure it does not harm birds, turtles or other marine life.

"The habitats that waterbirds use are the same habitats in which we — including myself — enjoy fishing, hunting and photographing wildlife," Barron said. "We just have to remember to give them their space, especially during the nesting season, and pick up after ourselves. If you're out on the water, look for the yellow signs that identify rookery islands and keep your distance. We can all enjoy the same places, as long as we do it responsibly."

House passes diaper, period products bill

The Texas House last week overwhelmingly passed a bill repealing the state sales tax on diapers, period products, baby wipes and similar items. The measure now heads to the Senate.

Its sponsor, state Rep. Donna Howard, D-Austin, has tried for several sessions to get the measure passed.

"This bill provides an opportunity to help Texas families at every stage of life," Howard said Tuesday, as reported by The Dallas Morning News. The measure also exempts adult diapers.

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



LIONS

from page one

During his time as a Lion, McLain received the Lions District 2-E2 Grass Roots award. He had also served as president of the club.

“He shared his talent, his time, his wisdom. He volunteered, emblematic I should say of our lives,” Carlson added. “Charlie did serve. He was respected by the youth. And he taught them the life skills that they might not otherwise have gotten, so if you have a glass let’s raise it to Charlie McLane.”

Lions Club President Russell Green recalled that Charlie nixed a change of meeting nights to Wednesdays for the club.

“And the reason for it was because he was still involved with Bible study at the Methodist Church on Wednesday nights and it was very important to him.”

The Charity Dinner was the 28th such event for the local club, which uses funds raised at the event to provide scholarships and services to local students. The club recently purchased equipment (and volunteers) to test the eyesight of students in the Aledo ISD, and identified those who needed vision correction.

The highlight of the event is the drawing of prizes, which included fishing gear, big-screen televisions, and a choice of a golf cart or \$10,000 cash.



Read this story online

BUILDING

from page one

Profit instead of spending

At their March 30 special meeting, the council was prepared to authorize Grimes to transfer funds from reserves to the general fund an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 to pay off loans with government capital for certain fire equipment and vehicles being sold to Parker County ESD No. 1.

However, that vote did not take place because the funds were not needed. Instead, when the equipment was appraised, the city actually made a profit of around \$5,000.

“When we went to trade the car in we thought we’d be upside down, but we actually made \$5,000,” Grimes said.

The Parker County ESD No. 1 took control of the Willow Park Fire Department following an election in November.

Police chief posting

Also on March 30, the council announced a posting for police chief applicants on the Texas Municipal League website for 30 days beginning April 3. The city is seeking to fill the position following the retirement of Carrie Ellis in late March.

Daniel Franklin is the interim police chief and is also a candidate for the position.

“This doesn’t take him out of the running,” Grimes said of the posting. “He’s still a very viable candidate.”



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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS
WC President Tod Allen Farmer (left) and OLLU President Abel A. Chávez signed the “4 + 1” agreement on March 24 in San Antonio.

COLLEGE

from page one

OLLU’s program is offered in a “hyflex” format in which the professor is physically located on an OLLU campus and students can either attend in person or remotely through video technology.

This format will allow WC students to attend classes and to continue into the master’s program without having to relocate while also enabling them to interact with and learn from the faculty members and their classmates in a live, real-time setting.

The Master of Science in Organizational Leadership at OLLU is a weekend degree program with classes that meet every other Saturday. In addition to studying leadership with interdisciplinary professors and student colleagues, students benefit from a curriculum that stresses ethics, servant leadership and stewardship.

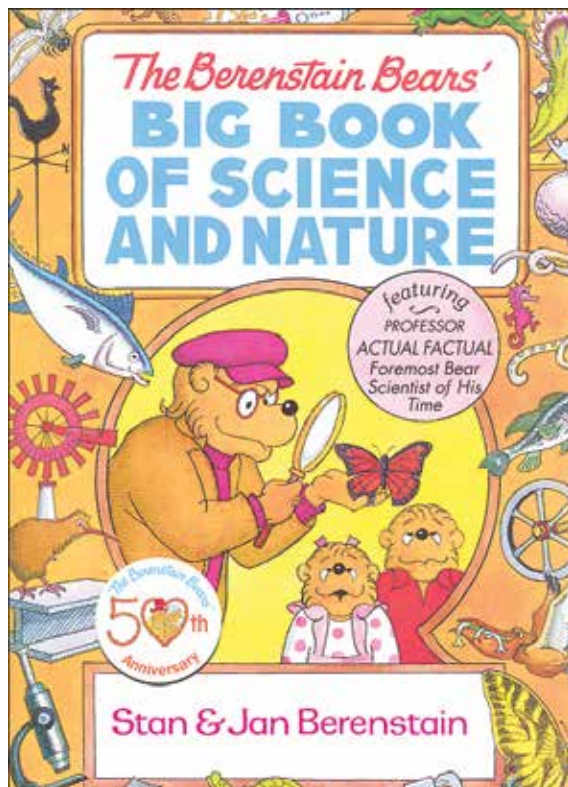
The application period for WC’s BAAS in Organizational Leadership program is open. For more information, visit <https://wc.edu/programs/all-programs/organizational-leadership/index.php>.



Read this story online

Annetta mayor to give away children’s book

Annetta Mayor Sandy Roberts will give away a copy of The Berenstain Bears’ BIG BOOK OF SCIENCE AND NATURE at the city council meeting on April 20. Entries for the book drawing must be received by April 19, and you must be a resident of Annetta to enter. To enter, visit <http://bit.ly/3MkrDT6>



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Tips to prevent barn swallow nests this spring

Federal law prohibits disturbing barn swallows once they nest, so take preventative action now

By Susan Himes
Texas A&M Extension Service

Whether you hate the mess barn swallows leave or enjoy being able to watch them up close, a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert encourages you to plan for these birds' arrival now.

The migratory spring season for swallows started March 1 and barn swallows will typically enter the southern U.S. in mid-March to mid-April. Of the eight species of swallows in North America, barn and cliff swallows are typically considered to be the most problematic since they build mud nests attached to houses, barns and other structures. Barn swallows tend to nest as single pairs, but cliff swallows can nest in colonies composed of up to several hundred pairs.

Swallows need a suitable surface to build a nest, typically an overhang or covered ledge, and a supply of mud they deem the proper consistency for nest building. If your property meets these building requirements, odds are good swallows will be back year after year unless you intervene.

AgriLife Extension's Liz Tidwell, a small acreage wildlife program specialist in the Department of Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Uvalde, said if you don't want barn swallows on your property, then you must immediately intervene before any nests are built and occupied.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act, passed in 1918, makes it a federal crime to hunt, kill, capture, sell or otherwise hurt them, which includes destroying nests in use.

"The main reason people want to remove barn swallow nests is aesthetic. Having mud nests on the side of your house or structure and the resulting bird droppings underneath isn't appealing," Tidwell said.

"Too many nests can also become a health concern."

Tidwell said nests by entryways may also be a nuisance when swallows act territorial and "divebomb" homeowners to protect their nest and young.

"Luckily swallows are not as aggressive as blue jays or mockingbirds and swallows won't peck at your head like they will," she said. "And often once swallows get used to your presence and know you aren't going to harm the nest, they will stop swooping down on you as you come and go from your structure."

How to prevent barn swallow nests

Tidwell shared advice for preventing the swallows many Texans consider unwanted and pesky guests.

- Use netting or wire mesh hung diagonally to cover areas where swallows could build nests — typically anyplace like an eave or where a roof and wall meet.
- Surfaces can also be covered with materials hung vertically to prevent birds from getting to their preferred building sites.
- Bird spike sticks and bird barriers can be purchased and installed to prevent birds from building nests.
- For places where there is an open entry way, vinyl plastic hung in overlapping strips may be used. This is essentially a doorway curtain similar to what you may see in a grocery store for workers in refrigerated areas.
- Knock down old nests that are empty. Birds will reuse nests from previous years if available.
- When you see a new nest starting to be constructed, knock down the mud daily until the birds give up on their build. Once a bird starts spending time in the nest, even if it is not yet completed, the law says you'll be stuck with the nest until it is empty again.

What to avoid when preventing barn swallows

- No repellents are known to be effective.



- No toxicants are registered for use.
- Trapping is not allowed.
- Shooting is not allowed.
- Barn swallows are not easily frightened so trying to scare them away using any method is usually ineffective.

How to remove a barn swallow nest

Old, empty nests and the mud for nests birds are beginning to construct can be removed several ways.

- A pressure washer or hose.
- A pole.
- A scraper or chisel can be used, however if you are getting close enough to a nest to use those tools, protective gear should be used. Gloves and a mask should be worn — if you have a respirator or leftover N95s now is the time to put them to use.
- Use caution. Blood sucking parasites and mites can survive in

nests long after the birds have left, even as long as three years. You do not want to come in direct contact with a nest potentially filled with parasites, mites and feces.

Four reasons why you might want to welcome swallows

- Swallows eat the insects that many people consider pests. Essentially, they are providing a free ecological service — catching insects for you. And the more mouths to feed, the fewer insects you'll have.
- The proximity of nests to doorways and windows makes for easy bird watching.
- The educational experience of seeing the baby birds start as eggs then grow from

hatchlings to nestlings to fledglings. At the juvenile stage, they will leave the nest. The birds have an extended breeding season, and two or more clutches are common.

- They're just passing through. They'll be gone when the weather gets chilly again.

With a breeding season starting late March, nests will soon be built and occupied. Now is the time to act—whether that means hanging out a welcome sign or discouraging the birds from taking up residence.

"Swallows have a tendency to return to previous nesting locations," Tidwell said. "So, if you've had birds in the past, odds are good you'll have them again."



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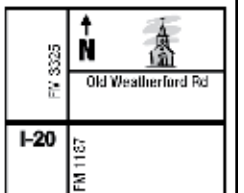


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Aledo twins and their goats racking up awards

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Four years ago twin sisters Samantha and Rebecca Sullivan discovered a new passion in life, raising Boer Goats.

Then, as it did with so many things, the COVID-19 pandemic put a kibosh on their plans to showcase their efforts.

"We really started getting into it consistently about three years ago. With COVID, our first year we weren't able to get out and show a whole lot," Samantha said. "However, we have been trying to attend as many shows to make up for it."

Suffice to say, they have indeed made up for lost time, as proven once again by their recent success in the Houston Livestock and Rodeo. Between them, the Aledo High School juniors won six of the famous "H" trophies and banners the event is known for.

Rebecca won Overall Reserve Champion Percentage Doe and Junior Division Reserve Champion Percentage Doe. Samantha was awarded Overall Reserve Champion Full-blood Doe, Junior Division Reserve Champion Full-blood Doe, Senior Division Reserve Champion Full-blood Doe and Junior Division Reserve Champion Full-blood Buck.

"This was our second year attending Houston and we always look forward to this show because it has the famous 'green shavings,'" Rebecca said. "They always have a nice facility and provide tons of help when moving us in and out of the barn — which we appreciate so much."

The HLSR is known for the plush green shavings in the arena where only the best of the best leave with the elite title of Houston champion.

Rebecca and Samantha have been in FFA since eighth grade and are in their second year as chapter officers. Rebecca is the treasurer and Samantha is the student advisor.

What is a Boer Goat?

The Boer, or Boerbok as it is also known, is a South African breed. It was selectively bred in the Eastern Cape from 1920 and has been exported to many countries.

Boer Goats commonly have white bodies and distinctive brown heads. Some can be completely brown or



COURTESY OF NORI SULLIVAN

Twins Rebecca (left) and Samantha Sullivan recently won big with their showing of Boer Goats at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the latest in a long line of success for two who are officers in the Aledo FFA program.

white or paint (large spots of a different color on their bodies).

Like the Nubian Goat, they possess long, pendulous ears. They are noted for being docile, fast-growing and having high fertility rates.

Successful show season

Even prior to Houston their success was great. From the past show season their results included:

- National American Boer Goat Association Show, Grand Island, Nebraska, June; Samantha won Overall Reserve Champion Best Pair of Full-blood Does.
- Parker County Livestock Show, June; Rebecca won Overall Grand Champion Full-blood Doe and Senior Showmanship. Samantha won Overall Reserve Champion Percentage Doe.
- West Texas State Fair, Abilene, September; Samantha, Overall Reserve Champion Percentage Doe.
- State Fair of Texas, October; Rebecca, Overall Grand Champion Full-blood Doe, Junior Show; Overall Grand Champion Full-blood Doe, Open Show; Overall Grand Champion Percentage Doe, Junior Show; Grand Champion Senior

Showmanship. Samantha, Overall Reserve Champion Full-blood Doe, Junior Show; Overall Reserve Champion Full-blood Doe, Open Show; Reserve Champion Senior Showmanship; Premier Exhibitor Junior Show.

- Fort Worth Stock Show, January; Rebecca, First in Class Percentage Doe Kid 6-9 Months. Samantha, First in Class Full-blood Doe Kid 11 Months.
- San Angelo Livestock Show, February; Rebecca, Overall Reserve Champion Percentage Doe, Junior Show. Samantha, Overall Grand Champion Full-blood Doe, Junior Show; Overall Grand Champion Full-blood Doe, Open Show.
- San Antonio Livestock Show, February; Rebecca, Overall Reserve Champion Percentage Doe, Junior Show. Samantha, Overall Grand Champion Percentage Doe, Junior Show, \$10,000 Educational Scholarship Award; Overall Grand Champion Full-blood Doe, Junior Show, \$10,000 Educational Scholarship Award; Overall Reserve champion Full-blood Doe.

"Even though Houston is the granddaddy livestock show for Texas, we were most amazed and humbled when Samantha won both \$10,000 scholarships at the San Antonio Livestock Show," their mother, Nori Sullivan said. "We were told by the awards committee that it is a rare and unique thing that one exhibitor wins both."

The two also plan to attend a national show in Louisville, Kentucky this summer, Samantha said.

A lot of work

Rebecca said when it comes to taking care of the goats and raising them it comes down to the basics, feeding twice a day, making sure they have fresh, clean water, and keeping an eye out for anything abnormal.

"If any of them get sick we do our best to treat them. Also, when they are pregnant we tend to keep a close



COURTESY OF NORI SULLIVAN

Twins Rebecca (left) and Samantha Sullivan are shown on the big screen at the Houston Livestock Show.

eye on them as well and help deliver the kids (baby goats)," she said.

When they go to shows they have devised a system that works best for them.

"Once we get there and unload and set up we start washing. We usually bring about 20 goats per show, so it takes a few hours to wash and dry every one," Rebecca said.

Samantha usually does the washing and Rebecca handles the blow drying. Once that is completed the goats are clipped and trimmed, and by the time that is done it is time to feed and water.

"On show day we usually rinse a few and start to get them ready," Rebecca said. "If it is a 'fitting' show we start about an hour before in order to get all their legs fit and their hair ready."

Rebecca added that not only is there an immense sense of pride that comes from success in the shows,

proving that all the hard work and preparation pays off, it is also great publicity for their business, R&S Boer Goats on Pointe.

"We know we are doing something right and we are starting to make a name for ourselves and our business," she said.

The name of the business comes from a combination of their raising goats and taking dance lessons since they were 6 years old. Their focus is classical ballet, pointe and contemporary dance.

Learning fast

Ironically, Rebecca and Samantha don't come from a family with a history of raising goats, and with only a small connection to livestock.

"Before we joined our first ag class we knew nothing about livestock and had no connections with

Turn to GOATS, page B2



COURTESY OF NORI SULLIVAN

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GOATS

from page B1

raising livestock in our childhood," Rebecca said.

They live on five acres outside of Aledo and that is where they raise their goats. Their mom grew up on a pecan orchard, their grandfather raised a few beef cattle and their dad, James, did not grow up on a farm.

"Neither of our parents showed livestock when growing up so it was a huge learning experience and still is," Rebecca said. "We have definitely gained tons of knowledge about how to care for these animals, as well as run a business, and I think it means even more to us because we chose to do this."

Help from a friend

Nori's friend Brenda Lerner with Knox Show Goats out of Weatherford took them under her wing in 2021 to teach, not just the girls, but James and Nori, all about Boer Goats and livestock showing.

"She has also helped us in locating premier breeders like IJ Farms in Yuba City, California to help us build our show program in purchasing quality show goats," Nori said.

As part of the show team, the girls show the majestic Knox Show Goats and Brenda also mentors Rebecca and Samantha and travels to every show with them.

"Brenda also connected us with her show fitter, Codi Shelton Drummond from Stephenville, to teach the girls basics on washing, clipping and fitting their goats in preparation of each show," Nori said.

"This knowledge in invaluable if you want to be competitive in the show ring. It is also an honor to watch the girls give back and to now mentor

and help the new younger show team members."

Growing close to animals

Spending a lot of time with their goats also means developing a relationship with them, Samantha said. She noted that is why they chose to show breeding goats as opposed to market goats, which are sold at the end of the season.

Still, on some occasions goats still have to be sold for business reasons, and it can be tough, she said.

"When the goats have kids we usually sell most of the kids so we try our best to not get close to them — but who can resist baby goats?" she said. "But luckily the babies are only with us for about three months before we sell them so we don't get super attached."

Rebecca said the most heartbreaking part is when a goat gets sick and passes away.

"Sometimes there isn't anything we can do to help and they pass away unexpectedly," she said. "We have had this happen a few times and it's always heartbreaking because you never think that it is going to happen and you aren't ready for it, but the ones you are able to save keeps you going - and we have saved a few, sleeping in the barn with them, medicating them and just loving them and praying."

Other FFA success

The two also conduct projects, write presentations, and compete within their Aledo FFA program. They worked together on an agri-science project this school year and advanced to the state and national levels of competition, finishing third at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Their project was titled "Incorporating Agriculture Content into Core Subjects and Testing Students improvement".

"The Aledo FFA program and our ag teachers/advisors have been a big influence in our lives," Samantha said.

A family affair

James hauls the family to every show, helps to organize the tack room in the trailer (they bring a lot of stuff, Nori noted with a chuckle) and he is Mr. Fix it keeping all of the equipment running smoothly.

"He is also the one who sleeps in the truck (with trailer and goats) in the staging lanes, to secure us a good place in line when we arrive at any major show," Nori said. "It's all about getting the best pens and workspace at these shows, just makes life easier when show time starts."

Nori keeps the human crew fed and helps in any way she can to unload/load, feed, water and, helps ensure the right goat gets to the ring at the right time, along with keeping track of the placings during the show.

"On the home front the girls do most of the direct goat work and I assist with anything medical, from giving the goats their medications to delivering the goat kids," she said. "This is where Brenda mentored me. I'm a nurse by trade, but these goats take a different level of care, so I have learned so much over the past four years."

"We love the show life and how it brings our family close together, along with all of the great families we have met along this journey."

The best part

Above all the success, they agree the best part is getting to share the experience with each other.

"I think it is fitting that we can share this together because we are always together. Along with being sisters we are also best friends so we do work really well together," Rebecca said.

"It might just be a twin thing, but we can always work

simultaneously without really telling each other what we need, we just know," Samantha added.

Rebecca said she does want to continue showing after high school for fun, but she does not want to pursue a career in livestock.

"I do want to continue in the ag pathway, and I plan to major in agricultural engineering," she said.

Samantha plans on becoming a large animal veterinarian because "I have seen my veterinarian that we use save many of our animals' lives, and being able to provide that for someone else is something I really want to do."

She said she chose large animals because "I feel that not many people are in that field, and by showing livestock I know how important it is to have a veterinarian when needed. I also enjoy being around livestock more than smaller animals, so I want to choose a career that makes me happy but also be able to help others."

Nori said watching your children identify a goal, achieve that goal, and be successful is every parent's dream for their children.

"Many hours of hard work keeping their goats healthy, fed and show-ready rain, snow, ice or shine - life of a livestock kid starts at 5 a.m. and sometimes does not end until 10 p.m.," she said.

"My husband and I are beyond proud of these two girls. We have watched them grow from raw beginnings when we knew very little about the Boer Goat industry, to today, watching their successes. There were times we would be at a show and would bring home one third-place ribbon - and sometimes no ribbons at all.

"You have to learn how to lose graciously to be a true champion, and be able to cheer on your friends when they win and you don't. Every show is different, you never know how the results are going to turn out."

Painting style demonstration set for April 24

Artist Lynne Buchanan will show style

By Debra Strandberg
Weatherford Art Association

Artist Lynne Buchanan will demonstrate her contemporary painting style at the next meeting of the Weatherford Art Association at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 24, at Barlow Hall, 125 South Waco in Weatherford.

A retired public school art teacher, Lynne began her career painting realistic subjects from her childhood visits to rural Kansas and Nebraska. Childhood memories of old barns, cacti, and old buildings were her earliest subjects. Lynne gradually transitioned into an abstract style, where her art works still contain images of peaceful memories of New Mexico landscapes.

Lynne explores her abstraction both with multiple materials and techniques to establish a visual conversation with her viewer. Her art often includes painting and collage materials, photography and graphite textural elements.

Weatherford Art Association is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that promotes the growth of art appreciation among its members and the public through community education, instructional demonstrations and lectures, and public display and sales of member artwork. The group welcomes students, single adult, and family memberships and includes beginning and seasoned artists in all 2-D and 3-D media. Regular meetings are held the fourth Monday of every month except December. For more information, visit weatherfordart.com.



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

APRIL 7

American Red Cross Blood Drive
 The American Red Cross will host a Blood Drive from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at the Church at the Crossing Gym. Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: churchatthecrossing to schedule an appointment.



APRIL 10 - APRIL 29

Parker County Basic CERT Class
 The course dates and times are listed below for a total of 27 hours that includes both classroom and hands-on training. It will be held at our Emergency Services facility located at 215 Trinity St, Weatherford. Classes include: Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety and Utility Controls, Disaster Medical Operations, part 1 & 2, Light Search and Rescue, CERT Organization/Incident Command, Disaster Psychology, CERT and Terrorism, CPR/AED, Stop the Bleed, Wrap up, Final Exam, and Disaster Exercise

- Monday, April 10 6:30 - 9:30 pm
- Saturday, April 15 9 am - 5 pm
- Monday, April 17 6:30 - 9:30 pm
- Saturday, April 22 9 am - 5 pm



Monday, April 24 6:30 - 9:30 pm
 Saturday, April 29 9 am - 5 pm
 Please respond to davidnelson@uwmil.com if you would like to take this class.

APRIL 15

Willow Bark
 The City of Willow Park is hosting the Willow Bark community event benefiting Parker Paws, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 15 at McCall Elementary School. A fun-filled day for hoomans and their K9s with lots of activities planned, including- food trucks, live music, kids games, doggie costume contest and wiener dog races.



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/3CI-iKx4>. For a Spotify playlist, visit <https://bit.ly/3IP7piy>.



APRIL 20

Taste of Parker County
 The 14th annual Taste of Parker County from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20 at Weatherford's Heritage Park. This food-tasting fundraiser benefits Weatherford College Foundation. Vendors include local restaurants, caterers, bakeries, coffee shops and breweries offering sample-sides tastings. Individual tickets are \$40 through April 19 and \$45 on April 20. Tickets are available online at wc.edu/taste. For more information, contact Edwards at jedwards@wc.edu or 817-598-6272.



ACROSS

- Texas-based "The _____ Picture Show"
- _____ Park, TX
- A Mike McCarthy design: "game _____"
- Dallas County namesake (init.)
- TXism: "in a coon's _____" (long time)
- took illegal video recordings
- TXism: "up and _____ juice" (coffee)
- TX Mark Chesnutt's "_____ Have New Names" device inside Texas Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant
- this Bill founded Texas-based "I Can't Believe It's Yogurt!"
- former Rio Grande river channels
- TXism: "neon light _____" (inspiration)
- creepy term of endearment
- "Border _____" along the Rio Grande
- Rockets first round pick in 1990, Alec degree available at a Texas univer.
- twisters in Texas
- Tyler is in _____ TX
- _____ Rio, TX
- Rangers won first AL _____ in 2010
- historic Austin hotel built in 1886
- TXism: "_____ a spell"

DOWN

- Barbary sheep found in West Texas
- wallet stuffers
- TXism: "Texas _____" (oil)
- TXism: "he _____ barbed wire as dental floss" (tough)
- TXism: "I'm working without a safety _____"
- an answer to a test question
- TXism: "_____ 'nuff"
- this Ray won 1977 Byron Nelson Golf Classic (init.)
- supermarkets throughout Texas
- "Gone With the Wind" plantation
- "top dog" in the Middle East
- sound loudness measures
- Jay Gould's railroad car on display in Jefferson, TX
- aces in blackjack?
- you can't _____ of Texas in one day
- "Beware the _____ of March"
- TXism: "_____ your head for something besides a hat rack"
- TXism: "_____ walking drunk"
- TXism: "_____ your head for something besides a hat rack"
- pecan pie, e.g.
- "night _____" (anytime)
- dir. from Mineola to Mount Pleasant

TEXAS CROSSWORD
 by Charley & Guy Orbison
 Copyright 2023 by Orbison Bros.

APRIL 24

WC Art Demonstration
 The Weatherford Art Association invites you to see artist Lynne Buchanan demonstrate her contemporary painting style during the meeting from 6 p.m. -7:45 p.m. on April 24th at Barlow Hall, 125 South Waco in Weatherford. For more information contact Debra Strandberg, Dstrandberg1978@gmail.com (817)996-0179.



MAY 7

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 Join Downtown Weatherford Inc for the 3rd ANNUAL Sunset on the Square, 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 7. Enjoy an outdoor dining

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BASEBALL

Bearcats bite Granbury

Shut out by Birdville and Saginaw

By **Ryan Wade**
The Community News

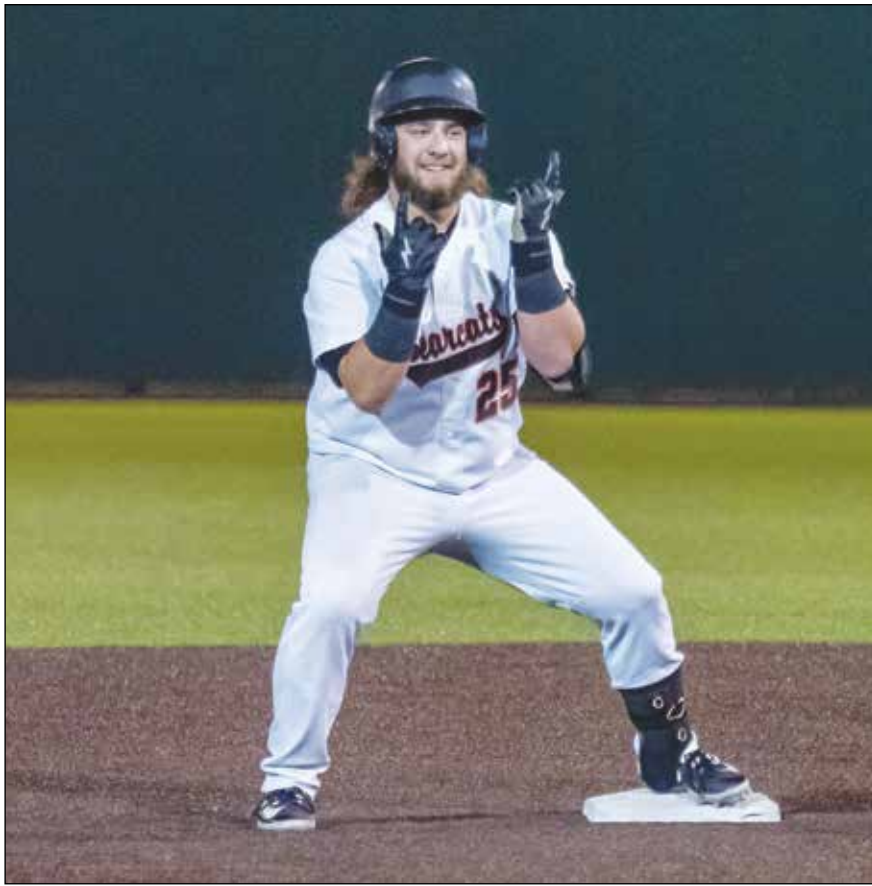
In the past week Aledo's baseball team has experienced both ends of the spectrum in terms of outcome and nothing in between.

On Friday, March 31, the Bearcats (14-8 overall, 3-2 in District 5-5A) made short work of Granbury with a 10-0 win that imposed a run rule in the fifth inning. Directly following that performance, Aledo was shut out on Saturday, April 1 on the road in Birdville and then again on Tuesday, April 4, at home by Saginaw.

"I think it's a gut check," head coach Chad Barry said after the loss to Saginaw. "At times adversity shows character, so I'm excited to see how we respond. [On Tuesday] they just beat us in every aspect of the game. They out baseballed us. That's our challenge. We've got to go [to Saginaw] to play. They're going to have a lot of confidence. We better show up with a chip on our shoulder like we have something to prove."

The Bearcats' struggles started with the first Rough Riders batter. A pair of hit batsmen followed by a pair of walks put Saginaw on the board without a ball being put in play. A trio of singles, an error, and a sac fly later and the Rough Riders were up 6-0 before the Bearcats got off the field.

Aledo managed to stop the bleeding defensively as they only surrendered two more runs in the remaining six innings of play. But the offense struggled at the plate to deal with Saginaw hurler Donnie Edgar, who had a stalwart performance on the bump.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Andrew Cambre celebrates after hitting a base-clearing double in the bottom of the fifth inning on Friday, March 31.

The Rough Riders' lanky right-hander gave up just three hits in the complete-game shutout. Even in the bottom of the fifth inning when Aledo loaded the bases with no outs following a pair of walks and a single by Garrett Rester, Edgar managed to work out of the jam with no damage done.

"I tip my hat to their pitcher," Barry said. "He did a great job pitching out of a jam. He's really good, really talented. At the same time, we've got to get better in the lineup and understand [in that situation]

we don't have to have a three-run triple. We need a single. We need a short, compact swing and to hit something back up the middle. We need to take one run at a time, not try to hit an eight-run home run."

Late rally leads Bearcats to victory

At the plate, the Bearcats took what Granbury gave. And the Pirates were in a charitable mood.

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page B7

SOFTBALL

Ladycats avoid upset at Northwest

One run enough for the win

By **Rick Mauch**
The Community News

The Aledo Ladycats had been steamrolling opponents in District 5-5A before their encounter with the Northwest Lady Texans on Friday, March 31 in Justin.

Behind the one-hit pitching of Brenlee Gonzales, the Ladycats (20-4-1 overall) improved to

8-0 in district with a 1-0 victory. Gonzales struck out eight, walked two and hit a batter.

The Ladycats had defeated the Lady Texans 10-0 in Aledo in the first round of league play on March 7.

Addie Perry drove in the game's only run in the top of the third inning. Reagan Davis and Claire Byers each had two hits to pace the Aledo offense, with Davis also hitting a triple and

Turn to **SOFTBALL**, page B5

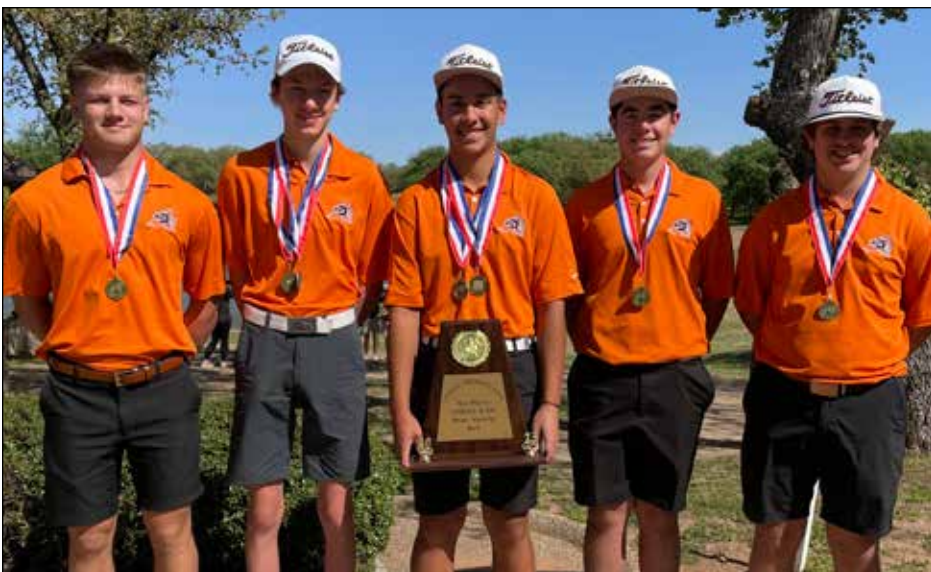


JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Reagan Davis beats the throw to home plate, scoring Aledo's only run of the night against Northwest. It was enough, as the Ladycats left there with a 1-0 victory.

BOYS GOLF

Bearcats follow Ladycats to district championship



CANDICE MAHANAY

The Aledo Bearcats won the District 5-5A championship at Sugar Tree Golf Course. Pictured are (from left) Jake Phillips, Dylan Kiser, Braylon Mahanay, Braden Stokes and Jett Moore.

Two AHS teams head to regionals

By **Rick Mauch**
The Community News

In what has become a regular thing every spring, the Aledo Bearcats joined the Ladycats in capturing a district championship. A week after the Ladycats won District 5-5A by an

eye-popping 105 strokes on the Sugar Tree Golf Course, the Bearcats, albeit the score being a little closer, duplicated the title feat.

Aledo Black posted a two-day score of 637 to best runner-up Wichita Falls Rider by 40 strokes. Both teams will compete in the 5A Region 1 Tournament at Texas Tech's Rawls Golf

Turn to **GOLF**, page B7

TRACK AND FIELD

Gribble vaults to win at Texas Relays

Sets new personal record

By **Rick Mauch**
The Community News

Aledo pole vaulter Sean Gribble cleared a school and personal-record 17 feet, 0.75 inches to top the field in the 95th Annual Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays at the University of Texas in Austin on Saturday, April 1.

Gribble's winning vault was four inches higher than runner-up Maddox Hamm of Scottsboro at 16-8.75.

"How cool is that? The Texas Relays isn't just a state preview meet, it is one of the top high school outdoor track and field meets in the nation, if not one of the top in the world," Aledo coach Andrew Clark said. "Kids to compete in that meet from multiple other states."

"Winning that meet is a huge accomplishment, not to mention a PR, and a new school record. And, doing it on the same stage that the state meet is hosted will be a huge advantage. Excited to see him compete in the upcoming meets."

Gribble was joined at the prestigious meet by Ladycat



COURTESY OF ANDREW CLARK

Aledo's Sean Gribble set a school record in the pole vault to win the prestigious Texas Relays in Austin over the April 1 weekend.

Lauren St. Peters. She finished 16-0 at the Northwest Texas Invitational on March 3.

of 41-5.5 and was 12th in the discus, throwing 136-6.


For Gribble, his previous best height was 16-8 at Aledo's own Bearcat Relays on March 9. The first time he cleared 16 feet was

Gribble has won five meets this season and 12 in his Aledo career.

Gribble and St. Peters will enter the District 5-5A Meet as favorites when they compete in Aledo Wednesday and Thursday, April 12-13.



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SOFTBALL

from page B4

each stealing a base. Texas Ray also added a hit.

"Northwest is a good team so it's always nice to come away with a win. Every game is different," Ladycats coach Heather Myers



JACKIE HAYSLIP/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Delaney Rosser rounds first base for a double against Northwest on Tuesday night, March 31.

said. "We never walk into a game knowing it's going to be a run rule. We take it one pitch and inning at a time. Our goal in every game is to win the inning. Lopsided scores or not, we are working hard for the win."

Gonzales improved to 6-2. She has surrendered one run or less in five of her victories.

"I can't say enough good things about Brenlee Gonzales. She's extremely talented," Myers said. "She definitely did her job and took care of business. Her stats the second go-around were better than the first time we faced Northwest, that's saying something! We were all very proud of her."

"I'd also like to give some praise to our defense. We focus a lot on making the routine plays. They've gone above and beyond and that's a game changer."

Aledo returns to action at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, against Saginaw at home. The Ladycats won 14-0 on March 10 in Saginaw.

Aledo 1, Northwest 0 March 31

	R	H	E
Aledo	0	0	1
Northwest	0	0	0
Aledo hitting: Claire Byers, 2-3, SB; Reagan Davis, 2-3, 3B, SB; Addie Perry, 1-3, BB, RBI; Texas Ray, 1-3.	0	0	0
Aledo pitching: Brenlee Gonzales, 7 IP, 1 H, 8 K, 2 BB, 1 HP.	0	0	1

TRACK AND FIELD

AMS runners dominate in Zone 2 Meet

Staff Reports

Aledo Middle School controlled almost all of the events in the Zone 2 Track and Field Meet March 27-28 at North Crowley High School.

Power 5 Zone 2 Meet Aledo Middle School Results

Seventh-Grade Girls
(Running distances in meters, field events in feet)
2400: 1. Juliet Sloan, 10:28.99; 2. Jules Avery, 10:29.64.
400 relay: 55.20, first.
800: 2. Campbell Clark, 2:51.02; 3. Sloan, 2:52.28.
100 hurdles: 1. Hailey Wuenstel, 18.50; 2. Emma Ralph, 19.67; 3. Peyton Davis, 20.05.
100: 1. Brinley Stokes, 14.05; 2. Avery Pipkins, 14.13.
800 relay: 1:56.85, first.
400: 1. Elizabeth Brethauer, 1:07.86; 2. Cecilia Frank, 1:10.52; 3. Alyssa Giles, 1:12.98.
300 hurdles: 1. Wuenstel, 56.29; 2. Davis, 58.17; 3. Brynlee Schneider, 58.25.
200: 1. Avery Sands, 28.71; 3. Avery, 29.99.
1600: 2. Ashlynn Durnil, 6:19.40.
1600 relay: 4:48.35, first.
High jump: 1. Brynlee Liniger, 4-6; 2. Pipkins, 4-4.
Pole vault: 1. Elizabeth Gamez, 6-0; 1. Ralph, 6-0; 3. Addison Fields, 6-0 (tiebreaker).
Long jump: 1. Wuenstel, 14-6; 2. Davis, 13-7.5.
Triple jump: 1. Davis, 29-2; 2.

Maya Sawyer, 28-2.25.
Discus: 1. Bailey Martin, 74-9; 2. Katelyn Lowe, 64-2; 3. Lily Morris, 63-2.
Shot put: 1. Lowe, 31-1.5.

Eighth-Grade Girls

2400: 1. Ella Dority, 11:01; 3. Kelsey Kimberling, 11:03.
400 relay: 55.50, second.
800: 2. McKenzie Spain, 2:37.38; 3. Kathryn Jackson, 2:45.47.
100 hurdles: 1. Ainsley Elmore, 17.51; 3. Macie Laidley, 17.85.
800 relay: 1:58.24, third.
400: 2. Eden Anderson, 1:03.13; 3. Kyla Pierce, 1:04.59.
300 hurdles: 1. Spain, 53.07; 3. Jackson, 55.67.
1600: 1. Dority, 6:27.31; 2. Kimberling, 6:34.39.
1600 relay: 4:35.90, first.
High jump: 1. Laidley, 4-8; 2. Brooklyn Dempsey, 4-6.
Pole vault: 1. Kerstyn Young, 6-0.
Long jump: 1. Elmore, 15-2.5; 3. Laidley, 14-10.
Triple jump: 2. Elmore, 30-5.75; 3. Claire Babek, 29-3.5.
Discus: 3. Pierce, 66-11.
Shot put: 2. Kennedy Cardenas, 31-10.

Seventh-Grade Boys

2400: 1. Andrew Walsh, 7:29.99; 2. Mick Sandefur, 8:39; 3. Kaiden Jones, 8:45.70.
400 relay: 50.00, second.
800: 2. Braxton Hamric, 2:32.78.
110 hurdles: 2. Diamond Ramos, 19.73.
800 relay: 1:46.20, first.
400: 2. Cade Nussbaum, 59.78.
300 hurdles: 2. Cavin Dye, 52.11.
200: 2. Maddox Nurse, 26.24.
1600: 1. Sandefur, 5:29.68; 3.

Jones, 5:33.71.
1600 relay: 3:52.24, first.
High jump: 2. Nurse, 5-0.
Pole vault: 1. Gage Hubka, 6-6; 1. Sandefur, 6-6; 1. Beacon Voskamp, 6-6.
Triple jump: 1. Nurse, 35-11; 2. Grayson Isbell, 35-7; 3. Kouper Wedgeworth, 33-10.
Discus: 1. Kason Evans, 105-10; 3. Zackery Verner, 93-4.
Shot put: 2. Christian Fraticelli, 35-7.

Eighth-Grade Boys

2400: 1. Ethan Matthews, 9:01.
400 relay: 48.93, third.
800: 2. Kaden Jordan, 2:25.01.
110 hurdles: 2. Gavin Richardson, 18.47.
800 relay: 1:44.36, second.
400: 3. Garhett Love, 54.78.
300 hurdles: 1. Robert Hill, 47.13; 3. Kameron Younger, 48.21.
200: 3. Nathaniel Kirkpatrick, 26.28.
1600: 1. Matthews, 5:30.77; 2. Jordan, 5:34.23.
1600 relay: 3:52.24, first.
High jump: 1. Cade Cunningham, 5-8 (tiebreaker); 2. Colt Frazier, 5-8; 3. Cooper Hull, 5-6.
Pole vault: 1. Austin Bell, 8-0; 1. Kantyn Kasich, 8-0; 1. Jace Schull, 8-0.
Long jump: 2. Love, 17-9.5.
Triple jump: 1. Love, 36-4; 3. Braiden Wooten, 34-6.
Discus: 1. Grant Forman, 107-0; 2. Cole Cox, 100-2.
Shot put: 3. Cox, 36-8.



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EVENTS

New Braunfels Area Car Club Swap Meet, April 21, 22 & 23, 2023. Comal County Fairgrounds 801 E. Common Street, New Braunfels. www.newbraunfelsareacarclub.com. Free to public. Gates open at 8 a.m.

Texas Ladies State Chili Championship Cook-off. Sat., April 15th 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Max Starcke Park East. Chili, Craft and Food Vendors, Music, Silent Auction, Raffles, Family Fun! Judging begins at 12:30 p.m. Sign up to be a chili cook. https://www.tlscoc.com/registration.html. VisitSeguin.com, 830-401-5000.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CITY OF WILLOW PARK, TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Willow Park, Texas, shall convene at 6:00 p.m. on May 23, 2023, at the City Municipal Complex located at City Hall, 120 El Chico Trail, Suite A, Willow Park, Texas 76087, and, during such meeting, the City Council will consider the passage of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of certificates of obligation, in one or more series, in an amount not to exceed EIGHT MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$8,500,000.00) for the purpose of paying contractual obligations to be incurred for (i) acquiring, renovating, improving and equipping an existing building for public safety facilities, judicial facilities, a city hall and municipal facilities for administrative offices for city departments responsible for designated infrastructure, including streets, roads, parks, water and wastewater utilities, information technology systems and cybersecurity and various other city departments, and (ii) professional services rendered in connection with such projects and the financing thereof; such certificates to be payable from ad valorem taxes and net revenues of the City's Waterworks and Sewer System. In accordance with Texas Local Government Code Section 271.049, (i) the current principal amount of all of the City's outstanding public securities secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes is \$13,952,127.05 (ii) the current combined principal and interest required to pay all of the City's outstanding public securities secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes on time and in full is \$18,804,986.37; (iii) the estimated combined principal and interest required to pay the certificates of obligation to be authorized on time and in full is \$21,503,689.46; (iv) the maximum interest rate for the certificates may not exceed the maximum legal interest rate; and (v) the maximum maturity date of the certificates to be authorized is February 15, 2063. The above information excludes \$39,742,872.95 in principal amount of outstanding debt obligations the City has designated as self-supporting in Resolution No. 2023-02 which the City reasonably expects to pay from revenue sources other than ad valorem taxes; provided, however, that in the event such self-supporting revenue sources are insufficient to pay debt service, the City is obligated to levy ad valorem taxes to pay such debt obligations. The certificates are to be issued, and this notice is given, under and pursuant to the provisions of Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 271, Subchapter C, as amended.

Crystal Dozier City Secretary City of Willow Park, Texas

PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the General/Special Election held on May 6, 2023 will be tested on April 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at Parker County Courthouse Annex, 1112 Santa Fe Drive, to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Jenise 'Crickett' Miller
 Parker County Elections Administrator

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección general/especial celebradas el 6 de mayo de 2023 se probará el 12 de abril de 2023 a las 9:00 am en el anexo de la corte del condado del Parker, 1112 Santa Fe Dr, para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.

Jenise 'Crickett' Miller
 Firma del/dela Oficial



News



Sports



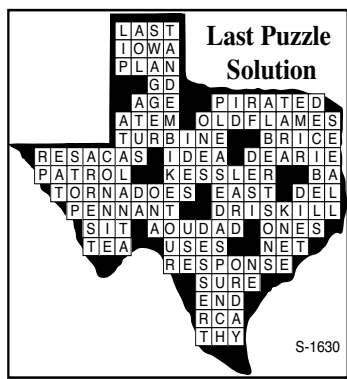
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TOWN OF ANNETTA NORTH ORDINANCE NO. 2023-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-02, AS AMENDED, THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ANNETTA NORTH, TEXAS, BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION ON APPROXIMATELY 3.71 ACRES SITUATED IN THE ANDREW J. BELL SURVEY, ABSTRACT NUMBER 129, PARKER COUNTY, TEXAS, FROM ITS PRESENT CLASSIFICATION OF "AG" AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO "R-2" SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT—2.0 ACRE LOTS, AND REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ANY PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION WHO VIOLATES, DISOBEYS, OMITTS, NEGLECTS OR REFUSES TO COMPLY WITH OR WHO RESISTS THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE FINED NOT MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00). EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION IS PERMITTED TO EXIST SHALL CONSTITUTE A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

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SOCCKER

Ladycats exceeded expectations in 2023

Embrace future potential

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

As the 2023 campaign got underway in January, no one quite knew what to expect from the Aledo Ladycats soccer club this season. The young team featured just six seniors among a bevy of younger talent with little to no varsity experience.

Aledo boasted a good crop of senior leaders in 2022, but the question of who would fill those roles in their absence was a real concern heading into this season.

Once the Ladycats took the pitch immediately following the holidays, all of those questions became resounding statements made by a group of young ladies on a mission.

"I feel like we definitely exceeded expectations after losing good talent last year," Ladycats coach Bryan Johnson said of his club's performance in 2023. "We only had six seniors this year. A lot of the girls had quality playing time in junior varsity before this season, which I feel like was more beneficial than if they had sat on the bench in varsity."

"This was our goalkeeper's first time playing the position. She usually plays in the field, but we thought this would be a good opportunity for her, and she embraced it. I'm excited to see how much she improves through the offseason with a little more experience. I feel confident going forward."

The Ladycats - who finished the year with an overall record of 17-7-2 and a District 5-5A record of 9-3 for second place - got some significant game experience right out of the

gate thanks to a trio of tournaments early in January. Coming out of those three tournaments sporting a record of 6-3-2 went a long way to bolster the confidence of this young crew and what they could accomplish as the season marched on.

Every team is filled with its share of obstacles to overcome. During this season, the Ladycats had their share of adversities. However, there's no tragedy that impacts a team as tight-knit as this Aledo club was, like losing a beloved teammate to a season-ending injury.

Unfortunately, that's exactly what happened on Feb. 24, with Saginaw in town.

In the early minutes of the match, Sydney Mcguire raced down the near side of the field while battling a Lady Rough Rider. Mcguire dribbled past the defense and attempted a pass back to the middle of the box in hopes one of her teammates would get a shot on goal. As she planted to kick the ball back across her body, she felt an all too familiar tear in her knee as she collapsed to the turf writhing in agony.

In that moment laying on the ground clutching her injured knee waiting on the team trainer, she knew her season was lost. She also knew exactly how grueling the road to recovery is going to be.

"That was a huge blow," Johnson recounted. "This is the third time she's had an ACL injury. We did a lot of work before the season to strengthen her quad to protect the knee, but sometimes it just can't be helped. You just never know. They've told her it will be nine months of work to recover. I've told



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Charlie Currie dribbles down the field during a home match against Azle. | MIDDLE: Georgia Zirbsler prepares to take possession of the ball as a North Side player tumbles on the turf. | RIGHT: Saddie Smith works against a North Side player during bi-district action.

her to prepare like she's going to play next season just to help her stay motivated, but she's already decided she doesn't want to play in college.

"That's tough, because that was her goal as a freshman. Whether she's back next year, or if she decides to just cheer us on, she'll be the best at whatever she decides."

Beyond just the personal impact of an injury like that, losing a key player has huge implications for the team, as well.

"I didn't know where we would get goals," Johnson stated. "We were getting little goals here and there, but she was our primary scoring threat to that point in the season. Somebody was going to have to step up and score goals."

With Mcguire on the sidelines sporting a knee brace as she cheered on her teammates, everyone acclimated

to their new roles for the good of the team. Harper Smith, Emaree Gibson, and Reagan Krajca led the scoring attack for the Ladycats the remainder of the season as they went 3-1 down the stretch to secure a playoff berth.

The Ladycats dominated North Side in the opening round of the playoffs before succumbing to a resolute Midlothian team in round two.

"[Mcguire] was there [at the Midlothian game]," Johnson recalled. "She cheered the girls on. I'm not saying she would've made the difference in the Midlothian game, but she would've given us another option they would've had to plan for."

Aledo's season came to an end with the loss to Midlothian. The playoff run is one Johnson is still

chewing on in the weeks after it concluded.

"I wouldn't say I was frustrated by the loss to Midlothian," he said. "It's just kind of the tale of two ends. We shut out Northside, who we've never lost to. Then we lost to Midlothian, who we've never beat."

As one season ends, preparation for the next season begins in short order. For Johnson, he's already looking ahead with great anticipation.

"I'm one of those coaches who's always excited about next season," he stated. "Right now, I've got middle school soccer. We've got over 90 girls playing. We're fortunate to have this much talent entering our program in the next few years."



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