## **Grace House** Ministry celebrating three decades, 6

October 20, 2023 · www.community-news.com · 75 cents

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

### WEATHERFORD ISD

## Reading **Roos Mobile** Library

### Converted bus takes students to different locations through books

Melissa Winn The Community News

Fall Friday nights in Texas involve one thing - football.

In Weatherford, however, it also involves reading - at least at home games.

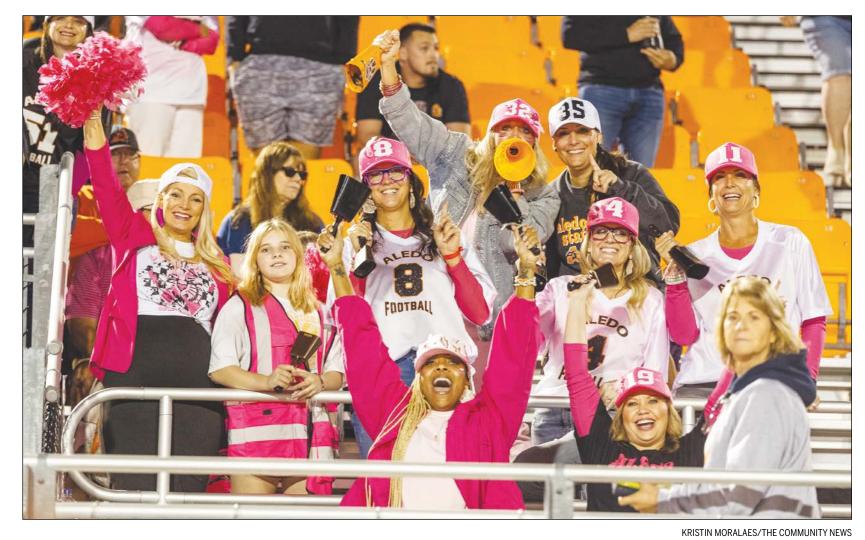
Thanks to the vision of Director Transportation Dr. Jason of Dunkelberger, the Reading Roos Mobile Library is helping take reading into the stands and beyond.

Young readers can board the bus, fitted with bookshelves and places to sit and look, and select a book or two from a selection of gently used and donated books without any cost nor need to return it. The bus is out from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. during home games.

"Our children's eyes light up as they enter the mobile library and begin a reading adventure," Dunkelberger said in an email. "When they realize they

Turn to **READING**, page 3

# Pink Out Night



Students and parents put on the pink for the Bearcats football game on Oct. 13 in honor of Breast Cancer Awarness Month. For more spirit photos turn to pages 14 and 15.

## East Parker County Chamber pays off office

### Now debt free

By Marsha Brown and Lisa Flowers Special to The Community News

The East Parker County Chamber began with a vision in the mind of one man —The Community News Publisher Randy Keck. It was an idea he shared with Judge



Graham Quisenberry and insurance agent Roy Ray.

Both Ray and Quisenberry were quick to embrace the concept.

"We recognized that there was no end in sight to the growth of the east part of the county," Quisenberry said. "We knew we needed to have a support system in place to back the growth. There really wasn't a hub for business at the time."

The three forward thinkers knew there had been chambers formed before in the same area, and some of them had failed. But they also realized almost everything in business hinges on timing, and they felt the time had come for establishing the East Parker County Chamber. Being men of action, they moved ahead rapidly.

First, they approached the two chambers that had been operating in the east portion of Parker County. They arranged for the new chamber to acquire both the assets and the charters of the Aledo Chamber



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Members of the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recreated a scene from 2008 when their headquarters became their permanent home. The scene commemorates the Chamber's payoff of the building. Shown flanking Chamber President Lisa Flowers (center) are (from left) board members Mike Pierce, Tanya Hodges, Gloria Barron, Kelli Stumbo, Julie Wilks, Lyn Walsh, Mark Riebe, and Michael Dimas.

(\$2,000) and the Willow Park Chamber (\$11,172).

Glenn Wilson offered his services to write the bylaws.

Next, they planned to hold meetings and needed a venue. They looked for a place that would be affordable for the chamber. They wound up holding the first meetings

at the function room of an RV park located near Aledo.

When they held the first meeting of the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce, Keck was listed as the chamber's "temporary president."

The meetings were held at noon. For the lunch-time meetings they were fed via potluck or someone at a steady pace.

would order sandwiches from a local restaurant.

In1996, the EPCCC had 50 members who paid \$50 each in dues. From its first month, there was an amazing energy in the air a vitality about the EPCCC that you could almost see.

From day one, the chamber grew

That first year the chamber brought in \$850 in revenue.

Because the meetings were informal, friendly, and comfortable they attracted more and more business owners. More members meant the chamber needed to set up an office. The first chamber office

#### Turn to CHAMBER, page 3





PUMPKIN

TOMB

TREAT

TRICKS

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Identify patterns.

#### LESSON LIBRARY FROM THE 👍

## **Haunted House Sleepover**

Yikes! You have to spend the night in a creepy haunted house all alone. Find 10 things in the newspaper that you will need to make the night more comfortable for you.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use a variety of media.

## Why do ghosts like to ride in elevators?

LSMKVTQYTM

N R A B R O O M P W

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

ANSWER: Because it lifts their spirits!

last game of the season. Try to use the word celebration in a sentence

today when talking with your friends and family members.

## Write On

## **Best Halloween Jokes**

Write down your favorite Halloween jokes and mail them to a friend or family member.

## READING

can take their discovery home to enjoy, they are in disbelief."

At the Roos Homecoming game on Sept. 15, Brittany McDaniel brought her 6-year-old daughter Macy to the game. As soon as she bounded onto the bus, she was eager to find something she wanted to read.

"I have a reading log and if I read enough books, I get a prize at the end [of the school year]," the Mary Martin Elementary School student explained.

Brittany said it was also something to keep her daughter entertained during the games when she wasn't interested in the action on the field.

"She can find any kind of book here and read it tonight or at home," she said. "This is our second time [boarding the bus] and she was so excited to come."

The bus is decorated with "Reading Roos" and pictures of animated children on the outside. Inside, there are still a few standard school bus seats but then it veers off into an open area with shelves lined with books on either side. There is also a small table outside and a couple of chairs.

Sue O'Dell, a bus driver and CDL trainer for the district, said it's fun to see the children coming inside and being excited about reading.

"The kids see me differently than when I am just driving the bus during the week and it's a great way to connect with them on a different level," she said. "We were also in the [Homecoming parade on Sept. 14] and got some exposure for the program."

Dunkelberger got the idea from a previous district he worked in and brought it to Weatherford, where

staff and others were encouraged to help and accepted the assignment willingly.

In addition to Friday nights, the bus is also scheduled to visit Weatherford Independent School District's seven elementary schools and two middle schools, and local community events around town. O'Dell said they already plan to be at April Pool's Day.

O'Dell said there are items for middle schoolers as well. She added that they hope to add better lighting on the bus for the time of year when it gets darker earlier.

Book donations are accepted at the Support Services Building at 999 Sloan Street in Weatherford, but all items will be screened prior to being placed on the bus.



MELISSA WINN/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Weatherford Reading Roos bus sits outside Kangaroo Stadium before the Sept. 15 homecoming game. The mobile library inside is available before home games from 5:30-7:30 p.m.



MELISSA WINN/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Weatherford's Macy McDaniel, a 6-year-old Mary Martin Elementary School student, searches books prior to the homecoming football game Sept. 15 as her mom, Brittany, looks on.



CHAMBER from page one

was in Aledo, which it soon outgrew. Then the chamber moved to Hudson Oaks, where growth continued.

By 2005 it was clear that the chamber would soon need a permanent home.

It wasn't until after Lyn Walsh, founder and president of Careity Foundation, became chairman of the board that a permanent home was found.

Walsh told her fellow board members about a property her friend was selling, and the board gave her approval to negotiate a purchase. The chamber acquired the building in April, 2008.

The chamber has come a long way in the past 27 years — from three men trading ideas about how to encourage business to the handful of business leaders who were meeting over potluck casseroles in a function room of an RV park.

Today, it's a 5-Star Accredited Chamber recognized by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and in the top 3% of

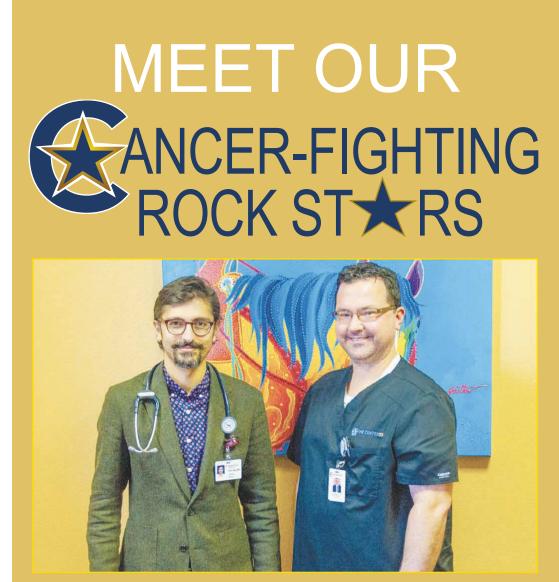
chambers across the world. With 550-plus members, theEast Parker County Chamber is a dynamic force for

promoting commerce in Parker County.

EPCCC is Parker County's conduit for connectivity.

The chamber is happy to report its total assets are \$589,392.20 and the building note of \$250,000 has been paid off.

This chamber is now 100% debt free.





Talha Riaz, MD Medical Oncologist/Hematologist | Aaron Laine, MD, PhD Radiation Oncologis



#### WWW.THECENTERTX.COM | 817.759.7000 Weatherford

FORT WORTH CENTRAL CAMPUS • FORT WORTH SOUTHWEST • ARLINGTON WEATHERFORD • BURLESON • GRANBURY • MINERAL WELLS • STEPHENVILLE



The 5K and 1 miles will both start at 8:30am Start and finish lines will be in front of Tim Buchanan Stadium at Aledo High School

REGISTRATION \$15 Youth \$25 Adult \$35 Adult Long Sleeve

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# Commentary

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Association and Foundation



West Texas Press Association



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East Parker County Chamber of Commerce

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CHAMBER OF COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Gov. Greg Abbott, just hours after the Senate initially approved a school voucher measure, said he would add teacher raises and increased public school funding to the ongoing special session agenda if the Texas Legislature passes his voucher plan, the *Texas Tribune* reported.

"I want to make sure we provide a carrot to make sure this legislation gets passed," Abbott said of vouchers. "Once [education savings accounts] are passed, I will put on the legislative agenda full funding for public education, including teacher pay raises for teachers

across the state." However, Democratic and rural Republican legislators remain opposed to vouchers, maintaining vouchers would drain funding for public schools, the Texas Standard reported.

"Every dollar that we spend on a voucher is going to be a dollar that is taken away from being able to invest in public education," Rep. Stan Lambert, R-Abilene, said.

State Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, called Abbott's approach a "political threat." He said most constituents in his district would find it a hardship to send their children to private schools because of the distance and cost.

"Most of my constituents, even with an \$8,000 discount, the private school is probably so far away, they're going to have to travel 30 or 40 miles to get to a private school," Nichols said. "And they still won't be able to afford the balance of what's owed." The Senate bill initialapproved would give lv families who opt for private schools \$8,000 of public money each year.

## Capital Highlights

## Abbott ties voucher passage to teacher pay, school funding

PAC, met with white supremacist Nick Fuentes for several hours, prompting a number of Republican lawmakers to donate money they received from the PAC to pro-Israel charities at the urging of House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont.

Patrick and Phelan have been feuding for months, especially over the impeachment and ultimate acquittal of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. Patrick called on Phelan to resign after the speaker demanded he return the \$3 million.

"I didn't think even Dade Phelan would stoop this low," Patrick said in a statement. "He has now absolutely hit rock bottom. His latest stunt is disgusting, despicable and disingenuous."

Phelan pushed back. "I didn't take \$3 million from a PAC that associates itself with Nazis and Nazi sympathizers. That's not my problem," he said.

#### **Two Texas congress**men oppose bullet train

Two Texas congressmen are trying to stop funding for a bullet train from Houston

to Dallas, the Houston Chronicle reported. U.S. Reps. Jake Ellzey and Michael McCaul, both Republicans, have asked the federal Department

of Transportation to deny federal funding for the project, announced recently as a collaboration between Amtrak and Texas Central Railroad.

The proposed route of 240 miles would have a travel time of 90 minutes - less than half the time it takes to travel by car.

"At its core, this project is intended to take land from American citizens and put it under the control of a Japanese company, which is itself subsidized using money from U.S. taxpayers," the two congressmen wrote in part. A number of Texas landowners have expressed concern about the route cutting through their farmland. "Landowners deserve to have their land rights protected against the unrealistic and financially infeasible rail project proposed to be funded through these applications," McCaul and Ellzey said in their letter.

University came in at 64th. The University of Texas came in at No. 118, according to the rankings.

"To generate the rankings, the Journal partnered with research groups College Pulse and Statista to analyze a mountain of data, measuring everything from expected student salaries and years needed to pay for attendance to the quality of the school's 'learning-related facilities' and on-campus diversity," the Chronicle reported.

Twenty Texas colleges and universities made the top 400. Princeton University was ranked No. 1 overall.

#### More than 50,000 migrants bused elsewhere

The state of Texas has bused more than 50,000 migrants to what Gov. Greg Abbott terms sanctuary cities since the launch of Operation Lone Star, his office announced. The migrants have been bused to Washington, D.C., New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia, Denver and Los Angeles since April 2022.

Enhancing border security is one of the items Abbott

> has called upon the Legislature to address in the special session now underway. He is proposing a law that allows all licensed law enforcement officers

in Texas to arrest anyone who illegally enters Texas.

#### **Increased focus on** pedestrian safety this month

Last October marked the highest number of vehicle-pedestrian crashes, which is why the Texas Department of Transportation is pleading with

drivers this month to be more

aware of "our most vulnerable

of daylight, it's up to drivers

and pedestrians to adapt and

help keep our roads safe," said

TxDOT Executive Director

Marc Williams. "Motorists need

to stay alert and look for people

walking, and pedestrians can

take measures to be seen by

drivers who may be inattentive

involving pedestrians occurred

in Texas, resulting in 829 deaths

Gary Borders is a veteran

award-winning Texas journal-

ist. He published a number of

community newspapers in Texas

during a 30-year span, includ-

ing in Longview, Fort Stockton,

Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar

Park. Email: gborders@texas-

and 1,526 serious injuries.

In 2022, 5,764 traffic crashes

behind the wheel."

press.com.

"As we shift to fewer hours

road users."





**Rick Mauch** sports@community-news.com

Greatness, like everything, has a beginning. Legends continue to add to that greatness.

You know, like the Aledo Bearcats football program.

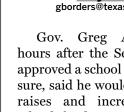
Two giant phases of the greatest high school football program ever to put on shoulder pads and helmets were on display at halftime of this past Friday's game against Burleson Centennial at Tim Buchanan Stadium. At halftime, the 1998 and 2013 squads were recognized for what they brought to the historic resume'.

Of course, by that time the score was 35-0 as this year's Bearcats showed once again they are favorites to add their chapter to the continuing story by going on to humble the Spartans 42-0. It was the 117th straight district victory for the program, dating to 2007, a national record.

This year, of course is the 25th anniversary of the 1998 team. This is the one that started it all, winning a Class 3A state championship and finishing 13-1.

#### The original champs

Coming off a 14-1 season in 1997 that included a berth in the state semifinals, the 1998 version got off to a 1-1 start. They lost 21-14 to Bridgeport in season's second game and then reeled off 12 straight victories, topping another program with a long history of success, the Cuero Gobblers, 14-7. I had only moved to the area couple years earlier. Honestly, like many at that time who did not live around Fort Worth - and probably some who did - I had never heard of the town of Aledo or the Bearcats. It didn't take long for them to become embellished on my mind, however. And now, the community and school district is renowned - and not only for the football success. A common question from those outside the program having such success is how do they keep getting so many great players? That's a good question, but one that's really quite simple to answer. When you are great at what you do, folks want to be a part of it. For example, if you are moving into the area and your child has athletic abilities, why on earth wouldn't you want he or she to play for a school like Aledo? Add in that they will also be getting one of the best high school educations the state has to offer and it's a no-brainer - although, as their academics record will prove, there are lots of brains in the Aledo ISD. But I digress. This article is about high school football and the fact that nowhere in Texas is it played better than Aledo.



Chris Amos - Features/Photography Kathy Chruscielski - Photography John English - Features **Richard Henderson** - Commentary **Rick Mauch - News and Sports Breleigh Mayer** - Photography Kristin Morales - Photography Ryan Wade - News and Sports Melissa Winn - News and Sports

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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. 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.

#### **Patrick: No reason to** return PAC money

Lt. Gov Dan Patrick says he has no intention of returning \$3 million in political contributions received from a political action committee whose leader met with an avowed Nazi sympathizer earlier this month, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Former state representative Jonathan Stickland, now head of the Defend Texas Liberty

#### **Only two Texas** universities crack top 100

Only two Texas universities managed to crack the top 100 in the Wall Street Journal's annual ranking, the Houston Chronicle reported. Texas A&M was ranked 38th, while Rice

Idle American The Swan at 70...

music and humor.

traffic," but didn't.



Dr. Don Newbury newbury@speakerdoc.com

Even when life's storms rage, we Americans are privileged to seek "ports of peace" that are welcoming, even if only for a few hours. There, we re-charge to face another day, with hopes re-kindled.

Stealing the spotlight was Dr. Dennis Swanberg. He freely cited his age being 70, ahead of noon in Duncanville, TX, where wine by a mile on the matter of 500 or so folks whose average getting better with age. Weaving age teetered on ancient numstories of marriage, grandkids bers gathered for an elixir of and everyday "doings," he's funny without trying to be.

He stares life down from all directions, sometimes even upside down. It's a probability that first-grade teachers, Baylor profs and Southwestern Seminary scholars shared at least one thing in common: None knew what to do with

Turn to SWAN, page 5

#### **Record setters**

And it could be argued that at no time in history was it played better than the 2013 team - certainly on offense. On their way to finishing 16-0 that squad outscored its opponents 1,023-140.

If you were not aware of this before, yes, you read that correctly. They are the only team at any level, from peewee to the Tom Brady Patriots to score more than 1,000 points in a season.

## We who admit to being senior adults found such joy a preacher-turned-comedian. recently on a beautiful fall after-

It was three hours young

people wouldn't sit still for,

but the kind we seniors kind-

ly give up our naps for, even

yelling--okay, maybe more

like gasping--for "more, more,

more" before boarding convey-

ances "to try to get ahead of the

### <u>GuestColumn</u>

## Time to vote on 2023 Texas Constitutional Amendments



Dr. Glenn Rogers glenn.rogers@house.texas.gov

The November 7 Elections are almost here; early voting starts October 23. Historically, there have been 517 amendments added since our current Texas Constitution was adopted in 1876. During this election, the voters of Texas may add up to fourteen more. Some of the propositions are extremely relevant for our district (Parker, Palo Pinto, and Stephens Counties) and our office wanted to highlight a few of these propositions, in numerical order, to help inform voters before they head to the polls.

Proposition 1 will read: "The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management." As a veterinarian and rancher, I fully recognize the importance of this amendment. This will protect the rights of agricultural producers to engage in normally accepted agricultural practices on their land. The proposition will also protect agricultural producers and ag operations from claims like nuisance law suits. Urban people should care about the importance of agriculture and its effect on food security and national security and the importance of protecting open spaces. We need a constitutional amendment because we cannot be assured that the legislature of the future will continue to be favorable towards agriculture. Our agricultural operations in District 60 deserve the promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness-the passage of this amendment will help ensure these promises.

Proposition 4 will read: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from \$40,000 to \$100,000; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts." If passed, this amendment will provide the largest property tax cut in Texas history. The Senate and the House worked together to

bring the best of each chamber's tax relief bills into one far-reaching tax cut package that benefits both homeowners and businesses. It reduces the school property tax rate for all homeowners and business properties and it more than doubles the homestead exemption. Texans have been nearly taxed out of their own homes for too long. This amendment will protect Texas homeowners, including our senior citizens and disabled neighbors.

Proposition 6 will read: "The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this state." After experiencing several intense droughts along with a booming influx of new residents, Texans realize now more than ever that water is life. Parker County relies heavily on groundwater, a finite source. Palo Pinto and Stephens Counties have been calling for new surface water projects for years. This amendment creates the Texas water fund, a new and significant resource for additional water project funding. As more people realize that our area is a wonderful place to raise a family and grow a business, this amendment is a giant first step in securing the funds for water projects so essential to our growing communities. As District 60's pop-

ulation continues to boom, we must ensure we have reliable water sources.

**Proposition 8** will read: *"The constitutional amendment creating the*  broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects." More than two million Texas homes do not have access to broadband and more than three million cannot utilize broadband due to socioeconomic challenges. Additionally, four of the five least connected cities in the US are in Texas and one in every six public school students in Texas lacks access to high-speed internet. Telehealth opportunities abound in Texas, where sixty-four counties lack a hospital, and twenty-five counties lack a single primary physician. For farmers and ranchers, modern precision agriculture requires connectivity. Digital literacy and connectivity are not an option, but an absolute necessity.

**Proposition 9** will read: "*The* constitutional amendment authorizing the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas." Our retired teachers have not had a costof-living adjustment in two decades. Many rely solely on their Teacher Retirement System pension to pay their bills and retired teachers across our district have described their struggles. Numerous retirees have

> been forced to start working part-time jobs. With intense inflation, now is the time to help our retired teachers. This is not a tax increase as the funds are already available. However, the voters



must authorize the issuance of the cost-of-living adjustment to the retirees.

For these Constitutional Amendments to appear on the ballot, each of these fourteen amendments required a two-thirds vote in both the House and Senate.

A complete descriptive list of all 14 constitutional amendments can be found at https://tlc.texas.gov/ docs/amendments/analyses23.pdf

Please feel free to contact our office if you have additional questions. I encourage you to research all fourteen propositions before you enter the voting booth and "know before you go" how each will impact our community. Nothing is more powerful than an informed, motivated electorate; for the future of the great State of Texas, get out and go VOTE!

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

SWAN from page 4

Dennis, who mildly menaced traditional study.

So, they passed him on, thankfully to the world that so desperately needs a smile.

His "ministry of encouragement" tag describes him well, this man who spent 23 years in pastoral ministry before transitioning to an always-in-demand personality for appearances in many venues. He's at home in churches, and in many other venues throughout the world.

Though his impersonation of "greats" like Dr. Billy Graham, John

Often gears down on verbiage to allow his gyrations, facial twists and squirms do the talking.

If "body language" is an apt description, Swanberg's may be Pig Latin.

Centering on everyday experiences common to everyone, he makes us realize that we've been down similar roads, most marked by marriage, kids, grandkids, TV and many other commonalities.

Who else could defend maintenance of a well-defined tummy to be vital in keeping his khaki pants spotless? He explained that with a protruding waistline, he catches food droppings landing there before they reach his pants. With an upward swoop of a Frito scoop, he not only keeps his khakis clean, but also gets one more bite.

间的在说明

And this: Years ago, when wife Lauree wanted to attend an Elvis concert, he suggested that she stay home to watch wiggling provided by his restless leg syndrome.

> He appeared in the "shank of the day" usually avoided by most personalities.

In fact, a Southern Gospel vocal trio from Mississippi called "Paid in Full" and an expert Alabama pianist named Frank Jones were extremely well received before Swanberg ambled to the

after a two-hour "sit." The audience was ready, eager to "chow down" on his wonderful humor nuggets, even though DFW traffic outside was already busy, heading toward the inevitable five o'clock madness of folks heading home. And what the hey, many figured as they crowded at merchandise tables before leaving. Earlier, The Swan had reminded that if folks don't have CD players anymore, the discs can be used as table coasters.

Dennis and Lauree now live in Granbury, much nearer the DFW Airport than their previous Louisiana home. After all, he still has 150 or so engagements yearly. This author/speaker/encourager/ minister/motivator addresses some 250,000 folks annually, always "about his Father's business."

I 'm glad that he's still going "full throttle," this man who loves what he does. He absolutely loves people, and we know it.

Like contemporaries before him--Andy Griffith, Red Skelton, Jimmy Durante, Zig Ziglar and George Burns, to name a few--Dr. Dennis Swanberg proves at each appearance that smut isn't needed to delight, encourage and inspire. His cleanliness squeaks. The world needs what he brings.

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, remains active as a columnist, author and speaker. Contact: email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872



Wayne, Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton always are "right on," his body language is equally impressive. stage. As always, he quickly stifled whatever yawns that are predictable



# Community Life

6

#### **GRACE HOUSE**

## Ministry celebrating three decades

#### Plans to continue going strong By John English

Grace House Ministries is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in Parker County this month and Executive Director Charley Rickey said the plan is to continue to expand and provide more services to people in need.

According to its website www. ghmtx.com, Grace House is a faithbased pregnancy resource center which strives to promote hope, life, and knowledge in the community through an Options Clinic, Grace House Pregnancy Center, and Pure Truth in-school training program

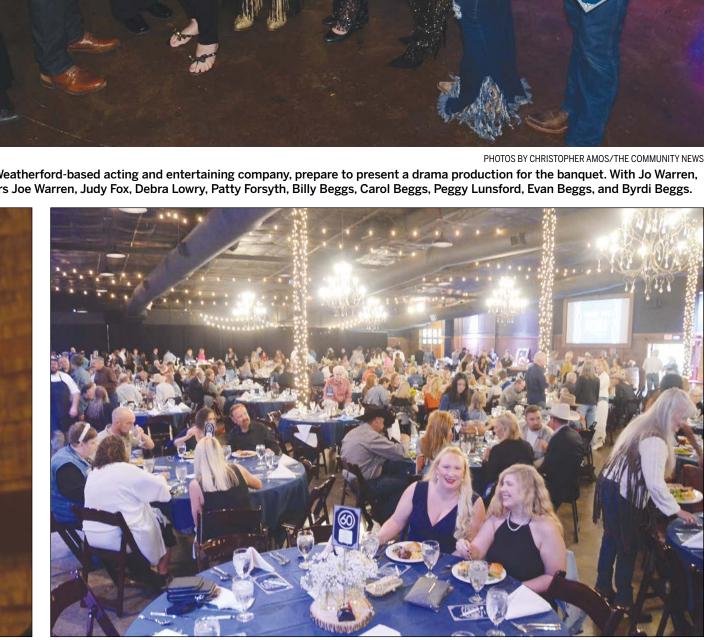
The organization celebrated its anniversary with a ribbon-cutting event and annual fundraising gala, and Rickey said he attributes Grace House' staying power to two things providence and community spirit.

"The ministry has remained true to the original vision and heart," Rickey said. "It was founded to offer alternatives to abortion, and while we offer more services now, those additions are on a mission to protect unborn children."

Turn to GRACE, page 7

Stallion 7 Productions, a Weatherford-based acting and entertaining company, prepare to present a drama production for the banquet. With Jo Warren, left, are Stallion 7 members Joe Warren, Judy Fox, Debra Lowry, Patty Forsyth, Billy Beggs, Carol Beggs, Peggy Lunsford, Evan Beggs, and Byrdi Beggs.







Jo Warren speaks to the audience.

The Denim & Pearls event was well-attended.



## GRACE

from page 6

Grace House held a Denim and Pearls soiree on Oct. 7 at River Ranch where they invited guests to come in "blue jeans and bling" to commemorate the occasion.

At the moment, Grace House has 30 parents participating in the final round of its core parenting class for the year, and from January to September of 2023, the organization has distributed 72 car seats, 1,719 sets of clothing, 660 bottles of formula and nearly 87,000 diapers.

"So far this year at least 42 at-risk babies have been saved when their parents chose life after visiting the Options Clinic," Rickey said. "Thirty-seven clients have made a new profession of faith in Jesus Christ. Last year, the Pure Truth in-school education program brought instruction to over 1,300 students in our area."

#### **Continued Growth**

With 30 years in existence, Grace House has accomplished a number of objectives, but Rickey said what makes him the most proud is its growth and how the organization has been received by the Parker County community

"We see it as significant that the ministry has not only remained viable for 30 years, but it's continuing to grow within its sphere of service, even having added a location in Mineral Wells last year," Rickey said. "And its repute in the community is very strong."

Grace House also has a new project on the horizon.

"At our gala, we announced the need for a new space for Weatherford our Pregnancy Center," Rickey said. "We have



outgrown our current location, and we will be moving toward buying and remodeling to suit our needs, or possibly building.

"We need additional space to continue to offer our existing services to more clients, and we would like to be able to add new services like case management to increase our impact in the lives of our clients. More space is a necessity to see that happen."

As Rickey reflects on 30 years of service to Parker County, he hopes that his staff members and volunteers remember why they are doing what they do.

"They have been used by God to impact the lives of people in more ways than we can know this side of Heaven," Rickey said. "Each of them have been and continue to be so important to seeing those lives changed."



Lone Star Parish, a Parker County-based country duo consisting of Brandon Tatarevich and Chuck Yielding, entertains at the Grace Ministry banquet before and during the dinner.





LeAnn and Darrel Russell look over the many silent auction items.



### Obituaries

were always on her list when she came home to Texas.

Sarah Elizabeth Spinella passed away on October 5, 2023.

Sarah Elizabeth

Spinella Caudell

Sarah was born on November 17, 1984, at Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth.

Her parents are Glenn Spinella and Mindy Campbell, and her bonus dad is Rick

Campbell. Sarah accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior at the age of 15 at First Baptist Church in Aledo. She was a 2003 graduate of Aledo High School. Sarah attended Tarrant County College and worked in the Fort Worth area before she met Andrew Caudell in Suwanee, Georgia in the summer of 2008.

Andrew and Sarah were married on October 18, 2008 and had two beautiful children, Mason Campbell Caudell and Reagan Elizabeth Caudell. Her children were the joy of her life, and she loved them with all her heart.

Sarah loved the water, and she spent summer vacations with her children at the beach or on Lake Lanier. She was strong-willed, which led to her family and friends calling her "Bear." She was always the life of the party and loved country music.

Although she lived in Georgia, Sarah was a Texas girl through and through. Stops at Whataburger and Joe T. Garcia's



Sarah Caudell

in death by her cousin Aimee Jo Kaiser, maternal grandparents Barbara and Darrell Waisner, paternal grandparents Dolores and Glenn Spinella, and Beverly Moore, and her aunt Linda Houck.

She was preceded

She is survived

by her parents, children Mason and Reagan, brother Ty Spinella (Tori, Tatum and Tucker), sister Bonnie Campbell (Madison), sister Jennifer Kochan (Donald), Auntie Jo and uncle Sammy Kaiser, cousins Patrick (Marianne, Lois and Thomas), Anne (Eric, Brooklynn and Brock), aunt Judy Pontecorvi (Sergio, Christian, Daniel, Nicholas and Alex), uncle Mark Spinella (Carna), aunt Cheryl and uncle Gary Waisner, as well as all of her Texas, Georgia, Maryland, and Missouri cousins.

Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 14, at North Side Baptist Church in Weatherford. A celebration of her life will follow at 11 a.m.

be held at North Side Baptist Church in Weatherford, Texas on Saturday October 14. A visitation at 10:00am followed by service at 11:00am.

Condolences may be expressed at www.beardenfuneralhome.com.

> The Community News October 20, 2023

#### **Dr. Stephen Trent** Johnson

Dr. Stephen Trent Johnson passed away suddenly on Friday, October 13th at his home in Annetta.

Born January 11, 1955, Steve was the devoted son of the late G.S. "Johnny" and Melba Johnson. After a decorated career as an Aledo High School

running back, Steve attended Texas A&M and received his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine in 1980. He then returned to Aledo to serve this community for more than 40 years as the most caring and compassionate veterinarian any cat or cow could wish to have. He was well-loved and always in awe of acts of community. Across his life, he was inspired by those in fellowship at the Aledo United Methodist Church, as well as the Parker County Cowboy Church, as they sought to love those around them.

and a very large circle of friends and close family.

> A memorial service is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday, November 3, at Aledo United Methodist Church. Following the service, friends and family we will gather at (Steve's favorite) Railhead's Barbeque in Willow Park to continue the celebration of his life at an

establishment where he became a fixture in his later years. The family welcomes all attending to dress however they would prefer, suggests breaking out the Hawaiian shirts and blue jeans in true Steve fashion!

**Stephen Johnson** 

Anyone who knew Steve will remember him best for his kind



Sherry Day and Chuck Frankenfield bid on a silent auction item.

He is survived by his loving children, Kema and Colin Johnson, his sisters JK Campbell and Jan Tonroy and their families,

nature and his quirky sense of humor. Steve was a natural and hilarious storyteller. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting your Steve stories!. They would like to collect as many of the stories that have kept his friends and family doubled over with laughter all these years.

Stories can be submitted either in written form or audio/ video recordings to storiesonsteve@gmail.com.

> The Community News October 20, 2023



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### **CITY OF WILLOW PARK, TEXAS**

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 887-23**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOW PARK, TEXAS, AMENDING DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FEE SCHEDULE, INCLUDING FEES FOR BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS, MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS, OTHER INSPECTIONS OR PLAN REVIEWS, AND IRRIGATION PERMITS; ONSITE SEWAGE FACILITY PERMITS AND REPAIR PERMITS: OIL AND GAS WELL PERMITS; DEMOLITION PERMITS; SIGN PERMITS; HEALTH PERMITS; FIRE PERMITS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING FIRE ALARM CODE REVIEW, FIRE SPRINKLER CODE PLAN REVIEW, AND ADDITIONAL FIRE CODE REVIEW AND INSPECTIONS; SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS; CODE ENFORCEMENT; AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES; AMENDING VARIOUS CITY ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE, PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS DAY 10TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

CRYSTAL R. DOZIER, TRMC, CMC

**CITY SECRETARY** 

CITY OF WILLOW PARK

#### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of MITZI ANN RILEY, Deceased, were given to the undersigned Independent Executor on the 11 day of October, 2023, in the proceeding indicated below my signature hereto, which proceeding is still pending, and that I now hold such Letters Testamentary. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered in the county below named, are hereby required to present the same to me at 777 Main Street, Suite 2700, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, before suit upon same is barred by the general statutes of limitation, before such estate is closed, and within the time prescribed by law.

LISA ANN BLOCKER

Executed: \_\_\_\_\_0 - [] -2023

Independent Executor of the Estate of Mitzi Ann Riley, Deceased, Cause No. 23P419, in the County Court of Parker County, Texas



#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

The City of Aledo will accept bids submitted only in writing until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 to establish a multi-year contract from a qualified person, firm, or corporation to provide mowing and lawn care maintenance services for the City of Aledo and surrounding areas as designated by the City of Aledo. The mowing and lawn care services to be performed under this Contract will include City parks, City property, along with medians and right-of-way.

#### Bid # PW-2024-001

#### CITY OF ALEDO - MOWING AND LAWN CARE MAINTENANCE

City Staff will begin reading the bids at 2:01 p.m.

Dial-in Number: 234.203.2766

Conference Code: 680-090-795

Bid documents may be obtained without charge at the City of Aledo City Hall, 104 Maverick Street, Aledo, Texas 76008. Bid documents will be ready for pickup on and after October 6, 2023. Request for Bid documents may also be downloaded at www.aledotx.gov.

The City of Aledo website will be updated with addenda, additional reports or other information relevant to bidding the services. It is the sole responsibility of all plan holders, whether they have received digital downloads or paper copies of the plans and specifications, to periodically check for Addenda which may have been posted on the City of Aledo website.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-bid conference on October 17, 2023 at 9:00 AM. The Pre-Bid Conference will be held at Community Center Conference Room, 104 Robinson Court, Aledo, TX 76008.

Bidders should submit all inquiries and/or questions concerning this project to the person identified below by Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. Questions that result in changes to the specifications will be answered in writing and copies distributed to bidders of record in the form of an addendum.

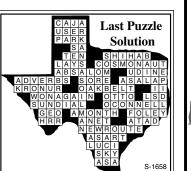
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Advertisement dates: October 6, 2023 October 13, 2023 October 20, 2023

#### Legal Notice

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate antennas on an existing 188.3-foot-tall lattice telecommunications tower in the approx. vicinity of 11277 West Old Highway 80, Milsap, Parker County, Texas, 76066. Lat: [32-38-59.57], Long: [-98-3-3.03]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Andrew Thigpen, h.hainline@trileaf.com, 66 South Logan Street, Denver, Colorado 80209, (314) 997-6111.

## 







Jimmy Griffith, AAMS<sup>®</sup> Financial Advisor

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**Eighth-grade boys** 

Andrew Walsh, fourth, 13:49.01.

Beacon Voskamp, ninth, 14:36.74.

Eli Wilson, eighth, 13:59.50.

Nicholas Hale, 10th, 14:41.07

John Stodola, 11th, 14:52.05.

Ashlvnn Durnil, fifth, 15:15.24.

Kinley Garcia, 10th, 16:20.78.

Sydney Fleury, 14th, 17:02.94.

Luke McGuire, eighth, 14:48.06.

Lilla Kovacs, 11th, 16:29.75.

Seventh-grade boys

Josh Fink, first, 12:44.78.

Caleb Doss, 11th, 15:23.22.

Brody Bruno, 12th, 15:29.56.

Elijah Stene, 13th, 15:38.61.

Karson Green, fifth, 15:51.28.

Ashley Lawrence, 11th, 17:54.49.

respective divisions in the Peaster

traveled to Everman and swept all

Seventh grade: A Team 25-8, 25-3; B

Eighth grade: A Team 25-5, 25-4; B

Team 25-3, 25-10; C Team 25-8, 25-7.

Team 25-2, 25-6; C Team 25-8, 25-2.

Also during this past week they

Seventh-grade girls

**Eighth-grade girls** 

#### TWICE from page 4

First-year Bearcats head coach Robby Jones was the offensive coordinator for that juggernaut, which was also the last team Tim Buchanan coached before retiring for the first time. After serving as athletic director only from 2014-18, Buchanan returned in 2019 to win three more state titles, but none before or after matched the explosiveness of the team in 2013.

"It was great to see those guys on those teams tonight. I didn't know the '98 guys as most of them were gone before I got here," Jones said, noting that some of the younger players might have crossed paths with him. "But what they accomplished was a big part of history. They were the first state champs, and that's something special."

Something the 1998 team and the 2013 team have in common is both came up short of their goal the season before. The 2012 team finished 10-2 and exited in the second round of the playoffs - something unheard of in Aledo, especially considering they were coming off three consecutive 4A state championships.

But, just like their 1998 counterparts, they regrouped with a focused mission.

"That 2013 team made a goal to go undefeated," Jones said. "Something that made them so great is our second team was better than most other first teams."

I still remember getting a simple answer to a question I texted Buchanan just prior to the 2013 season. I asked his general thoughts on bouncing back after 2012, a season in which both of their losses came to state champions in 4A, Stephenville (Division II) in the regular season and Denton Guyer (Division I) in the postseason.

It read, "Going 10-2 and losing in the second round led to a hard offseason."

I saw the 2013 team only once as I was working as sports editor at another newspaper at the time, but that's all it took to realize I was seeing something special. They took apart an 8-0 team that was





KRISTIN MORALES/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Bearcats football players from the historic 1998 (top) and 2013 (bottom) squads were recognized at halftime during the game on Friday, Oct. 13.

enjoying its best season in almost have already made a mark, oversix decades, winning 72-6.

Bear in mind that game, and most others they played in the regular season, featured a running clock with no stoppage for a large

part of the second half. In other words, they scored a lot of their points without the help of the clock stopping for incomplete passes or players going out of bounds.

Jones and Buchanan will also be the first to tell you (well, one might be first, the other second) that one reason the offense was so prolific in 2013 was the staunch defense of that team. They held 10 opponents to no more than one touchdown.

#### Inspiration

It was clear the current players were inspired by those two great teams of the past. Of course, many of the players on this year's team

coming an 0-2 start to go 14-2 and win state last year.

> "Those teams were great and they gave us something more to play for," senior linebacker Davhon Keys said. "That's our goal, to be even better."

Quarterback Hauss Hejny smiled and said of the 1,000-plus points scored, "I'm thinking about it."

In reality, there is no better or worse when it comes to a program like Aledo. There is simply greatness, and while each team has its own form, they are all just that, great.

Ask the players on those two honored teams, or any of the others in story that is Bearcats football and here's betting they will tell you they just proud parts of a larger legend.

### **CROSS COUNTRY - AMS** AMS 8th boys win district

#### Fink wins individual title for 7th boys Staff Report The Community News

The Aledo Middle School eighth-grade boys cross country team won the Power 5 District championship on Tuesday, Oct. 10. Seventh-grader Josh Fink won the boys individual title in his division.

Also, the eighth-grade girls and seventh-grade boys finished second, while the seventh-grade girls were third.

Individual standouts were (distances were

#### VOLLEYBALL

### AMS sweeps tourney titles

Tournament.

matches.

Seventh, eighth bring home trophies Staff Report The Community News

The Aledo Middle School seventh- and eighth-grade volleyball teams recently captured championships in their

#### FOOTBALL

**AMS** sweeps Everman

#### 7th A, 8th B unbeaten

#### **Staff Report**

The Community News

Aledo Middle School was a perfect 4-0 in its games with Everman last week.

The seventh-grade A Team improved to 5-0-1 with a 45-26 victory. It's the third time they've scored more than 40 points in a game.

It was also the second win against Everman this season as they also won 20-6 earlier.

The seventh-grade B Team won 20-14 and avenged an 18-0 loss earlier in the season. They are now 2-3.

The eighth-grade A squad's 38-8 victory improved them to 3-3. They swept the season series with Everman, winning earlier 26-0.

The eighth-grade B Team moved to 5-0 with a 42-6 win. They defeated Everman 26-6 earlier in the season.

#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Avanzada Water Well Improvements - Phase 2 to include two (2) Trinity Wells, three (3) Paluxy Wells and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Competitive sealed bids addressed to the City Secretary of the Town of Annetta, Texas will be received at Town Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane, Annetta, Texas 76008 until 10:00 a.m. (local time) on November 6, 2023 for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment and the performing of all work required for the interior

#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Rio Vista Phase 1 Commercial Water Line Extension Improvements to include approximately 2,145 linear feet of eight inch water line and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

#### 12:00 Noon, Friday November 10th, 2023

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

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Avanzada Water Well Improvements - Phase 2.

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

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

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

Publication: October 20, 2023 October 27, 2023

#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Avanzada Phase 1 Subdivision Improvements to include roadway excavation, water/ sewer/ drainage improvements, street paving and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

#### 12:00 Noon, Friday November 10th, 2023.

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

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Avanzada Phase 1 Subdivision Improvements to include roadway excavation, water/ sewer/ drainage improvements, street paving and related appurtenances.

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

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

October 20, 2023

October 27, 2023

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

Publication:

finish out of an 50 feet by 50 feet rigid frame shop for storage in Annetta, and other improvements incidental thereto, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

BIDS shall be submitted in sealed envelopes upon the blank form of proposal furnished. Sealed envelopes shall be marked "RFP for Shop Interior Finish" in Annetta, Texas. DO NOT OPEN UNTIL 10:00 A.M., NOVEMBER 6, 2023.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS and contract documents may be examined without charge at the Annetta City Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane, Annetta, Texas 76008 or at www.annettatx.org.

In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating proposal prices, the Owner reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject any or all bids. No bid may be withdrawn within sixty (60) days after date on which bids are opened.

THE TOWN OF ANNETTA

ADVERTISEMENT DATES:

October 20, 2023 October 27, 2023

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#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Rio Vista Phase 1 Perimeter Fencing & Entry Gate Improvements to include approximately 2,385 linear feet of masonry screen wall, two (2) automated entry gates and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

#### 12:00 Noon, Friday November 10th, 2023

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

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Rio Vista Phase 1 Perimeter Fencing & Entry Gate Improvements.

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

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

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

Publication: October 20, 2023 October 27, 2023

#### 12:00 Noon, Friday November 10th, 2023

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

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Rio Vista Phase 1 Commercial Water Line Extension Improvements.

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

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

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

Publication: October 20, 2023

October 27, 2023

#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Avanzada Trail Roadway Connection to SH 377 to include excavation, asphalt pavement, concrete pavement, roadway striping and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

#### 12:00 Noon, Friday November 10th, 2023

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

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction of the Avanzada Trail Roadway Connection to SH 377 .

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

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

Barron-Stark Engineers, LP

Publication: October 20, 2023 October 27, 2023

# Events

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

October 1 - 31, 2023 Parker County Mayors' Food Drive Benefiting CERTER OF HOPE



• Canned Meat • Canned Soup • Canned Vegetables • Canned Fruit • Peanut Butter • Ramen Noodles • Saltine Crackers

#### OCTOBER 1-31

#### Parker County Mayors' Food Drive

It's time for the 16th **Annual Parker County** Mayors' Food Drive! There are bags that need to be filled with canned meat, canned soup, canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, ramen noodles and saltine crackers. This drive is for the benefit of Parker County Center of Hope. If you are able to drop off anything needed, please bring to Annetta Town Hall (450 Thunder Head Lane) or pick up a bag for filling and bring back prior to October 31.



#### OCTOBER 21

#### ALEDO-FEST will be on Saturday, October 21, from 1 - 5 p.m. at Aledo High School's south parking lots This year's event will feature live music from Texas High Road, and many activities for kids of all ages! Meet your local businesses at the many ven-

Drop-off locations: PARKER COUNTY CENTER OF HOPE 1318 Clear Lake Road Weatherford, TX Monday-Thursday: Barn-4pm MOSS INSURANCE GROUP

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SOUP

dor booths, do some gift shopping and early holiday finds, and get a little something for yourself! Come hungry for a variety of food trucks on-site for good eats & autumn treats! For questions or more information, please contact Deana McMullen, City Secretary, at City Hall: 817-441-7016, or cell/text: 817-829-4024, email, or visit Aledo City Hall, http:// www.aledotx.gov

FALL FESTIVAL OCTOBER 21ST 5PM-8PM

#### **PCCC Fall Festical**

Parker County Cowboy Church will have their Fall Festival on Saturday, October 21 from 5 - 8 p.m. Come for family fun and fellowship. Games, food, cake walk and trunk-ortreat. For more information go to pccowboychurch.org or follow on Facebook.

#### Pumpkin Palooza

The Crossing is hosting the 4th Annual Pumpkin Palooza on Saturday, October 21, from 4 - 7:30 p.m. It is one of The Crossing's largest annual events for all the families in the community of Aledo and beyond.



There will be a full lineup of inflatables, candy, a hay maze, a hay jump, a hay ride, face painting, pumpkin painting, a variety of food trucks, corn pits, cotton candy, and a bake sale. Admission to The Crossing Pumpkin Palooza is FREE. The only thing to bring money for is snacks, food trucks, and the bake sale.

#### OCTOBER 22

#### 20th Annual Ladycat/ Bearcat Golf Tournament

Aledo Athletic Booster Club-Golf will hold the 20th Annual Ladycat/ Bearcat Golf Fundraiser on Sunday, October 22 at Split Rail Links & Golf Club. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. with a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

The cost is \$600 per team with Hole in 1 prizes available and cash prizes for the top 3 teams.

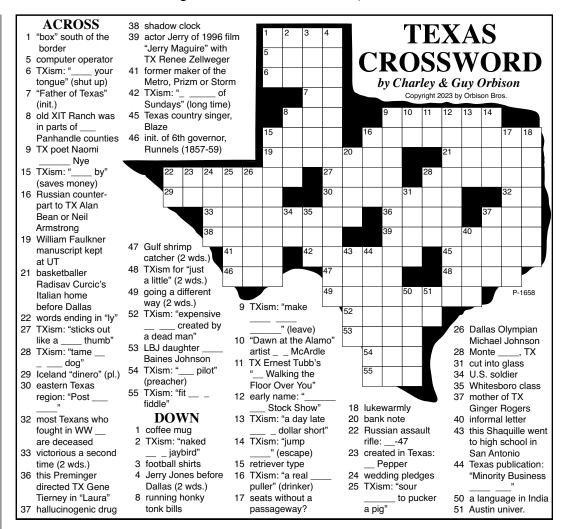
For details contact Dalia Smith 817-675-0404 or email daliasguard-aledo@ yahoo.com.



#### Fall Festival

Fall Festvical at Cross Timbers Baptist Church in Willow Park on Sunday, October 22, from 5 - 7 p.m. Games, food, trunks, bounce houses and candy.

**Fall festival** Detober 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m. 601 Ranch House Rd. Willow Pork Games Food Trunks bounce Houses Candy





#### OCTOBER 27

#### Trunk of Treat at Harvest of Aledo

Join us for Trunk or Treat at Harvest of Aledo on Friday, October 27th from 5 - 7:00 p.m.Food Trucks, outdoor games, photo booth, and more! Show off your favorite cos-

tume and be ready to trick or treat for lots of candy and prizes! The residents are excited to pass out candy to our community! We can't wait to see you there! Call 682-209-0643



**Teen Time** Teen Time at the East Parker County Library on Moday, October 30 at 5 p.m.. Middle and High schoolers are invited to Oregon Trail Live. Live the dream or die of dysentaery. Snacks will be provided.

#### OCTOBER 31

**Safe Halloween** Get ready to have a frightfully fun time! Safe Howloween is back on October 31 starting at 6 p.m. for general pubic. For



special needs children gates will open at 5 p.m. It will be in the North Parking Lot at 225 College Park Drive. It is a free and safe alternative to traditional trick-ortreating. Don't miss out!

Please bring a canned food item for admission.

#### EVENT SUBMISSIONS

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



# Churches

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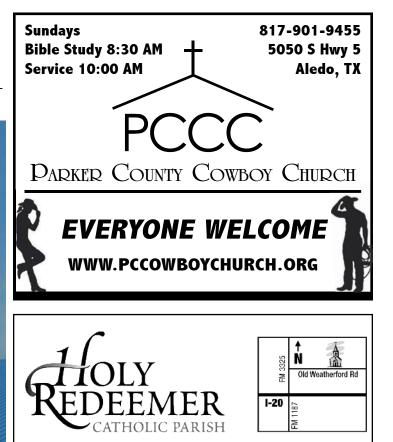
Contemporary Service 9am Traditional Service 11am Online Worship - aledoumc.org

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# Sports

11

#### **CROSS COUNTRY**

## What else is new?

#### Bearcats, Ladycats sweep titles

#### By Rick Mauch

To the very surprise of, well, pretty much no one, the Aledo Bearcats and Ladycats once again came home with the District 5-5A championship Friday, Oct. 13 at Central Park in White Settlement.

The Ladycats scored 18 points to easily outdistance runner-up Azle with 59. The Bearcats had a little closer competition, but edged Granbury 35-39 to successfully defend their title.

Both teams now advance to the Class 5A Region I Meet at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock on Oct. 23. The top three teams and top 10 individuals from district qualified for regionals.

From the regional meet, the top four teams and top 10 runners not on the qualifying teams will move on to state at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock on Nov. 3. The Ladycats qualified as a team for state last season, while Jack Fink qualified individually for the Bearcats.

"It was a tough course, and very windy, but the teams competed really well!" Aledo coach Mike Pinkerton exclaimed.

The Bearcats and Ladycats also had the top two finishers in their divisions. Micah Neal paced the Aledo girls, posting a time of 19 minutes, 3.99 seconds over the 5-kilometer course, while 2022 district champion Molly Garrison was second with a 19:20.34.

Fink led the varsity boys, clocking a 16:38.35 to repeat as district champion, with Layton Ybarra next at 16:43.36.

"Fantastic showing by all!" Pinkerton said with excitement.

Also for the Ladycats, Madison Larsen was fourth (19:54.90), Mykel Murry took fifth (20:09.91) FOOTBALL

**By Rick Mauch** The Community News

in the making.

## Like looking in a mirror



2013 champions in the stands - and honored at halftime - looking on, the Bearcats rolled over visiting Burleson Centennial 42-0 at Tim Buchanan Stadium on Friday, Oct. 13.

The 1998 team was the first to win one of what is now 11 state championships for Aledo - the most of any high school in the history of Texas. The 2013 squad is still the only team at any level to score more than 1,000 points in a season, outscoring their opponents 1,023-140.

"It was great to see them all show up. I can see myself and all my buddies coming back for that some day after we win our second championship," senior safety Jake Gillespie said.

The Bearcats' latest state championship was last season when, after an 0-2 start they reeled off 14 straight victories. With Friday's win they now have 22 consecutive wins and 117 in a row in district dating to 2007.

of a league title disappear with yet another loss to the Bearcats - their seventh in seven in meetings since the series started in 2014.

The average score in those seven meetings is 54-20.

#### Jumping out early

Cole Plumbley (38) rushes the ball in the game against Burleson Centennial on Oct. 13.

The Bearcats wasted no time Centennial (5-2, 3-2) saw its hopes in taking control of the contest, scoring on all five of their firsthalf possessions to take a 35-0 break into the intermission, something the 2013 high-scoring squad would certainly be proud of.

KRISTEN MORALES/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

TCU-bound senior quarterback Hauss Hejny had a hand - and feet - in all of those scores. He completed 13 of 17 passes for

Turn to FOOTBALL, page 12

#### **TENNIS**

## **Racquetcats advance to regional semifinals**

#### Win streak reaches a dozen **By Cathy Mason** The Community News

The Aledo Raquetcats continued their winning streak with an 11-7 area win over Birdville High

S. Mason won 6-1, 6-3; Line 4 Beyer won 2-6, 6-3, 10-7 with an impressive tiebreak round; Line 5 Heckathorn won 6-4, 3-6, 10-3; and Line 6 Ruminsky was up 6-3, 4-0 when his game was called after the team had won.

"We're carrying on their leg-

A win against visiting Denton

acy, don't want to mess up the

streak," senior running back Hawk

Ryan (5-1 overall, 4-1 in District

3-5A Division I) on Friday, Oct. 20

will give Aledo (8-0, 6-0) its 16th

consecutive district championship.

Patrick-Daniels said.

Girls singles would clinch the victory with wins by Line 3 Bussmeir with a score of 6-1, 3-0 (her opponent retired); Line 4 Satterfield 6-1, 4-6, 10-5; and Line 6 Sydney Byrd 6-3, 6-4. Other posted scores were Line 1 Orr 4-6, 3-6; Line 2 Germany 2-6, 0-6; and Line 5 Gracie Heydman 4-6, 2-6. Aledo then took on Colleyville Heritage and again ended doubles with a narrow 4-3 lead. Boys doubles Line 1 Mason and Mason lost 3-6, 7-6 (3), 3-10; Line 2 Heckathorn and Britz



and Sophia Brandenburg placed sixth (20:53.71) to round out the scoring.

The five fastest runners comprise the team score.

Also scoring for the Bearcats were Dominick Barrera, seventh (17:32.50); Tyler Connally, 12th, (17:55.46); and Luke Schabel, 13th (17:59.86).

Mayden Mitchell also ran for the Ladycats and finished ninth in 21:41.29 and Elizabeth Griffin posted a 22:16.37 for 14th.

Garrison, Brandenburg, Griffin and Aubrey Connally, who won this season's junior varsity girls championship, were on the Ladycats' state team last season.

Bo Merrill placed 14th for the Bearcats with an 18:04.86 and Ian Robbins' time of 18:24.69 placed him 18th.

Connally's winning time among the JV girls was 22:40.65. Anderson Smith won the JV boys with a time of 18:07.36.

Turn to COUNTRY, page 16

School on Oct. 12 and an 11-8 Class 5A Regional I quarterfinal win over Colleyville Heritage on Oct. 16.

The Bearcats took on the Birdville Hawks and started with a narrow 4-3 lead after the doubles round. Boys doubles Line 1 Craig and Scott Mason won 6-2, 6-4; Line 2 Jacob Heckathorn and Francois Britz won 6-4, 6-1 and Line 3 Will Beyer and Tom Ruminsky lost 1-6, 3-6.

In Girls doubles, Line 1 Kenley Germany and Bryanna Orr fell in a tiebreak with a score of 7-6 (5), 3-6, 6-10. Line 2 Elli Kate Bussmeir and Patrice Loftin won 6-2, 6-3 and Line 3 Eleanor Jack and Natalie Nawrocki lost 4-6, 6-7 (5).

The mixed doubles pair of Ben Farmer and Lila Satterfield won 6-3, 6-0.

Boys singles would add four more victories. Line 1 C. Mason lost 6-4, 2-6, 8-10; Line 2 Farmer won 6-4, 6-1; Line 3

won 2-6, 6-4, 10-8 and Line 3 Beyer and Ruminsky lost 4-6, 3-6.

Girls doubles Line 1 Germany and Orr won 6-2, 6-2; Line 2 Bussmeir and Loftin won 6-4, 6-3 and Line 3 Jack and Nawrocki lost 6-3, 3-6, 8-10.

Mixed doubles Farmer and Satterfield won 6-1, 6-2.

In boys singles, Line 1 C. Mason lost 3-6, 4-6; Line 2 *Turn to* **TENNIS,** *page 16* 

LAURA FINER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Girls doubles Elli Kate Bussmeier (left) and Patrice Loftin (right) won 6-2 against Colleyville Herritage on Oct. 16 at the Class 5A Regional I quarterfinals.

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#### FOOTBALL

## Bearcats on verge of another district title

#### Can clinch against visiting Ryan By Rick Mauch

FOOTBALL ADVANCE

By now, anyone who has been paying any attention to Aledo football probably knows the legendary statistics that accompany the program.

Not the least of which is a national-record district winning streak of 117 games dating to 2007. That, coincidentally, is the last season the Bearcats did not take home their league title.

To put that in perspective, none of the current players were even in pre-K yet - some weren't even born. The Bearcats had only won a single state championship.

Now, fast forward. A victory against visiting Denton Ryan on Friday, Oct. 20, at Tim Buchanan Stadium will give Aledo - which has already clinched a playoff berth - its 16th straight district title.

"It never does get old," Bearcats coach Robby Jones said. "We've kind of taken those for granted, but it is a big deal. We need to make it a big deal, celebrate it."

First, however, they have to win the game - another thing that has become almost as commonplace as death and taxes. However, Jones warns folks not to take Ryan for granted.

Ryan's shocking 27-20 loss to The Colony at home on Sept. 21 put some doubt in the minds of many. However, the Raiders set those aside the next week with a 35-14 dismantling of previously unbeaten Burleson Centennial.

Also, Ryan has had two weeks to prepare for its biggest game of the season as the Raiders are coming off a bye week.

"Denton Ryan is a good football team," Jones stressed. "Ryan has a good defense. That's something they've always hung their hats on. They've had some great quarterbacks and other great offensive players come through, but the one consistent they've had is a good defense - and they have one again this season.

"If we're not focused this team can beat us and then we'll be second in district."



KRISTEN MORALES/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Kaydon Finley (18) with the ball in the game against Burleson Centennial.

The squads first met in 2002, with Ryan winning 34-27. A year later, Ryan won 17-0, which was also the last time the Bearcats were shut out.

Aledo has since scored in 292 consecutive games since then.

#### Home field advantage

This will be the 100th game for the Bearcats in Buchanan Stadium - formerly known as Bearcat Stadium. They have a record of 93-6 there.

The only district game they've ever lost in the stadium was 31-28 to Stephenville in 2007.

"We don't lose a whole lot of football games," Jones said with a smile. "It shows you the success we've had over the longevity of the program.

"This is a special place to be. I consider myself lucky. The kids have to look at it and understand they are lucky their parents put them here."

their first two titles in 2001 and 2002, reaching the state final four consecutive seasons.

Their most recent championship was in 2021, when they capped a 15-0 season. The Raiders have also played in seven state finals altogether.

#### **Dempsey's return** impressive

Sophomore defensive end Carson Dempsey returned in last Friday's 42-0 win over Burleson Centennial. It was his first action in district as he suffered appendicitis and had his appendix removed following the 48-45 win at Denton Guyer in the season's second week.

At the time he left Dempsey led the team in tackles for loss with four and he now has 4.5 (third on the team). He is still the Bearcats' sack leader with three.

Of course, the one tackle on which he assisted Friday was for a loss.

"He played well. He disrupted

#### Game at a glance

Denton Ryan Raiders (5-1, 4-1 in District 3-5A Division I) at Aledo Bearcats (8-0, 6-0).

- When/where: 7 p.m. Friday, Tim Buchanan Stadium.
- Returning starters: Ryan 2 offense/6 defense, Aledo 7 offense/5 defense.
- Last week: Aledo won 42-0 at South Hills, Ryan had a bve.
- Last season: Aledo, 14-2, 8-0 district, 5A Division I state champions. Ryan 6-4, lost in bidistrict. Aledo won 35-21 in Denton.
- Aledo offensive players to watch: WR Trace Clarkson (30 catches, 649 yards, 6 TD), TE Tyson Timms (14 catches, 209 yards, 3 TD).
- Ryan offensive players to watch: QB TJ Hobbs (830 yards, 12 TD, 4 interceptions, 2 TD rushing), RB Braeden Mussett (194 yards, 10.8 average, 2 TD rushing; 11 catches, 177 yards, 3 TD receiving).
- Aledo defensive players to watch: DE Carson Dempsey (4.5 tackles for loss, 3 sacks in three games), S Boogie Owens (27.5 tackles, 2 interceptions, 1 fumble recovery).

only team from their district to be ranked, though Ryan was in the state's top 10 earlier this season.

Aledo ranks seventh among all Texas teams at all levels nationally, according to MaxPreps, led by No. 6 Duncanville. Overall, the Bearcats are No. 38 in the nation.

#### District 3-5A Division I update

Last week's results Aledo 42, Burleson Centennial 0 Northwest 37, The Colony 27 Azle 34, Saginaw 33 Brewer 68, South Hils 8 Ryan bye

#### This week's games

Friday, Oct. 20 (All at 7 p.m.) Ryan at Aledo The Colony at Azle South Hills at Northwest Centennial at Brewer Saginaw bye

## **State-ranked Panthers too** much for Roos Playoffs on line Friday Staff Report The Community News

North Crowley, ranked No. 9 in the state in Class 6A, was too much for Weatherford as the Panthers dominated the Kangaroos 62-17 at Crowley ISD Stadium Friday, Oct. 13.

Panther quarterback Chris Jimmerson ran for 152 yards and two touchdowns and threw for 210 yards and two scores.

The speed of the North Crowley defense gave Weatherford fits all night. The Roos were held to 83 yards passing. North Crowley outgained Weatherford 632 yards to 276 and outrushed the Roos 422 yards to 193.

Things looked promising for Weatherford in the first half. Will Jordan scored on a 59-yard touchdown run to give the Roos a 7-0 lead. It was 20-10 North Crowley at halftime. But 42 unanswered points in the second half sealed the deal for the Panthers.

Weatherford's JoJo Polk rushed for 103 yards and a touchdown.

At times, the Panthers seemed to succeed in spite of themselves. North Crowley was penalized 13 times for 101 yards, while Weatherford had three penalties for 15 yards. The Panthers also turned the ball over four times - three fumbles and an interception.

The Kangaroos (4-3 overall, 2-2 in District 3-6A) face Boswell (3-3 overall, 1-3 district) on Friday, Oct. 20, at home. It will be a critical matchup for the 3-6A playoff picture as Weatherford is tied for fourth in the standings and Boswell is one game behind.

#### **Team stats**

Rushing yards: Weatherford 193, N. Crowley 422. Passing yards: Weatherford 83, N. Crowley 210. Caught-thrown-intercepte: Weatherford 15-25-0, N. Crowley 9-13-1. Fumbles lost: Weatherford 1, N. Crowley Penalties-vards: Weatherford 3-15. N. Crowley 13-101.

### Weatherford Individual

#### Head-to-head

The Raiders are among that rare group of teams that has a winning record against Aledo in their history. Ryan has won two of the past three meetings, albeit the first two were more than two decades ago.

"It's a district championship game, and we're playing a program with a lot of pride," Jones said. "And they're one of the few programs that holds an advantage on us."

#### Powerhouse in their own right

While the Raiders fall far short of Aledo's 11 state championships after all, the Bearcats do have more than any other team in Texas - they do have their own stellar history of which to be proud.

Since opening its doors in the mid-90s, Ryan has won three state championships. They captured

some things," Jones said. "He was Standings (overall record blowing plays up inside and making them go back. He was always around the ball. It's good having Carson back."

#### Rankings

The Bearcats are once again atop the Class 5A Division I state rankings in Dave Campbell's Texas Football. They remain the

#### in parentheses) 6-0 (8-0)

y-Aledo 6-0	) (8-0)
Ryan 4-1	(5-1)
Northwest 4-1	l (6-1)
Centennial 3-2	2 (5-2)
Brewer 3-2	2 (3-4)
The Colony 3-3	3 (3-5)
Azle 1-4	(2-5)
South Hills 0-	5 (0-7)
Saginaw 0-0	6 (0-8)
Y = clinched playoff berth	

u	Offense
	Passing: CJ Thornton 12-24, 0 TD, 0
	interceptions, 83 yards. Cutter Kennedy
	0-1.
	Rushing: JoJo Polk 20 carries, 103 yards,
	1 touchdown; Will Jordan 1-59, 1 touch- down.
	Receiving: Will Jordan 2 catches, 29 yards.
	Defense
	Micah Moore 11 tackles. Jamie Gray 1 interception.

## FOOTBALL

from page 11

213 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions, while rushing six times for 57 yards and touchdowns of 40 and 6 yards.

Hejny's scoring throws went for 34 yards to Ray Guillory, 43 yards to Trace Clarkson and 27 yards to Patrick-Daniels.

For the season, Hejny has 20 touchdowns - equaling his total through 16 games last season - and he has yet to throw an interception. He's also completed 85 of 119 passes (71%) for 1,682 yards.

"We knew they were going to come in fired up because we beat them twice last season," Hejny said. "We just knew we had to play our brand of football."

As for his performance this season, Hejny said, "I'm feeling confident. It comes down to preparation and experience. I had a junior season of 16 games and it helped me continue to get better. I have a higher IQ now."

Guillory, who returned to the lineup after missing last week's 71-0 win at South Hills while nursing an injury, continued his stellar first season as a Bearcat. The sophomore move-in from Mansfield rushed an unofficial 11 times for 61 yards and caught a pair of passes for 38 yards and touchdown, giving him 15 TD this season.

The Bearcats' final touchdown came in the third quarter when sophomore backup QB Gavin Beard connected with sophomore Kaydon Finley for a 5-yard score.

#### More sterling defense

The Aledo defense posted its second consecutive shutout and its third in four games, shutting down Centennial's often troublesome Flexbone triple-option offense. On the Spartans' most serious scoring threat, a drive that reached the 11-yard line, defensive end Brody Adams had a pair of tackles for loss to squelch the threat.

Also, the Spartans were held to just 21 yards passing and the Bearcats also forced three fumbles, recovering two by linebackers Davhon Keys and Kutter Harrell.

"We just played responsible football," said Keys, a senior who has committed to LSU next season. "We trusted the people next to us. When you have 11 guys who trust each other great things happen."

In district play the Bearcats have outscored their opponents 331-34.

"On defense our guys were really focused," head coach Robby Jones said. "We played these guys twice last year and our players remembered a lot from those games and it showed."

#### **Dempsey's return**

No one on the field was happier than defensive end Carson Dempsey. The sophomore was playing in his first district and seeing his first action since the second game of the season, a 48-45 victory at Denton Guyer.

Dempsey had been out since having an emergency appendectomy. He saw a lot of action Friday, even assisting in a tackle for a loss, and said his return was a smooth one.

"It felt great. I was super rested. My body was healed," he said. "I felt natural."

And, of course, he was also inspired by the past champions watching. 

"I wanna be like that someday, be back here celebrating our championship," he said.

#### Third-down success

The Bearcats were 8-of-10 on third downs in the victory, something that greatly impressed head coach Robby Jones.

"Our offense overcame thirdand-long several times, but that's the sign of a good offense to overcome that," he said.

#### Scary moment

With 5:14 remaining in the first half, Centennial starting quarterback Iverson Moore went down with an injury. He laid on the field for several minutes before paramedics brought out a stretcher.

He was strapped down securely and wheeled into an ambulance that rushed him to the hospital.

He did not return to the game. However, a report on social media later revealed that he was released from the hospital that same night.

#### No punts

In an interesting twist, despite the great defense by Aledo, the Spartans did not punt once. Of course, neither did the Bearcats, but then they haven't punted much all season.

> Centennial went for it on five fourth downs, converting only once. The Bearcats tried once and did not convert.

Each team also attempted a 37-yard field goal.

#### **Bearcats 71, Spartans 0**

Centennial 0 0 0 0 - 0 21 14 7 0 - 42 Aledo A - Hauss Hejny 40 run (Cole Crawford kick)

A - Hejny 6 run (Crawford kick)

A - Ray Guillory 34 pass from Hejny (Crawford kick)

A - Trace Clarkson 43 pass from Hejny (Crawford kick)

A - Hawk Patrick-Daniels 27 pass from Hejny (Crawford kick)

A - Kaydon Finley 5 pass from Gavin Beard (Crawford kick)

#### **Unofficial statistics**

Team

First downs: Centennial 13, Aledo 18.

Rushes-yards: Centennial 46-223, Aledo 27-146.

Passing yards: Centennial 21, Aledo 273. Caught-thrown-intercepted: Centennial 2-6-0, Aledo 16-20-0.

Fumbles-lost: Centennial 3-2, Aledo 0-0. Punts-average: Centennial 0-0, Aledo 0-0.

Penalties-yards: Centennial 4-35, Aledo 4-30.

Third-down conversions: Centennial 5-10, Aledo 8-10.

Fourth-down conversions: Centennial 1-5, Aledo 0-1.

#### **Individual leaders** Rushing

Centennial: Keyshaun Tucker 16 carries, 96 yards; Kellan Gregory 7-35; Aidan Hicks 4-25.

Aledo: Ray Guillory 11-61; Hejny 6-57, 2 TD; Patrick-Daniels 3-18; Cole Plumbley 6-9; Blake Burdine 1-1.

#### Passing

Centennial: Iverson Moore 1-of-4, 0 interceptions, 10 yards; Cesar Beltran 1-2-0, 11 yards.

Aledo: Hejny 13-17-0, 213 yards, 3 TD; Beard 3-3-0, 60 yards, TD.

Receiving

Centennial: Damien Long 1-11, Jett Smith 1-10.

Aledo: Clarkson 4-81, TD; Patrick-Daniels 5-79, TD; Jayden Griswold 1-47; Guillory 2-38, TD; Finley 3-20, TD; Burdine 1-8.

Tackles: Davhon Keys 7.5, Boogie Owens 6.5, Chase Wilburn 4.5, Brody Adams 4.5. Tackles for loss: Keys 2.5, Adams 2, Chris Johnson 1.

Fumble recoveries: Keys, Kutter Harrell.

#### THE COMMUNITY NEWS

### VOLLEYBALL

## Ladycats dominant district display continues

#### Win streak reaches double digits

#### By Ryan Wade The Community News

With just two matches remaining on the regular season schedule, Aledo's Ladycat volleyball team continued to dominate district opponents with wins over Wichita Falls Rider and Saginaw this week.

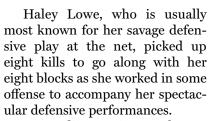
Aledo's win streak moved into double-digit territory with 10 wins in a row. The squad's last loss came in the district opener against Northwest way back on Sept. 8.

The Ladycats (29-8 overall, 10-1 in District 5-5A) swept Rider and Saginaw. On Friday, Oct. 13, Aledo turned out to be Rider's nightmare, slashing their way to victory with scores of 25-11, 25-19, and 25-9.

The horror show continued on Tuesday, Oct. 17, as the Ladycats preved upon the Lady Rough Riders. Aledo carved up the competition, defeating Saginaw 25-16, 25-15, and 25-14 before the final credits rolled.

Vivian Parker led the Ladycats with a stellar performance, yet again. The Mizzou commit ended up with 22 kills, 46 digs, and four aces in the matches against Rider and Saginaw.

Alyssa Todd earned 21 kills and 18 digs for the week. Kinley Elms notched 19 kills and seven blocks in the twin bill.



Ava Reding continues to be one of the most prolific offensive assets donning the orange and black this season. The Ladycat setter picked up another 64 assists, bringing her season total to 874. She had a pair of aces in the match against Wichita Falls Rider, as well.

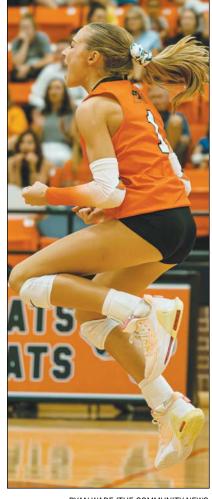
Sophomore deep setter, Ella Meador, has made the most of her first season on the varsity squad. Against Rider and Saginaw, she picked up 11 digs accompanied by a trio of aces.

Other noteworthy contributors in the last week were Kenrie

Pruitt with 28 digs, Sophia Frank with 12 assists, Ella Isbell and Skylar Lambert who ended the two matches with six blocks and two blocks, respectively.

From here the Ladycats hit the road to meet up with Brewer's Lady Bears on Friday, Oct. 20, for the final district match of the season starting at 6 p.m. Aledo dominated the first meeting between the two teams earlier this season with a 3-0 sweep of the Lady Bears on Sept. 26.

The Ladycats will wrap up their 2023 regular season campaign on Tuesday, Oct. 24, when Burleson's Lady Elks come to town. That match is slated to get underway at 5:30 p.m.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS Kenrie Pruitt celebrates a point during varsity volleyball action for the Ladycats earlier this season. Pruitt picked up 28 kills in the two matches against Rider and Saginaw earlier this week as Aledo sits squarely in first place in the District 5-5A standings after winning 10 matches in a row.

#### CROSS COUNTRY

## Roos win 3-6A title, girls second

#### **Both advance** to regionals By Rick Mauch The Community News

The Weatherford Kangaroos edged Fort Worth Paschal for the District 3-6A cross country championship at The Buff in Fort Worth on Friday, Oct. 13. Meanwhile, the Lady Roos placed second behind Boswell in their division.

The Kangaroos scored 46 points, while Paschal tallied 52. The Lady Roos, with 35 points, trailed only Boswell's 25.

Both Weatherford teams now advance to the Class 6A Region I Meet at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock on Tuesday, Oct. 24. From there, the top four teams and top 10 runners not on those teams will advance to state in Round Rock on Saturday, Nov. 4.

Individually, Rayla Castillo of the Lady Roos had the highest finish of all Weatherford runners. She ran the 5-kilometer course in 19 minutes, 03.02 seconds to place second. Freshman Remington Boone was right behind in third, clocking a 19:04.10.

For the boys, Rafael Ordonez led the way with a fourth-place finish in 17:29.61.

The Weatherford junior varsity boys and girls also won district. The boys nearly had a perfect score, finishing with 16 points that included finishing first through fourth, along with a sixth place individually.

Jett Hendrix of the JV boys won district with a time of 18:38.69.

#### **District 3-6A Cross Country Championships** Oct. 13, at The Buff in Fort Worth

#### Weatherford top results (all distances 5K)

Varsity boys

Team - First place, 46 points. 4. Rafael Ordonez, 17:29.61. 8. Josh Gal, 17:42.92. 9. Riley Starling, 17:43.41. 12. Braxton Boyer, 17:52.87. 13. Kelan Bush, 18:02.70. 16. Kris Martinez, 18:23.60. 22. Tristyn Allison, 19:01.47. Varsity girls

Team - Second, 35 points. 2. Rayla Castillo, 19:03.02. 3. Remington Boone, 19:04.10. 8. Cheyenne Gorman, 20:19.69. 10. Macayla Kopacz, 20:49.17. 12. Nayelli Ordonez, 21:36.39. 15. Cayleigh Madrid, 21:48.51.

JV girls

Team - First, 27 points. 3. Madison Pulis, 23:24.69. 4. Stella Adams, 23:29.34. 5. Sofia White, 23:31.48. 7. Paige Blake, 23:43.89. 8. Mia Saldivar, 23:47.25. JV boys

Team - First, 16 points. 1. Jett Hendrix, 18:38.69. 2. Erick Ibarra, 18:51.19. 3. Gerardo Miranda, 18:55.26. 4. Milo Proctor, 19:09.23. 6. Tate Nobis, 19:11.20.

## **Bearcats compete in Brewer Memorial**

#### Field featured top 5A/6A teams By Rick Mauch Community News

GOLF

The Aledo Bearcats, never one to shy away from tough competition, took on some of the top 5A and 6A teams from throughout the state in the Jay Brewer Memorial Tiger Classic in Texarkana on Oct. 13-14.

The Bearcats finished 13th in the 22-team field, posting a two- course played, I thought day score of 350. They opened with a 324 and followed with a 326. Aledo posted the best score of all the 5A teams entered.

some strokes get away from us. Texarkana Country Club is one of the best courses we will play all year," coach Brian Mourning said. "It is also one of the toughest courses we will play. It's a course where you can't go at the pin, you must hit to certain parts of the green and hope it holds your ball due to all the undulating greens.

"Considering how the

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"The guys played well but let guys to play against some of the top competitors in the state."

> Braden Stokes led Aledo with a 158 (78-80), followed by Jett Moore with a 163 (84-79). Ethan Elmore came in with a 167 (79-88), while Tyler Anderson (83-85) and Helton Mosiello (86-82) each shot 168.

> > The four lowest scores in each round comprise the team score for that round.

## **CROSS COUNTRY** Lady Eagles second in **Striders Invitational**

#### Whiteaker, Saadeh lead way S<u>taff Report</u>

Led by Gracee Whiteaker and Emma Saadeh, the Willow Park Trinity Christian Lady Eagles finished second in the Terry Jessup Metroplex Striders Invitational cross country meet at The Buff in Fort Worth on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Whiteaker had a time of 12 minutes, 15.79 seconds to place fourth on the 3200-meter course. Saadeh clocked a 12:51.73 for fifth. The Lady Eagles scored 60 points, trailing only Argyle Liberty Christian with 42.

The Eagles were led by Wilson Winchester, who was 11th over the boys' 5-kilometer course with a time of 17:33.91.

Weatherford Christian also com-

peted in the meet, with Landry Parkin taking second among the girls in 11:44.85 and Nate Cupp finishing sixth among the boys with a 17:20.63.



Other TCA girls in the top 50 finishers were Brooklyn Mathieson, 15th; Madison Clark, 18th; Meagan King, 36th; and Ellery Wright, 39th.



we played okay, but we could've been 12-15 shots better as a team. Overall, it was their fall fundraiser Sunday, Oct. another good experience for our 22 at Split Rail.

The Bearcats and Ladycats will compete in

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## LADYCAT **OF THE WEEK**



**Swimming** The junior set two school records in win-ning three events at the Northwest ISD Invitational on Oct. 14. She clocked a time of 1:54.21 in the 200-yard freestyle and posted a 52.46 in the 100 free. She was also a part of a winning relay and a runner-up relay.

**Jacqueline Gruber** 

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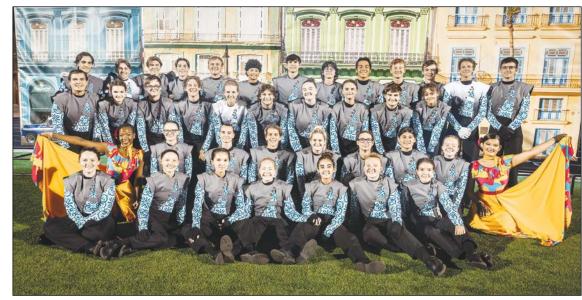
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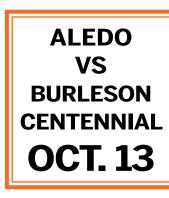














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### SWIMMING

The Community News

## Aledo Swimming third in NISD Invite

#### Gruber sets two school records By Rick Mauch

Behind a pair of record-setting performances from Jacqueline Gruber, the Aledo High School swim team finished third overall in the Northwest ISD Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Northwest ISD Natatorium.

Both the girls and boys teams placed third in their respective divisions, while the teams combined for third overall.

Gruber and Haley Roberson each won three gold medals. They each won a pair of individual events and were part of a winning relay.

Gruber, in fact, set two school records, winning the 200-yard freestyle in one minute, 54.21 seconds and the 100 freestyle in 52.46 seconds.

Porter Lane had a pair of topthree finishes to lead the boys, including winning one event.

The meet featured 19 of the top Class 5A teams in Texas.

"This meet was a great indicator for where we stand against a lot of strong 5A programs we'll come up against at district and regionals - in the pool we'll race districts at," Aledo coach Meghan Roberson said.

"There were strong swims across the lineup. Our upperclassmen had their first chance to see where they're really at at this point in the season. We tried out some new events with our younger athletes and really pushed them at their first major competitive



Julia Gordy of Aledo competes in a double dual meet with Burleson Centennial and Birdville on Oct. 12.

high school meet. They rose to the challenge against some fast upperclassmen.

"This meet is an important one that gives us a guide to know the work we have to put in to be successful at the end of the season."

The Aledo teams will next compete in the Haunted Invitational at Wilkerson-Greines Activities Center in Fort Worth on Oct. 28.

#### Northwest ISD Invitational At Northwest ISD Natatorium Oct. 14

#### Aledo top finishers

Team results - Girls third, boys third, combined third. Individuals (distances in yards)

#### Girls

200 Medley Relay: 2. Victoria Crews, Haley Roberson, Jacqueline Gruber, Julia Gordy, 1:58.97. 200 Freestyle: 1. Gruber 1:54.21 (school

record). 200 Individual Medley: 1.Roberson, 2:13.06.

100 Butterfly: 2. Crews, 1:03.89. 100 Freestyle: 1. Gruber, 52.46 (school record) 500 Freestyle: 1. Roberson, 5:20.55. 200 Freestyle Relay: 1. Crews, Gordy, Roberson, Gruber, 1:45.52. 100 Backstroke: 3. Crews, 1:08.88. **Boys** 

50 Freestyle: 1. Porter Lane, 23.39. 100 Breaststroke: 2. Lane, 1:05.57.

#### Pink Out Double Dual Meet

With Burleson Centennial and Birdville

#### At Wilkerson-Greines Activities Center

#### Oct. 12

Overall scores Boys: Aledo 63, Centennial 46; Aledo 63, Birdville 22. Girls: Centennial 77, Aledo 66; Aledo 66, Birdville 16. Top Aledo finishers **Girls** 

200 Medley Relay: 1. Crews, Roberson, Gordy, Gruber, 2:02.77; 3. Avery Faulkner, Addie Speed, Tila Moeller, Jordan Clift, 2:23.79. 200 Freestyle: 1. Gruber, 1:54.29 (team record at the time, broken two days later); 3. Gordy 2:21.16. 200 Individual Medley (IM): 1. Roberson, 2:15.34; 3. Crews, 2:28.15. 50 Free: 2. Moeller, 30.69; 3. Speed, 31.22. 100 Fly: 1. Gruber, 59.85; 2. Gordy, 1:16.25.

100 Freestyle: 3. Faulkner, 1:06.37.
500 Freestyle: 2. Moeller, 6:16.01.
200 Freestyle Relay: 2. Clift, Faulkner, Moeller, Speed, 2:10.92.
100 Backstroke: 2. Crews, 1:07.11; 3.
Faulkner, 1:13.65.
100 Breaststroke: 1. Roberson, 1:14.46;
3. Speed, 1:29.30.
400 Freestyle Relay: 1. Crews, Gordy, Roberson, Gruber, 3:56.95.

Boys

200 Medley Relay: 1. Ian Perez, Lane, Evan Bradley, Jaxon Robinson, 1:54.17; 3. Hunter Gregory, Brayden DeBoer, Alexander Pomales, Bradyn Baughman, 2:02.14.

200 Freestlye: 3. Pomales, 2:10.04. 200 Individual Medley: 1. DeBoer, 2:24.09; 2. Gregory, 2:35.76. 50 Free: 2. Robinson, 26.02; 3. Perez,

26.05. 100 Fly: 1. Lane, 56.15; 2. DeBoer, 1:07.45; 3. Bradley, 1:09.18. 100 Freestyle: 2. Pomales, 56.50; 3. Robinson, 1:01.04. 500 Freestyle: 2. Perez, 5:51.69. 200 Freestyle Relay: 1. Robinson, Perez, Bradley, Lane, 1:42.50.

100 Breaststroke: 1. Lane, 1:06.57; 3. Baughman, 1:20.17.

400 Freestyle Relay: 1. DeBoer, Matthew Petersen, Baughman, Pomales, 4:18.83

a on Oct 12

and Isaac Brooks, 59th, 24:13.27. Other competitors for the JV girls were Sadie Williams, fourth, 23:42.39; Alexa Estrada, 23rd, 28:09.02; Allie Graham, 25th, 28:22.16; Giana Anaya,

As a team, the JV Bearcats won district and the Ladycats JV was third. Also running for the JV boys were

Vincent Luffey, second, 18:50.85;

Landon Eaton, third, 19:07.16; Reed Murray, 12th, 20:16.26; Reese

Copeland, 13th, 20:18.69; Zach Rivas,

14th, 20:30.27; Jaden Delgado, 25th,

21:29.20; Ethan Matthews, 28th,

21:33.30; Caden West, 49th, 23:14.30;

COUNTRY

from page 11

Granam, 25th, 28:22.16; Glana Anaya, 35th, 30:46.98; Emily Lewis, 37th, 32:01.85; and Julia Bettencourt, 45th, 35:33.16. At the regional meet, the varsity

At the regional meet, the varsity girls will race at 9 a.m. and the varsity boys at 9:30 a.m.

#### TENNIS from page 11

Farmer won 7-5, 1-1 when his opponent retired after a misconduct call; Line 3 S. Mason won 6-3, 6-4; Line 4 Beyer lost 6-7 (2); 7-6 (3); 8-10 in a close match; Line 5 Heckathorn won 6-4, 6-4 and Line 6 Ruminsky lost 4-6, 3-6.

In girls singles, Line 1 Orr won 6-0, 6-0; Line 2 Germany lost 4-6, 6-4, 10-12 in a close tiebreak; Line 3 Bussmeir won 6-4, 6-1; and Line 4 Satterfield lost 6-3, 3-6, 8-10 in another close tiebreak. Line 5 Heydman and Line 6 Byrd persevered through their tiebreaks to secure the match. Heydman won 6-4, 4-6, 10-5 and Byrd won 6-2, 5-7, 10-7.

The Raacquetcats were competing in the regional semifinals in Wichita Falls at press time against either Abilene Wylie or Lubbock Cooper.



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