

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

WILLOW PARK

## Council celebrates outgoing, incoming leaders

### Chew retires, Franklin sworn in as police chief

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Tuesday's (June 27) Willow Park City Council meeting celebrated the retirement of an individual who has played an important role in the city's growth, along with the beginning of a new chapter in leader and protector.

Betty Chew is retiring after seven years in the planning and development department. Mayor Doyle Moss presented her with a proclamation honoring her service.

Also, Daniel Franklin was officially sworn in as the city's new full-time police chief. He had held the position on an interim basis since the retirement of Carrie Ellis in late March.

### Chew bids farewell

Betty Chew came to Willow Park in 2016 planning to stay a couple or three months. It turned into seven years, and in that time she was instrumental in the growth spurt that included:

- The Shops at Willow Park;
- The Preserve;
- Starbucks;
- Parker County Ice House;
- The Village at Willow Park; and

- The new football stadium at Trinity Christian Academy.

"Betty's been an integral part of her staff. She got here a few months before I did, and it's been a pleasure to work alongside her," Moss said. "She's very good at what she does and she will be missed."

Chew, a retired community development director after many years serving the city of Stephenville, arrived in Willow Park at the

Turn to **CHEW**, page A9



RICK MAUCH/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss presents a proclamation to Betty Chew, who is retiring after working in the planning and development department since 2016. She was a part of several major growth events.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Nolan Golden (left) and Jack Grimm (right) were each selected as Outstanding Performer at the 2023 Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest. Of about 100,000 students participating in the regional music contests and the thousands of musicians who performed at TSSEC, only 2-3% of the solo performances earned the distinguished honor of being recognized as an Outstanding Performer. Joey Paul, Aledo ISD Director of Bands, said "This achievement is truly a mark of excellence!"

ANNETTA

## Mayor encourages smart water use

### Special to The Community News

Annetta Mayor Sandy Roberts is reminding her local constituents to be smart in the use of water, especially during the current heat wave.

"We all expect to turn on our faucet and have clear, clean drinking water for our families," Roberts said. "We ask that you conserve water by limiting your outside water usage. Overwatering can stress plants and foundations so pay attention to your surroundings and give them just the amount they need."

Roberts said this is also a great time to repair any water leaks residents might have.

"Even a small leak can be thousands of gallons each month," Roberts said. "We are 100% dependent upon ground water. We can only pump so much water from the ground, properly treat

it, and store it before the water gets distributed to your homes. These systems are not designed to have an endless supply.

Even a small leak can be thousands of gallons each month

"Also, please be considerate of grass and structure fires that take tens of thousands of gallons of water to fight. When the tanks get low, pressures and volumes drop considerably and that puts us all at risk."

If you need to use an excessive amount of water for outside use, contact Town Hall at 817-441-5770 or email info@annettatx.gov.

ALEDO ISD

## New Bearcat Leadership Team additions announced

### Two additions at Aledo High School

By Mercedes Mayer  
Aledo ISD

Aledo ISD has announced the hiring of an associate principal and an assistant principal at Aledo High School, and the addition of assistant principals at McAnally Middle School and Stuard Elementary School.

Dr. Jeffrey Bradley has been named as a high school associate principal. Bradley has been an assistant principal at Weatherford High School in Weatherford ISD since 2020. He has also served as an associate principal and principal at Tison Middle School in WISD.

Bradley was also the director of college career readiness and learning



resources in Keller ISD, principal at Keller High School, and a high school assistant principal at two high schools in KISD. He has also worked as an assistant principal in Crowley ISD and a high school math teacher in Birdville ISD. Bradley has bachelor's and master's degrees from TCU and a doctorate from the University of North Texas.

"Aledo ISD is a fast-growth district that continually provides premier learning and extracurricular opportunities for the Bearcat community," Bradley said. "I am excited for the opportunity to become a Bearcat and look forward

to building positive relationships with the students, staff, parents, and Bearcat community as a whole."

Stacy Donalson has been named as a high school assistant principal. Donalson has been an assistant principal at McAnally Middle School for the past year. She has also served as an assistant principal in Keller ISD, and a dance teacher and drill team director at Chisholm Trail High School in Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District.

Donalson has also served as the head drill team director at Cypress Creek High School in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD and at Smithson

Valley High School in Comal ISD. Donalson has a bachelor's from Texas State University and a master's from the University of Houston.

"I am eager to get started on this new journey, serving our Bearcats from AMS and MMS as high schoolers," Donalson said. "I am committed to cultivating meaningful relationships, partnering with the staff and community to provide exceptional experiences for our Bearcats, and prioritizing campus safety and security to ensure high levels of learning for all. I am thrilled that I will have the opportunity to collaborate with dedicated teachers, staff, and students of Aledo High School and Daniel Ninth Grade Campus to create a positive experience and continue growing greatness together!"

Dr. Megan Snyder has been named as an assistant principal at McAnally Middle School. Snyder has worked as a freshman success coach and biology teacher at Western Hills High School in Fort Worth ISD. Snyder has a bachelor's degree from

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, two master's degrees from the University of Texas at Arlington, and a doctorate from Capella University.

"I am so excited to be joining the Bearcat family as an assistant principal at McAnally Middle School," Snyder said. "I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know the staff, students, parents and community members! It is such an honor, and I am eager to begin the 2023-2024 school year in Aledo ISD."

Brandy Emmitte has been named the assistant principal at Stuard Elementary School. Emmitte has been a special education instructional facilitator in Aledo ISD for the last three years, serving both Stuard and Walsh Elementary Schools during the 2022-23 school year. Prior to that, she was a special education teacher in Aledo ISD and in the Williamson County Schools system in Tennessee. Emmitte also taught second grade in the Wake County Public Schools system in

Turn to **AISD**, page A9



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# In & Around Parker County

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DFW Countertop Repair is a small family-owned business owned by Marcus Zurobski and Linda Bannister, who have been married and worked together for nearly 25 years. Zurobski began his career as a woodworker and craftsman making specialty wood crafts for artisans in Deep Ellum. According to Bannister, "Marcus had a following among artists who appreciated the meticulousness in the way he did his work. He carried that same attention to detail over when he expanded his talents into carpentry and remodeling."

After moving to Weatherford, the pair decided to start their own business, Marz Remodeling, LLC, a BBB accredited business, doing business

as DFW Countertop Repair. "We started out doing full-scale remodeling, but decided to specialize," said Bannister. "While there are many excellent fabricators out there, few companies focus exclusively on restoration or repair of existing countertops. If you've invested thousands of dollars in your home, you want to protect that investment. Our services are designed specifically with that goal in mind."

Zurobski was trained by leading experts in countertop repair. Continuing education is an important part of the work. "Every day I spend some time learning something new about this work. I love spending time in my shop experimenting with

new techniques, tools, or chemicals honing my skills." Zurobski said, "It's an exciting time in the industry as new materials and manufacturing techniques are expanding the types of materials that can be used for

countertops. You have to understand the unique properties of each one to know how to properly work with it. It's extremely important to keep up with the changes. It's exciting and I love the challenge."

## DFW Countertop Repair

DFW Countertop Repair works on most surface materials, including granite, quartz, marble, natural and engineered stone, and solid surface. Besides repair and restorations, they also specialize in modifying countertop to fit new appliances and installing sinks. They service both residential and commercial customers across the DFW area.

"Our focus is our customers. We don't cut corners or try to rush through jobs," Bannister said. "We take the time to do the work the way it should be done to achieve the best results possible."

For more info on DFW Countertop Repair, visit [DFWCountertopRepair.com](http://DFWCountertopRepair.com), or call 817-565-3110.

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PEACH FESTIVAL

# 38th annual event promises plenty - and more

## Area expanded

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

July might be the second hottest month of the year on average in Texas, but for folks visiting Weatherford on the second Saturday everything's peachy keen.

And peachy ice cream, peachy pie, peachy cobbler. Whatever you can think of that can be peachy, odds are it will be in downtown Weatherford July 8 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on July 8 in the 38th Annual Parker County Peach Festival.

This year the event area has been expanded by over 25%, making even more room for over 200 art, craft food and activity vendors will be on hand, including some from across the United States. There will be the Annual 42 Tournament at the Doss Heritage & Culture Center, the Peach Fest Art Show is already up at the Doss Center, and the Peach Pedal Bike Ride is back again this year being organized by the United Way of Parker County.

Oh, and the Peach Fest Food Competition is always a crowd favorite.

Expansion is good, because on average 40,000 visitors come to town for the event.

"We are always looking for ways to expand," Weatherford Chamber of Commerce President Tammy Gazzola said. "Also the growth of the additional events, such as Peach Week, highlighting the local peach goodies has created a lot of interest post-COVID."

## Food, food and more food

In 2020 when there was no actual Peach Festival because of the COVID 19 pandemic. Instead, officials opted for a Peach Week with various "peachy" activities throughout the week at local establishments. Now, even though the Festival has returned in full form, the treats at the local establishments remain popular.

"We love seeing all the peachy treats throughout town!" Gazzola exclaimed. "Don't make me choose one favorite, because I have many favorites around town."

Just to mention a few of her favorites - and the choice of many other folks:

- Balentine's Bakery - Peach donuts and peach fritters.
- Shep's - PeachO de Gallo burger and peach salads.
- Yesterday's Sandwich Shop - Peach cinnamon rolls.
- Back Home Bakery - Peach bread pudding and peach crumble bars.
- Funky Munky - Peach jubilee.
- Sweet Emelia's - Peach gelato and sorbet are, Gazzola said, "a daily treat for me that week!"
- And at the Festival itself, some of the crowd favorites are:
- Peach Juleps by Medical City Weatherford.
- Peach ice cream by Coutts Methodist Church.
- Peach cobbler by the Weatherford Optimist Club.

"You will find lots of peachy treats like peach salsa, peach tea, peach cheesecake, peach candy and so much more," Gazzola said.

The peach ice cream, in particular, always draws a crowd. After all, what's better than ice cream on a hot summer day? And it is a Peach Festival, of course.

"I have not been invited to help with the making of the peach ice cream, but I know it is a favorite every single year. The volunteers and staff at Coutts Methodist Church work for weeks leading up to the event to provide that sweet treat for attendees," Gazzola said.

And, of course, you can eat just plain ol' juicy peaches, complete with the fuzz.

The night before the Festival will be the annual food competition at All Saints Anglican Church's Barlow Hall, 125 S. Waco St. Entries are accepted from 4-6 p.m. for \$5 each with a limit of one entry per person. Each entry MUST contain peaches.

The awards ceremony is Saturday at noon on Stage 1 in the First Baptist Church parking lot.

"The food competition is a crowd favorite and the competition is fierce," Gazzola said.

There will also be live entertainment on two stages throughout the day, featuring local talent.



The morning of the Festival is the Peach Pedal Bike Ride. The ride will begin in the parking lot of Weatherford High School, located at 2121 Bethel Rd, Weatherford. The 61-mile ride starts at 7:30 a.m., the 39-mile ride starts at 7:45 a.m., and the 28-mile and 8-mile rides start at 8 a.m.

Over 2,200 cyclists regularly participate in the ride.

## A Good Crop

Gazzola said the peach crops are once again good this year.

"We've been in contact with three orchards that will be attending and they are looking forward to the day," she said. "My personal peach tree is covered and looking like ready for picking around the first of July."

Hutton's Peach Farm provides many of the peaches for the popular event each year and will do so again this year, owner Peggy Hutton said.

"We are happy to let you know these spring rains are making this a good year for peaches," she said. "We have been a part of the Peach Festival since the very first year and continue to be an integral part by providing peaches."

Turn to PEACH, page 6



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Peaches, people and more peaches and people will be in and around downtown Weatherford on Saturday, July 8 for the 38th Annual Parker County Peach Festival

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### Content Submission Policy

We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-386-1469 or email [news@community-news.com](mailto:news@community-news.com). Please provide the basic story information as well as contact information.

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 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

# Conservation urged as searing heat wave sweeps state



Gary Borders  
gborders@texaspress.com

Texas' power grid reported record electricity use early last week. Both the Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas are urging residents and businesses to voluntarily reduce electricity use as temperatures soar above 100 degrees over much of the state. So far the grid, which administers 90% of the state's power load, has been able to keep up with demand.

Temperatures set record highs for June in several Texas cities: 111 degrees in Junction, 115 in Laredo, and 113 in Del Rio. The heat wave stretches from the Pecos River Valley in the west to the Rio Grande in the south to the Pineywoods in the east. State Climatologist John Nielsen-Gammon pointed to several factors, including near-record temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico, a high-pressure system trapping the heat over the state, and climate change.

"Texas is running about 2 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than it did during the 20th century," Nielsen-Gammon told the Texas Tribune. "So if you're close to a temperature record, that will put it over the edge."

ERCOT has implemented a voluntary curtailment program for so-called flexible customers — such as bitcoin mining facilities — to reduce power use during periods of high demand.

"These customers are large power users but have the flexibility and willingness to reduce their energy use quickly, if needed. By working with these large loads

during peak demand periods, we will better serve all Texans while keeping the grid reliable and resilient," said Woody Rickerson of ERCOT.

### Storms spur spate of disaster declarations

Storm systems have caused widespread damage across the state and prompted Gov. Greg Abbott to issue disaster declarations for Ochiltree, Cass, Franklin, Harrison, Marion, Upshur, Wood, Camp, Gregg, Hopkins, Panola, Smith and Titus counties. The storms caused loss of life, severe damage to power lines and structures, and flash flooding.

A subsequent declaration came after a tornado hit Matador in West Texas and killed four people. That declaration covers Motley, Nolan, Fisher, Jones, Kent, and Stonewall counties. Just days earlier a tornado killed three and injured dozens in Perryton in the Texas Panhandle.

"What Texans in Perryton have gone through over the past couple of days have been nothing short of horrific," Abbott said. "At the same time, it's encouraging and inspiring to see the way the community has come together to rebuild."

### Hope rises for breaking legislative impasse

An impasse over property tax relief appears to be near an end after the Senate unanimously passed a package that would cut both homeowners' property taxes and taxes on thousands of businesses by a record \$18 billion, the Austin American-Statesman reported. At the same time, House Speaker Dade Phelan appointed a select committee to provide "recommendations for long-term, sustainable" relief.

The first special session called by Abbott ends this week, making it likely a second session will follow. The Senate bill would raise the homestead exemption to \$100,000, with an additional \$40,000 exemption for homeowners 65 and older. The franchise tax on businesses would further exempt an estimated 67,000 small businesses.

Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick have feuded over which version of the property tax bills should ultimately prevail, with Abbott backing a House plan passed on the first day of the special session.

### AG's office tries to defy comptroller over Paxton's pay

The Texas attorney general's office attempted to continue paying impeached Attorney General Ken Paxton, who was suspended pending a Senate trial set for Sept. 5. The Dallas Morning News obtained communications between the attorney general's chief of staff and the Texas comptroller's office, regarding Paxton's paycheck for June.

"Simply put, it is unclear that the CPA (Comptroller of Public Accounts) has authority to withhold AG Paxton's salary under these circumstances," Lesley French, office chief of staff wrote in an email to the director of the comptroller's fiscal management division on Wednesday, The News reported.

Paxton is accused of bribery, obstruction of justice and abuse of office — allegations he has denied.

The comptroller's office has oversight over the state's expenditures, and officials there noted money is appropriated for only one attorney general. After Paxton's suspension, former Secretary of State John Scott was appointed the interim attorney general and is now leading the office.

The attorney general's position pays \$153,700 annually.

### Latinos now make up biggest share of state's population

In new population estimates released last week by the U.S. Census Bureau, Latinos now make up the largest share of the state's population and have since at least July 2022. The bureau reported Hispanic Texans made up 40.2% of the total, edging out non-Hispanic white Texans, who made up 39.8%, the Texas Tribune reported.

Hispanic Texans are expected to make up a majority of the state's population in the decades to come. Recent census estimates indicate 49.3% of the state's residents under 18 are Hispanic.

### ERCOT can't be sued, high court rules

The Texas Supreme Court on Friday ruled that ERCOT, which operates the state's power grid, is a government entity and is immune to lawsuits resulting from Winter Storm Uri in February 2021. The 5-4 ruling reversed a previous judgment from a Dallas appeals court, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Chief Justice Nathan Hecht, writing for the majority, said it should be immune to suits because "it prevents the disruption of key governmental services, protects public funds, and respects separation of powers principles."

ERCOT is the nation's only power grid contained wholly within a single state.

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](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com).

## GuestColumn

# Watch out for political cults



Jeff Streetman  
jeffstreetman@gmail.com

The truth can be hard to find these days, as lies and deceit flood our social media pages, run rampant on the internet, show up on billboards, and flow freely from the mouths of self-righteous mythomaniacs. A leading cause of such deception in our society is cult culture.

Infamous cults have long piqued public fascination, from the Manson Family to Heaven's Gates. While those dramatic stories are beyond disturbing, it is important to realize that cults are more common than we realize, and they are seriously dangerous to the health of modern civilization. Characteristics of a cult are consistent across history. Every cult has a self-proclaimed leader or small group of leaders, people who claim to be saviors of humanity, to be bearers of infinite wisdom, or even claim to actual gods. Cult chiefs tend to hold extreme views, so deviant that they cannot fit in mainstream society.

Heads of cults seek to control many aspects of their followers' lives by feeding them limited and

false information, by limiting their access to the outside world or to differing perspectives, and by regulating their speech and actions. Those who may dissent from a cult leader are subject to intense defamation, expulsion, and excommunication. While many cults are religious, the types of cults vary; there are cults of personality, terrorist cults, and of course, political cults — and combinations of all the above!

Spotting a political cultist is simple. Is a group leader overly charismatic? Does the figurehead claim to have some sort of ordained authority over a topic, like claiming to be a border security expert just because they camped out with a militia on the border? Do they compare themselves to holy figures?

Do they tell repeated lies and entrench themselves in a lie when faced with the truth, like by saying a legislator voted against banning gender modification surgery for children, even though the legislator voted for a bill written to ban such practices? Do they cry "attack on our rights" whenever a bill does not fall perfectly in line with their views? Do they demand their followers fall 100% in line with their own views, then slander anyone who does not pass their purity test?

Do they fear transparency? Do they create a monopoly of news "sources" or "scorecards" so that their followers are never able to find the real truth? If the

answer is yes to these questions, then they might be a political cultist.

In Texas, we are blessed to live in the freest state, the most conservative state, and the most economically strong state in our Union. During the 87th Texas Legislative Session, lawmakers conducted the single most conservative session in state history; that conservative movement continued this year in the 88th Texas Legislative Session.

Yet political cults of deception and disruption continue to plant seeds of distrust, convincing constituents that their conservative elected officials are "RINOs" and "liberals." Cultists spew never ending lies. Cultists claim their representatives pass a "bad bill" even when a bill works for the public good of all citizens. They accuse officials of being "drunk" based on 40 seconds of questionable footage. Cultists turn a blind eye to the gross misconduct of an elected official because he is ultra conservative, "fiscally responsible" or because he fell in line with their narrow doctrine.

James Madison warned, "The instability, injustice, and confusion introduced into the public councils, have, in truth, been the mortal diseases under which popular governments have everywhere perished; as they continue to be the favorite and fruitful

topics from which the adversaries to liberty derive their most specious declamations."

The health of our Republic depends on our acceptance of the truth and our rejection of lies. When engaged in civics, be responsible by conducting solid research. Check your legislators' actual voting records on the state's website: [capital.texas.gov](http://capital.texas.gov). Read the Journal Proceedings from the House and Senate. Watch the Legislature online; each session is live streamed on the House and Senate websites.

Read the real text of a bill, not some political pundit's opinion of a bill. Familiarize yourself with the Texas Constitution and the Texas Codes. Do not let political cultists be your source of knowledge. Do not be led astray by zealots hungry for power. When a lie is hung on your front door or lands in your mailbox, when someone spouts misinformation, or when a cult tries to persuade you without using real substance, discard the nonsense and stand up for the truth.

Jeff Streetman and his wife and two daughters have lived in the City of Aledo for more than 13 years. Jeff is an active community member and is on the board of the local Lions Club, AISD growth committees and Band booster club. Jeff and his family love this town and the Bearcats!



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GuestColumn

# It's all about the love of the game



**Laura Finer**  
laurafiner@gmail.com

Team colors from all over converge

My son and I were recently able to go to the opening weekend of the Men's College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. As a TCU graduate and having a son who loves baseball it was a memorable weekend in the making as TCU hadn't been to the MCWS since 2017.

After our drive due North, we arrived at what I thought would be a typical baseball game, or any sporting match for that matter. Two teams with fans for those teams. What I wasn't expecting to see was an abundance of different fans from schools all over the nation. There were eight teams playing in the MCWS but to look in the stands, it can take a minute to know which two teams are playing.

We first stopped by the TCU tailgate in the Beer Garden. There were lines of tents along the path with merchandise such as hats, t-shirts, towels, bats, balls, pins, and so many things. The Horned Frog mascot walked through the beer garden and just about everyone wanted to take their picture with that fun-loving mascot. He met the Oral Roberts Golden Eagle mascot and had a friendly game of rock-paper-scissors that had everyone laughing and enjoying their time regardless of school



LAURA FINER

The TCU Horned Frog mascot poses with the Oral Roberts Golden Eagle mascot at the College World Series.

affiliation. Unfortunately, the Horned Frog lost, and well, later, so did TCU.

Walking into Charles Schwab Stadium was electric. The perfectly mowed green grass, the fresh white chalk lines, the smell of concession stands, the chatter of excited people, two teams warming up on the field, a college baseball fans dream.

After finding our seats I realized I drove to Nebraska only to sit by a man wearing a burnt orange University of Texas shirt. He asked if it was ok that he cheered for TCU. We had a laugh and I said, "Yes, please!"

As soon as the game started, the entire stadium came alive. No matter the seat, every fan in the stadium had a great view. Although if you go to the daytime game, I do recommend sitting in rows 23-30 for the shade. The outfield was painfully hot.

Even in the sun the beachballs made their appearance regardless of the heightened security at the entrances, the beach balls made their way to

the stands. Every once in a while, you would see three or four colorful balls go flying up and get passed around in the outfield. A few were lost to the field staff, who I assume do not find these shenanigans amusing.

Then came the infamous wave. The crowd went around the stadium quite a few times tossing their hands in the air and screaming as their turn came, albeit it took quite a few comical failed attempts to get it started. These little things are what make this event so special as no matter the school on the front of the fans shirt, they were vibrant and excited just to be there.

The game was exciting to watch too! TCU was up 5-2 in the eighth inning. The stadium was rocking. Back and forth cheering. Then in the ninth with 2 runners on base, Oral Roberts hit a homerun and TCU lost 6-5. Breaking our eleven-game winning streak.

The next day, we went to the LSU vs Tennessee evening game. I wanted to see what two SEC teams play like and



LAURA FINER

Game 1 of the College World Series between TCU and Oral Roberts at Charles Schwab Field in Omaha, Nebraska.

see the difference between the crowds. We were not disappointed. There were 25,000 people crammed in the stands that night. I thought for sure I would see the divide between purple and orange, but nope! Now don't get me wrong, there were a lot of them.

In our section, there were Florida, Kansas State, Michigan, Ohio State, Baylor, Oral Roberts, South Carolina, and TCU fans among others. The energy felt among fans from all over the country who watched teams they had no vested interest in displayed the passion and love they had for baseball. It truly changes how you feel about a game for the better, if not for the best.

I didn't know who to cheer for, so I cheered for both teams. We watched the LSU pitcher Paul Skenes have an amazing appearance on the mound throwing 123 pitches and 12 strike outs. We sang Rocky Top when Tennessee scored. We were there for the love of the game.

We went back to the field the next day to watch TCU

play their second game against Virginia. This being an elimination game for one of the teams made the experience even more tense, more exciting and all around perfect for even the most average of baseball fans. TCU almost had a repeat of the ninth inning rally from Virginia but in the end, TCU won 4-3.

It's always fun to see TCU on the big stage. The small school in Fort Worth really does show up with fans. The CWS reminded me how much of a close-knit community we are. While there I saw my dad's neighbors, a friend from our son's travel baseball team, an elementary school teacher from my daughter's school, and yes, even our neighborhood UPS driver was there! I love our little school.

After the game we were walking to the car I heard a son ask his father, "Dad, who did you want to win?" He answered, "I didn't really have a team in the game, but I am happy that TCU won." It made me smile. People were there for the love of the game.

For my son to watch his favorite players on the biggest stage in college baseball with Cole Fontenelle, Elijah Nunes, Brayden Taylor and so many more is something that neither he nor I will ever forget. Not just the games, we will never forget the atmosphere, the joy, and the passion of everyone who attended.

The Frogs went on to win another game against Oral Roberts. Even though I wasn't there, I could feel the electricity through the TV.

Unfortunately, the team fell to Florida with a 3-2 loss. We needed that ninth inning rally, but it did not materialize.

What a season for the Horned Frogs. Mid-season no one would have believed we would finish in the final four in the country at the College World Series.

As TCU head coach Kirk Saarloos said, "Every season has a story, but this one is pretty special."

*Laura Finer is a page designer for The Community News. She lives in Fort Worth with her family and is a TCU alumnus.*

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## PEACH

from page 3

The Huttons provide peaches for the Peach Pedal bicycle ride also. They provide peaches to Coutts for the ice cream. Also, various businesses buy peaches to sell during the festival, not counting the huge amount they sell at their own booth all day.

### Take Heat Precautions

Why is the event so popular that more folks than the entire population of Weatherford flock to town each year. Gazzola has a very simple answer.

"A great event for the whole family," she said.

With all those people, however, comes precautions. It is, after all, July in Texas, and it is not uncommon for temperatures to hit triple digits.

"We have several hydration stations throughout the festival to keep folks hydrated, several misting tents and cool down stations," Gazzola said. "Coming early is always a great idea to beat the heat."

Parking, admittedly, can be a challenge. For easy transportation to the Festival, hop on one of the air-conditioned shuttles from the Weatherford School District Ninth-Grade Center, Weatherford College or Heritage Park to be dropped off

at one of the Festival entrances.

### 38th Annual Parker County Peach Festival

Saturday, July 8  
Downtown Weatherford  
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Over 200 art, craft food and activity vendors will be on hand, including some from across the United States.

The Annual 42 Tournament at the Doss Heritage & Culture Center, as is the Peach Fest Art Show.

The Peach Pedal Bike Ride is Saturday morning, beginning in the parking lot of Weatherford High School, 2121 Bethel Rd, Weatherford. The 61-mile ride starts at 7:30 a.m., the 39-mile ride starts at 7:45 a.m., and the 28-mile and 8-mile rides start at 8 a.m. Over 2,200 cyclists regularly participate in the ride. Visit [www.peachpedal.com](http://www.peachpedal.com).

The Friday night before will be the annual food competition at All Saints Anglican Church's Barlow Hall, 125 S. Waco St. Entries are accepted from 4-6 p.m. for \$5 each with a limit of one entry per person. Each entry MUST contain peaches.

Admission: \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12. Advance tickets for easy entry, along with more information on everything Peach Festival can be found at [www.peach-festivaltx.com](http://www.peach-festivaltx.com).



Read this story online

## TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

# Garrett named new girls hoops coach

## Formerly Peaster head coach

By Denise Hobbs  
Trinity Christian Academy

Garrett Hilton has joined Trinity Christian Academy as the new varsity girls basketball coach.

Hilton has 21 years of basketball coaching experience in public schools, with the last 11 being a head girls basketball coach. He has had head girls coaching positions at Brazoswood High School, Clear Brook High School, Kennedale High School, and most recently at Peaster High School. His head coaching positions were at the 6A, 4A, and 3A Levels.

Throughout his career, Hilton has developed off-season skills and conditioning programs and player development programs for high school and junior high school athletics.

Hilton led the Peaster girls basketball team to three consecutive undefeated years in district play, was a regional semi-finalist in 2021 and 2022, and a regional quarter-finalist in 2023 with a record of 89-16. Coach Hilton's professional affiliations include the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) and the Texas Girls Coaches Association (TGCA).

Hilton played collegiate basketball for LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas. In 2002 he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and Physical



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

New Trinity Christian Academy Head Girls Basketball Coach Garrett Hilton is shown with his wife, Christy, and children Addyson and Hayes.

Education. He later earned a degree in Special Education.

Hilton's said his goal at TCA is to make a spiritual and athletic impact in the lives of the young men and women that he comes in contact with. He said he is excited to lead our competitive Lady Eagles basketball program and would love to aim for a state championship.

"We are excited to have Coach Hilton join our TCA family," TCA Athletic Director Cody McKenzie said. "Coach Hilton has had a tremendous coaching career and brings a wealth of knowledge that will only help to elevate our girl's basketball program. Coach Hilton

will bring a program that has proven to be successful and get to fully engage in mentoring our young ladies to grow in Christ through the sport they love to play."

Hilton said his favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13 "because no matter my circumstances, with God beside me, I can persevere."

Hilton and his wife, Christy, have been married since 2004 and have a daughter Addyson, 13, and a son Hayes, 7.

Trinity Christian Academy is a PK3-12th grade college-preparatory Christian school located in Willow Park. For more information, visit their website at [tcaeagles.org](http://tcaeagles.org).

## RODEO

# Bushaw headed back to nationals

## Wins THSRA cutting

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Will Bushaw of Peaster is making a return to the High School National Finals Rodeo after once again winning the boys cutting competition at the recent Texas High School Rodeo Association (THSRA) Finals in Abilene.

Bushaw, a junior at Peaster High School, posted a score of 53.5, six points ahead of the runner-up, to seal his return to Gillette, Wyoming July 16-22. He finished as the national reserve champion (runner-up) in 2022 after winning his first Texas title.

Bushaw continues a family tradition as his brother, Charles, was also a two-time state champion and national qualifier. Will was

also the THSRA Rookie of the Year in 2022.

While Bushaw is the lone national qualifier from the area, a couple other competitors from Weatherford posted top-10 finishes. Rayleigh Turner was sixth and Madison Flynn were sixth and seventh in girls cutting, respectively.

Also, Bushaw was seventh in the boys all-around standings.

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



**JULY 4**  
**Spark in the Park**  
 Join Weatherford Parks and Recreation for Spark in the Park 2023, 6 - 10:30 pm on Tuesday July 4 at Heritage park. Come enjoy music, food, waterslides and fireworks. Pat Green, will be the headliner at the amphitheater starting at 7:45 p.m.. Opening act will be Chris Colston starting at 6 p.m.. Following artist concerts will be the famous fireworks show. The event is FREE TO ATTEND! Checkout the webpage for Facebook for event/parking maps: <https://www.facebook.com/events/757972976023061>



**Boomin' 4th**  
 Every year on Independence Day, the community comes together for one of the largest single events in Parker County, Boomin' 4th, to celebrate freedom, family and good clean fun, with thousands of dollars' worth of fireworks exploding over the top of Gene Voyles park in Hudson Oaks. Back by popular demand Hudson Oaks has partnered with 92.1 Hank FM to allow folks to hear the choreographed music for the fireworks portion of the show from any streaming device. Shuttles start at 5 p.m. Kid Zone opens at 5 p.m. Food Court opens at 5 p.m. Stage show starts at 6 p.m. Fireworks about 9:30 p.m. Lawn chairs and coolers are welcome. No canopies, fireworks, grills, tents or glass.

**JULY 8**  
**Parker County Peach Festival**  
 The 38th Annual Parker County Peach Festival returns to Weatherford from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 8th, 2023. Come enjoy and shop the more than Over 200 arts, crafts, food and activity booths, Live music, children's activities, Peach Pedal Bike Ride as well as the amazing shops, restaurants & boutiques in historic downtown Weatherford. \$10.00 for adults \$5.00 children 5-12, under 5 are free. For tickets <https://tickets.parkercountypeachfestival.org/p/tickets>



**ACROSS**

1 UH is TX Dennis Quaid's \_\_\_\_\_ mater  
 5 TX Jordan Spieth is on the PGA \_\_\_\_\_  
 6 out on the Gulf 7 mailed a letter 8 network of old soap opera "Dallas" 9 gun rights grp. 12 TXism: "drawing \_\_\_\_\_ on it" 17 "Texas" is an \_\_\_\_\_ drama in Palo Duro Canyon whooping \_\_\_\_\_ migrate to Texas in November 21 church tower, spire 22 TXism: "gone \_\_\_\_\_" (deteriorated) 23 1952 "Viva \_\_\_\_\_!" was filmed in Texas 28 rod and \_\_\_\_\_ 29 NPR FM station in Commerce 30 wheeler-dealer 31 TX Charley's "All \_\_\_\_\_ to Offer You" 35 late Texas "Lemon Tree" singer, Lopez 36 TXism: "nervous as \_\_\_\_\_" cat in a room full of rocking chairs" 42 TX Roy Orbison group: "\_\_\_\_\_ Wilburys" 44 apple drink, e.g. old AstroWorld ride: "Batman \_\_\_\_\_" 48 airplane garage state to the NE

50 Midland news/talk AM 51 TXism: "a day late \_\_\_\_\_ dollar short" 52 horse morsel 53 Lone \_\_\_\_\_ State 54 Sam Houston's 2nd wife, Rogers 56 stat for a Ranger or Astro hitter 57 this Desmond represented the Rangers at the 2016 All-Star Game

**DOWN**

1 tributary of the Frio, a tributary of the Nueces (2 wds.) 2 "it's not whether you win or \_\_\_\_\_ how you play the game" 3 in Cooke County on U.S. 82 4 "I smell \_\_\_\_\_" 9 TXism for "no" 10 Coleman was founded on one (2 wds.) 11 late TX Kenny Rogers sang "You \_\_\_\_\_ So Beautiful" 12 "\_\_\_\_\_ your age" 13 TXism: "I'm so \_\_\_\_\_ pay attention"

14 "\_\_\_\_\_ up a little" (relax) 15 Gulf shrimp catcher (2 wds.) 16 \_\_\_\_\_ Park, Texas 18 this TX Winters was drafted by the 49ers in 2023 20 TX actress, Duncan (init.) 23 hero general in Texas, Zachary (init.) 24 Garfunkel of "Catch-22" with TX Paula Prentiss 25 Texas actors want to land a \_\_\_\_\_ 26 \_\_\_\_\_ road (unpaved)

14 "\_\_\_\_\_ up a little" (relax) 15 Gulf shrimp catcher (2 wds.) 16 \_\_\_\_\_ Park, Texas 18 this TX Winters was drafted by the 49ers in 2023 20 TX actress, Duncan (init.) 23 hero general in Texas, Zachary (init.) 24 Garfunkel of "Catch-22" with TX Paula Prentiss 25 Texas actors want to land a \_\_\_\_\_ 26 \_\_\_\_\_ road (unpaved)

27 in Shelby County on U.S. 59, 84, 96 32 \_\_\_\_\_ Bissinger wrote "Friday Night Lights" 33 TXism: "chompin' \_\_\_\_\_ the bit" (eager) 34 military health agcy. 36 Lou Gehrig's disease (abbr.)

37 TXism: "couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ his upper lip" (weak) 38 how Bowie crossed Alamo line (3 wds.) 39 actress, TX Darnell Buchanan of 1941 film "Texas" 41 drug trafficking agcy. 43 a boot width 45 TX-born Dale Evans cowboy hubby (init.) 47 "were" in Spanish 48 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ grip like a snappin' turtle" the \_\_\_\_\_-banded armadillo is the state mammal of Texas

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**Notice of Public Hearings**

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

<b>First Public Hearing</b> Location:	<b>Planning and Zoning Commission</b> Aledo Community Center 104 Robinson Court Aledo, Texas 76008
Date:	Thursday, July 13, 2023
Time:	6:00 P.M.
<b>Second Public Hearing</b> Location:	<b>City Council Meeting</b> Aledo Community Center 104 Robinson Court Aledo, Texas 76008
Date:	Thursday, July 27, 2023
Time:	6:00 P.M.

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

- Public Hearing to receive input and consider comments to an ordinance amending Section 36 of the City of Aledo, Texas Zoning Ordinance pertaining to Planning and Zoning Commission Membership..
- Public Hearing to receive input and consider comments to amending the Thoroughfare Plan to reclassify Old Annetta Rd from FM 1187 to boundary of the City's ETJ to a Collector, Industrial, or Commercial Street (60'-92' Right of Way)..
- Public Hearing to receive input and consider comments for a Zoning Change request from Single Family Residential R-1 to (PD) Planned Development District with C-1 Commercial Base Zoning – 2.663 acres of unplatted property situated on land from Abstract 438, Richard C Eddleman survey. (819 Old Annetta Road)

For further information or questions regarding these public hearings, please contact the City of Aledo at (817)441-7016.

Published in The Community News, June 30th and posted at Aledo City Hall, July 7th.  
 Iván G. Gonzalez, AICP, City Planner

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# Classifieds

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**ORDINANCE NO. 227**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ANNETTA, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND DRILLING OF WATER WELLS IN ANNETTA AND ITS EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION; CREATING A VARIANCE PROCESS; AMENDING THE ENGINEERING DESIGN MANUAL; AMENDING THE FEE SCHEDULE; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 175; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative of all ordinances; providing a savings clause; providing a penalty for violations; providing a severability clause; providing for publication in the official newspaper; and providing AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Any person who commits an offense under this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a new or preexisting water well is used, constructed, or maintained in violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this 15th day of June, 2023.

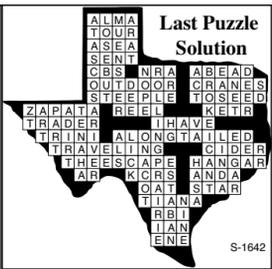
(s) Sandy Roberts  
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 (s) Jamee Long  
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# CHEW

from page one

request of her friend, then interim city manager Bobby Roundtree.

“All I could think of with Willow Park was a closed racetrack,” Chew said, referencing the old Trinity Meadows horse racing track. “The next day I came up. I realized the hospital was in Willow Park, and that’s about the time they were starting The Shops.

“One of the places we went was where they were going to put Crown Pointe Boulevard.”

So, Chew decided to come over and help her friend. And she just kept helping.

We just kept building and growing,” she said with a smile.

Chew credited current City Manager Bryan Grimes and the council with much of the growth.

“When they are all on the same page in the hymnal, you can sing great songs,” she said with a smile. “The quality of their development makes them such a dynamic and stable city.

“So many things have been done here. I don’t consider it my accomplishments. I consider it my team’s accomplishments.”

Grimes said, “I don’t know if Willow Park is where it is today without Betty Chew in that chair for seven years. She’s guided the council and me through some uncharted waters. When she speaks, people listen. I’m a better city manager because I worked with Betty Chew.”

Chew also issued a reminder that though she’s retired, she’s not gone.

“I told them I’m going to come back once a month and we’re going to do Taco Tuesdays,” she said with a chuckle.

## Franklin sworn in

The council officially pinned Franklin as the city’s new chief of police. City Secretary Crystal Dozier did the honors.

At the June 13 meeting the council, in an announcement that



RICK MAUCH/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Willow Park City Secretary Crystal Dozier swears in new Police Chief Daniel Franklin.

surprised even Franklin, came out of executive session and named him the new chief. Franklin had been the interim chief, moving up from assistant, since Carrie Ellis retired in late March.

And no one is happier for Franklin than his former boss.

“Chief Franklin has been an asset to the City of Willow Park and the Willow Park Police Department. He has a tremendous amount of talent and expertise to lead the agency in a manner that reflects its core values of honesty, integrity, honor, and service,” Ellis said.

“I could not be more proud of him and his well-deserved accomplishment.”

Franklin has been with the City of Willow Park

since 2018 as the assistant chief. He was previously with Jacksonville for two decades, once holding the title of interim chief there as well.

## Budget Workshop

The council held a budget workshop as part of its meeting Tuesday. While nothing is official concerning numbers until it is passed, Grimes did detail some new parts of the 2023-24 fiscal year budget.

Grimes announced the creation of a fire marshal’s office, a newly created parks department and a new streets department.

“We feel pretty good about the budgets,” Grimes said.

Moving forward, here are the remaining steps to finalizing the budget:

July 7: File proposed budget with city secretary. She will post it on the city’s website.

July 25: Central Appraisal District deadline to provide certified appraisal tax roll.

Aug. 8: Discussion of tax rate. Council holds a vote on approving proposed tax rate and sets a date to conduct a public hearing on budget and tax rate.

Aug. 11: Publish notice of public hearings on budget and tax rate in *The Community News*.

Aug. 22: Conduct public hearings at council meeting. After, council will vote on adopting budget and tax rate.



# AISD

from page one

North Carolina. Emmitte, who was the Aledo ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2016 and the IDEA winner in 2017, has a bachelor’s from Texas A&M and a master’s from Vanderbilt University.

“I am incredibly honored to serve as Stuard Elementary’s new assistant principal,” Emmitte said. “Throughout my past eight years in Aledo ISD, I have had the privilege of working with and learning from some of the best educators and leaders in our district. I look forward to continuing to work alongside my Stuard community as we collectively pursue our commitment toward growing greatness in our young Bearcats.”

“These outstanding educators will bring experience and expertise in many different areas to their new roles in our district,” Aledo ISD Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn said. “I am excited to see them as leaders on their campuses and in our district, and I look forward to seeing the impact they will have on our students. Please help us welcome them into our district or into their new roles.”

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SWIMMING

# Wild competes at home

**Staff Reports**  
The Community News

The Weatherford Wild swim team hosted its second meet as part of the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation summer season. The meet was held at Cherry Park.

The Wild will next compete at the TAAF Region 4 Meet July 15-16 in Southlake.

**Weatherford TAAF Meet June 24 - Weatherford Wild results**

**Gold, silver and bronze medal winners (Distances in yards)**

**MIXED**

**15-17**

200 medley relay: 1. Brookelyn Nowakowski, Noah Farber, Michael Goff, Karla Rodriguez, 2:10.13.

200 free relay: 1. Enson Griffith, Noah Farber, Karla Rodriguez, Saphira Buchfink, 1:59.12.

**18-Over**

100 free relay: 1. Melissa Davis, Rea Davis, Jesus Duenas, Kelly Hixson, 1:05.65.

**MALES**

**6-Under**

25 free: 1. Frankie Galvan, 39.71.

25 back: 1. Galvan, 47.60.

**8-Under**

50 free: 1. Blake Garcia, 51.65; 3. Riggins Davis, 56.47.

25 back: 1. Vincent Circelli, 27.14; 2. Garcia, 27.87; 3. Davis, 32.29.

25 breast: 1. Circelli, 30.84.

25 free: 1. Circelli, 20.87.

**9-10**

200 medley relay: 2. Weatherford Wild (names not available), 2:53.11.

50 free: 3. Samuel Balaban, 47.20.

25 back: 2. Harrison Gentry, 23.62.

25 breast: 1. Gentry, 25.95; 2. Beau Mezger, 27.39.

25 free: 3. Mezger, 18.93.

100 free relay: 3. Balaban, Bradley Ware, Gentry, Mezger, 1:34.67.

**11-12**

200 medley relay: 1. Cullen Costello, Kody Burlison, Max Gentry, Noah Wagnon, 2:40.25.

100 free: 1. Corbin Lane, 1:13.81; 2. Wagnon, 1:18.27; 3. Josiah Fuller, 1:33.46.

50 back: 1. Gentry, 38.45; 2. Lane, 38.48; 3. Charlie Hixson, 47.52.

50 breast: 1. Costello, 37.92; 2. Burlison, 45.12; 3. Samuel Warden, 1:03.12.

50 fly: 1. Gentry, 39.44; 2. Costello, 41.61; 3. Wagnon, 43.45.

50 free: 1. Wagnon, 34.29; 2. Burlison, 35.56; 3. Hixson, 38.20.

100 IM: 1. Gentry, 1:23.30; 2. Costello, 1:23.31; 3. Lane, 1:26.33.

200 free relay: 1. Fuller, Warden, Eli Kentner, Hixson, 2:56.77.

**13-14**

100 free: 1. Eli Vanzant, 1:02.10; 2. Rafe Haugen, 1:15.24; Ryan Roberts, 1:20.61.

50 back: 1. Haugen, 43.65; 2. Judah Balaban, 47.58.

50 breast: 2. Haugen, 44.98.

50 free: 1. Vanzant, 27.43; 3. Roberts, 33.70.

100 IM: 1. Vanzant, 1:16.29.

**15-17**

200 medley relay: 1. Zach Edwards, Enson Griffith, Kade Burlison,

Noah Farber, 2:19.83.

100 free: 1. Michael Goff, 1:03.70; 2. Burlison, 1:07.07.

50 back: 1. Edwards, 36.51.

50 breast: 1. Farber, 33.57; 2. Edwards, 37.93; 3. Griffith, 38.99.

50 fly: 1. Goff, 30.73; 2. Griffith, 31.49; 3. Burlison, 33.72.

50 free: 1. Farber, 25.59; 2. Goff, 27.74.

100 IM: 1. Burlison, 1:17.06.

200 free: 1. Griffith, 2:18.32; 2. Edwards, 2:29.45.

200 free relay: 1. Goff, Edwards, Burlison, Griffith, 1:58.57.

**18-Over**

200 free: 1. Jesus Duenas, 3:33.90.

**25-39**

100 free: 1. Rea Davis, 1:06.75; 2. Jesus Duenas, 1:35.39.

50 breast: 1. Davis, 38.62.

50 free: 1. Davis, 29.80; 2. Duenas, 41.04.

**FEMALES**

**8-Under**

50 free: 1. Chloe Brumfield, 51.69; Amelia Hekele, 1:00.64.

25 back: 1. Brumfield, 24.11; 2. Andi Bursey, 25.16.

25 free: 1. Brumfield, 20.68; 3. Bursey, 21.84.

100 free relay: 1. Brumfield, Ellie Smith, Hekele, Bursey, 1:42.86.

**9-10**

50 free: 1. Rachel Farber, 41.41; 2. Chandler Hord, 48.46; 3. Adelaide Artho, 48.96.

25 back: 1. Farber, 21.64; 3. Artho, 26.36.

25 breast: 2. Scarlett Burlison, 28.53; 3. Ryah Edwards, 35.48.

25 fly: 1. Farber, 26.89; 2. Penelope



Black, 31.78.

25 free: 1. Farber, 19.83; 2. Hord, 21.67; 3. Landry McKibben, 21.80.

100 free relay: 1. Miriam Fuller, Claire Bevard, Edwards, Farber, 1:34.34.

**11-12**

200 medley relay: 1. Izy Hixson, Sydney Vidal, Blair Mezger, Emma Circelli, 2:33.22.

100 free: 1. Campbell Hord, 1:18.47; 2. Emma Kechnie, 1:21.67; 3. Hixson, 1:23.04.

50 back: 1. Mezger, 40.94; 2. Hixson, 41.47.

50 breast: 1. Kechnie, 48.51; 2. Vidal, 49.69.

50 fly: 1. Mezger, 37.94; 2. Elizabeth Walter, 46.43.

50 free: 1. Mezger, 33.63; 2. Hord, 35.75; 3. Vidal, 36.38.

200 free relay: 1. (A) Madison Balaban, Lilly Castillo, Hord, Kechnie, 2:36.83; 2. (B) Grace Phillips, Brinley Richey, Abigail Sapaugh, Walter, 2:49.41.

**13-14**

200 medley relay: 1. Avery Meek, Reily Hughes, Kate Kentner, Stevi

Bursey, 2:37.12.

100 free: 2. Hughes, 1:24.08.

50 back: 1. Meek, 37.03; 2. Bursey, 46.34; 3. Hughes, 47.20.

50 breast: 1. Meek, 41.98.

50 fly: 1. Kate Kentner, 36.11; 2. Bursey, 49.81.

50 free: 2. Kentner, 30.65; 3. Meek, 30.69.

100 IM: 1. Bursey, 1:39.64.

200 free: 1. Kentner, 2:50.18.

200 free relay: 1. Kentner, Hughes, Bursey, Meek, 2:19.81.

**15-17**

100 free: 1. Brookelyn Nowakowski, 1:06.45; 2. Hali Hughes, 1:06.73.

50 back: 2. Nowakowski, 34.26; 3. Karla Rodriguez, 40.40.

50 breast: 1. Nowakowski, 39.48; 2. Saphira Buchfink, 40.45.

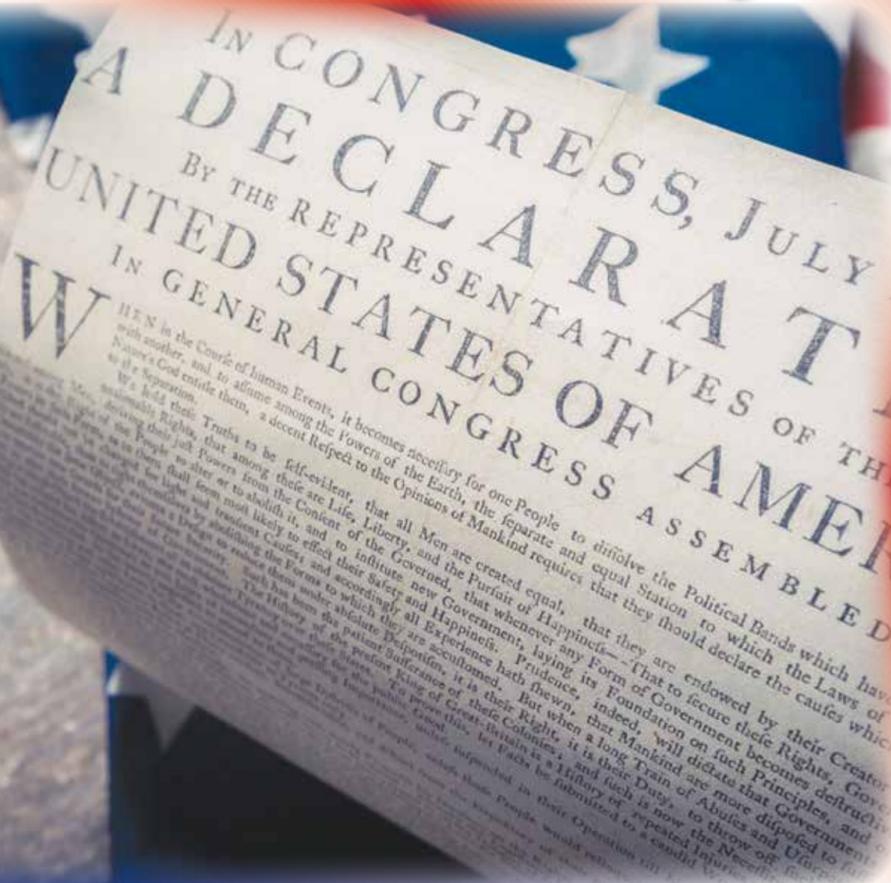
50 fly: 2. Hughes, 36.40; 3. Buchfink, 38.40.

50 free: 1. Rodriguez, 30.37; 2. Hughes, 31.36.

**25-39**

50 free: 1. Kelly Hixson, 34.07; 3. Melissa Davis, 43.73.

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# Class of 2023

# Graduation 2023

Celebrating the Aledo High School and Trinity Christian Academy Class of 2023



## Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2023!

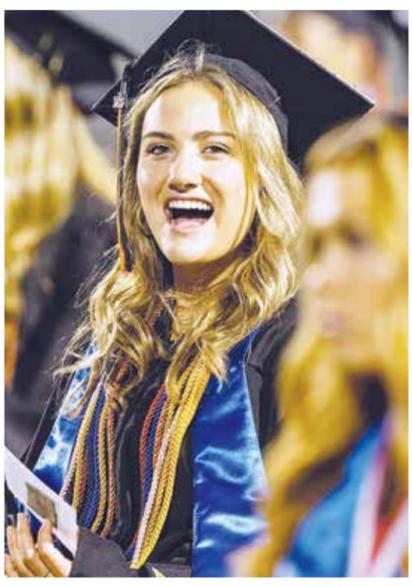
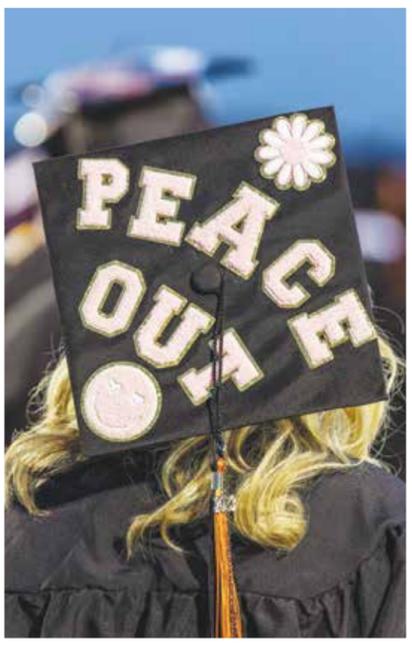
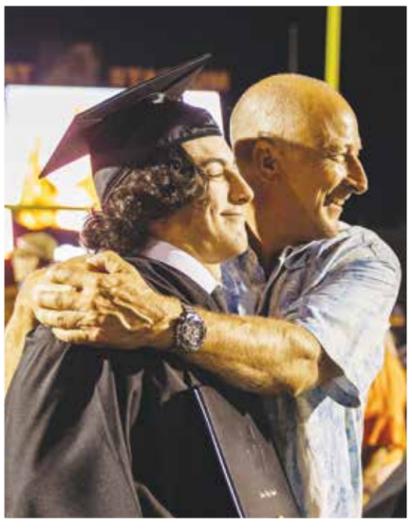


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# Aledo High School Graduation



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Aledo High School's Commencement Ceremony was held May 26 at Bearcat Stadium.

PHOTOS BY KRISTIN MORALES

## AHS Senior Breakfast



Aledo High School's Senior Breakfast was held May 24 at the Indoor Practice Facility.

PHOTOS BY EMMA DAVIS

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*When the hearing aid was turned on, Daniela's expression is priceless. She began crying tears of joy while hearing her voice, and others, so clearly. She couldn't stop hugging all our staff.*



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2023!

# Salutatorian

# Valedictorian

## Michael Worch



**GPA: 108.32410**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a major in Engineering Mechanics

## Fyn Neeley



**GPA: 108.45754**

TCU - Majoring in Mathematics and Engineering

# 4

### Things to know about Michael

1. Michael plans to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and major in Engineering Mechanics, he said, "in order to better people's lives. I believe that feats of engineering are all around us and that there are so many unique ways engineering can be applied to improve the quality of life of everyone."
2. His role model, as he pursues a career in STEM, is Sir Frederick Banting who co-discovered insulin. "Instead of profiting off the patent for insulin though, Banting and his colleagues sold their patents to the University of Toronto for \$1 each. Banting even stated, 'Insulin does not belong to me, it belongs to the world.' I believe that Banting's ideals of discovery for the common good ought to be respected, especially in modern times when profit and greed can obscure the true value in research and development."
3. Three words Michael would use to describe himself are: empathetic, sincere and analytical.
4. Michael's advice for younger students is, "know who you are. Doing some self reflection regularly on your current situation and how you're feeling can be vital when making decisions, especially in the long run. If you are aware of yourself and your limitations then you have taken the first step in developing yourself into your ideal. Even if you know yourself that doesn't mean you don't have room to grow and improve."

# 5

### Things to know about Fyn

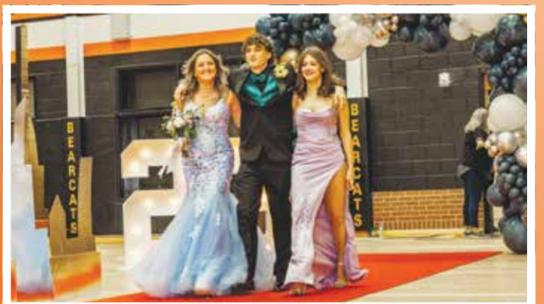
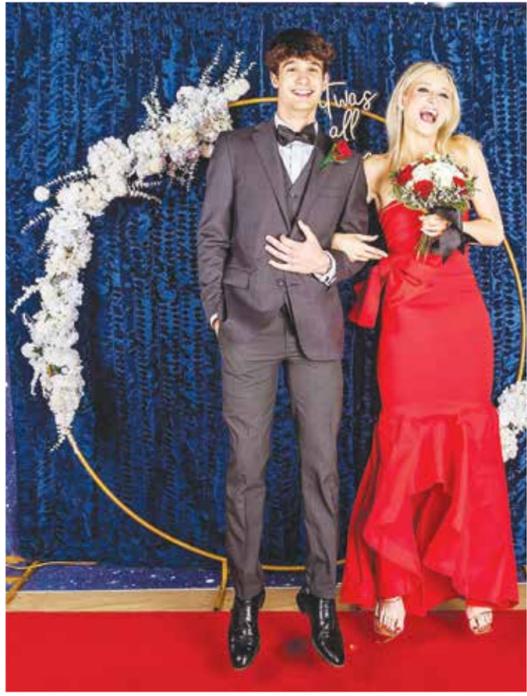
1. He plans to attend TCU and major in mathematics and engineering. He'll focus on aerospace or mechanical engineering and also has plans to get a Masters in Business Administration.
2. His mom is his biggest role model. He said, "My mom has had the biggest influence on me because she has always encouraged me to be diligent and meaningful in my actions. She values my interests and needs as much as her own and is the reason I am who I am today."
3. Three words he would use to describe himself are: driven, adventurous and amusing.
4. His favorite school memory is playing kickball on the practice field with Mrs. Rinehart's class after AP tests junior year.
5. Fyn's advice to younger students is, "take part in this community where you can go to school, work, church, or a friend's house all within 5 miles of each other because the benefits of being active in the community are priceless."

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# AHS Promenade



Aledo High School's Promenade was held May 6.  
PHOTOS BY KRISTIN MORALES



## Congratulations Class of 2023!

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# TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY CLASS OF 2023



## Trinity Christian Academy Graduation



Trinity Christian Academy's graduation was held May 19 at Willow Park Baptist Church. PHOTOS BY TAMMY GRAHAM/LOCATIONS PHOTOGRAPHY



### Congrats, Aledo and TCA Grads!

Earning a diploma takes hard work, perseverance, and dedication. PlainsCapital Bank congratulates the Aledo and TCA graduating class of 2023, and wishes them the best of luck in their future endeavors.



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