

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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PARKER COUNTY

## Woman arrested in Fentanyl incident

### Recipient of drug sent to hospital

By Danie Huffman  
Parker County Sheriff's Dept.

Parker County Sheriff's Special Crimes Unit (SCU) investigators arrested a woman Dec. 21 in connection with providing potentially lethal narcotics to another person.

Parker County Sheriff Russ Authier said the investigation began when a man called emergency services saying an adult female was found unresponsive in the backyard of a residence in northern Parker County.

The victim was revived after a family member administered four doses of Narcan to her when they suspected she had overdosed on illegal narcotics.

Paramedics treated the female on scene, and she was later transported to a local hospital for further medical care.

Sheriff's SCU investigators conducted an investigation identifying Sheyanne Elizabeth Odell, 25, as the person who distributed three Fentanyl pills to the victim.

Sheriff's deputies arrested Odell during a traffic stop the same day on an unrelated warrant for manufacturing/delivery of a controlled substance. At the time of her arrest, Odell was found in possession of 23 suspected Fentanyl pills similar to the ones delivered to the overdose victim. The pills were field-tested yielding positive results for containing Fentanyl. During an interview, Odell admitted to investigators that she knew the pills contained Fentanyl and that she intended to deliver the remaining pills to other individuals.

Sheriff's SCU investigators also charged Odell with additional felony counts of manufacturing/delivery of a controlled substance causing serious bodily injury or death. As of Friday, Dec. 29, she remained incarcerated at the Parker County Jail.

"We wish to commend our deputies and investigators involved for taking these drugs off our streets," Authier said.



PARKER COUNTY

## Subdivision groundwater requirements modified

### Applications for rainwater harvesting grants accepted through February

By Jill Garcia  
Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

The application period for this year's round of rainwater harvesting grants is now open through the end of February 2024. The Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (UTGCD) encourages communities within the four counties it serves (Montague, Wise, Parker, and Hood) to consider applying and utilizing rainwater for all manner of needs. With the State of Texas supporting rainwater harvesting through government code and legislation, now is the perfect time to learn more and invest in a system. Visit the district website at uppertrinitygcd.com for application materials and details.

One example of a success rainwater harvesting program stems from a grant supplied by the UTGCD to the Central Community Fire Department.

The system is located at 4100 Old Agnes Road and offsets groundwater use while supplying fire departments and ESDs with additional water volumes to help fight fires, while also boosting their insurance rating.

The catchment surface of the station is 100x200 feet, and provides 12,500 gallons of water from just one inch of rainfall. The water will be used and recycled for the frequent fire training the station completes in coordination with Weatherford College throughout the year. Contractors Jenn and Kenn Davis of the local group Rain Ranchers broke ground in mid-September, and the system is operational and available for visitors to view.

### New legislation addresses groundwater in subdivisions

Now that the 88th regular legislative session is in our rearview mirror, several bills related to groundwater management passed both chambers and have since been signed into law by the Governor. One particular bill that became effective on Jan. 1 is Senate Bill 2440, which impacts counties, municipalities, groundwater districts, and developers alike.

The bill modifies verbiage from existing government code, and requires, beginning in the new year, that a plat application for a subdivision of a tract of land for which the source of the water supply intended for the subdivision is groundwater, must have attached to it a statement

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### JANUARY 6

To combat the overwhelming population of abandoned animals in Texas, Saving Hope Animal Rescue broke ground on a facility that will be one of the state's largest animal rescue sanctuaries just outside Aledo.

Early Sunday evening on Jan. 1, a man was killed in a fatal accident near the FM 1187 exit off of Interstate 20 near Aledo. He was apparently trying to cross the interstate on foot.

Three former Bearcats prepared to play in the college national championship for TCU. They were Wyatt and Wes Harris and Colt Ellison. The Community News found several local families on social media who traveled to Arizona for the game.

Coming off a 2-2 performance in the Battlin' Billie Classic in Fredericksburg over Christmas break, the Aledo Ladycats basketball team lost to undefeated Nocona.



Read this issue online



IZZY ACHESON/FORT WORTH REPORT

Saving Hope rented a property in Benbrook to house 20-50 dogs including this mother, Sunday, who gave birth to eight puppies on Dec. 3, 2022.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Caroline Browning works the post in action against Brewer on Jan. 6.

### JANUARY 13

The City of Aledo announced that the construction project to rebuild the eastern end of Bailey Ranch Road was set to begin in late January, and was expected to take about 10 months to complete.

Two from Aledo with longtime ties to TCU were around the Horned Frogs in the days when a handful of wins would have been considered a great season, and agreed that the national championship loss to Georgia did not change the fact that it was a magical season for the Horned Frogs.

The Aledo Bearcats wrestling team returned to Azle over the Jan. 7 weekend for the Nest Invitational, just one week after a strong second-place showing in the Hornet Dual Tournament. This time the Bearcats overcame a rough start to finish third.

Two members of the Aledo Ladycats were named to the 2022 Texas Girls Coaches Association Class 5A All-State Cross Country Team. Honored were freshmen Elizabeth Griffin and Molly Garrison.

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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Lindsey Shaffer's family (Kash is shown) were among the many local families to travel to Arizona to see TCU play in the Fiesta Bowl.



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# In & Around Parker County

## Call on Atex Trash Service

Atex Trash Service is a locally owned, family owned business that prides itself on excellent service for an affordable price. After 11 years in business, Atex Trash Service is building an outstanding reputation as a company that is truly here to build something simply by helping others, and it is that hometown business model philosophy that has quickly made them one of the fastest growing businesses in the community.

"We work hard to take good care of our customers and we are committed to building our business with sound principles and ethics in mind," said Tim Green, one of the owners. "We strive to be a helpful and positive influence in the community, to be fair and honest in our business practices and to always make our decisions based on what is in the best interest of our customers, our employees and the community while maintaining a healthy company."

Many of us are cutting back, and being careful about what we spend in this economy. We want to save money on household necessities, but when it comes to services around our home, we don't want to sacrifice our peace of mind to save a few dollars. We want our service providers to be honest and dependable, worthy of our trust.

Billy Green is that kind of man, and he raised his son, Tim, to treat others with respect. He encouraged and developed Tim's heart of service. Watching his father, Tim had an example of great moral character and strong work ethic. Together they are a glowing example of honesty, reliability and self-sacrifice. When you have the opportunity to visit with them, you instantly feel at ease. Their positive attitudes are contagious, and you will leave with a smile.

Together, Billy and Tim started Atex Trash Service as a way for them to serve their community - their neighbors. Being able to make a living serving others is a dream come true for Tim. Atex Trash Service has been helping area residents save money on their residential trash pick-up since July 2010. Tim and Billy Green are the dynamic duo of father and son teams, proving that you can provide Superior Quality Service at the Lowest Price.

Atex provides weekly trash pick-up for a flat rate of \$35 a month for their standard service. "We realize however, not every family's needs are the same," said Tim, "We are able to customize plans for smaller and for larger families." They serve Parker, Tarrant, and Wise County areas

outside of Azle, Springtown, Weatherford, Poolville and Aledo, and the area continues to grow! Just call and see if they can help you. Since they are a local, family-owned company, you know who will answer the phone when you call. Tim and Billy are available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and later if you need them. Just call 817-344-8464.

You can also contact Atex through their website 24 hours a day at [www.atextrash.com](http://www.atextrash.com). It's an easy-to-navigate website where you can contact Tim, sign up for new service, and even securely pay your bill online. You can also see what others have to say on their Testimonial Page or look them up on Facebook.

Operating this business means the whole family can work together! Tim's sons Laken and Gaige have grown up, and they're now the third generation with Atex helping to take care of the community.

"I'm happiest when I am doing for others," said Tim, "and to be able to build something positive with my family, well, I simply couldn't ask for anything more."

Give Atex a call and see how they can help you. You'll be glad you did!



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# 2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Aledo's Ulises Garcia looks to pass the ball to teammate Jack Sawyer after being met in the lane by a Granbury defender on Friday, Jan 13. The Bearcats went on to win 38-35.

## JANUARY 13 (CONTINUED)

The fall sports programs at Aledo High School had a total of 28 athletes and two trainers honored as academic all-state by the Texas High School Coaches Association, along with six athletes earning the same honor from the Texas Girls Coaches Association.

On Friday, Jan. 6, the visiting Brewer Bears managed to sink a last-second shot to steal the win from the Bearcats on their home court in a tightly contested 38-36 contest. The Ladycats came from behind to defeat Azle 47-38 on Jan. 10, but also lost to Brewer.



## JANUARY 20

A Parker County Jury handed down a 17-year sentence to a man convicted of felony theft 17 times.

Parker County Sheriff's deputies recovered several stolen trailers and about 300 gallons of stolen diesel at a home near Lake Weatherford.

Capital Highlights reported that Texas House Speaker Wade Phelan was open to resort-style casinos in Texas.

The largest animal sanctuary in Texas, Saving Hope Animal Rescue, planned its opening just outside Aledo. The 15-acre site planned to offer a veterinary clinic, puppy pods



for nursing mother dogs, intake housing, an educational barn, a senior sanctuary for older dogs, and an adoption center.

The Aledo Ladycats basketball defeated Wichita Falls Rider 56-32 but lost a close game to Granbury, 45-44. The Bearcats scored two wins against the same schools, defeating Rider 65-43 and Granbury 38-35.

In Thistles & Roses Richard Henderson wrote about the experience of spending Christmas in Costa Rica.



# WATER

from page one

that is prepared by an engineer licensed to practice in this state or a geoscientist licensed to practice in this state, and certifies that adequate groundwater is available for the subdivision.

A county or municipal authority may waive this requirement only if the proposed subdivision is less than 10 lots and "credible evidence of groundwater availability in the vicinity of the proposed subdivision is submitted" and the authority determines that sufficient groundwater is available and will continue to be available to the subdivided tract of land.

UTGCD is working with leadership from each of its four counties to enter into an interlocal agreement that would allow for the UTGCD to review the studies and ensure the county commissioners courts receive access to District geoscientists who can assist with verifying groundwater availability.

To view the UTGCD hub for groundwater certificates, visit [uppertrinitygcd.com/gac](http://uppertrinitygcd.com/gac).

# Obituaries

## Joseph James Kos

Joseph James Kos 85, beloved father, grandfather, brother, and friend passed away Tuesday, December 26, 2023, at home surrounded by his family.

Joseph was born September 29, 1938, in Aledo, Texas to John Vinson and Rosanna Vick Kos. He was born and passed away on the family farm.

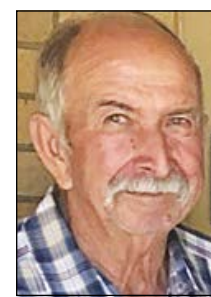
After graduating valedictorian from Aledo High School in 1957, he received a full scholarship to SMU where he studied Aerospace Engineering.

While still at SMU, Joseph began a co-op with Convair Aerospace in Fort Worth and worked there for 38 years. He graduated top of his class from SMU.

During his time at Convair, General Dynamics, Lockheed he helped develop many generations of rockets and fighter jets.

He married Patricia Murphy Kos and they spent 45 years together raising their four children. From

an early age he dedicated himself to building a substantial ranch and following his passion of establishing a large herd of more than 600 black Angus cattle. A good day for him was clearing brush, herding cattle, and taking the grandkids for ice cream.



Joseph Kos

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Rosemary Kos; sister Mary Ann Kos; and wife,

Pat Kos.

Survivors include his children: Kathleen Farmer, Anne Mahoney, Paul Kos, and Kristi Lenckosz; grandchildren: Maddie, Allie, Benjamin, Grace, Lilly, Quinn, Sophie, Joey, and XiXi.

A Celebration of Life services was held Saturday, December 30 at St. Stephen Catholic Chapel in Weatherford.

Memorials: in lieu of flowers the family suggests donations may be made to Manna Storehouse of Weatherford, 129 E. Spring St., Weatherford, TX 76086.

The Community News  
January 5, 2024



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Seventh-graders Landry Kasper and Katlyn Lowe and eighth-grader Kale Roberson greeted guests Sunday, Jan. 21, at the ribbon cutting ceremony and open house of the newly-renovated Aledo Middle School.

The Bearcats basketball team won two home-court over the week, defeating Granbury 38-35 and routing Wichita Falls Rider 65-41.

## JANUARY 27

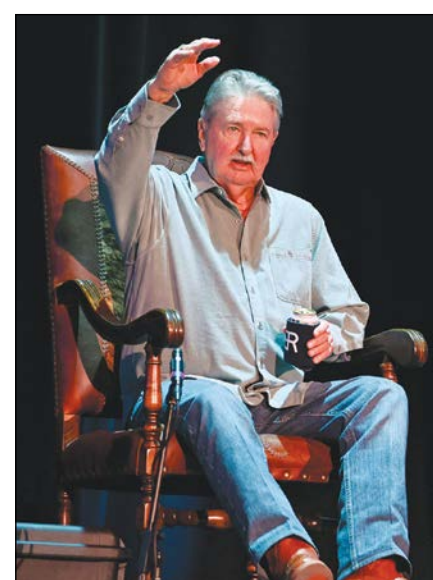
Monday, Jan. 23, marked the last meeting for the Aledo Growth Committee before presenting the final draft of their bond proposal to the board of trustees later in the week.

Aledo Middle School and McAnally Middle School held open houses to

show off new construction and renovations on Sunday, Jan. 21.

The Aledo High School Class of 2024 Project Celebration Committee planned a festive February evening to benefit Aledo High School Class of 2024 Project Celebration. The Bearcat Mardi Gras Ball was set for 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The City of Willow Park planned an open house to debut its new city hall. The city planned to conduct tours



BRUCE E. MAXWELL

Randy Galloway was roasted at his surprise 80th birthday party at the ISIS Theatre in Fort Worth on Jan. 19.

before the Feb. 14 city council meeting. Friends from around Aledo and from the D-FW sports media gathered to celebrate Randy Galloway's 80th birthday at the Isis Theater in the Stockyards.

The Aledo Education Foundation planned to present its annual Bearcats 'n Boots gala fundraiser from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, March 31, at the Hilton Downtown in Fort Worth, with live entertainment by Lonestar.

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#### Content Submission Policy

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

We welcome letters, articles and guest opinions from our readers. Opinions expressed in this newspaper will be labeled as opinions, editorials or letters, and do not reflect the opinions of the ownership. Letters should be signed, and limited to approximately 300 words. All submissions to the newspaper should include a telephone number in case we have questions. Letters are due by Monday at noon for that week's paper. Community announcements, achievements and obituaries are due by noon Friday for the following week's paper.

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

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

## Capital Highlights

# Spate of new laws effective Jan. 1



**Gary Borders**

[gborders@texaspress.com](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com)

After the Texas Legislature spent much of 2023 in session, a bevy of new laws go into effect on New Year's Day, though some have been delayed by lawsuits challenging their constitutionality.

The *Austin American-Statesman* reported on SB 17, a new law that institutes a ban on programs and policies "designed or implemented in reference to race, color, or ethnicity" at Texas public universities or colleges — commonly known as diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI.

GOP lawmakers who pushed the ban through argued that DEI programs are divisive. Those opposing the ban said it would eliminate initiatives designed to help people of color feel more included on campus. Universities have already begun the process of renaming and eliminating the types of programs that will be outlawed under SB 17.

Another law taking effect in 2024 doubles the state franchise tax exemption, with up to \$2.47 million of a company's annual taxable revenue being exempt.

Another measure that passed with bipartisan support creates a diversion program for juveniles accused of low-level offenses. Local governments now will be able to turn to rehabilitation services, job training, and alcohol and drug awareness programs as alternatives to more punitive measures.

HB 4758 makes it a crime for companies to target minors with advertising for e-cigarettes, the use

of which by teens has increased markedly in the past decade.

Not all laws passed by lawmakers will take effect on Jan. 1 because of lawsuits filed after their passage. As *The Dallas Morning News* noted, a bill that prohibits sexually explicit performances in front of minors — and was targeted toward drag shows in particular — was declared unconstitutional by a federal judge.

U.S. District Judge David Hittner ruled the ban violated performers' free speech rights under the First Amendment. That decision is being appealed.

Another law that would regulate what books children can read in schools is still in effect. An initial ruling that it was unconstitutional was appealed to the 5th Circuit, which has yet to issue a ruling.

### Medical board silent on abortion laws

The Texas Medical Board remains silent on how to interpret the state's abortion laws, *The Texas Tribune* reported, despite a call from the Texas Supreme Court to offer more guidance to doctors on how to interpret the laws.

This came after the high court rejected a Texas woman's bid to terminate a nonviable pregnancy that she maintained threatened both her health and ability to have future children. Kate Cox later obtained medical care out of state.

"While the judiciary cannot compel executive branch entities to do their part, it is obvious that the legal process works more smoothly when they do," the justices wrote. In response, Dr. Sherif Zaafran, board chair, said the Texas Medical Board is not likely to do so while other court cases were proceeding.

"It wouldn't be appropriate for us to start making any kind of movement or decisions while all that is out there still being adjudicated," Zaafran told the *Tribune*.

### Paxton must testify in whistleblower trial

A state district judge ruled last week that Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton must testify in a whistleblower case that led to his impeachment and subsequent acquittal. That case revolves around Paxton's dealings with developer Nate Paul, who is under federal indictment for wire fraud, *The News* reported.

Four top deputies were fired after reporting Paxton's dealings with Paul to the FBI. A \$3.3 million settlement with the whistleblowers fell apart when the Legislature refused to fund it. The former deputies claimed, among other allegations, that Paxton "created a legal opinion to prevent the foreclosure sales of several of Paul's properties."

Paxton's attorneys are appealing the judge's ruling. The whistleblower case is more than three years old. Paxton remains under federal investigation and faces trial in early 2024 for a nearly nine-year-old state securities fraud indictment.

### RRC inspectors out checking natural gas facilities

Inspectors for the Texas Railroad Commission were out in force in December, conducting weatherization inspections at hundreds of critical natural gas facilities across the state to ensure adequate gas supply this winter.

The RRC said inspectors have checked 99% of the facilities that directly connect to electric generating plants — including gas processing plants, underground storage facilities and pipelines.

"The commission will continue to inspect these facilities multiple times during the winter season," Wei Wang, executive

director, said. "In total, we expect to conduct more than 5,600 inspections of critical gas facilities on the electric supply chain map."

Another important factor is the amount of natural gas stored in underground facilities that would be available if the state is hit with another severe winter storm, such as Winter Storm Uri in 2021, or the ice storm last February. The amount stored is up 6% from the same time last year and is the highest winter level seen in the past six years.

### Unclaimed pot of money grows to \$9 billion

Texas has almost \$9 billion in "unclaimed property," according to [kut.org](http://kut.org). This includes funds from paychecks, refunds, deposits and dormant bank accounts. If the money hasn't been claimed after a few years, the asset holder, such as a bank, must send the funds to the Texas Comptroller.

The amount that gets returned to the rightful owner is only a fraction of the amount sent to the office. For example, in fiscal year 2023, the state collected \$1.1 billion but only returned about a third of that amount, or \$340 million.

Folks can find out whether the state is holding money that belongs to them by going to [ClaimItTexas.gov](http://ClaimItTexas.gov).

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



## Idle American

# Little Engines That Can



**Dr. Don Newbury**

[newbury@speakerdoc.com](mailto:newbury@speakerdoc.com)

Compared to the glamour and glitz of Broadway's "Great White Way" in New York City, two Texas venues fall a bit short. Yet, by many standards, they stand equally tall.

I'm referencing Waxahachie, TX, and Brownwood, TX, where the Texas and Lyric Theaters, respectively, have been successfully resurrected. Each has scheduled plays early this year that are "must see" for my wife, Brenda, and me. In a world where headlines scream of violence, starvation, fractured budgets, wars and threats of immigration overrun, we visit community theaters for the same reasons folks attended movies during World War II.

At least we can retreat from reality for a couple of hours.

First up is the Texas Theater offers Amon: The Ultimate Texan, with 8 p.m. productions scheduled January 19-20 and February 23-24. Tickets are now on sale for the grand one-man show that is reflective of the keen insight, meticulous research and humorous persona of Dave Lieber. He is an author and certified public speaker who is best known for his twice-weekly "Watchdog" columns in the Dallas Morning News. The

play's first major run was at the Scott Theater in Fort Worth, where most performances were sold out.

It has played in several West Texas cities and has been a smash hit for all 52 performances. The life of the late Amon Carter—longtime publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and owner of Texas' first TV station and Radio Station WBAP—is brilliantly portrayed by Kelvin Dilks. He was formerly a Birdville ISD trustee and is a retired teacher.

It is directed by Connie Sanchez, also a retired teacher. She maintains a sparkling narrative that is caring, accurate and "gollie funny," continually emphasizing Amon's love of his hometown and disdain for Dallas. When "Big D" was chosen for the 1936 Texas Centennial, Amon was furious as he staged a competing extravaganza in Cowtown, hoping that visitors would "choose Dallas for culture and Fort Worth for fun." We've ordered 40 tickets for senior adults at our church, anticipating "sold out" status for all performances. Word has gotten around that this is a "must see" play about a man well known throughout Texas and the Southwest, and perhaps the late Will Rogers' best friend.

Like the Lyric, the Texas opened over a century ago as a vaudeville venue. It was darkened several times by fires and the impact of TV. Its current vitality is largely attributed to Jon and Alyssa Garrett of Waxahachie.



Early in the 2000s, three Brownwood citizens began a campaign to restore the Lyric to its original opulence. Mostly through modest donations, they've raised more than \$4,000,000, an unprecedented Texas response. The 367-seat house is beyond regal, probably more so than when it opened in 1920. Managing Director Eric Evans confirms that more than 30,000 persons attended 2023 productions, with even more expected in 2024.

Brenda and I—along with a small army of senior adults from our church—will be on hand for the matinee performance of All Shook Up on April 13.

Labeled a "juke box musical" of favorite Elvis Presley hits, the play will be directed by Dr. Nancy Jo Humfeld, veteran educator who served 34 years at Howard Payne University before retiring there in 2020. I hired her in 1986,



and naturally believe that she's the best. (Thousands of others likewise agree, thankful that she continues to pour herself into the local theater scene.)

We saw Elvis during a Fort Worth concert in the early 1970s.

Sitting near the stage, Brenda caught a few drops of sweat, and didn't bathe for a week!

Other theater efforts, such as those in Granbury and Cleburne, are likewise successful, thanks to continued commitment and hard work.

I salute everyone involved in community theater throughout Texas. They are genuine heroes in this "labor of love."

We who attend are beneficiaries of productions that are often comparable to Broadway, and at prices little more than the tax on Big Apple tickets.

*Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and speaks throughout Texas. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: [newbury@speakerdoc.com](mailto:newbury@speakerdoc.com).*



WEATHERFORD

## Theatre Off The Square

### TOTS to open 25th season

Staff Reports  
The Community News

Theatre Off The Square (TOTS) in Weatherford will present the first show of their 25th Anniversary Season of Shows, *The Tin Woman*, by Sean Grennan, produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.

This production is directed by Amanda Livengood, with Jaclyn Justice as the assistant director. The show begins Friday, Jan. 26 and runs weekends through Feb. 11. Show times are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Theatre Off The Square is located at 114 N. Denton St. in Weatherford.

Interpreter services will be provided at the Feb. 10, 8 p.m. performance. Services are provided through a partnership with the American Sign Language Interpreting Program of Tarrant County College Trinity River Campus.

The show follows recent heart transplant recipient, Joy, and the family of the heart donor, Hank, Alice, and Sammy. Instead of relishing life after her heart transplant, Joy enters a downward spiral, unsure whether she truly deserves a second chance.

Meanwhile, Alice and Hank mourn the loss of their son, Jack, whose heart was used to save Joy. At her friend's urging, Joy tracks down Jack's family to find closure. But are they ready to accept Jack's death?

Based on a true story, *The Tin Woman* uses humor and pathos to explore loss, family, and what it means to be given new life.

The cast is: Joy - Jordyn Mahar Nelson, Hank - Boyd C. Mooney, Jack - Jonathan Cook, Alice - Kathy Manning, Sammy - Aimee Wilson, and Nurse/Darla - Dana Powers.

All seats are reserved; tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors (60-plus). Matinee tickets are \$15 for all ages and no other discounts apply.

Purchase tickets in the box office prior to each show or follow this link [https://buy.ticketstothecity.com/venue.php?org\\_id=88](https://buy.ticketstothecity.com/venue.php?org_id=88).

Additionally, 2024 season ticket packages are now available for \$100. The season ticket package comes with eight "flex credits" (tickets) that can be redeemed for admission to any main-stage show in the 2024 season.

Call 817-341-8687 or visit [www.theatreoffthesquare.org](http://www.theatreoffthesquare.org) with any questions.



*The Tin Woman*  
By Sean Grennan  
Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.  
Director: Amanda Livengood  
Assistant Director: Jaclyn Justice  
January 26 - February 11, 2024  
Friday & Saturday 8:00 pm  
Sunday Matinee 2:00 pm  
For more information, visit [theatreoffthesquare.org](http://theatreoffthesquare.org) or call (817) 341-8687

ALEDO ISD

## National FFA SAE grants

### Four Aleido FFA members each receive \$1000

by Kolton Beeler  
Aleido ISD

Four \$1,000 National FFA SAE grants have been awarded to Emmi Garrison, Garrett Hoff, Alexa Rohe, and Preston Ross by Farm Credit, Invenergy, Domino's, and Boot Barn.

SAE grants are designed to help FFA members create or expand Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects, a requirement that all FFA members must complete. An SAE requires FFA members to create and operate an agriculture related business, work at an agriculture-related business, or conduct an agricultural research experience. Upon completion, FFA members must submit a comprehensive report regarding their career development experience.

This year 29 different sponsors funded SAE Grants. A full list of sponsors can be found on the National FFA Organization website on the SAE Grants webpage.

Garrison, Hoff, Rohe, and Ross are members of the Aleido FFA Chapter. Their applications were selected from among 1,258 applications nationwide. Only 7 SAE grants were awarded to Texas FFA members, four of those being Aleido FFA members.

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

From left: Preston Ross, Garrett Hoff, Alexa Rohe, Emmi Garrison each received a \$1,000 FFA SAE grant. The four Aleido High School students are among only seven grants offered statewide.

organization of more than 850,000 student members as part of 9,163 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. For more,

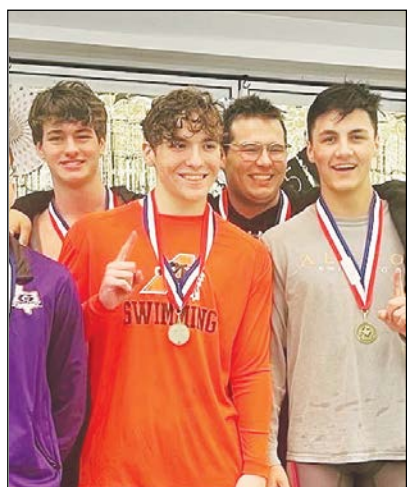
visit the National FFA Organization online at [FFA.org](http://FFA.org) and on social media.

The National FFA Foundation builds partnerships with industry, education, government, other foundations, and individuals to secure financial resources that recognize FFA member achievements, develop student leaders and support the future of agricultural

education. A separately registered nonprofit organization, the foundation is governed by a board of trustees that includes the national FFA president, educators, business leaders and individual donors. For more, visit [FFA.org/Give](http://FFA.org/Give).



## 2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW



DEREK GREGORY

District champs in the 200 Medley relay are (front) Porter Lane and Kyle Scharlow and (back) Sam Ogden and Tanner Howse.

### JANUARY 27 (CONTINUED)

A host of Aleido Ladycat and Bearcat swimmers qualified for regionals. The Ladycats finished district second as a team and the Bearcats were third. The Bearcats set two school records en route to their runner-up finish. The 200 medley relay clocked a district-winning time of one minute, 43.79 seconds, breaking a



Read this issue online



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Aleido's Bruno Nogueira battles a Benbrook defender for the ball during the Bearcats' 3-0 win on the road on Friday, Jan. 20.

record that had stood since 2009, while the 200 freestyle relay's time of 1:36.06 broke a record from 2012. Both relays were comprised of the same swimmers, seniors Tanner Howse and Sam Ogden, along with junior Porter Lane and Kyle Scharlow.

Winning district in their respective events were:

- Girls 200 medley and 200 freestyle relays with sophomores Victoria Crews, Haley Roberson and Corah Satterfield, with freshman Natalie Hutson.

- Roberson, 200 individual medley and 500 freestyle.
- Howse, 200 freestyle and 100 butterfly.
- Ogden, 100 backstroke and 100 freestyle.

Led by five powerlifters winning their respective weight classes, the Aleido Bearcats took first place in their first meet of the season at Saginaw Boswell on Jan. 12. They bested a field that also included Boswell, Chisholm Trail, and Saginaw.

Lifting the most weight on the day for Aleido was Alexa Arana in winning the 220-pound division. He lifted a total of 1,255 pounds. Also winning their classifications were Andrew Chastain (165), 1,135 pounds; Caleb Loath (198), 1,225; Josh McCarley (242), 1,125; and D.J. Williams (308), 1,200.

The Bearcats varsity wrestling team placed second out of 23 teams in the Bowie Invitational in Arlington on Jan. 20-21.

The Aleido Bearcats soccer team took to the pitch in Benbrook Friday, Jan. 20, for their final non-district match of the season against the hosting Bobcats. Aleido dominated the match, shutting out the home team en route to a 3-0 win.



50 Bearcats qualify for regional band, page 5  
City Council approves new PD committee  
Two musicians named All-State Band  
AGC presents final draft proposal to Board of Trustees

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### FEBRUARY 3

Aleido ISD announced on Jan. 27 the retirement of both AISD Athletic Director Steve Wood and head football coach Tim Buchanan at the end of the school year and the promotion of assistant head coach and offensive coordinator Robby Jones to head football coach for the Bearcats. A search was under way for a new AD.

Turn to page 6



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## 2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Lydia Rush and Penelope Rodriguez raced down a hill in the Walsh neighborhood as they enjoyed the winter weather on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

### FEBRUARY 3 (CONTINUED)

During a special meeting of the Aledo ISD Board of Trustees on Thursday, Jan. 26, the Aledo Growth Committee presented the final draft of the group's bond proposal as part of a special election in May of 2023. The big-ticket item on the list was Elementary School No. 7. Demographers projected Aledo ISD enrollment would exceed capacity at the elementary level by the 2024-2025 school year.

The Willow Park City Council approved an amendment to the city's 2019 parks and trails master plan at its meeting on Jan. 24. The overall trail will be a combination of single track and concrete designed for hiking/biking and walking/running. No

motorized vehicles will be allowed. Bearcats of Character for January were featured. They were: Kyle Scharlow, Aledo High School, 11th grade; Laurel Williams, Aledo Learning Center, 11th grade; Zayden Parker, Daniel Ninth Grade, 9th grade; Caden Seaberry, Aledo Middle School, 6th grade; Caroline Klein, Annetta Elementary School, Kindergarten; McCoy Minchew, Coder Elementary School, 3rd grade; JJ Lunsford, McCall Elementary School, 5th grade; Brooks Hundley, Stuard Elementary School, 1st grade; Lilly Happ, Vandagriff Elementary School, 5th Grade; Knox Disney, Walsh Elementary School, 1st Grade. Sophomore French Horn player Isabella Stamper and junior Jane Claire Anderson (Flute) were named



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Xavier Anderson soars towards the basket during the Tuesday, Jan. 24 66-64 double-overtime loss to Saginaw.

to the Texas Music Educators Association All State Band, and were scheduled to perform at the organization's upcoming convention in San Antonio. In addition, 10 students made All-Area and 50 students earned a chair in the All Region Bands.

The Weatherford Art Association started its year by recognizing "Artists of the Month" Linda W. Young, Carmen Davailus, and Cindi Neverdousky.



Read this issue online

The Aledo Bearcats basketball team lost a double-overtime heartbreaker to Saginaw (66-64) while the Ladycats defeated Saginaw 49-46.

The Aledo varsity tennis team began their spring season on Jan. 27 in the annual Peach Bowl tournament, held on various courts throughout the area. Four groups of players finished in the top four places of their respective bracket.

The Aledo Ladycats powerlifting team made school history on Jan. 25 when they took first place in a meet for the first time in their history. They bested Glen Rose, Azle and Brock to win the Brock Invitational. The Bearcats soccer team fell to 1-1 in district 5-5A action (7-2-4 overall) following a 3-1 loss to the visiting Northwest Texans on Friday, Jan. 27. Aledo's Ladycat soccer team

improved to 7-4-1 overall (1-1 in district 5-5A) with their 6-1 mauling of the visiting squad from Northwest.

### FEBRUARY 10

Austin Arbelaez seems like a typical 12-year old boy, but the Aledo drummer became an Instagram sensation with more than 86,000 followers, a devoted legion of fans, and the respect of world-famous musicians.

Willow Park city staff settled into the new city hall at 120 El Chico Tr., just off Interstate 20. The city signed a 30-month lease on the approximately 8,700 square feet of space — almost triple the 3,189 they vacated on Jan. 1, their home for many years.

Samuel Hardwick and Phoenix Lanford, two members of Aledo FFA, each caught a calf during the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo's Calf Scramble on Jan. 18, earning a \$500 purchase certificate for a show heifer and the chance for up to \$16,000 in scholarship awards.

The Trinity Christian Academy School Board announced on Feb. 8 that Dan Palmer will be school's new Director of Development.

Several Aledo High School graduates who participated in NCAA Division-1 bowl games and seasons were profiled: Chuck Filiaga (Minnesota Golden Gophers), Jase McClellan (Alabama), Wes Harris (TCU), Wyatt Harris (TCU), Colt Ellision (TCU), Money Parks (Utah), Chris Wright (North Texas), and Jason Llewellyn (Oklahoma).

Two Ladycat wrestlers qualified for regionals: Avery Kernan and Kyr Wright. Seven Bearcats had the same distinction: Chad Thomas, Bryon Moreno-Wheeler, Brice Bohn, Zachary Attaway, Ty Hand, Jacob Ellerbusch, and Britton Collins.

Eight Swimcats qualified for state: Bearcats Sam Ogden, Tanner Howse, Porter Lane, and Kyle Scharlow; and Ladycats Victoria Crews, Haley Roberson, Natalie Hutson, and Corah Satterfield.



Read this issue online

Turn to page 7

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SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Sophomore French Horn player Isabella Stamper and junior Jane Claire Anderson (Flute) were named to the Texas Music Educators Association All State Band.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Austin Arbelaez in his favorite place — behind the drums.

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2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW



GREGG ELLMAN

Lynn McKinney

school capacities by the 2027-28 school year and the high school following right behind during the 2028-29 academic year.

Brandy Belk was named Aledo ISD's athletic director, filling the position after AD Steve Wood announced his retirement in January. Belk, who has been the University Interscholastic League assistant director of athletics since 2017, started on March 6.

The Aledo ISD announced that Deputy Superintendent Lynn McKinney would retire at the end of the school year. McKinney was the district's longest-tenured employee, serving 37 of her 44 years as an educator in Aledo.

Willow Park Baptist Church was set to officially open the doors of its new 130,000 square-foot home at 777 Crown Pointe Blvd. on Sunday, Feb. 19.

Aledo's soccer teams hit the road bound for Granbury on Tuesday, Feb. 14. The Ladycats pitched their



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Brandy Belk

second shutout of the season as they plundered the Lady Pirates, 3-0. Meanwhile, the Bearcats outdueled the Pirates, winning a shootout 4-3.

The Aledo varsity tennis team competed in a tournament hosted by Birdville ISD on Friday, Feb. 10. Temperatures in the 40s and skilled

competition led to a challenging tournament, but a great effort was made by all team members. The Aledo Ladycats softball team began their quest for a third consecutive trip to the state tournament with a 3-1 road victory over Waxahachie Monday, Feb. 13.

Senior Chad Thomas qualified to compete at the state wrestling tournament. Freshman Brice Bohn was an alternate.

Fourteen athletes from Aledo High School signed letters-of-intent to play their respective sports at the college level on Tuesday, Feb. 7.

The Aledo Ladycats basketball team started off their playoff run white hot as they dismantled former foe, Everman, in the first round of bi-district action,

55-40, on Monday, Feb. 13. The hometown bleachers were packed, and the Trinity Christian Academy Eagles girls basketball team did not disappoint. In fact, they brought the crowd to its feet several times en route to a 65-28 area-round playoff victory over Prince of Peace.

**FEBRUARY 24**

State Representative Glenn Rogers was appointed by House Speaker Dade Phelan to serve on the Natural Resources Committee, Local & Consent Calendars Committee, and as Vice-Chairman on the Land & Resource Management Committee.

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RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Claire Byars and Kandle Boggus compete for a loose ball during the area championship match against Colleyville Heritage on Thursday, Feb. 16. The Ladycats lost the contest 68-49.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The new sanctuary at Willow Park Baptist Church seats 1,500.

**FEBRUARY 17**

The Aledo Growth Committee presented their final draft of a \$123.8 million bond proposal to the Aledo ISD Board of Trustees during a special meeting on Monday, Feb. 12. The board approved the proposal unanimously, 5-0. If approved by voters in the May 6 election, the bond issue will increase property taxes 2.5 cents per \$100 of taxable property value.

Projects included construction of Elementary School No. 7, \$25.2 million for improvements and updates to Aledo High School and the Daniel Ninth Grade campus, \$17.8 million is earmarked for the purchase of land that will quickly be put to use as demographic projections anticipate the district exceeding middle

	<p><b>Matt Morris</b>  <b>GUS BATES</b>                  insurance &amp; investments                  817-529-5325                  matt@gusbates.com                  EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, PROPERTY &amp; CASUALTY,                  RETIREMENT PLAN SERVICES</p>	<p><i>Sarah J. Morris</i> DDS                  &amp; ASSOCIATES                  2551 River Park Dr. Suite 201 • Fort Worth, TX 76116  <b>FAMILY DENTISTRY WHERE HONESTY &amp; INTEGRITY MATTER!</b></p>	
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**THE COMMUNITY NEWS**

## Roman to Arabic

Adding and subtracting Roman Numerals is not easy. Multiplying and dividing is even harder.

To simplify things, people switched to Hindu-Arabic numerals (called Arabic numbers for short). They were invented by two great mathematicians from Ancient India, **Aryabhata** (fifth century BC) and **Brahmagupta** (sixth century BC).

The Arabic system has ten digits – 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

## Roman Numerals and You

Work with a family member to answer these questions using Roman numerals.

How old are you?

What's the first number in your address?

How many hours did you sleep last night?

How many noses do you have?

How many kids are in your class?

# ROMAN NUMERALS

Long ago, people in the Roman Empire started a number system called **Roman numerals**. They found it helped when all of the people in their empire used the same symbols for counting and for math.

The Roman Empire was so big that the numbers were eventually used in parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Roman numerals have seven symbols: **I, V, X, L, C, D, and M**. The chart at left shows which letters represent which numbers.

I	V	X	L	C	D	M
1	5	10	50	100	500	1000

Standards Link: Mathematics: Understand different numbering systems.



How many differences can you find between these two pictures?



## How It Works

Roman numerals are combined to make different numbers. Here is a number in Roman numerals. It is three letter Is in a row.

**III**

To figure out what number this is, you add the three Is.

**I + I + I**

1 + 1 + 1 = 3

If you want to write the number 4, things change a bit. Instead of IIII, the number 4 is written as **IV**. This shows that the number 4 is one less than 5.

**IV** = 4

## What is VII?

Add the Roman numerals:

**V** = 5   **I** = 1   5 + 1 + 1 = 7

The number 7 is written as **VII** in Roman numerals. But the number 9 is **IX**. That shows that the number nine is one less than 10. (The number 10 is **X** in Roman numerals.)

<b>VIII</b>	<b>IX</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>XI</b>
8	9	10	11

- I = 1
- II = 2
- III = 3
- IV = 4
- V = 5
- VI = 6
- VII = 7
- VIII = 8
- IX = 9
- X = 10

## Match Up

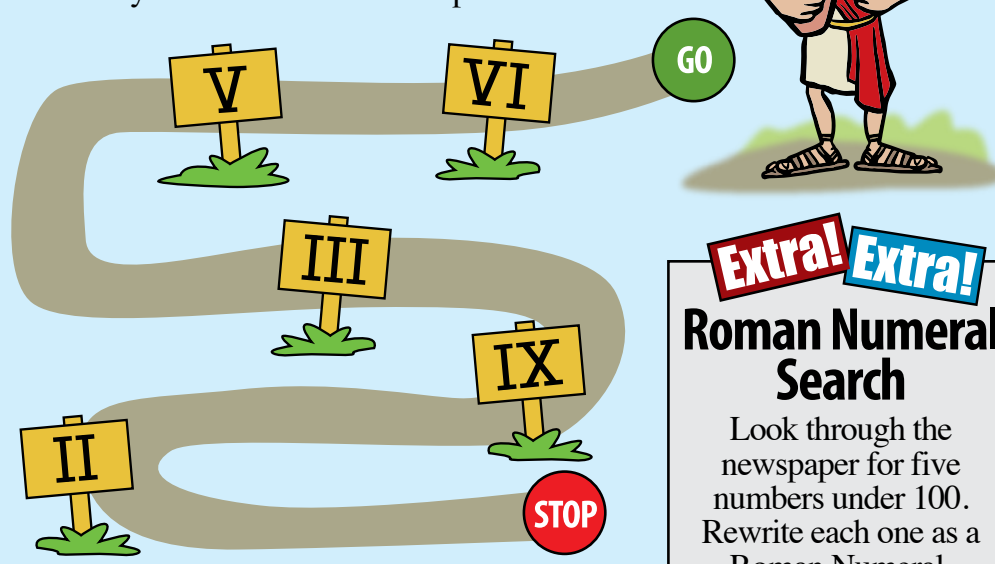
Draw a line between each number and the Roman Numeral that has the same value. One is done for you.

**XIV**      6      12      14      **XXV**  
**XII**      24      25      **XXIII**  
**XXIV**      23      **VI**

Standards Link: Mathematics: Understand that numbers can be represented in different ways.

## Miles to Marketplace

Add up the Roman numerals on the signposts to see how many miles it is to the marketplace.



It is \_\_\_\_\_ miles to the marketplace.

**Extra! Extra!**  
**Roman Numeral Search**  
 Look through the newspaper for five numbers under 100. Rewrite each one as a Roman Numeral.  
 Standards Link: Mathematics: Practice writing Roman numerals.

## Give it a try!

Can you write each of these numbers as Roman numerals?

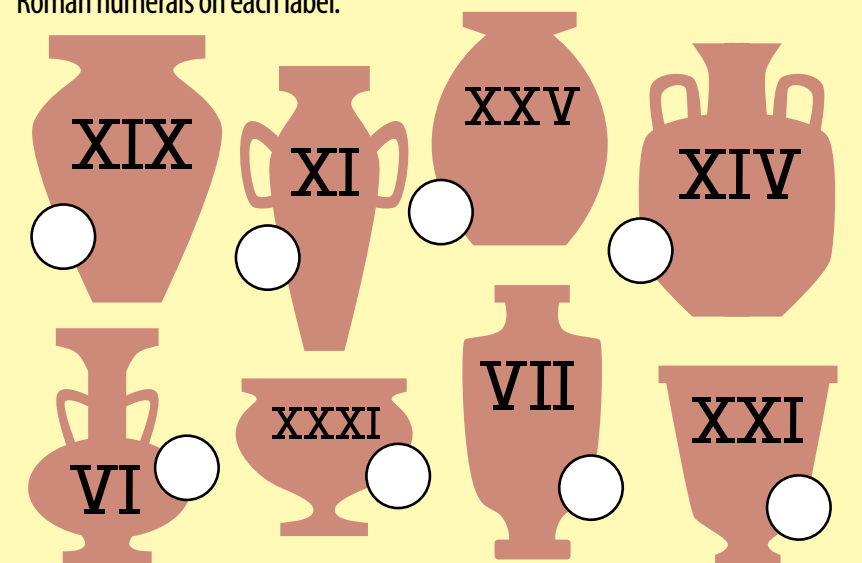
3	I			
16		V		
29	X			
32		X	X	

Standards Link: Mathematics: Understand the Roman numeral system.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

### Pottery Places

Number these pieces of pottery in order from lowest to highest based on the Roman numerals on each label.



Standards Link: Mathematics: Order numbers from lowest to highest.

## Double Double Word Search

- ADD
- BIG
- ASIA
- CHART
- EMPIRE
- FIGURE
- LESS
- MATH
- MILES
- NINE
- NUMBER
- ROMAN
- SYMBOLS
- VALUE
- WRITTEN

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

K	B	N	R	S	T	R	A	H	C
A	S	Y	M	B	O	L	S	G	W
Z	D	F	I	I	A	U	L	Y	R
O	P	D	L	G	S	P	N	E	I
N	L	O	E	V	I	Y	U	M	T
A	U	B	S	M	A	T	H	P	T
M	V	M	S	S	E	L	T	I	E
O	K	C	B	W	F	V	U	R	N
R	L	O	Y	E	N	I	N	E	K
V	J	D	W	E	R	U	G	I	F

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

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## Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **NUMERAL**

The noun **numeral** means one or more words or symbols used to represent a number.

The numeral "3" stands for three.

Try to use the word **numeral** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

### Around the World

Roman numerals came from Rome. Chocolate came from Mexico. Rice came from Asia. Look through the newspaper for examples of things in your community that come from another country.

Standards Link: Differentiate between wants and needs.



Why do math teachers always seem worried?

ANSWER: They've got a lot of problems.

## Write On!

### My Favorite Number

Which number is your favorite or "lucky" number? Why? Write about it!



2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW

**Police: Young students do public speaking, page 5**

**THE COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Gridiron Club of Dallas honors Mueller, Buchanan**

**BDGA Clay Shoot**

**Board extends president's contract**

**Sheriff announces large fentanyl seizures, multiple arrests**

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Aledo Class of 1995 alum Candace Lear with Deputy Superintendent Lynn McKinney at Bearcat Nation 101 in 2023. McKinney was high school principal during Lear's years at AHS.



November, 1946: 'Katie' Gisela (11), her mother Mathilde, and her brother Hans (9) were battling starvation.

Weatherford College held its annual Jack Harvey Academy of Exemplary Teachers celebration on Friday, Feb. 10, in the Emerging Technologies and Workforce Building.

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

Ethan McKay Taylor was promoted to the rank of sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve. Taylor is a 2015 graduate of Aledo High School and a graduate of Tarrant County College of Aviation.

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

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

Turn to page 11

**FEBRUARY 24 (CONTINUED)**

Lynn McKinney's lifetime in education was profiled.

Hogan Posey and Craig Mason battled five teams to claim first place in Boys A Doubles tennis when Aledo varsity tennis competed in a tournament hosted by Keller Timber Creek High School on Thursday, Feb. 16.

The Bearcats track team opened the season winning the Kangaroo Relays at Weatherford's Kangaroo Stadium on Feb. 16. Meanwhile, the Ladycats placed second in the girls varsity division.

Chad Thomas ended his Aledo High School wrestling career making history at the University Interscholastic League State Tournament this past weekend, Feb. 17-18 at the Berry Center in Cypress. Thomas placed 10th in the 120-pound division, scoring two points. He's the first Bearcat to win a match at state and those are the first points Aledo has ever scored at state.

Sophomore Haley Roberson highlighted a strong finish to the season for the Aledo Swimcats, placing ninth in the girls 200-yard individual medley at the Class 5A State Meet

at the University of Texas in Austin Saturday, Feb. 18.

The Aledo Ladycats softball team won four of five games in the Forney Tournament over the Feb. 16-18 weekend. Among their victories was a no-hitter by pitcher Nathalie Touchet.

The Ladycats finished second in district powerlifting on Feb. 18 in Granbury a year after finishing sixth in their inaugural season.



Read this issue online



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

It was a full house in the 1,500-seat sanctuary when Willow Park Baptist Church officially opened its doors on Feb. 19.

**MARCH 3**

Willow Park Police Chief Carrie Ellis announced she was retiring from the department after six years leading the department, effective March 24. She made the announcement at the Feb. 28 meeting.

With the anticipated purchase of Willow Park's public safety building by Emergency Services District No. 1, the city council appointed a committee to look into the future of the city's police department. The council also approved the plat for an additional 101-lot subdivision south of I-20.

In the first of a three-part series, reporter John English reported



COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

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



COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

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

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**TEXAS CROSSWORD**

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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**ACROSS**

- Oldham County seat
- TXism: "easy as falling off \_\_\_"
- TXism: "a day and a dollar short"
- at Six Flags Fiesta: "Lone Star \_\_\_ Amphitheater"
- dir. to La Grange from New Braunfels
- TXism: "hard pill to \_\_\_"
- TX Norah Jones had the "Song of the \_\_\_" in 2003
- TX Larry Henley co-wrote "Wind \_\_\_ Wings"
- today, a disfavored group: \_\_\_ Klux Klan
- beans (in pod)
- "si" in Mexico
- TXism for "gadget": "thing \_\_\_"
- El Paso tribe: "\_\_\_ Sur Pueblo"
- Astros leag.
- space program before Apollo
- "wear to a frazzle"
- this Greene was TX Dan Blocker's dad on "Bonanza"
- "Big Bend \_\_\_" in West Texas
- what golfers do in the Texas heat
- El Paso has a statue of conquistador Juan \_\_\_
- Nolte of film "North Dallas Forty" (init.)
- in Hidalgo County on highway 107
- military marksmen
- kids cereal, e.g.
- state where William Travis was born (abbr.)
- "yes" in Mexico
- holder for Texas Blue Bell ice cream
- sitcom for Texas-born Jay Thomas: "\_\_\_ Mindy"
- cowboy movies
- Santa \_\_\_\_, Texas
- TXism: "get the \_\_\_ out" (hurry up)
- where you stick pins on suit jackets
- extended play for the Cowboys (abbr.)
- TX Kristofferson's "\_\_\_ Me (Lord)"
- cattle thieves
- TXism: "\_\_\_ a caged cougar"
- Mission \_\_\_ is the oldest in Texas
- Paxton's job (abbr.)
- novel by writer in 2-down: "Of Mice and \_\_\_"
- rodeo clowns have to stay away from \_\_\_ bull
- mosquito \_\_\_
- pungent bulbs
- TX Ted Cassidy was "Bigfoot" on "\_\_\_ Woman"
- TXism: "hobble your \_\_\_" (quiet!)
- historic period
- reduced taxes
- depend on
- "siesta" in Mexico
- TXism: "\_\_\_ some gravel" (fell)
- "\_\_\_ down" (applying oneself)
- this NY Knicks player Jericho was a UT Longhorn
- Dallas Stars score
- Gov. Richards
- Texas atheist Madalyn Murray \_\_\_
- Texas singer, English

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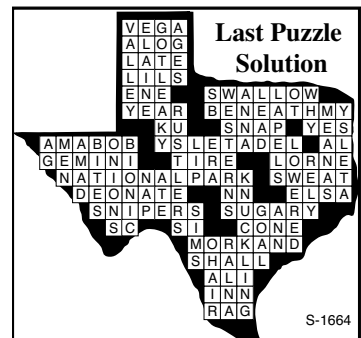
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### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Aledo is pleased to issue this Request for Proposals to identify a firm or joint venture to successfully assist the city in keeping the existing SCADA system functional and implement certain improvements for the City's water and wastewater SCADA system.

The City is requesting Statements of Qualification's (SOQ) regarding SCADA system management and installation.

Submittals will only be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2024.

**RFP # PW-2024-003  
CITY OF ALEDO – Water and Wastewater System SCADA System Upgrade**

Request for Proposals (RFP) documents may be obtained in person from the City of Aledo City Hall, 104 Maverick Street, Aledo, Texas 76008 or downloaded at www.aledotx.gov. RFP documents will be ready for pickup on and after January 5, 2024.

The City of Aledo website will be updated with addenda, additional reports or other information relevant to the RFP. 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-submittal conference on January 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM. The pre-submittal 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 Friday, January 19, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. Questions that result in changes to the RFP will be answered in writing and copies distributed to bidders of record in the form of an addendum.

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### City of Willow Park Notice of Public Hearing

The City of Willow Park City Council will hold a public hearing on the matter listed below:

**PUBLIC HEARING to consider a request for change in rezoning from "Class II: Residential: 'R-1' Single-Family District" to "Class III - Business: 'O' Office District" for 721 Ranch House Road, Lot 1, Block 1 in the Willow Park Church of Christ Addition, City of Willow Park, Parker County, Texas.**

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2024  
Time: 6:00 PM  
Location: Willow Park City Hall  
120 El Chico Trail, Ste A  
Willow Park, TX 76087

Any member of the public has the right to appear at the Public Hearing. Please contact the Development Department at 817-441-7108 or tfisher@willowpark.org with any questions.

The above notice was posted on the bulletin board at the City of Willow Park City Hall, Willow Park, Texas on/before January 8, 2024 by 5:00 p.m.

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RODEO

## Area athletes chasing finals berths

### Season hits midway point

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

As the North Texas High School Rodeo Association gears up for the second half of the 2023-24 season, several area competitors are vying for berths in the NTHSRA Finals Rodeo in mid-May. The top 15 in each event qualify for the Finals.

In chute dogging, a pair of Aledo athletes are hoping for a second-half surge to move into the top 15. Preston Ross is 20th with 61 points and Gunner McCraw is 21st with 56. The 15th place competitor

has 105 points, while the leader has 560.

Brock's Collier Cowdrey is in fourth place with 364 points.

Cowdrey is also second in calf roping with 539 points. He trails teammate Dylan Barrett, who leads with 581 points.

The pair also sit 1-2 in ribbon roping, with Barrett having a slightly larger lead. Barrett has 686 points and Cowdrey 462.

In bull riding, Weatherford's Noah Lee is third with 210 points. Mecate Trammel of Millsap is in first place with 315 points.

Also from Weatherford, Reagan High is 11th in breakaway roping with 182 points. The leader in the event has 329.

ACHIEVEMENTS

## Aledo athletes honored by TGCA

### Volleyball, cross country athletes cited

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Several members of the Aledo volleyball and cross country teams have been honored by the Texas Girls Coaches Association.

In volleyball, junior opposite hitter Kinley Elms was named Class 5A All-State. Elms was also selected as a member of the 5A-6A TGCA Red All-Star Team that will compete against the Blue Team during this year's summer clinic June 24-27 in Arlington.

Her teammate, senior outside hitter Vivian Parker, was honored

as a 5A-6A Legacy All-Star. This program honors graduating seniors.

Elms ranked 13th in the state and was second in 5A Region I in hitting percentage at .369.

Together, Elms and Parker helped the Ladycats to a 34-9 record. They won the District 5-5A championship and advanced to the third round of the playoffs before falling 3-1 to then defending state champion Colleyville Heritage, which went on to return to the state tournament.

Also from volleyball, senior defensive specialist Natalie Anderson earned academic all-state honors. To qualify, an athlete must be a graduating senior with an overall

grade point average of 94 or above for grades 9-11.

### Cross country

Cross country all-state honors went to sophomores Molly Garrison and Madison Larsen, along with freshmen Micah Neal. They helped the Ladycats to a runner-up finish at state, the best finish ever at state by an Aledo cross country team.

Individually, Neal placed seventh, Garrison was 12th and Larsen was 22nd. The state performance was especially satisfying for Garrison, who passed out in the latter part of the 2022 state meet just a few hundred feet from the finish line.

## 2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

### MARCH 3 (CONTINUED)

Luke Taylor's no-hitter highlighted the Bearcats' 5-1 record in Southwest Ford Classic to start the baseball season.

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

Both Bearcats and Ladycats won their respective divisions at the Haltom Relays. Hauss Hejny and Aven Lawrence each won three gold medals



Read this issue online

for Aledo as part of the three winning relays. Vincent Luffey and Evan Thompson won two individual golds. The Ladycats won eight gold medals, seven silver and two bronze en route to the title. Emery Thompson, Sofia Brandenburg, and Sarah Tillotson led with two gold medals each.

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

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

### MARCH 10

The second part of a three-part series looked at the life of Katie Schultz after arriving in the United States after spending the first 15 years of her life in Germany.

The Aledo ISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously at a special meeting on Tuesday, March 7, to authorize Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn to complete negotiations to trade approximately 50 acres of land it owns adjacent to McAnally Middle School for 50 acres to the north owned by Walsh Ranches Limited Partnership. The agreement also calls for the purchase of 50 additional adjacent acres from Walsh at a price of \$35,000 per acre. The resulting 100-acre tract is north of McAnally Middle School.

In a field that included some of the top programs around, the Aledo Ladycats placed second in the always-tough Northwest Texan Invitational on Friday, March 3, in Justin.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

McKenzie May, first-grader at Coder Elementary School and Stella Price, first-grader at Southwest Christian School, approached the end of Girl Scout Cookie sales at Walmart in Hudson Oaks.

Texas once again has topped the list for new and expanded corporate facilities added in a year, according to Site Selection magazine. With 1,028 new projects in 2022, the state had more than the next two states combined — Illinois and Ohio.

Taylor McKean was perfect in two pitching performances and the rest of the team wasn't far behind her as the Aledo Ladycats dominated the Marshall Tournament over the March 3-4 weekend.

For a final home game of the season, Aledo's soccer teams couldn't have written a better script for their matchups against the Azle Hornets on Tuesday, March 7. From temperatures in the low 70s, a slight breeze blowing across the pitch, honoring the elder statesmen on both clubs for Senior Night, or the complete denial of a visiting goal in either match, it was an evening filled with joy for all the Aledo faithful.

Four members of the Aledo Ladycats were named to the All-District 5-5A Girls Basketball Team by the league's coaches. Selected for the first team were Clair Byars and Presley Hull. Second-team honors went to Kandle Boggus and Reagan Davis.

Adrianna Lambert led Ladycat state power lifting qualifiers, winning the 220-pound division. She was joined at state by three runners-up in their respective divisions, Avery Gray in the 259-plus division, Ari Mathias in the 148 class and Taylor Sehnem in the 114 class.

The Aledo Bearcats won their tenth consecutive regular-season track meet following their championship in the Northwest Texan Invitational on March 3 in Justin.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Clay Murador takes a shot on goal while battling an Azle defender during the varsity match on Tuesday, March 7. Aledo won 1-0.

A 3-3 record in the prestigious DFW Clash Tournament — Thursday, March 2 through Saturday, March 4 — propelled the Aledo Bearcats into the top 10 in the state of Texas according to the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association.

The Aledo varsity tennis team dominated play in the Chisholm Trail tournament, held on Friday March 3, earning medals in every division and posting four first-place finishes.

Turn to page 12



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2023 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Education AEF announces new director, page 6

**THE COMMUNITY NEWS**

Aledo's Schultz returns to Germany after seven decades away

Local banker shares 'nothing to something' story

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JACKIE HAYSLIP

Taylor McKean takes the field against Saginaw High School to pitch for the Ladycats. The Ladycats shutout the Rough Riders 14-0.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Boyd Thompson successfully turns the first half of a 6-4-3 double play to end Brewer's half of the second inning in the District opener on Tuesday, March 21.

The Ladycats and Bearcats track teams won their home meet, the Bearcat Relays.

The Aledo Ladycats softball team continued a two-year dominance of district foes with their latest conquest being a 14-0 victory at Saginaw Friday, March 10. The game was called after five innings because of the mercy rule, something that has become synonymous with Aledo softball in league play.

**MARCH 24**

Senior center Max Moeller of the Aledo Bearcats and former Aledo head coach Tim Buchanan were honored at the Gridiron Club of Dallas' 14th annual banquet at the Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria.

The Weatherford College Board of Trustees approved a one-year extension to President Tod Allen Farmer's contract and approved the 2023-24 tuition and fees schedule at their meeting Thursday, March 9.

With the continued prevalence of fentanyl related drug seizures and deaths, several cases initiated by the Parker County Sheriff's Office Special Crimes Unit (SCU) led to large seizures of fentanyl and other illicit drugs in the Fort Worth and Parker County areas.

It was a big lectern, but that didn't intimidate students from McCall Elementary School and Aledo Middle School when they addressed the school board in February.

*To be continued.*



Read this issue online

**MARCH 17**

Shortly after arriving in Aledo in 2022, Katie Schultz reluctantly decided to return to her home country after more than seven decades in the United States.

At its meeting on Tuesday, March 14, the Willow Park City Council announced the appointment of Daniel Franklin as interim police chief, effective March 24.

When U.S. Rep. Roger Williams (R-Weatherford) convened a hearing of the House Committee on Small Business on the topic of "From Nothing to Something: The Story of the



Read this issue online

American Dream," the person he invited to testify was Zan Prince, chairman of the board of First Bank Texas.

The Aledo Education Foundation (AEF) Board of Directors announced that Valerie Kerr will be its new executive director, succeeding Shawn Callaway, founder and executive director of AEF, since its inception.

Two members of the Aledo Bearcats powerlifting team qualified for the Texas High School Powerlifting Association Division I State Meet. Davhon Keys qualified by winning the 220-pound division, lifting a total weight of 1,495 pounds. Caleb Loth qualified by finishing second in the 198 class with a total of 1,455 pounds lifted.

The Aledo Bearcats gave Trinity

Valley School a drubbing and gave their coach Chad Barry a present at the same time on Friday, March 10. The 6-0 victory was the 300th of Barry's career as a head coach, which spans 13 seasons. It came as part of the Drew Medford Memorial Tournament at Fort Worth Arlington Heights High School, in which the Bearcats won three of four games with two one-hit pitching performances.

The Aledo Ladycats soccer team entered the playoffs as the No. 2 seed from District 5-5A.

The Aledo Bearcats entered the Class 5A boys soccer playoffs with back-to-back shutouts following a 5-0 home victory against Granbury on Friday, March 10. That was preceded by a 1-0 home win over Azle on Tuesday, March 7.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Caleb Doss spoke about inviting new students to the Bearcat Den at Aledo Middle School during the February school board meeting.

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