

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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PRIMARY ELECTION

March 5 primary to decide local offices

Rogers-Olcott and Jones-Stockon races command local attention

Staff Reports
The Community News

With early voting coming to an end, attention now turns to election day. Parker County registered voters who have not yet cast their ballots in the Republican and Democratic primaries have one remaining opportunity on March 5.

Local races of most interest are the State rep. Dist. 60 race between incumbent Glenn Rogers and Michael Olcott, and the Pct. 4 constable race between incumbent Scott Jones and Jerry Stockon.

Because no Democrats have applied for those positions, the winners on March 5 will be in effect the winner of the general election in November.

The Community News conducted recorded interviews with Rogers, Jones, and Stockon, and those interviews can be accessed at community-news.com/primary2024.

In addition to the candidates on the ballot, the Republican ballot has 13 propositions. These questions on the ballot do not carry the force of law — they are put there by the party to gauge preferences of the voters.

A listing of all ballot candidates and the 13 propositions can be found on our election page, in addition to resources on where and when to vote.



Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on March 5. Any registered voter in Parker County can vote at any location.

For more information, scan the QR code or visit community-news.com/primary2024.

Watch our website for election results on Tuesday night.



Annetta fifth-grader thrives after migrating

Ukrainian student finds friends, home, happiness

By Christopher Amos
The Community News

There's no place like home, and now Masha Kupchynsky has two. Except one is more than 6,000 miles away.

Masha's family immigrated to the U.S. in May when safety and instability from the war became an urgent concern near her Ukrainian home. She bonded well with friends in fourth grade at Annetta Elementary School and is now a savvy fifth grader.

"She is going to stay in fifth grade forever," joked her homeroom teacher and math instructor, Emily Emerson. "We are going to keep her forever. We're not going to let her go."

Masha misses her home dearly and communicates with Ukrainian friends, but has made many friends in school and at home in Aledo. For now, her family intends to stay in the U.S. and visit Ukraine regularly when it is safe.

Her family traveled through Europe with stays in Belgium and The Netherlands long enough for her to attend classes there. In the Netherlands, she picked up a tiny bit of French



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Masha Kupchynsky plans to visit Ukraine in the future, but for now, Aledo is home.

to go with Ukrainian, English and Russian, which she speaks fluently.

The student is a joy to speak with. Masha is cheerful, witty, and spontaneous to the point one may not know if she is kidding or not. Sitting in the lobby outside her class for an interview with The Community News, she asked, "Are you going to take my picture?"

"Yes, I am."

Masha dashed back into her classroom and announced, "Hey, everybody! We're all going to have our picture taken for the paper!"

Masha enjoys music, art, and dance, which she studied five years in Ukraine. When asked what message she would share with others, she admonishes, "Be happy. Enjoy life."

CORRECTION

In last week's story about Willow Springs Cemetery, the photo caption on the photo of Jeff Brazzell was in error. The tombstone in the photo was for John W. Brazzell, who was not the patriarch that settled in Texas, but rather the grandfather Jeff grew up knowing. Jeff's mother's name full name was Johnnie May Brazzell. We regret the error.

ALEDO CITY COUNCIL

TxDOT gives update on sidewalk project

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

After months of marathon meetings and adjusting to a twice-a-month meeting schedule, Aledo's City Council is finally getting caught up on the backlog of business for the city. When they met for the only time this month on Thursday, Feb. 22, it took just 23 minutes to get through all the business on the docket for the evening before dismissing into their regular executive session.

The primary focus of the meeting was an update from the Texas Department of Transportation regarding the sidewalk project that will run adjacent to the newly completed Bailey Ranch Road. Corey Coburn with TxDOT said they will begin collecting bids starting on

Turn to ALEDO, page 7

WILLOW PARK

Council approves zoning change for church property

City getting roller rink

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

While the question remains what, exactly, will go into the location, one thing is certain. The property that once housed the Willow Park Church of Christ will soon have some new tenants.

At its meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 27, the Willow Park City Council approved a zoning change for the property at 721 Ranch House Rd.

The decision came after the controversial topic was tabled from the Jan. 23 meeting.

Originally, the plan was to use the building for commercial office space - and that may still be the case. It could be used for a variety of things following the approval of zoning for special use planned development.

There was talk of a private school moving in. It could even become another church.

The vote came after another public hearing. And, like the one

in late January, several citizens voiced their disapproval for a variety of reasons.

Dave Laurenzo brought a petition signed by several citizens. His major concern seemed to be the possibility of a private school being placed on the property. He said traffic because of the dropping off and picking up of children would cause a major problem.

"There's no way this city can handle that twice a day for 45 minutes," Laurenzo said, asking that if a school is put in, limit it to 20 students or less.

Clifford Voorhees asked that another church be put there.

"I'm not good with change, but best case scenario, I'd like to see it be another church," he said.

Stacy Lynch of Aledo Legacy, LLC, who is looking to purchase the property from Willow Park Church of Christ Pastor Robert Heil, said some private schools have inquired about the property, adding they are small schools.

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CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Texas A&M Singing Cadets performed at Aledo United Methodist Church on Saturday, Feb. 17. The choir, presented by Parker County Aggie Moms' Club, came to Aledo near the end of a 16-city Texas tour.

WEATHERFORD

Council receives updates on downtown street rehabilitation

Ringer alley pits Allison

By Jolee Skinner
Contributing Writer

Director of Public Works Chad Marbut gave an update on the Northwest Downtown Weatherford Street Rehabilitation Project at the regular city council meeting on Feb. 13.

Marbut said that the downtown project is right on track with budget and schedule. The project is halfway complete and is expected to be fully completed in mid to late June 2024.

The downtown project was started in late August of 2023 with the construction starting on local storm drain improvements.

As a few weeks ago, North Elm Street, Texas Drive and

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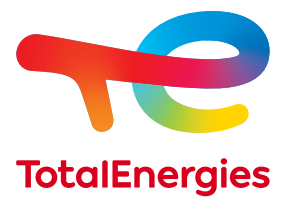


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Boots & Bling kicks up heels for health

Yeehaw for fundraiser!

By Christopher Amos
The Community News

The Parker County Health Foundation annual Boots & Bling celebration was the largest yet, taking up the entire River Ranch Stockyards event facility.

Funds from the event benefit area health organizations, such as Children's Advocacy Center, Center of Hope, Careity Foundation, Freedom House, Manna Storehouse, the Committee on Aging, Meals on Wheels and Grace House Ministries.

Event coordinator Penny Shelton said it will be a few weeks before the organization calculates the total money the event brought in with table sales, auction items and donations.

"Attendance was great," she said. "We actually sold out a couple of weeks ago and had a wait list. But as you could tell, we couldn't fit more people in that room comfortably."

Recording artist Josh Weathers performed selections from his albums Wild Ones and Love Like You Mean It, along with a few revved up "Weatherized" popular cover tunes.

The Josh Weathers Band's next public performance will be March 23 at Billy Bob's Texas. Weathers' music can be heard on popular music streaming apps and his own Youtube channel.

Some auctions items included a one-hour ground flight lesson plus 30-minute flight from Nationwide Aviation, a sky box plus meals for four at the Charles Schwab Challenge PGA FedEx Cup event at Colonial Country Club, a customized steel fire pit from 13 of Diamonds Fabrications, and a half steer of beef donated by Jim Martin.

Weathers even auctioned a private live concert with himself for up to 50 guests.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER AMOS/
THE COMMUNITY NEWS



Kirk and Angie Martin with Misty Sustala and Shane Courtwright.



The Josh Weathers band, Blaine Crews, Paul Jenkins, Bubba Bellin and Weathers, relax before their show.



Wynne Pool and Mary Anglen admire a 360-degree video of themselves with photographer Erickson Manono.



Melissa and Ray Smith visit with Christopher Bailey before dinner.



Auctioneer Terry Waters



Attendees enjoyed delicious food and live music.



Auctioneer Terry Waters leads the head-or-tails raffle.



Event coordinator Penny Shelton



Board member Patti Oaks



Board member Rob Helms



Board member Zan Prince

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CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Annetta families and area friends picked up 33 bags of trash Saturday, Feb. 24 along the roadsides of Annetta. Starting from Annetta City Hall and fanning out over the area, the group returned to enjoy a barbecue lunch together.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

David and Anne Nelson used their own four wheeler and wagon to pick up trash in the Deer Creek Area when Annetta residents joined together to pick up trash on Saturday, Feb. 24. The town's residents collected 33 bags in total.

WILLOW PARK

Moss elected to national position

Mayor Moss honored

Staff Reports
The Community News

Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss has been honored by the Republican Party of Texas by being elected to the Republican Mayors Association (RMA) Advisory Board. Moss joins fellow Texas Republican Mayors Eric L. Johnson of Dallas and Javier Villalobos of McAllen in leading the national organization.

"The RMA presents a unique opportunity for Republican mayors from all over our great state and nation to come together and support one another as we serve our constituents," Moss said. "I am eager to join the RMA Advisory Board and help Mayor Johnson, Mayor Villalobos — two proud fellow Texas Republican mayors — engage with mayors across the United States who share our commitment to law and order and fiscal conservatism."



Moss will serve a one-year, renewable term.

The RMA was founded in October 2023 by Dallas Mayor Eric L. Johnson, who announced his switch from the Democrat to Republican Party in September of last year. He won re-election in May of 2023 while running as a Democrat.

"I sent him a card congratulating him. It took guts," Moss said.

Moss was first elected mayor of Willow Park in 2017.

The RMA bills itself as the premier organization leading the Republican Party's re-emergence as a political force in America's cities.

Villalobos said, "It is an honor to serve as Chairman of the RMA Advisory Board and work with my fellow Texas GOP mayors, Mayor Johnson and Mayor Moss, to expand the RMA and provide resources and support to our fellow Republican mayors."

In addition to Johnson and Villalobos, Moss joins Matthew



Doyle Moss

Moench, Mayor of Bridgewater, New Jersey; Ronald Morrell, Jr., Mayor of Marion, Indiana; and Erin Stewart, Mayor of New Britain, Connecticut; on the RMA Advisory Board.

To learn more about the RMA and their efforts, visit: www.GOPMayors.org.

COUNCIL

from page one

East Spring Street are closed due to asphalt removal and replacement. Marbut shared a map showing the closed roads. For more updates on what roads are open and closed, visit <https://weatherfordtx.gov/3025/Current-Street-Projects-And-Road-Closure>

Sewer lines will also be installed in the next couple of weeks on York Ave.

"Utilities was a huge milestone for us to get over and that's just about been completed," Marbut said.

Earlier in the meeting, the council voted to formally change the name of the Noon Lions Ringer Alley pits at Love Street Park to The John Allison Ringer Alley.

This change was recommended by the Weatherford Parks and Recreation Advisory Board due to Allison's longstanding membership

to the Ringer Alley for the last 22 years. Jaycob Kirkpatrick, director of the Weatherford parks, recreation and special events, said that



Allison over the years has hosted tournaments, sanctioning the pits through the Texas Horseshoe Pitchers Association, and spending hours maintaining the park.

"If you don't know John Allison, he is a true ringer," Kirkpatrick said.

KEEP PARKER COUNTY GREAT!

Please join us in voting for the candidates best suited for each office.

President – Donald J. Trump
 Senator – Ted Cruz
 US Representative District 12 – Craig Goldman
 US Representative District 25 – Roger Williams
 Railroad Commissioner – Christi Craddick
 Justice Supreme Court Place 4 – John Devine
 Presiding Judge Court of Criminal Appeals – Sharon Keller
 Judge Court of Criminal Appeals Place 7 – Gina Parker
 Judge Court of Criminal Appeals Place 8 – Michelle Slaughter
 State Board of Education – Pat Hardy
 State Senator District 30 – Brent Hagenbuch
 State Representative – Glenn Rogers
 Constable Pct 1 – Ray Wright
 Precinct 100 Chair – Leroy Hidalgo
 Precinct 120 Chair – Richelle Pruitt
 Precinct 215 Chair – Bret Watson
 Precinct 230 Chair – Joe Wilkinson
 Precinct 240 Chair – Chris Humphries
 Precinct 245 Chair – Larry Teaff
 Precinct 260 Chair – Lisa Catlin
 Constable Pct 3 – Glen D. Praytor
 Precinct 300 Chair – Barbara Chapman
 Precinct 305 Chair – Garrett Steinberger
 Precinct 315 Chair – Zan Prince
 Precinct 325 Chair – Christian Carreon
 Precinct 335 Chair – Landon Meeker
 Precinct 350 Chair – Debbie Carney
 Constable Pct 4 – Scott Jones
 Precinct 420 – Joelene Slocum
 Precinct 430 – Jeff Streetman
 Precinct 435 – Pryce Marshall
 Precinct 440 – Lewis Hall
 Precinct 445 – LP Ladouceur
 Precinct 450 – Brad Manning

These folks are on the ballot to serve you from President to precinct chair. You are probably familiar with most of these elected positions, but do you know the role that precinct chair plays in our government? A precinct chair is your voice, and vote, on the Parker County Republican Committee. It is the precinct chair's duty to provide you with information about elections and conventions. We need strong nominees based on performance to grow our Party, and we need to make sure that all that want to be involved are welcomed! This list comes to you from local activists that have examined the candidates and have encouraged you to be involved in all kinds of elections since 2004, and we need your vote!

Please take this card into your polling location and vote for these candidates from the top to the bottom of your ballot. Thank you for your vote!

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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. 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

Early voting ends Friday



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Early voting in the March 5 primary election ends Friday with a host of candidates on the ballot in both parties, including president, U.S. Senate, all 38 Texas U.S. representatives, all 150 Texas House representatives, and down to local races for district attorney, sheriff and other positions.

Check with your local elections office for more information or go to votetexas.gov.

A record number of Texans are registered to vote ahead of the primary election, according to Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson. More than 17.9 million people are registered to vote in Texas, which is one million more than were registered ahead of the March 2020 primaries.

The increase is being attributed to population growth and does not necessarily mean a higher voter turnout. Brandon Rottinghaus, a University of Houston political science professor, said most people "register to vote out of reflex," the *San Antonio Express-News* reported.

"Just because a person's registered doesn't mean they're going to vote," Rottinghaus said. "They may be registered for all kinds of reasons that are disassociated from their desire to actually go vote."

It may be time to say adios to El Niño

El Niño, the weather pattern that has brought wetter and

cooler weather to the state over the past several months, appears to be weakening, giving its counterpart, La Niña, a 55% chance of returning soon, according to the *Houston Chronicle*. The result could be a drier, hotter summer, if February's weather is any indication.

All across the state, temperatures in February are the warmest they have been since 2017, the *Express-News* reported. That might mean the state will have a hotter summer than usual, but not necessarily, according to meteorologists. Out of the past 25 years with a warm February, above-average temperatures were recorded in 18 of the following summers.

Meteorologist Anthony Franze says the state probably will not experience record temperatures like Texans endured last summer, but it isn't likely we will get a break this summer from intense heat.

Wildfire season just around the bend

The Texas A&M Forest Service on Friday responded to seven new requests for assistance on wildfires, with last week being the warmest and driest of the dormant winter season. However, as of Sunday there were no active wildfires burning as the spring wildfire season approaches.

East Texas is experiencing some of the most significant drying as it has already been more than 10 days since the last significant rainfall, the forest service said. The highest danger for wildfires is in South Texas and along the I-35 corridor. Red flag warnings are in effect for Rocksprings, Del Rio and Eagle Pass, as well as

counties along the Rio Grande. Burn bans are in place for 60 of the state's 254 counties.

A dry cold front swept across the state late last week, bringing temperatures down but also providing high, gusty winds and dry air. South, Central and far West Texas remain in severe or extreme drought, according to the National Weather Service.

State has spent \$148 million busing migrants

Texas has spent \$148 million since April 2022 busing migrants to other states, according to kut.org. As of Jan. 24, more than 102,000 migrants have been transported to New York, Chicago, Denver, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

"It certainly is a great deal of money to be spent," Ray Perryman, the president of the Waco-based economic research company The Perryman Group, said.

The busing program is part of Gov. Greg Abbott's Operation Lone Star border security initiative, which thus far has cost the state \$10 billion - more than the operating budgets of Delaware and Vermont, according to the report.

Abbott has said he intends to keep busing migrants to other states.

Texas opts out of summer lunch program

The state has opted not to participate in a federal program to help low-income parents buy groceries for their children in the summer, when free school meals are unavailable, the *Texas Tribune* reported.

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Your Views

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Supporting Rogers

As the March Republican Primary approaches, I've been struck by the apparent lack of critical thinking skills.

Why are people not studying what the candidates represent? Why doesn't the truth about who is paying for their campaigns cause interest? Why would Texans in District 60 support vouchers that will defund our public schools and raise taxes?

Mr. Olcott supports vouchers, not our local students or teachers. Mr. Olcott's campaign is basically being run for him by voucher lobbyists, West Texas billionaires, and even out-of-state billionaires (their names are easily available as are the PACs they've created). As the saying goes: "Follow the Money."

Representative Glenn Rogers supports teachers and students and has a voting record which proves that. I'm thankful that I can trust him to vote for teachers like me, I'm thankful that he cannot be bought by billionaires who don't even live close to District 60 (or even in Texas), and I'm thankful that teachers taught me critical thinking skills.

- Mary Sue Blackwell
Retired Educator

Truth in politics

In this place, we stand for God, Country, and Truth! You know that Parker County, Texas is one of the most conservative places in the country and I thank God for each of you as you work every day to maintain Parker County values! Several years ago, I called Michael Quinn Sullivan with Texas Scorecard and asked when Phil King became a liberal. No explanation was given, but the Texas Scorecard and other opinion Scorecards continue to pervert the voting record of elected officials.

And while we think about the fallacies of Texas Scorecard, think about all of the organizations they are tied to: Empower Texas, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility, Defend Texas Liberty, Texas Federation for Children PAC, Young Conservatives of Texas Legislative Ratings, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility Fiscal Index, Texans for Responsible Leadership, Texas Right to Life, True Texas Project, Texas Family Project, Texas Gun Rights, Abolish Abortion Texas, Strong Borders Action, Texans for Vaccine Choice, Texas Taxpayer Advocates, and Young Americans for Liberty. And locally, they are attached to the Parker County Conservatives.

While we may agree with some, but not all the positions of our friends aligned with Texas Scorecard entities, we cannot agree with their tactics. There's no exception for truth in politics. Slandering any human being has no place in civil society, let alone the best place to live and work in the world! Please do your research from the State record of votes at keepparkercountygreat.com, truth in politics, as you decide who to vote for and do not reward behavior that we wouldn't allow in our homes and businesses by staying home.

Please join me in casting your vote for Representative Glenn Rogers and State Board of Education Pat Hardy.

- Zan Sharp Prince
Weatherford

LETTERS POLICY

The Community News welcomes letters from readers on topics of local interest. Letters should be signed and should be limited to approximately 300 words. Please include a telephone number or other contact information so the identity of the letter writer can be verified. Send letters to The Community News, P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008 or e-mail to news@community-news.com.

Idle American

Devil's Workshop?



Dr. Don Newbury
newbury@speakerdoc.com

Every now and again, someone comes up with suggestions for addition to the list of what to do when there's nothing to do.

As often as not, such "yawn fodder" winds up to fill holes--gaping or otherwise--just before newspapers go to press.

I have another thought concerning an item that should be forever deleted from the list--the mistitled annual "All-Star" basketball game foisted on us by the National Basketball Association and its TV cohorts. Any other suggestion on the "what-to-do-list" is superior to this debacle which is no better than watching paint dry.

The "event" held a few nights ago featured true all-stars, but they might as well have been playing "H-O-R-S-E." In the Eastern All-Stars' "win" over the West, the score was 211-186. Obviously whatever semblance of defense brought to the game was checked at the door.

Should the wretched excuse for a "game" continue, it should be more accurately named. How about a feel-good scrimmage featuring the Washington Generals vs. the Washington Generals? (With apologies to the Harlem Globetrotters who invariably rack up "wins" over the Generals.)

If all-stars of the major professional sports ever have

a get-together, the NBA elite should be banned. Let them have their own party at a comedy club.

As youth, we were specialists in wasting time, but we could blame it on the young.

With much of my childhood in the 1950s, I recall two great time-wasters.

When soft-serve ice cream came to our town, one of our leading restaurants sold the cones at a "walk-up window." (This was several years before drive-in food joints appeared.) It was fun to watch the server's artistry in turning out cones with curls on top.) Our parents usually sprung for nickel cones which we licked slowly, wishing for the much bigger 10-cent cones.

But, wait! There was more. The restaurant also had an electric bug-zapper that produced sizzling sounds when bugs met their electronic end.

Sometimes we counted how many "zaps" we heard between cone-licks. Talk about minutiae. That's not all, either.

Acceptable television reception was late getting to our town, what with the nearest station about 75 miles away. Before there were many TV sets in homes, they were often displayed in a downtown shop window. On many summer evenings, my dad would drive us slowly past the store, all of us hoping there'd be discernible TV pictures emerging from the snowy screen. When there was, we'd stop, pressing noses against the window glass to get as close to the TV set as possible.

I suppose, then, that licking ice cream cones while hearing bugs get zapped and watching

snowy TV pictures in a show window might be akin to time wasted while watching the NBA circus. But remember, we were kids.

My ancient Uncle Mort claims he gave up on the game decades ago. He's not surprised that it continues its slide into meaninglessness. But, he admits to finding humor in circumventing the conventional, which is only a skosh different than purposefully wasting time.

Specifically, he enlivens routine visits to doctors' offices by "poking fun" when he fills out the same papers completed during his previous visits. Office attendants "see him coming," knowing they'll have to ask him to return to their desk to correct his fake answers.

In the "answer blank" about contact in case of an emergency, he writes "call ambulance." And on the "age blank," he answers "digital."

A patriot to the core, he also enlivens "shopping humdrum" by checking labels of merchandise, always delighted when he finds "made in America" tags. Too often, he whines, "made in Taiwan" or "made in China" dominate.

He stopped abruptly recently, noticing bold print on a box encasing a TV set. It read, "Built in antenna."

"Now that's a place I've never heard of," he told the sales guy, "Where is Antenna?" Mort was satisfied with the answer that Antenna is a small community a few miles from Athens.

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and speaks publicly. 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.

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



MARCH 2

Aledo Spring Fling
Aledo Spring Fling is a Craft Fair and Prom Expo on Saturday, Mar. 2 at 9 a.m. at Aledo High School. It is a fundraiser for the Junior Class to raise money for their Senior Prom.



MARCH 4

Gardening Workshop
Spring is just around the corner and it is time to start thinking about your summer garden! On Monday Mar. 4 at 6 p.m. at the ag building join Aledo FFA, students and parents for a slow and peaceful session on caring for a seedling and growing your own plants. The Master Gardners will be present for their assistance. For more information contact jlark@aledoisd.org.

MARCH 5

Book Club at the East Parker County Library!
Join the East Parker County Library on Tuesday, March 5th at 9 a.m. as we discuss "The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder" by journalist David Grann (author of the best



seller "Killers of the Flower Moon") This book is a mesmerizing non-fiction selection of shipwreck, survival, and savagery! The book is available through the PCLA system and Overdrive/Libby.



MARCH 16

Spring Fling at Chandor Gardens
We're ready to fling into spring at Chandor Gardens! Join us for a bloomin' good time at Spring Fling from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 16th at Chandor Gardens in Weatherford. Talented artists will take center stage, showcasing, demonstrating, and selling their one-of-a-kind arts and crafts. The vibes will be as lively as the colors of the flowers, with live music and delicious food. Bring your friends and family for a beautiful day at Chandor Gardens!
ADMISSION: Adults: \$5
Kids 12 and under: Free

MARCH 18

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Make a difference and donate blood to save



lives! The American Red Cross is holding a blood drive from 12 - 5 p.m. on Monday, March 18, at the Weatherford Public Library Auditorium. To register, go to RedCrossBlood.org. Enter Weatherford and choose Weatherford Public Library to make an appointment

MARCH 26

Cross Timbers Chapter of the Native Plant Society Meeting
The Cross Timbers Chapter of the Native Plant Society meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 26, at the Mount Pleasant School, 213 Raymond George Way in Weatherford. The meeting is followed by the program at 6:30. The public is always welcome and light refreshments will be available. For a status update on the groundwater in North Texas, geoscientist Jill Garcia of the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District will speak at the meeting. The groundwater district covers Parker, Wise, Hood and Montague counties. The goal of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to protect our environment through conservation, research and use of native plants. For more information visit www.npsot.org.

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "if he's ___ he'll bark"
- 5 TX Keyes' "___ With the Wind"
- 6 former Cowboy fullback, Tommie
- 7 TXism: "feel like ___ chewed up and spit out"
- 8 not needed
- 17 TXism: "___ buster" (farmer)
- 18 TX Gail Borden invented process for ___ milk
- 21 ex-Cowboy Tony (init.)
- 22 TXism: "playing with a ___ deck" (unlucky)
- 23 TXism: "chief cook and bottle washer"
- 24 LBJ was 1st in U.S. House to ___ after Pearl Harbor
- 29 Lady ___ Johnson
- 30 dinosaur tracks town: ___ Rose
- 31 Stephen F. Austin's home state (abbr.)
- 32 TXism: "smart as ___ rat"
- 34 pigeon-___
- 35 TXism: "___ wit"
- 36 TXism: "___"
- 37 wedding cake layer
- 38 Gulf steering wheel
- 39 coyote cry
- 40 in Gray County, near Pampa
- 42 cracker craver
- 43 "Texas ___" (oil)
- 44 NAFTA is a free ___ agreement
- 45 many Texas roads were early stagecoach
- 46 ex-Cowboy White (init.)
- 47 TX Robby Benson film: "___ to Billie Joe"
- 48 holiest city in Islam
- 49 city on north side of Galveston Bay
- 51 TX Harper of "Silkwood"
- 52 TX Bush: "The liberation of Kuwait ___ begun"
- 53 TXism: "call ___ day"

DOWN

- 1 driving without a seat belt is ___ in Texas
- 2 in Palestine: "___ Trails Celebration"
- 3 pledge part: "Texas, ___ indivisible"
- 4 guests of Gambill Goose Refuge
- 9 in Super Bowl XXX it was 27-17
- 10 TXism: "___ me a bill of goods"
- 11 TXism: "blister ___" (handle)
- 12 "Fighting Irish" school (abbr.)
- 13 honor. TX Ranger: Dr. Edward ___ (father of H-bomb)
- 14 TXism: "___ that like a duck needs an umbrella"
- 15 TXism: "mean ___ old range cow"
- 16 slang for a Stetson actor Brand who was TX Ranger Reese Bennett on "Laredo"
- 20 TX Roger Miller awards
- 22 TX Henry in the Bill Clinton administration
- 24 this Ames was "Mingo" (init.)
- 25 Spurs & Mavs org.
- 26 TXism: "quick to pull a cork"
- 27 TXism: "___ water" (trouble)
- 28 shish kebob prong
- 29 TXism: "get your nest ___" (be still)
- 30 TX actress Vinson film: "The Thin Man ___ Home" (1945)
- 33 noted film director, Otto (init.)
- 34 pickup rubber
- 35 between Lamar & Hopkins Counties
- 37 TXism: "he'd walk himself ___ a revolving door"
- 38 ex-Cowboy offensive coach Hudson
- 41 TX Buddy Holly hit: "Not ___ Away"
- 42 "little" in Mexico
- 45 antique autos
- 48 historic: "___ Houston House" in Independence, TX
- 50 TXism: "couldn't ___ drum" (loser)

MARCH 28
Vandagriff Spring Carnival
Mark your calendar! The 2nd Annual Vandagriff Spring Carnival March

MARCH 28TH
5 PM - 7 PM
INFLATABLES | GAMES | FOOD TRUCKS

28th from 5pm-7pm!
Inflatables, games and food trucks.

MAY 3
Texas Pythian Home Garage Sale
Texas Pythian Home, Inc is holding the Annual Garage Sale from 8a.m. - 3p.m. on

Friday May 3 and Saturday May 4 at 1825 E Bankhead Dr, Weatherford, Texas.

Come shop and see what all we have in our sale. All proceeds go towards Summer Activities for the Children. Cash/Check only. Clothing, toys, books, home decor, holiday decor, furniture, and more.

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

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ALEDO

from page one

March 5 for the sidewalk that will go from Aledo High School to FM 1187.

Coburn advised the council the project will take approximately four months to complete with minimal traffic disruptions expected. He anticipates the project will begin this summer after the school year is complete.

Dean Ranch

The council received a petition to have 228.24 acres of the property on the northeast corner of the Rolling Hills addition removed from the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction. The council rejected the petition unanimously on the grounds that the petition was

brought forth by the property's previous ownership, and not the current ownership.

The Community News will have more on this story as it develops.

Election canceled

The City of Aledo was slated to have an election on May 4 to vote for representatives in Place 4 and Place 5. Since Nelson Rawls (Place 4) and Summer Jones (Place 5) were unopposed on the ballot, the council approved the ordinance to cancel the election.

Meeting canceled

With too little business to fill up the docket for two meetings in the month of March, council voted to cancel the March 7 meeting. Council will still have their March 28 meeting as scheduled.

CAPITAL

from page 5

Qualifying families would have received \$120 per child through a pre-loaded card, with the state receiving \$450 million in federal tax dollars for 3.8 million children eligible for the program.

The reason for not participating is a lack of time to coordinate and direct distribution of the preloaded cards, according to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Texas is one of 15 states not participating in the program, which was announced in late December.

Natural gas prices are plunging

Natural gas prices have fallen more than 50% since January, reaching their lowest levels since

mid-2020 during the height of the pandemic, the *Texas Standard* reported. Matt Smith, an energy analyst for Kpler, said a combination of factors have resulted in much lower prices for natural gas, including weaker demand because of warmer weather, resulting in higher supplies.

Natural gas storage levels are 11% above last year and about 16% above the five-year average, Smith said. Another factor is oil production in the Permian Basin that produces an abundance of natural gas as a byproduct.

"As long as [natural gas prices are] above zero, then they're making money on it," he said.

Student loan forgiveness affects 14,510 Texans

President Joe Biden's latest round of student loan forgiveness

includes 14,510 Texans, according to *The Dallas Morning News*. That wipes out almost \$117 million in debt under the SAVE plan, which is intended to make it easier to repay student loans while offering debt forgiveness for longtime borrowers.

"The SAVE plan reflects our unapologetic commitment to deliver as much relief as possible to as many borrowers as possible as quickly as possible," U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said.

Borrowers who didn't receive an email can log into student.aid.gov to check their loan status.

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.

ZONING

from page one

She added, however, that the emphasis is not on putting a school there, reminding the council and those in attendance that the original idea was to put in office spaces. She noted that the old church is also dear to her heart, but that it is simply not around any longer and the location is now just an empty building.

"I wanted to see it be something the community could use," she said. "We're not even talking schools."

Lynch also stressed that the concerns from citizens voiced in the late January were all addressed. However, the request that there be no security cameras was not as they will be needed by whatever entity goes into the building for safety monitoring.

Following the late January meeting, the Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing and approved the PD application with a 2-1 vote with the following conditions:

*Transportation buses, commercial and industrial vehicles are prohibited.

*Digital signs are prohibited.

"I think we hit all the bullet points," Place 3 Council Member Greg Runnebaum noted.

Place 5 Council Member Nathan Crummel posed the question of another church going into that location and having many more members. Before closing its doors, Willow Park Church of Christ had around 15 members attending regularly.

"Are we good if this church thrives? What if 100 people attend?" he asked, adding that some churches have services, classes, etc. several days a week.

Willow Park Planning and Development Director Toni Fisher said a public school and church can go into any type of zoning.

"Although it's an office building, a church can come in and take over and make it back into a church," she said. "A public school can come in and purchase it."

City Manager Bryan Grimes said whatever becomes of the property, it most likely will not be turned into another home, as some have expressed as their wish.

"I drive by that church every day. No one's gonna tear it down and build a half million dollar house," he said.

Grimes said he is confident whatever goes into the building will be good for the community.

Roller rink coming

Following up on a recent land annexation, council approved a zoning change for just over 31 acres of the Haney Complex Addition. Plans are to build a roller skating rink behind Fortified Fitness Gym, which is located at 9744 E. Bankhead Hwy.

Owner Jayme Haney announced on Facebook that they are pushing hard to be open by June of this year. He noted the rink floor will fit 350 skaters, the facility will have six private party rooms - which will glow - with retractable walls to make even larger party rooms if needed, an arcade with 40 video games and a full snack bar.

There will also be a toddler zone for parents with older children who skate and little ones who don't.

"We are planning all types of special skating sessions, including Thursday nights as adult night!" Haney wrote. "We wanted to bring something fun for everyone to the area and hope you will all support us."

The property was annexed into the City of Willow Park on Jan. 9. The nearest roller skating rinks to Parker County are Rollerland West in Fort Worth and Silver Wheel Skating Center in White Settlement, both about 10 miles from Willow Park.

New restaurant being courted Following their executive session, the council approved the proposal of a Chapter 380 Agreement between the city and Far Out Hospitality for the development of a Cork and Pig Restaurant, offering sales tax rebates.

The restaurant, which is also a tavern, offers American fare and has other North Texas locations in Fort Worth, Southlake and Irving, along with other locations throughout the state.

"We have a proposal we're going to send for their consideration," Grimes said.

Grimes said if they come to Willow Park, they will likely be located in The District.

Election canceled

The council canceled the election, which was scheduled for May 4. Council places 3 (Greg Runnebaum), 4 (Lea Young, also mayor pro tem) and 5 (Nathan Crummel) are all running unopposed.

Board of Adjustment appointments

Council approved the re-appointment of Steve Gould for Place 2 and Mike Barron for Place 4 on the city's Board of Adjustment. New applicant Scott Smith was named an alternate.

Parks Board appointments

Corey Tucker (Place 2), Ever Gomez (Place 4) and Cynthia White (Place 6) were re-appointed to the Parks Board by the council. New applicant Barry Noggle was named an alternate.

P&Z appointments

Council approved the re-appointment of Scott Smith in Place 2 and Zac Walker as an alternate on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Tyler VanSant is a new appointment to Place 4, with Ever Gomez as an alternate.

Rumor control

- In a press release, Communications and Marketing Director/Public Information Officer Rose Hoffman stated, "We are seeing a lot of misinformation related to annexation and the West Oak neighborhood and so it's time for a little rumor control."
- First and foremost, no one can be annexed into a city in Texas without their permission or request. Thanks to a law passed in 2019 by the state legislature, forced annexation is illegal in the state of Texas. You cannot be brought into the city limits unless you ask the city to do so.

Some residents in the West Oak neighborhood are seeing the city name of "Willow Park" on their mail where they used to see "Aledo." This is due to the post office working on some changes but it does not affect anything other than the way your mail looks. Zip codes and city limits are two different things: the 76008 Aledo zip code, for example, encompasses a far larger area than just the City of Aledo. Your zip code reflects your local post office location, not your city location.

If you live in the area near Fortified Fitness and Bankhead Highway, you may have gotten a letter about a public hearing. This is related to the property where Fortified Fitness sits and some land behind it. The property owners requested to be annexed and a zoning change, which required public hearings where the neighbors were notified.

Please do not rely on outside sources. We're hearing that a lot of bad information is making the rounds on social media related to this matter. Please share this factual information with your neighbors! Reliable sources include the city website, our newsletters, our social media channels, and the staff at city hall.

If you have questions, our communications director who is here to be a resource for the public. You can email rhoffman@willowpark.org for any concerns you may have.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Avanzada Phase 1 Drainage Improvements, will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

12:00 Noon, Friday March 15th, 2024

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 Drainage 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: February 23, 2024
March 1, 2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for La Dorada Entry Feature & Screen Wall Improvements, will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

12:00 Noon, Friday March 15th, 2024

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 La Dorada Entry Feature & Screen Wall 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: February 23, 2024
March 1, 2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Rio Vista Phase 3 Entry Feature & Screen Wall Improvements, will be received at the office of Barron-Stark Engineers, 6221 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76132 until

12:00 Noon, Friday March 15th, 2024

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 3 Entry Feature & Screen Wall 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: February 23, 2024
March 1, 2024

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REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

The City of Aledo is pleased to issue this Request for Statements of Qualifications to identify a firm or joint venture for materials testing services to support construction of the City of Aledo Municipal Complex.

The City is requesting Statements of Qualification's (SOQ) regarding construction materials testing.

Submittals will only be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024.

Bid # PW-2024-004

CITY OF ALEDO MUNICIPAL COMPLEX - CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING

Request for Statements of Qualifications (RFQ) 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. RFQ documents will be ready for pickup on and after February 16, 2024.

The City of Aledo website will be updated with addenda, additional reports or other information relevant to the RFQ. 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 February 27, 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, March 1, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. Questions that result in changes to the RFQ will be answered in writing and copies distributed to bidders of record in the form of an addendum.

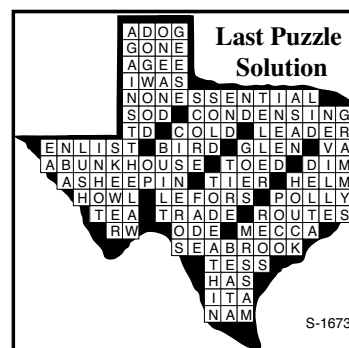
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SOCCER

Senior Night

Aledo teams split matchups

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

Aledo's soccer clubs celebrated their 2024 seniors with a pre-match ceremony on Friday, Feb. 23, before taking on District 5-5A foe Northwest.

In the opening match of the evening, the Ladycats (7-7-2 overall, 4-3-1 in district) were shutout for the second match in a row, after tearing off five straight wins, as the Lady Texans won 2-0.

The nightcap for the evening ended with an exhilarating victory for the Bearcats (11-3-4 overall, 3-3-2 in district). Tied at a goal apiece at the end of regulation, senior goalkeeper Deagan Dietz came off the bench to come up with two critical stops as the Bearcats won the shootout in sudden death.

Showstopper

The matchup between the Bearcats and Northwest was tight throughout the match. The two squads jockeyed for position the entire first half without being able to maintain control long enough to establish an offensive advantage. After 40 minutes of play, the contest remained in gridlock at the half, 0-0.

The second half played much the same as the first half with neither team being able to set themselves apart. It wasn't until just inside 13 minutes remaining in the match that Trapper Davis put a quality shot on goal, sneaking it past the keeper to give the hometown Bearcats a late 1-0 lead.

Six minutes later, a controversial foul call inside the penalty area provided the Texans with a premium scoring opportunity as they looked to tie, which they promptly did.

With neither team able to muster a follow-up goal in the final six minutes of action, the match headed to a shootout.

Dietz came off the bench for the Bearcats, putting his long 6-foot-5 frame in the goal for the shootout. Aledo won the toss, and opted to go second in the shootout.

After Northwest made their initial goal to start the shootout, Davis stepped up first for Aledo. He buried his shot to put the Bearcats on the board, 1-1.

With Northwest nailing their second attempt, they took a 2-1 advantage early in the shootout following a block. Matthew Brown and Ryan Spriggs hit their shots to keep the Bearcats within reach, 4-3, as the fifth round came up.

With the match on the line, Dietz came up with the must-have stop to

Turn to **SOCCER**, page 11

TENNIS

Racquet Cats start spring strong



CATHY MASON/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

(From left) Sydney Byrd, Kenley Germany, Lila Satterfield and Natalie Nawrocki were winners for Aledo in early spring tournament action.

Two tourneys under belt

By Cathy Mason
The Community News

The Aledo varsity tennis team kicked off its spring season on Feb. 15 with a tournament hosted by Timber Creek High School, and participated in the Fifth Annual Cowtown Classic on Feb. 23-24.

In the spring, team members compete as individuals in either singles or doubles categories, as opposed to team tennis in the fall. Weekly tournaments can be attended by any school

and are not restricted to just 5A competitors.

The District 5-5A Tournament will be held in April. The spring season shows a lot of promise as Aledo has already earned seven medals in the first two tournaments.

In the Cowtown Classic, Elli Kate Bussmeir and Scott Mason competed in Mixed Doubles A and came away as tournament Champions. They defeated Granbury (4-1, 4-0), Sherman (6-0, 6-0), Waxahachie (6-2, 6-1), Boswell (6-1, 6-1) and Paschal (6-1, 6-7 (6-8), 10-3) in the finals.

Also earning a tournament championship were Kenley Germany and Lila Satterfield in Girls A Doubles. They defeated Peaster (6-0, 6-2), Kilgore (6-3, 6-2), Boswell (6-4, 3-6, 10-7) and Waxahachie (6-2, 4-6 (14-12)).

Bryanna Orr competed in Girls A singles and came away with second place. She defeated Granbury (6-0, 6-0), Lamar (6-0, 6-2), and Boswell (6-1, 6-2) before falling to Lindale (2-6, 3-6).

Natalie Nawrocki and Sydney Byrd were the winners

Turn to **TENNIS**, page 12

BOYS BASKETBALL

Bearcat playoff run ends at area

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

All good things come to an end.

In the case of the Aledo Bearcat hoops season, one of the top three best seasons they've had in the last 25 years, came to an unfortunate end on Friday, Feb. 23 at Mansfield Legacy High School where Colleyville Heritage dispatched the Bearcats from the playoff picture with a 69-30 loss in the area round.

Aledo (20-13) won 20 games for the second time in the JD Robinson coaching era, and just the third time in the last 25 years. The Bearcats earned just the second bi-district title in program history three days before, when they upset the top seed out of District 6-5A, Arlington Heights, on Feb. 20.

Heading into the area matchup against Colleyville Heritage, the Bearcats knew they were in for a battle. The second seeds out of District 7-5A, Heritage won 28 games during the regular season. The Panthers dismissed Midlothian from the playoffs with a 15-point win in the bi-district round earlier in the week.

Despite the accolades Colleyville collected over the season, Aledo, the No. 4 seed from District 5-5A, came into the matchup confident, having just toppled a top-seeded team days earlier.

Heritage got out early on the Bearcats and never looked back. By the end of the first quarter, they'd already pulled ahead by two possessions as the Panther defense held Aledo to under 10 points in the first quarter.

The second quarter was much the same as Colleyville Heritage found their rhythm at both ends of the floor while Aledo struggled to contend. By the end of the first half, the Panthers held a comfortable 30-19 lead.

When play resumed in the second half, the third quarter went exactly how Heritage wanted it to go. Colleyville stifled the Bearcats on the offensive end of the floor, while simultaneously overwhelming the Aledo defense, essentially nullifying it completely. Heritage slammed the door shut on any possibilities of a comeback the Bearcats might have had with a 26-4 showing in the

Turn to **PLAYOFF**, page 11

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Host of Ladycats named all-district

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

The 2023-24 hoops campaign was a significant improvement over last season for the varsity Ladycats. After finishing with a .500 record overall and in district a year ago, Aledo's queens of the court finished the season 28-10 overall this season. Their 10-2 record in District 5-5A earned them a No. 2 seed in the playoffs where they captured a bi-district

title with a win over the Wyatt Chaparrals on Feb. 12.

One of the things that made the season so spectacular for the Ladycats was their youth. With only a pair of seniors on the team scheduled to graduate this May, the team should be set up nicely to build upon the success from this season into next year.

With success comes recognition. Eight Ladycats have been named to this year's all-district team. Freshman Brooklyn

Dempsey was named District Newcomer of the Year.

Junior starting center Kinley Elms and sophomore point guard, Elizabeth Griffin, both received first team honors.

Seniors Natalie Anderson and Caroline Browning were joined by junior Ella Isbell in their bid for second-team all-district honors. Sophomore Brenna Clock and junior August Carlone received honorable mention status.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The City of Aledo will accept bids submitted only in writing until 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024 to contract with a qualified contractor or company to provide sewer lift station cleaning services for the City of Aledo.

Bid # PW-2024-005 CITY OF ALEDO – SEWER LIFT STATION CLEANING SERVICES

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 **February 16, 2024**. 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 February 27, 2024 at 11:00 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 Friday, March 1, 2024 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.

Luis Gatica, P.E., CFM
104 Maverick Street
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817.441.7016
lgatica@aledotx.gov

Advertisement dates:
February 16, 2024
February 23, 2024
March 1, 2024

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

The City of Aledo is pleased to issue this Request for Statements of Qualifications to identify a qualified firm or joint venture for onsite project management services to support construction of the City of Aledo Municipal Complex.

The City is requesting Statements of Qualification's (SOQ) regarding onsite project management services.

Submittals will only be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 22, 2024.

Bid # PW-2024-006

CITY OF ALEDO MUNICIPAL COMPLEX – PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

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BASEBALL

Southwest Ford Classic

Bearcats win four of six

Staff Reports
The Community News

The Aledo Bearcats opened the 2024 baseball season by winning four of six games in their own Southwest Ford Classic Feb. 22-24.

The Bearcats wrapped up the tournament with three pitchers combining for a one-hitter in an 11-0 win over Chisholm Trail.

Aledo is back in action this weekend in the DFW Clash Tournament. Play started Thursday and continues through Saturday.

Aledo 6, Birdville 1

Aledo leading hitters: Ryan Jones 3B, RBI; Luke Saunders 2 H, HR, RBI; Boyd Thompson HR, 2 RBI.

Aledo pitching: Jensen Huffman 5 IP, 2 H, 1 ER, 5 K, 0 BB; Rhett Spiers 2 IP, 1 H, 2 K, 2 BB.

Lubbock Coronado 5, Aledo 3

Aledo leading hitters: Johnny Ruffin 2 H; Jones 2B, BB, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Devin Miller 4 IP, 3 H, 2 R (1 ER), 8 K, 4 BB; Noah Graham 3 IP, 4 H, 3 R (2 ER), 5 K, 2 BB.

Aledo 6, Nolan Catholic 2

Aledo leading hitter: Weston Nance 2B, BB.

Aledo pitching: Eddie Howard 5.2 IP, 1 H, 0 R, 12 K, 1 BB; Riley Haug 0.1 IP, 2 H, 2 ER, 4 BB.

Waxahachie 8, Aledo 3

Aledo leading hitter: Brennan Evans 1 H, BB, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Jon Paulsen 0.1 IP, 0 H; Jones 3 IP, 4 H, 2 R (1 ER), 4 K, 0 BB; Saunders 3.2 IP, 5 H, 6 R (5 ER), 7 K, 3 BB.

Aledo 3, Trinity Valley 2

Aledo leading hitters: Ruffin 2 H, 2B, RBI; Graham 2B, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Ethan Hodo 1 IP, 3 H, 1 ER, 1 K, 0 BB; Lucas Nawrocki 2 IP, 1 H, 0 R, 4 K, 2 BB; Jake Baumgardner 4 IP, 4 H, 1 ER, 6 K, 2 BB.

Aledo 11, Chisholm Trail 0

Aledo leading hitters: Drew Weckel 2 H, BB; Saunders 2B, RBI; Garrett Rester 2B, RBI; Nawrocki 3 BB; James Cloke 1 H, 2 BB, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Braden Montgomery 1 IP, 1 H, 3 K, 0 BB; Jack Kimsey 1 IP, 0 H, 1 K, 0 BB; Luke Sandefur 3 IP, 0 H, 2 K, 0 BB.

BASEBALL

Bearcats eye repeat district title

By Ryan Wade
The Community News

Aledo had a spectacular 2023 season on the baseball diamond. The Bearcats went 23-12 on the year and secured the District 5-5A title with a 9-3 record in league play.

That was last season.

With the 2024 season starting up, this season's Bearcats are hoping to catch lightning in a bottle twice. However, it won't be easy.

Not that it ever is in this district. With the Bearcats picked as the preseason favorites to capture the title, a lot of baseball stands between the team and that prognostication becoming a reality. While the Bearcats expect to be formidable once again this season, everyone in the district is a threat to stonewall that goal.

"If you don't go out and play well, you're going to get beat," said Aledo head coach, Chad Barry. "It doesn't matter who you play. There aren't any games where you can take a deep breath and relax. I look at our district and think it's really anybody's district to win. We're picked to win it, but if we don't come out hot and play well, we'll be on the outside looking in."

Around the league

Saginaw has both of their top hurlers back this season, one of which was Pitcher of the Year for the district in 2023. Azle and Granbury were both young last season, so Barry expects them to be contenders in the district this year. Wichita Falls Rider will return almost everyone from their 2023 season in which the Raiders placed third in the district.

The one team that did lose a significant amount of talent to graduation after last season is Northwest. Although he expects the Texans to have a significant amount of new names in the



ALEDO BEARCAT BASEBALL

The Aledo Bearcat and Weatherford Kangaroo baseball teams kneel at the mound to show sportsmanship and before the game.

lineup, Barry also knows the real strength in Justin is their head coach, Weston Franco.

"He's really good at what he does," commended Barry. "He has a way of getting the best out of those kids."

Solid pitching

As for the Bearcats, the makeup of this club is a slight deviation from last season. While there's some uncertainty around how effective his team will be at the plate, Barry is already seeing a pitching staff that looks more formidable than the arms were last season.

Among those arms is Luke Saunders. Early in the season, Saunders has shown himself to be the ace of the rotation.

Along with Saunders, Jensen Huffman and Devin Miller have stepped up significantly to start off the season. Huffman earned some relief innings out of the bullpen during the early season tournaments in 2023, but only saw a few innings here and there from then on. Barry stated both Huffman and Miller have been pleasant surprises during scrimmages, citing their command and pitch movement as areas of improvement in the past year.

Moving around

With team captain and starting shortstop Trace Mazon graduating at the end of 2023 and transitioning to collegiate baseball at Weatherford College, Boyd Thompson has stepped up to fill the void left by Mazon's departure in more ways than one. Thompson was groomed by Mazon to take over as the leader for the Bearcats in 2024.

"[Boyd's] stepped right into that role, and he's running with it," Barry said. "He's doing a really good job. He's got some help from Ryan [Jones], and a couple other seniors that are stepping up to lead by example in other ways. So far the leadership part's been pretty good."

Filling the leadership void is one thing. Thompson is also taking on the challenge of filling the void at shortstop as well. In his senior season, he'll go from being the premier leadoff hitter in the district and starting second baseman to premier leadoff hitter and starting shortstop.

Thompson isn't the only Bearcat taking on the task of learning a new position. Weston Nance has moved over from being the backup third baseman behind Jones to take the starting

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page 11

SOFTBALL

Mansfield Tournament

Ladycats have perfect run to title

Staff Reports
The Community News

The Aledo Ladycats (12-2) won all six games they played en route to the championship of the Mansfield Tournament this past weekend. The Ladycats outscored their opponents 59-12.

They followed that tourney championship by returning home and capturing a thrilling 4-3 win over Frisco Lone Star on Tuesday, Feb. 27 as Jordyn Edington hit a solo walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Brenlee Gonzales surrendered just one earned run with 10 strikeouts and a walk.

Aledo is playing in the Mesquite Tournament this weekend and opens District 5-5A play at Wichita Falls Rider on Tuesday, March 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Aledo 4, Frisco Lone Star 3 - Feb. 27

Aledo leading hitters: Ana Flores 2 H, 2 RBI; Addie Perry 2B; Jordyn Edington HR, BB, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Brenlee Gonzales 7 IP, 4 H, 3 R (1 ER), 10 K, 1 BB.

Mansfield Tournament Feb. 22-24

Aledo 12, Keller 3

Aledo hitting leaders: Gonzales 2 H, 2B, 2 RBI; Marina Tavares 2 H, 2 HR, 5 RBI; Flores 2B, 2 BB, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Gonzales 3 IP, 5 H, 3 ER, 2 K, 1 BB.

Aledo 9, Mansfield Lake Ridge 1

Aledo hitting leaders: Delaney Rosser, 2 H, 2B, BB, 2 RBI; Tavares 2 H, 2B, 3 RBI; Edington 2B; Kyleigh Pawlak, HR, BB, 2 RBI.

Aledo pitching: Taylor McKean 4 IP, 3 H, 1 R (0 ER), 3 K, 4 BB.

Aledo 7, Mansfield Legacy 3

Aledo hitting leaders: Flores 3 H, 2B, HR, 2 RBI; Edington 2B, HP; Tavares 3B, 2 RBI.

Aledo pitching: Gonzales 4.2 IP, 3 H, 3 R (1 ER), 10 K, 1 BB.

Turn to **SOFTBALL**, page 11

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SWIMMING

Lane third at state

Aledo wraps up another solid season

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Porter Lane capped one of the best state performances ever for an Aledo swimmer this past Saturday. The senior placed third in the boys 100-yard butterfly finals at the Lee & Jo Jamail Texas Swim Center at the University of Texas in Austin.

Lane is one of five members of the Aledo swim team to compete in the Class 5A State Swimming and Diving Meet. He was joined by four Ladycats, juniors Haley Roberson, Victoria Crews and Avery Faulkner, along with sophomore Julia Gordy.

Lane posted a finals time of 50.05 seconds to capture the bronze medal. He entered the meet with a seeding time of 50.14 seconds, which he eclipsed with a



EVERY FAULKNER

Porter Lane swam to a third-place finish in the 100-yard butterfly at the state meet in Austin. He also placed 10th in the 100 breaststroke.

time of 49.96 in the preliminaries to stand fourth entering the finals.

"Porter made a commitment last year to swimming full-time and has - pardon the pun - dove in with both feet. His work ethic

through practices is an example to all my athletes," Aledo coach Meghan Roberson said. "It's going to practice 10 times a week and working with intention, it's diet, strength training, body care, and

recovery, being coachable and making necessary changes.

"There is so much more than a fast swim on Saturday that led to his podium. The effort that he has

Turn to STATE, page 14

GOLF

Bearcat Brawl

Aledo boys first and fourth, girls fifth and sixth

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Playing their two home courses, the Aledo Bearcats Black team captured the championship of their own Bearcat Brawl golf tournament on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 23-24.

The tournament was played on Squaw Creek and Split Rail courses.

The Bearcats Black posted a two-day score of 604, shooting a 301 on Squaw Creek and a 303 on Split Rail. They bested runner-up Lubbock Cooper's 612 (303-309), with Brock taking third at 629 (309-320).

The Bearcats Orange placed fourth, shooting 637 (315-322).

The Ladycats Black finished fifth, shooting 675. They posted a 350 on Split Rail, followed by 325 on Squaw Creek.

The Ladycats Orange was right behind in sixth, shooting 791 (395-396).

Mansfield won the girls tournament with a 633 (327-306), followed by Amarillo at 635 (332-303) and Colleyville Heritage with a 646 (319-327).

"I am hopeful that we can use this tournament as momentum moving forward in the spring," Aledo coach Brian Mourning said.

Bearcats

Leading the Bearcats Black was Jett Moore, shooting a 148 (77-71). He tied for the overall top medalist with Reed Blacklock of Lubbock Cooper. Cooper won a scorecard playoff.

"Super proud of Jett and the leader he has become on our guys team," Mourning said.

Bradon Stokes of Aledo was third medalist with a 149 (69-80), which included the tournament's low individual score.

Helton Mosiello placed fifth among medalists, shooting 151 (75-76). Rounding out Aledo Black scoring were Tyler Anderson, 157

(80-77) and Ethan Elmore, 159 (80-79).

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

Bearcats Orange was led by Gavin Beard, who shot 152 (73-79), followed by Cade Moore's 157 (78-79). William Kirkman posted a 161 (81-80), Cade Moore had a 167 (83-84) and Grayson Freeman came in with a 180 (87-93).

Also for the Aledo boys, Johnnie Reed played as a medalist and shot 187 (96-91).

The Bearcats Orange was playing in the Battle at the Creek at Squaw Creek at press time, while the Bearcats Orange is in the Glen Rose Invitational Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2 at Squaw Valley in Glen Rose.

Ladycats

Emily Crick paced the Ladycats Black with a 156 (80-76). She tied for sixth individually.

Also, Kyla Morales shot 165 (87-78), Reagan Gilliland had a 176 (92-84) and Karlee Shaw (91-88) and Harper Price (92-87) each finished at 179.

Kennedi Parker's 179 (88-91) led the Ladycats Orange and Abby Gray shot 192 (98-94). Also, Kylie Kirkland, 207 (103-104); Catherine Haney, 216 (109-107); and Addison Russ, 220 (106-114) rounded out the scoring.

"Mansfield is always good and I am glad our kids go to play against some tough competition. Amarillo, Colleyville Heritage, and Argyle are all in our region and are probably the top 3 in the region," Mourning said. "They all have kids who can really play, and it was great for our kids to go out and compete against those top teams.

"I am very happy about the girls turning it around. We just fell behind on Day 1 to catch up. We will use this as a learning tool and move on to the next tournament this weekend in Granbury."

The Ladycats Black and Orange teams are in the Lady Pirate Spring Classic at Harbor Lakes in Granbury Friday and Saturday, March 1-2.

PLAYOFF

from page 9

third stanza as they cruised to victory in the fourth quarter.

The Bearcats are in good shape for the future. While starters Jack Sawyer, Jackson Todd, and Owen Peterson will be missed, along with the contributions they made to the Bearcat hoops program the past two seasons, Aledo will return a solid group of players with varsity experience heading into next year.

Starting guard Joaquin Pacheco has been an invaluable addition to the varsity roster this season. Second in scoring only behind Sawyer, Pacheco has been the spark plug for the Bearcats all season long.

Freshman guard Caden Cunningham earned a significant amount of varsity minutes this season. With excellent ball-handling ability, the experience gained this season will make him a valuable asset around the perimeter heading into 2024-25.

Kaden LoBaugh and Brett Barclay made contributions to the post play, especially at the

defensive end of the floor this season. Their ability to transition into scoring threats down in the paint in place of Sawyer over the offseason will help the Bearcats keep opposing defenses from being able to zero in on the top end of the offense next season.

Townes Vanhuysen missed most of the season after suffering a broken thumb early in the year. Relegated to the bench for much of the season due to the injury, he waited for his opportunity to return to the court with as much patience as a thoroughbred waiting to be let out of the shoots at the Kentucky Derby.

Robinson had high expectations for the 6-foot-6 sophomore heading into the season. He'll have an opportunity to live up to those expectations during his junior season in 2024-25.

Class 5A playoffs, area round Bearcats vs. Colleyville Heritage - Feb. 23

Aledo	9	10	4	7-30
Heritage	15	15	26	13-69

Aledo scoring: Jack Sawyer 15, Joaquin Pacheco 6, Owen Peterson 5, Jackson Todd 2, Kayden Finley 2.

SOFTBALL

from page 10

ER), 7 K, 1 BB; McKean 0.1 IP, 1 K.

Aledo 9, Corsicana 4

Aledo hitting leaders: Tavares 2 H, HR, 3 RBI; Gracie Jones 2-2B, RBI; Pawlak 2B, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Lily Heckathron 2.1 IP, 2 H, 3 R (0 ER), 4 K, 1 BB; McKean 1 IP, 1 R (0 ER), 3 K, 0 BB.

Aledo 17, Grand Prairie 0

Aledo hitting leaders: Flores 2 H, 2B, 3 RBI; Gonzales 2-2B, BB, RBI; Tavares 2 HR, BB, 4 RBI; Pawlak 2 H, 2B; Kennis Marx 2 H, 2B, BB, 3 RBI; Jones HR, 2 BB, 2 RBI.

Aledo pitching: Gonzales 2 IP, 1 H, 2 K, 0 BB.

Aledo 5, Mansfield 1

Aledo hitting leaders: Perry 2 H, RBI; Tavares 2 H, 3B; Flores 2B, BB.

Aledo pitching: McKean 5 IP, 1 H, 1 ER, 7 K, 4 BB.

BASEBALL

from page 10

job at second. While the transition will take some time and a lot of work, Barry said Nance has a quality bat they are just trying to find a spot for in the lineup.

The Bearcats will be in action on Friday, March 1,

when they take on the Pearland Oilers in the opening round of the DFW Clash Tournament at 4 p.m.

Attempts to reach coach Heather Myers for a Ladycat softball season preview were unsuccessful.



POWERLIFTING

Ladycats qualify 16 for regionals

Staff Reports
The Community News

The Aledo Ladycats qualified 16 competitors for the regional powerlifting meet going on at press time in Sherman. Qualifying in their respective weight classes are:

- 114: Morgan Senhem, Zoe Lapraim, Liadhan Guffey.
 - 123: Bryanna Orr, Charlee Soward.
 - 132: Hannah Clark, Madison Widmayer, Stella Kendall.
 - 148: Ari Mathias, Breleigh Mayer, Ella Childress.
 - 181: Jayden Staggs, Abby Gilbert.
 - 198: Ally Gilbert.
 - 220: Adrianna Lambert, Lauren St Peters.
- Alternates: Kylie Dernovich, 105; Tina LaPraim, 132.
- Regional qualifying is based on season-long performances.
- Boys regional qualifiers had not yet been released at press time.

Girls district results Feb. 16 in Aledo

Top individual finishes

- 97: 4. Lilly Carruthers, 405 pounds lifted.
- 105: 5. Kylie Dernovich, 325.
- 114: 3. Sehnm, 570; 5. Lapraim, 500.
- 123: 4. Orr, 670.
- 132: 1. Clark, 780; 5. Kendall, 585.
- 148: 2. Mathias, 750; 5. Mayer, 595; 6. Childress, 575.
- 220: 2. Lambert, 805.

Boys district results Feb. 20 in Aledo

Top individual finishes

- 148: 4. Matt Long, 1055.
- 165: 5. Logan Stewart, 1,080.
- 181: 5. Cory Tilly, 1,275.
- 220: 3. Alex Arana, 1,405.
- 275: 2. Raymond Howard, 1,455; 5. Luke Campbell, 1,315.
- 308: 4. Omari Din-Mbuh, 1,255.

SOCCER

from page 9

keep the Bearcats alive with Brody Gill set to take the final Aledo shot. Gill slipped the ball by the keeper, locking the two clubs in a 4-4 tie, as they headed for sudden death.

Northwest scored their first shot in the sudden death shootout to put the pressure on Aledo. With ice water in his veins, Robby Sloan buried his attempt to force Round 2.

Dietz once again came up with a clutch stop, giving Bruno Nogueira an opportunity to put the Bearcats over with his final shot. Nogueira did just that, as his goal lifted Aledo to victory before being mobbed to a swarm of his teammates.

Shut out again

After having their five-match win streak halted by the district-leading Saginaw Lady Rough Riders three days before, the Ladycats struggled to find their spark against Northwest on Senior Night.

While they controlled the ball most of the game, the Ladycats struggled to maintain control of the ball. They managed to get 14 shots on goal during the 80 minutes of regulation, but were unable to get a single shot into the net.

Down 2-0, the Ladycats drew a foul in the penalty area with under five minutes left in the match. With Allyson Weimer preparing to take the penalty kick for Aledo, a discussion between the referee and the assistant referee resulted in the penalty being waved off.

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STATE

from page 11

been putting in for over a year - and really, all the years of swimming he'd been doing - that culminated in his bronze medal swim. He earned every second of that swim and the opportunity to stand on that podium."

Lane also placed 10th in the 100 breaststroke, second in the consolation division. He clocked a time of 58.79.

Bouncing back

Haley Roberson placed ninth in both the 200 individual medley and 500 freestyle, leading the consolation division in both events. She improved greatly from her preliminary swims in both events.

She was ninth in the 200 IM preliminaries (top eight advance to championship finals), posting a time of 2 minutes and 12 seconds, improving to 2:08.04 on the second day. She was 13th in the 500 free preliminaries with a 5:14.54, improving to 5:09.14 on Day 2.

Roberson was battling back from a bout with the flu the week before state, which knocked her down physically.

"Friday's swims were rough and just weren't enough to put her into that A final that we anticipated for either event. She was disappointed in herself and how she'd swam," coach Roberson said. "Saturday was redemption for what she would have liked to have done on Friday. She easily won both of her consolation finals by a body length or better."

Her 200 IM time would have been good enough for fourth place overall, had she been in the championship final.

"While neither of her swims were best times, I believe on Saturday she swam the best she could given the physical hit she took with illness," coach Roberson said. "She learned some hard lessons at this meet that I think will stick with her for a while. I expect to see her back at state next year with something to prove."



EVERY FAULKNER

Haley Roberson competes in the 200-yard individual medley at state, one of two events in which she finished ninth, along with the 500 freestyle.

Roberson also swam on the girls 400 free relay that placed 23rd with a time of 3:55.82.

Season as a whole

"If this season had a theme, it would be something like 'Roll with the punches' or 'You plan, God laughs,'" Coach Roberson said. "What we thought we would have this season wasn't at all what we got, but the outcome was still outstanding."

"We knew Porter would have a good season, but I think his ending surpassed anything we'd hoped for. The freshmen boys surprised us with what they're capable of and have proven to be a group to keep an eye on."

Coach Roberson said a few newcomers to the team (who've been in Aledo all along) were pleasant surprises.

She noted Cade Catlin in the backstroke at regionals put up a great swim that he'd been working toward all season. Tyler Jackson joined the team after band to fill some relay holes, and Evan Bradley's butterfly have all been strong swimmers that joined the team this year.

On the girl's side, the team lost backstroker Natalie Huston at the beginning of the season to injury, and Jacqueline Gruber couldn't finish out the season. The flu really hit the team hard through championship season too.

"These setbacks were doors opening to let some of our girls really show what they had to contribute to the team and totally step up when we

needed them," coach Roberson said. "Avery Faulkner and Julia Gordy were the biggest examples of ones who really took the 'next up' opportunity to show what they could do. And with their outstanding performances at regionals, we were able to take a relay to state - I can't ask for more!"

Looking ahead

Coach Roberson said her program seems to be in a unique cycle. For the past couple of seasons they had upperclass boys and underclass girls, and now things are shifting.

"Our boys have been our leadership for the past couple of years. We have a strong bunch of junior girls who will lead us next year and have been an integral part of the team since their start - Haley Roberson, Victoria Crews, Avery Faulkner and Corah Satterfield. Behind them we have some strong sophomore girls as well," the coach said. "I expect them to be leaders to the team while we work on bringing up this group of freshmen. I'm looking forward to seeing what comes in next year's freshmen class as well."

"Seasons like this provide exposure for the team and remind Aledo that even though we don't have a pool here, we still have a strong program with big successes that's worth being a part of."



BASEBALL

Former Bearcat among nation's leaders

Mazon helping Coyotes to high ranking

Staff Reports
The Community News

Former Aledo Bearcat Trace Mazon is making quite an impression in his first season with the Weatherford College Coyotes. The freshman infielder has eight doubles in 16 games, tying him for eighth nationally in NJCAA Division I.

Amazon is second on the team with a .392 batting average (first

among players with 35 or more at-bats). His .588 slugging percentage is second and his on-base percentage of .500 is third (both first among players with 35 or more at-bats).

In addition, he leads the team in runs batted in with 20.

The Coyotes (12-4) are ranked third in the nation. They finished third at last season's NJCAA Division I World Series in Grand Junction, Colorado, their first appearance at the elite event.

TENNIS

from page 12

of the Girls A Doubles consolation bracket. After falling to Waxahachie (3-6, 6-4, 11-13), they battled back against Lamar (7-5, 6-3), Lamar (6-0, 3-1) and Kilgore (4-0, 4-1) to earn the consolation gold.

At the Timber Creek Tournament, Bussmeir and Mazon came away with second place in Mixed A Doubles; Orr and Germany earned second place in Girls A Doubles and Satterfield earned third place in Girls A Singles.



CATHY MASON/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Bussmeir and Mason won Mixed Doubles A

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Kid Scoop Together

High-Flying Frogs

Felix and Finn Frog are seeing who can jump highest. Color in the spaces that add up to an even number. The frog with the most colored spaces is the winner.

FELIX **FINN**

3 + 2 =	7 + 4 =
3 + 6 =	1 + 2 =
6 + 5 =	4 + 4 =
7 + 2 =	6 + 2 =
5 + 2 =	1 + 1 =
2 + 2 =	3 + 5 =
4 + 2 =	2 + 8 =
3 + 3 =	6 + 6 =
2 + 6 =	1 + 3 =
9 + 1 =	5 + 5 =
3 + 5 =	4 + 4 =
4 + 8 =	6 + 8 =
8 + 8 =	7 + 7 =
4 + 4 =	2 + 6 =

Fun With Money!

Finley, Fabian and Fiona Frog each have \$30 to spend at the Spring Blossom Festival. They each made a list of things they want to spend money on at the Festival.



Take a look at the prices of the items each frog wants to buy. Then, use your math skills to answer the following questions:

1. Which frog will have the most money left over after buying everything on their list?

2. Which frog won't have enough money to buy everything on their list?

3. What items could this frog remove from their list to stay at or under \$30?

How many blossoms can you find on this page?

The Spring Blossom Festival is lots of fun, but you have to watch your spending! Help your froggy friends!

Fiona's List		Finley's List		Fabian's List	
Lilly Pad Launch	\$5.00	Lily Pad Launch	\$5.00	Tulip Train	\$4.00
Honey Cookies	\$3.50	Dragonfly Hat	\$4.50	Honey Cookies	\$3.50
Tulip Train	\$4.00	Puddle Coaster	\$6.50	Daisy Wheel	\$6.50
Pond Popcorn	\$2.75	Muddy Maze	\$5.25	Pond Popcorn	\$2.75
Swamp Cocoa	\$2.50	Leafy Boats	\$6.50	Dandelion Shake	\$4.50
Buggy Balloons	\$3.25	Pond Popcorn	\$2.75	Petunia Chips	\$3.25
TOTAL	\$	TOTAL	\$	TOTAL	\$

Muddy Money Maze

Do the math to find out which path has the highest value.

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

Spending Spree

Frankie Frog LOVES munching on pond popcorn at the Spring Blossom Festival. A box of it costs \$2.75. Circle the coins that add up to that amount.

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

Look-Alike Ladybugs

Faye Frog won a bunch of cute stuffed toy ladybugs at the Spring Blossom Festival. One of them is different from the rest. Can you find it?

Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Signs of Spring

Look through the newspaper and find five things that let you know it is springtime. Write the name of each in alphabetical order.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow written instructions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Frieda Frog wants to buy a treat at the Spring Blossom Festival, but she can't remember how much is in her piggy bank. Can you count it for her?

Frieda has \$ _____ in her piggy bank.

Standards Link: Math: Calculate money amounts.

Double Double Word Search

BLOSSOM
BOATS
BUY
DANDELION
FROG
HAT
HONEY
LIST
MATH
MONEY
MUDDY
PRICES
SPRING
TULIP
USE

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

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

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: **SPEND**
The verb **spend** means to pay out money to purchase items.

I plan how much money I'll spend before I go shopping.

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Costly Headlines

Assign a money amount to each letter of the alphabet: A = \$1, B = \$2, C = \$3, etc. Select three newspaper headlines and add up the letters. What is the most "expensive" headline you can find? Which is the least expensive?

Standards Link: Mathematics: Calculate sums and differences.



Why is it a really bad idea to give dollar bills to a frog?

ANSWER: Because they'll rip-it, rip-it, rip-it.

Write On!

Kids Help Families Save

Write three to five ways that kids can help their families save money.

SUBVARSITY

Aledo JV Track

Falcon Fast Invitational Hosted by Keller Timber Creek Feb. 24

Distances in meters

Boys

Team score: 91, third place.
 200: 5. Charles Hibbler, 23.61.
 800: 2. Dominick Barrera, 2:05.53.
 3200: 6. Tyler Connelly, 10:30.85.
 110 hurdles: 1. Isaac Brooks, 16.66; 5. Briley Perkins, 19.22.
 300 hurdles: 5. Brooks, 45.45; 6. Perkins, 45.52.
 4x100 relay: 2. Cash Martin, Jeremiah Johnson, Lawson Stewart, Lamel Swanson, 45.67.
 4x200 relay:
 4x400 relay: 4. Landon Kusich, Rock West, Isaiah Anaya, Martin, 3:51.55.
 Shot put: 4. Omari Din-Mbuh, 36-01.
 Discus: 4. Grant Foreman, 93-06. 5. Din-Mbuh, 93-02.
 High jump: 5. Holt Fraiser, 5-06 (won tiebreaker); 6. Brooks, 5-06.
 Pole vault: 1. Lukas Green, 12-01; 2. Kusich, 10-06.
 Long jump: 1. Jaylen Powell-Willis, 19-05.75; 6. Martin, 18-06.5.

Girls

Team score: 67, fourth place.
 400: 6. Eden Anderson, 1:05.69.
 3200: 5. Carley Couch, 12:16.98.
 100 hurdles: 3. Braylin Wiggins, 18.73; 5. McKenzie Spain, 19.49.
 300: 2. Spain, 50.86; 5. Wiggins, 53.78.
 4x100 relay: 3. Morgan Estevez, Hannah Hubley, Trinity Hindman, Anderson, 53.07.
 4x200 relay: 5. Scarlet Wermuth, Emma Davis, Taelynn Price, Hailey Wilson, 1:56.70.
 4x400 relay: 5. Anderson, Mariyah Freeman, Price, Davis, 4:34.72.
 Discus: 5. Nealee Parsons, 76-02.
 Pole vault: 1. Austyn Johnson, 10-07; 2. Kara Overstreet, 9-00 (won tiebreaker); 3. Kaitlyn Walker, 9-00.



COURTESY KEEGAN ROADY

AMS eighth-grade track team traveled to Peaster for a track meet.



COURTESY KEEGAN ROADY

AMS seventh-grade track team with their ribbons.

TRACK

Falcon Fast Invitational

Bearcats extend streak with close victory

By Rick Mauch
 The Community News

The Aledo Bearcats extended their regular-season meet championship streak to 16 in a row by winning the Falcon Fast Invitational hosted by Keller Timber Creek on Saturday, Feb. 24.

The Bearcats scored 155.5 points, narrowly edging Lewisville Flower Mound with 153.

Aledo won seven gold medals, including two relays. Carson Dempsey claimed a pair of golds in the shot put and discus.

The Ladycats placed fourth. They were paced by Lauren St. Peters, who won gold in the shot put and discus.

The Bearcats and Ladycats will next compete at Northwest High School on Friday, March 1 and hosts the Bearcat Relays on Thursday, March 7.

Falcon Fast Invitational at Keller Timber Creek Feb. 24

Aledo results

Distances in meters

Boys

Team score: 155.5, first place.
 Top individual results
 100: 2. Adam Averett, 11.16.
 200: 4. Adrian Fuller, 22.70.
 800: 1. Vincent Luffey, 1:56.80.
 3200: 6. Jack Fink, 9:58.98.
 110 hurdles: 2. Evan Thompson, 15.36; 6. Jacob Patton, 16.28.
 300 hurdles: 4. Lincoln Tubbs, 41.32; 5.

Evan Thompson, 41.59.
 4x100 relay: 1. Aven Lawrence, Averett, Jayton Owens, Fuller, 42.36.
 4x200 relay: 1. Tubbs, Kai Taylor, Thompson, Fuller, 1:31.09.
 4x400 relay: 2. Averett, Owens, Trey Warner, Lawrence, 3:24.92.
 Shot put: 1. Carson Dempsey, 45-04; 4. Cody Cartwright, 42-06.5.
 Discus: 1. Dempsey, 133-03.
 High jump: 4. Averett, 6-0.
 Pole vault: 1. Brad Campbell, 15-0; 2. Braylon Brown, 14-06; 6. Kantyn Kasich, 12-06.
 Long jump: 1. Averett, 21-05.5; 4. Owens, 20-09.

Girls

Team score: 102, fourth place
 100: 2. Addison Smith, 12.20.
 400: 4. Smith, 59.53.
 800: 3. Sofia Brandenburg, 2:17.01; 5. Mykel Murry, 2:22.99; 6. Micah Neal, 2:24.01.
 1600: 6. Brandenburg, 5:24.40.
 3200: 6. Molly Garrison, 11:21.34.
 100 hurdles: 5. Savannah Thompson, 17.05.
 300 hurdles: 6. Ainsley Elmore, 50.90.
 4x100 relay: 4. Allie Graham, Sarah Edwards, Macie Laidley, Amely Bischof, 51.88.
 4x200 relay: 4. Thompson, Emma Davis, Edwards, Laidley, 1:51.62.
 4x400 relay: 2. Murry, Mayden Mitchell, Brandenburg, Smith, 4:02.83.
 Shot put: 1. Lauren St. Peters, 47-10.5.
 Discus: 1. St. Peters, 146-09.
 High jump: 4. Taylor McKenzie, 4-10.
 Pole vault: 1. Taylor Hindman, 11-06; 3. Maggie Kilburn, 10-06; 4. Claire Campbell, 9-06.
 Long jump: 6. Elmore, 15-04.

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