

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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ECLIPSE

## Historical event over Willow Park

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

There's no other way to say it. If you miss the total solar eclipse on April 8, odds are you won't be around to see the next one that occurs over our area.

Neither will your children, your grandchildren, or even your great-great-grandchildren.

So if this is something you want to see - and lots of folks do - you might want to skedaddle over to Aledo Athletics, Inc. ballfields, 9001 E Bankhead Hwy. on that day. Gates open at noon and activities will conclude around 2 p.m.

Somewhere around 1:40 p.m. the eclipse will happen. The sun will be completely blocked out by

the moon for more than 2 minutes, a rare occurrence.

The watching party, cleverly named Total Eclipse of the Park, is co-sponsored by the Parker County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Willow Park. Eclipse glasses are provided by Donna J. Alberts with Edward Jones.

The following food trucks will be on site: Miguel's Place hamburgers, La Reyna taco truck, Frios Gourmet Popsicles, and Salmark BBQ.

"This can truly be called a once-in-a-lifetime event," said Rose Hoffman, Willow Park Director of Communications and Marketing.

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ALEDO ISD

## Cain named new principal of Walsh Elementary School

By Mercedes Mayer  
Aledo ISD

Aledo ISD has named Lori Cain as principal at Walsh Elementary beginning with the 2024-2025 school year after current Walsh principal Heather Street moves to the new Lynn McKinney Elementary.



Lori Cain

Cain has been the assistant principal at Little Elementary in Arlington ISD since 2021, and she was an elementary GT lead teacher at Little the three years prior to that. Cain was an advanced academics specialist at Dr. Red Duke Elementary in Alvin ISD from 2014 to 2018. She was a seventh grade science teacher at Westbrook Intermediate, League City Intermediate and Clear Lake Intermediate in Clear Creek ISD

from 2008 to 2014. Cain started her teaching career as a fifth-grade science and social studies teacher at Heritage Elementary in Lewisville ISD in 2006.

"We are happy to have Ms. Cain join our leadership team as the principal at Walsh Elementary," Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn said. "I know she will jump right in and start building relationships with the students, staff and community at Walsh, providing support and leadership to the entire campus. We're excited she's ready to become a Bearcat!"

Cain has a bachelor of science from Texas A&M University and a master's in education from Stephen F. Austin State University. She was a teacher of the year semi-finalist three times in her teaching career, at Clear Lake Intermediate in 2009 and at Duke Elementary in 2015 and 2016.

"I am thrilled to be joining the Walsh family and such a fantastic district in Aledo ISD," Cain said. "I look forward to building relationships with the students, staff and families at Walsh and continuing the level of excellence already established there. My husband and three daughters cannot wait to be Bearcats!"



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## Lets Glow



KCSTUDIOS KATHY CHRUSCIELSKI

Charlie is decked out in glow gear for the annual Aledo Advocats' Run, Walk, or Crawl Glow Run on March 23.

ANNETTA

## Split Rail Golf Course changes management

By Jim Zimmermann  
The Community News

One of the focal points since its opening in Parker County has been Split Rail Golf Course. This golf course has been growing and under going constant improvements over the years, and for some time was closed due to changing management and needed additions to the clubhouse.

At the Annetta City Council meeting on Thursday, March 21, a concern was brought to the council's attention that was not on the agenda but was in discussion during public forum. George Ripley, who is one of the owners of Split Rail, spoke on behalf of the other investors in regards to an issue they are currently dealing with.

Turn to COURSE, page 6



RICK MAUCH/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Mayor Doyle Moss presented a proclamation to Freedom House as part of April being Sexual Assault Awareness Month at the Willow Park City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 26. Pictured are (from left) Place 2 Council Member Chawn Gilliland, who is president of the Freedom House Board of Directors; Freedom House Sexual Assault Advocate Nishna Mendez; Moss; and Freedom House Children's Advocate for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Brie Pierce.

WEATHERFORD

## City receives clean audit

'Significant improvements in past decade'

By Jolee Skinner  
Contributing Writer

The City of Weatherford and the Weatherford financial department received an excellent rating from the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report 2023 audit conducted by Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P.

Paula Lowe, a partner at Pattillo, Bown & Hill, L.L.P., rendered to the City of Weatherford an "unmodified opinion" which is the highest opinion that can be given to an organization. It is also known as a clean opinion.

Lowe said to the city council on March 12 that the financial department of Weatherford had no internal control deficiencies, meaning no one or no entity interfered in any normal functioning duties conducted by management or staff. And there was no non-compliance by anyone in the city of Weatherford financial team.

"Congratulations on your great finance team for receiving this great honor," Lowe said.

Lowe went into more detail about the audit results. Lowe said that Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P. had to perform a single audit for this fiscal year, which ended in September of 2023, whenever an entity spends more than \$750,00 in federal award. Then looking at all awards, they then select a single major program to look at in more detail and make sure that there's good controls and that the grant requirements are being followed appropriately.

The audit also showed that the council and staff have made significant improvements to the city in the last decade with an emphasis on road improvements, which is funded through the Texas Department of Transportation's Pass-Through Toll Agreement that has given close to \$70.5 million in revenue.

Results also showed that there was a reduction in crime rates. The overall crime reduced by 10%, property crimes reduced by 6% and violent crimes reduced by 13%.

After the audit results were presented to the council, Heidi Wilder, Council Member Place 1, commented on the Finance Director Dawn Brooks and the city's finance team on their outstanding job.

"No one realizes how complex this is to do and how important it is to our city, so thank you Dawn and your entire team for the outstanding job," Council Member Wilder said.

For more information on city council meetings or for more information on the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report 2023, visit weatherfordtx.gov.



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# Big band banquet entertains seniors

## Prom Gala makes for magical night

By Christopher Amos  
The Community News

The second annual Senior Prom and Gala was filled with glamor and grandeur for guests at the lavishly decorated Springs Event Venue in south Parker County Friday, March 22.

Celebrants could hear a big band orchestra waiting for them inside as the guests of honor approached the driveway in a stretch limousine.

Jim Hahn, who was greeting members and his guests at the door, turned his attention to the long, black coach.

"That is our 'senior' seniors coming," Hahn said. "The limo is for our folks over 90. They get the extra special treatment."

The event is the apex of many events offered by the Parker County Committee on Aging, Parker County Senior Center, and Meals on Wheels. Many members are endeared to the friendship, kinship and fellowship they have found at the center.

Melvin and Rosie Luther still call each other newlyweds, though married almost seven years. The couple met at and were married in the Parker County Senior Center.

"This is such a wonderful organization," Rosie said as they entered the ballroom. "It has really given me purpose. It is a wonderful place to be and I have met the nicest, most caring people here."

"Especially this one," she added with a smile and grin to her husband.

During the meal, executive director Kirsti Smith spoke about the many activities and amenities the Parker County Committee on Aging offers. Meals on Wheels client Bob Richard spoke about the home food service on behalf of he and his wife, Ruby, and Larry Evans paused to restrain his emotions as he spoke of what the Center's 60-Plus Club means to him.

"It is hard to describe the love you feel there," Evans said. "The fellowship and the friendship - we eat together and we pray together. There is the bingo and the food and parties, but there is just so much more."

Silent auction items and raffles served as a fundraiser for the Center.

The event closed with the crowning of the prom queen and king, in which Evans and Mary Sanderson were both at a loss of words to be



Larry Evans speaks to the gala crowd about the benefits of the 60+ Club as senior center director Jennifer Bledsoe looks on.



Artist Kristen Soble painted two Texas-themed pieces during the gala, a longhorn and a coyote, and donated the acrylic art for auction.



Quilene Johnson, Susy Hudson, and Diane Stille pose for Karen Boone.



Bass player Bob Lewis of Aledo sings "What a Wonderful World" with the Joshua Experience Orchestra.



Ashley Auten and Matthew Ibrahim bid on silent auction items.



The Joshua Experience big band singers Drenda Barnett, Judi Thomas, Juday Sharples, and Shirley Marshal, perform along with a 15-piece orchestra directed by Jorge Marshal.



Sam and Gail Spadaro visit with Dan Clifton.



Jennifer Bledsoe, Senior Center Director of operations, opens the gala with a greeting.

called to the front to be crowned. The pair were voted by the members because of their willingness to volunteer and their habit of greeting each person at the center when they arrive.

Students of Weatherford Christian School and Weatherford High School volunteered to greet participants and wait tables.

To learn more about senior activities, call Parker County Committee on Aging at 817-596-4640 or email info@pcco.org.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS



Darryl Evans poses with parents Shirley and Larry Evans.

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PETER HERMES FURIAN

On Apr. 8, 2024 the Great American Total Solar Eclipse path of totality will cross over major cities across the United States.

## ECLIPSE

from page one

How rare is this? According to the National Weather Service, the most recent total solar eclipse in North or Central Texas was in 1878. After this, there won't be another until 2317.

In fact, since 1900, the United States has only seen 12 total solar eclipses pass over any portion of the country.

After the total solar eclipse on April 8, NASA reports the next total eclipse in the world will occur on Aug. 12, 2026 and will be visible from Greenland, Iceland, the Atlantic Ocean, and Spain.

For the contiguous United States, the next total solar eclipse after this one will be Aug. 23, 2044.

### What will happen

Willow Park is right on the line on which the eclipse will occur. Viewers will have complete totality or very close, Hoffman said.

The eclipse will basically turn day to night.

A solar eclipse occurs when a new moon is positioned precisely between Earth and the sun and casts its shadow on Earth. A total solar eclipse happens when the moon appears the same size in the sky as the sun, or slightly larger, so it fully covers the disk of the sun.

"This really is something rare and special, and we'll be able to view it from our backyard, which is really cool," Hoffman said.



Hoffman said eclipse glasses will be available for up to 1,000 people for free at the event. She recommends showing up early and bringing a lawn chair.

### Things to remember when watching

- To safely view the entire event, use glasses with solar filters. Only those in the path of totality will briefly be able to remove them to see the sun's corona with their naked eyes. Those not in the path of totality must keep them on the entire time.
- Everyone observing the partial phases of the eclipse will need to wear solar eclipse glasses while cameras, telescopes and binoculars will need solar filters placed in front of their lenses.

If you happen to be on the road driving when the eclipse happens:

- Keep your vehicle headlights on.
- Put the sun visor down to block your view of the sun.
- Don't wear your eclipse viewing glasses while driving.
- Don't try to photograph or video record the eclipse while driving.
- Don't pull over on the side of the road, highway or interstate to view the eclipse.
- Fully exit the roadway and park in a safe area far from traffic to view the eclipse.

Be mindful of pedestrians who may be walking around with their eyes to the sky and not their surroundings during the total solar eclipse.

## WEATHERFORD ISD

# Newest facility honors GRIT of namesake

## Program offers high school diplomas, associates degrees, and industry credentials

By Melissa Winn  
The Community News

"It may not sound like much, but you never know the lives you touch."

Those words from Weatherford's Holly Grizzard are what she said defined her dad, Roger Grizzard.

"Showing up can be defined as seeing a need and responding accordingly," Holly said.

"For 21 years, dad showed up for the students of [Weatherford ISD] as a teacher but he had been serving Parker County long before that."

Holly's thoughts were part of a ceremony that highlighted the opening and tour of WISD's Grizzard Regional Institute of Technology (GRIT) on March 23. The facility houses students looking to receive a high school diploma, an industry credential, and/or an associate degree at no cost in automotive technology, cosmetology, cybersecurity, and welding.

LVN and Early Childhood Education programs will also be available soon.

"This new facility will enhance the learning environment for our students in so many ways," said Mike Guest, WISD Board President.

"Our students will now be learning in an industry-based setting that mirrors their future workplace environment."

Partnering with Weatherford College, GRIT opened this school year (2023-24) and had a total of 311 students enrolled. Applications for the 2024-25 school year are already at 424.

WISD boasts the top Pathways in Technology Early College High School, commonly known as P-TECH, program in the state. While most schools only start with two fields of study, Weatherford has four.

The automotive program alone has 173 students enrolled.

Later this spring, the GRIT Auto Learning Lab opens to students, featuring 10 basic auto bays and two diesel auto bays, where only three were available previously. Tire balancing equipment and the



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

John Slater looks at a 1965 Chevy truck with a 2001 Corvette mid-mounted engine in the GRIT Auto Learning Lab. The life-long mechanic and car collector was impressed with the massive new building at the Weatherford Ninth Grade Campus.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Grizzard family members, school board members, WISD staff, instructors, and friends gather to cut the ribbon for the new GRIT Auto Learning Lab.

latest two-post auto lifts have been installed, thanks to a donation by Southwest Ford.

While the program is under the auspices of Weatherford ISD, students do not necessarily have to be in the district to avail themselves of the opportunity.

"We are a model other districts want to follow," Guest said at a recent meeting of the WISD Board, highlighting the need to expand current facilities.

Funded with monies from the general operating budget, GRIT was named in honor of Roger Grizzard, who passed away in 2019.

For more information, email GRIT Principal Trista Stueart at [tstueart@weatherfordisd.com](mailto:tstueart@weatherfordisd.com) or call 817-598-2847 Ext. 3760.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Car enthusiast Michael Wong listens to Superintendent Beau Rees describe an electric vehicle project auto tech students assemble, drive, and disassemble each semester.

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We welcome letters, articles and guest opinions from our readers. Opinions expressed in this newspaper will be labeled as opinions, editorials or letters, and do not 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

### State immigration law again on hold



**Gary Borders**  
gborders@texaspress.com

The on-again, off-again state immigration law is once more on hold while the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals considers its constitutionality. Senate Bill 4 would allow state and local law enforcement officials to arrest and deport people suspected of entering the state illegally from Mexico, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported. The U.S. Supreme Court last Tuesday removed a temporary hold on the law, which allowed it to take effect for several hours before the 5th Circuit court again stopped SB4 from being enforced while it considers its constitutionality.

At issue is whether the law usurps federal power to enforce border laws. A three-judge panel from the appeals court held a hearing last week but made no ruling.

"SB 4 is a modest, but important statute. It's modest because it mirrors federal law," Texas Solicitor General Aaron Nielson told the judges during Wednesday's hearing. "It's important because it helps to address what even the president has called a border crisis."

While many law enforcement officials support SB4, major questions persist about how it will be enforced if found constitutional, the *Texas Tribune* noted.

"There's so much that we don't really know what it's even going to look like. We don't have precedent for a state doing this. It kind of changes the game," said Jamie Longazel, a political science professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. "Migration is about someone coming from one country into another and so two national governments deal with the question. Now you're having Texas and Mexico deal with this, potentially."

### Phelan ally announces run for House speaker

A former ally of House Speaker Dade Phelan announced last Thursday that he will run to replace him when lawmakers return to Austin in January for the 2025 legislative session, *The Dallas Morning News* reported.

"At this point, leadership change is required in the Texas House," state Rep. Tom Oliverson, R-Cypress, said in a news conference. "The status quo is too dysfunctional to continue, and the change from top to bottom is needed."

Phelan is locked in a tough runoff battle with David Covey, an oil-and-gas consultant backed by Attorney General Ken Paxton and former President Donald Trump. He was targeted by state Republicans' far-right faction after last year's vote to impeach Paxton, and for continuing the tradition of appointing Democrats to chair some House committees.

Phelan said in a statement Thursday that he was focused on winning his May 28 runoff race and increasing the GOP majority in the House.

"As Speaker, I'm focused on winning these races, getting our team over the finish line and ensuring we start the session united and ready to deliver another banner conservative session for Texans," Phelan said.

### Medical Board unveils draft abortion guidelines

The Texas Medical Board on Friday released draft guidelines for administration of the state's near-total abortion ban. Critics said the proposed rules fail to clarify which health conditions must be present for a doctor to legally perform an abortion.

"Putting all the definitions in one place, that's helpful. But it doesn't tell you any more about what you should do or not do," said Steve Bresnen, whose joint petition with his wife, Amy, spurred the board to act after almost two years of calls

by Texas OB-GYNs, pregnant patients, lawmakers, Gov. Greg Abbott and the state's highest court for the agency to issue the guidelines.

Bresnen told the *American-Statesman* he was "very disappointed" with the board's initial proposal, which it announced during a meeting attended by hundreds of Texans online and dozens in person. Both abortion rights proponents and those against the procedure acknowledged widespread confusion around medical emergency exceptions.

The abortion ban law allows exceptions when a pregnancy is contributing to a "life-threatening physical condition." However, physicians have been reluctant to decide whether an emergency abortion is needed, fearing prosecution if it is deemed to be illegal under the new state law.

### Gender wage gap in Texas among worst

Texas has one of the worst wage gaps between men and women in the country, with only North Dakota and Alabama ranked worse, according to Forbes Advisor. *The San Antonio Express-News* reported the Forbes study indicated that women's median earnings in the state are 25% less than men's: \$39,615 versus \$52,823.

The state also has one of the biggest disparities when it comes to making a six-figure income, the study shows, ranking 10th-worst in that category. More than 25.61% of men working full-time make at least \$100,000, compared to just 13.19% of women.

"An abundance of high-paying jobs in male-dominated fields like oil and gas could contribute to this metric," the study notes.

### It's tornado season in Texas

Spring means it is tornado season in Texas, which averages 137 twisters annually, the most of any state in the country, according to the National

Turn to **STATE**, page 6

## Idle American Leave It to the Aggies



**Dr. Don Newbury**  
newbury@speakerdoc.com

Texas A&M University-- a major educational institution respected throughout the world--emerged unscathed from a litany of "Aggie jokes" that were shared for decades, though not so much now.

They were, of course--exactly that--jokes. Actually, they likely enhanced a storied heritage, but they made some Aggies M-A-D.

My Uncle Mort's keen eye on Texas A&M literature fell on its Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications. He figures "ALEC" would better fit on business cards, and that graduates could be called "Smart-ALECs."

When reduced to deep thinking about TV commercials--and such tedium is not recommended--one often enters the twilight zone of obfuscation. An example is a current home security system advertisement that promises an immediate warning when an "uninvited intruder" approaches.

Sudden thought: Are intruders ever invited?

I prefer warnings about calls from roof repair people who "happen to be in the neighborhood, and happy to provide a free roof inspection." I dismiss them, telling them I've got relatives in the business.

Another ad deserving a "thumbs down" urges purchase of Charmin bathroom tissue. The announcer forgets that for decades, "toilet paper" was not to be discussed in polite company.

He introduces a dancing bear that sings instead of talking, with references to smiling "from cheek to cheek" and "enjoying the go."

Please. Where is Mr. Whipple when we need him? When he starred, he asked only that we avoid squeezing the Charmin.

While on the subject of TV ads, let's not overlook State Farm Insurance. The company's current "push" is provided by movie star/former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The guy may have been an okay actor and--in the eyes of California voters, anyway--an okay governor.

State Farm had best line up world-class linguistics professors if he is expected to pronounce "neighbor" in an acceptable manner. However, "NAY-BAHHH" that rolls off his tongue causes us to think immediately of State Farm.

Advertising and public relations have come a long way. Communication was far simpler several decades ago. Back in the day, many stores only "ads" were front door "OPEN" and "CLOSED" signs.

At Lum and Abner's "Jot 'em Down Store"--mentioned regularly on their weekly radio shows--store hours were simply stated: "Open when we get here and closed when we leave."

It was these comedic buddies who offered a simple explanation about their merchandise. "If you need it, we got it," they bragged. "And if we don't have it, you don't need it." The radio show was immensely popular from 1931-1954, originating from their fictitious community of Pine Ridge, AR.

Relatively new on the advertising scene in all media are appeals by law firms. In the previous century, lawyers gave little thought to outright ads, perhaps

Turn to **AGGIES**, page 6

## State Representative Update

### Why, Governor?



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

### Abbott owes Texans an explanation

"Therefore, whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light ..."

Luke 12:3

This primary season, Political Action Committees flooded our mailboxes with junk, oversaturated the TV market with commercials, and ventured into the streaming realm to run false and misleading political advertisements.

If you noticed, many of the PACs and even "non-profits," such as "Texans United for a Conservative Majority," "Texas Family Project," "Texans for Fiscal Responsibility," "Make Liberty Win," and "Texas Gun Rights," along with the voucher lobby, spent all their ad time

trashing Republican incumbents, without any commentary on the opponent.

While those ads never mentioned the names of challengers, those incumbents' challengers certainly benefited from those attack campaigns. Unfortunately, under current Texas law, the public is not privy to the financial details of these types of PACs or "dark money" support to political candidates. While it is clear who they are against, it is hidden who they support, and that huge level of support never shows up on a candidate's public financial report.

Tim Dunn and Farris Wilks, almost exclusively, finance the most powerful PACs in Texas. Candidates who are supported by these PACs run counter to representative government, as receiving Dunn/Wilks PAC support requires 100% compliance with their aims and 100% purity with their political doctrine.

Many of these supported fringe candidates are so toxic that the PACs must exploit these loopholes in campaign finance laws to buy elections.

A Dunn/Wilks funded political candidate will look you in the

eye and say, "I don't take money from PACs." Where I am from, that's what we call "Lying like a rug."

This past session, I authored a bill that would have drastically increased transparency in Texas elections. HB 2629 was the most significant campaign transparency bill filed in the 88th legislative session. It required certain persons or political organizations to report the candidate they support if there is a cost spent opposing another candidate in the same race.

This bill passed both chambers with flying colors. The record vote in the Senate was 31-0 and the record vote in the House was 147-1. The only opposition was the disgraced and expelled, Dunn/Wilks-supported, Representative Bryan Slaton.

Yet then, in the face of this overwhelming support, Governor Greg Abbott vetoed the bill. With one swift stroke of his pen, he killed this vital, supermajority-supported bill.

Why would the Governor oppose PAC transparency and accountability? Has Abbott joined the ranks of many other

Turn to **WHY**, page 6



## Glow Run Shines

The multi-colored streaks of light in and around Tim Buchanan Stadium marked another successful Run, Walk, or Crawl Glow Run on Saturday, March 23.

The annual event is the major fundraiser for the organization that provides numerous charitable services in the Aledo ISD.

PHOTOS BY KCSTUDIOS KATHY CHRUSCIELSKI



Harper and her father Russell D. in the stands



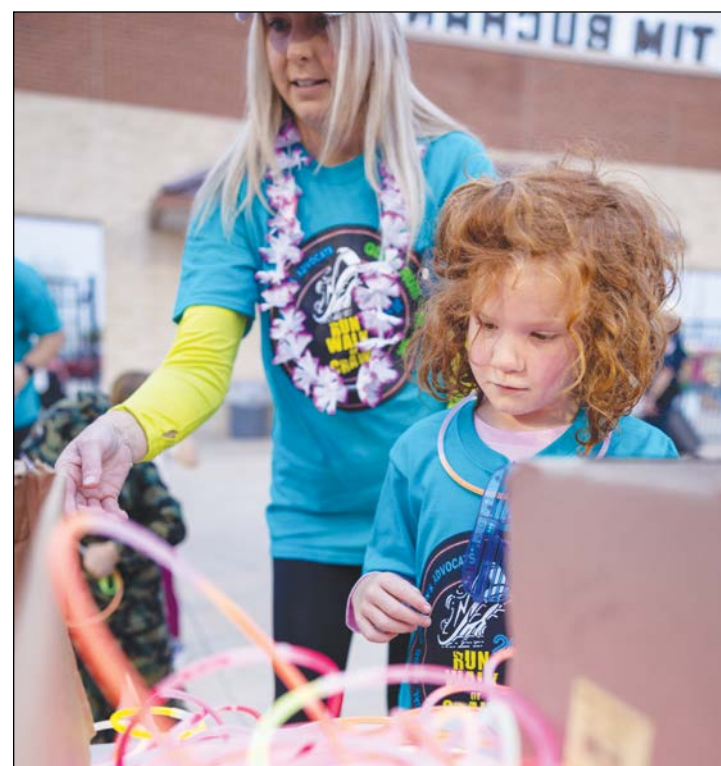
The 5k race begins!



Finishing the 1K



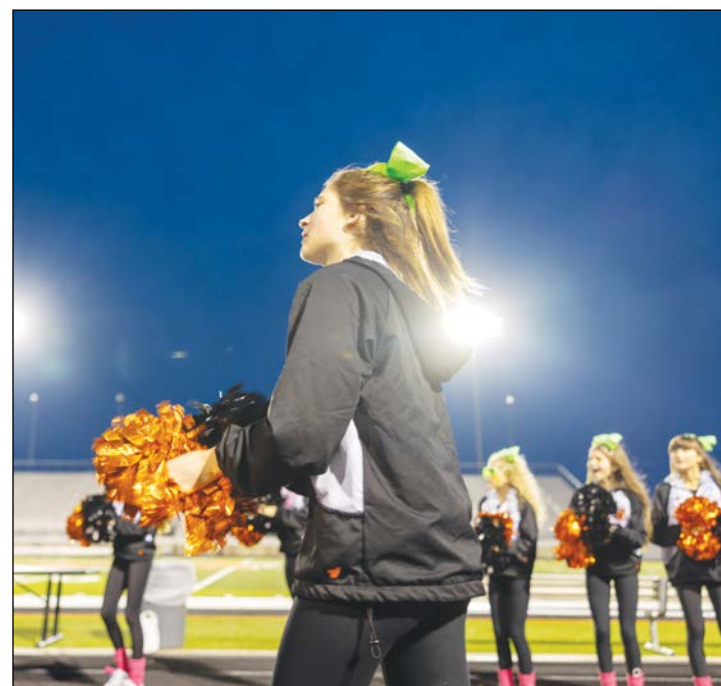
Ethan volunteers at the registration table.



Virginia R. chooses a glow necklace at the registration table.



Crossing the finish line



Maddie of McAnally Middle School Cheer



Run, walk, crawl or roll!



Volunteers set up a Glow Run station



Karyn Kelbaugh and Lisa Robertson

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# COURSE

from page one

"We are looking for some assistance from the City of Annetta. At the present time, we are selling alcohol in our clubhouse to our patrons, but the clubhouse is located in a dry county," Ripley explained. "What this means is that we can't have the alcohol delivered by our suppliers. Instead, we need to pick up the inventory ourselves, which makes the costs a little higher."

What Ripley was asking is that the city take into consideration holding a special election sometime in the future so the citizens would be able to vote to approve the delivery of alcohol to Split Rail Golf Course.

The owners of Split Rail just hired Troon Golf Club Management out of Scottsdale Arizona to take over management of the club. Troon is the largest golf club management organization in the world and will advise the investors on how to operate Split Rail more efficiently.

"One of the changes that we are looking to make is to offer our members a unique and exotic menu one or two nights of the week. This is just in the early stages and we are still looking at menu items but, this is something we feel our members deserve," said Ripley.

New business on the agenda included canceling the May 4 general election for council



places 1, 2 and 4 of the as Shane Mudge, Danny Coffman and Jim Causey are running unopposed. This

allows all of them to remain on the council.

The next city council meeting will be held on April 19 at 7 p.m.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Allison Schrick draws the winning entry at the Aledo Lions Club 29th annual charity dinner at the Don Danial Ninth Grade Campus on Tuesday, March 26. Jeff Streetman oversaw the drawing for a choice of a golf cart or \$10,000.

## COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

### SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

### 10 AM-1 PM

### 516 RANCH HOUSE ROAD

*Proof of residency required in the form of photo ID or utility bill*



# STATE

from page 4

Weather Service. Perhaps surprisingly, the metropolitan area that experiences the most tornadoes is not in "Tornado Alley" in North Texas, according to the staff meteorologist for the *Express-News*. Rather it is Harris County, which includes Houston. Harris County has had 247 tornado reports since 1950. Tarrant County, home to Fort Worth, trails far behind, with 110 tornado reports in the same time period.

When it comes to property damage, tornadoes hitting Dallas County have been by far the costliest, causing \$2.55 billion in damage since 1950. Harris County comes in second place with \$526 million, followed by Travis County (Austin) with \$268 million and Tarrant County at \$237 million.

*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.*

# WHY

from page 4

Dunn/Wilks-compliant state officials? How much "dark money" support has Abbott received? Did Abbott not want voters to know how much money was spent against those who stood up to the voucher lobby, supported public schools, and defied the Dunn/Wilks attempt to privatize our public schools?



It bears repeating, only two individuals opposed this much needed campaign transparency bill: disgraced, expelled former State Representative Bryan Slaton and Governor Greg Abbott.

Buying candidates and buying elections is too easy for billionaires.

This is not the Texas way. Governor Abbott owes Texas an explanation!

*Glenn Rogers is the State Representative for House District 60 in Texas, which includes Parker County. Rogers will leave office in January of 2025.*

# AGGIES

from page 4

thinking such to be tacky and/or beneath their dignity. Now, they're after it, hammer and tong, with ads "clumping up" primarily during news broadcasts. (Truth to tell, I'm not sure I've heard of lawyers armed with tongs. Maybe "tongs" sounds too much like a kitchen weapon.)

In Texas, attorney Thomas J. Henry must have a multi-million-dollar ad venture underway.

With offices in Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Austin, Houston and Dallas, the principal is often shown flying from court session to court session, and sometimes is pictured near his plane, which has "TJH" painted on its tail.

Looking back, I was given to hyperbole in my youth. Surely it

was youthful innocence on my part, or maybe not.

During early teen years, I peddled Cloverine Salve, bragging that any place you could rub it, stuff or sniff it, curative powers prevailed. I sold enough of the stuff to win a guitar. Alas, the guitar never arrived.

A few decades later, I saw a familiar face in a TV musical group. I couldn't call his name, but he'd been our rural mail carrier. And, he was not known as a guitarist until after my guitar was to have arrived at our mailbox.


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




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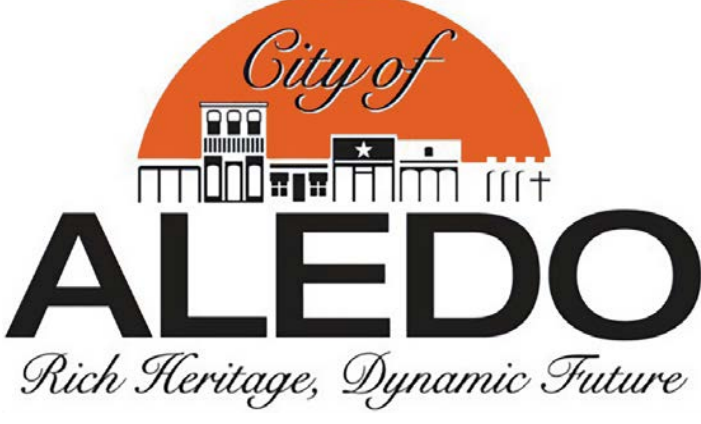
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**CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS, CITY COUNCIL**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**ON AMENDMENT OF A REINVESTMENT ZONE**

THE CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 4, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ALEDO COMMUNITY CENTER, 104 ROBINSON CT., ALEDO, TEXAS, 76008 ON AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS AND ITS BENEFITS TO THE CITY OF ALEDO AND TO PROVIDE A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY OWNER OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE PROPOSED ZONE AMENDMENT TO PROTEST THE INCLUSION OF THEIR PROPERTY WITHIN THE PROPOSED ZONE AMENDMENT, WHICH PROPOSED REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE AMENDMENT CONTAINS APPROXIMATELY 40.06 ADDITIONAL ACRES OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF OAK STREET, NORTH OF BARNWELL STREET, EAST OF CHESTNUT STREET, AND WEST OF PARK VILLA LANE AND BEING WHOLLY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS AND EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS; AND REMOVES APPROXIMATELY 94.31 ACRES OF LAND FROM REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF BAILEY RANCH ROAD, NORTH OF JOHN STREET, EAST OF ROCKLEDGE COURT, AND WEST OF HIGHWAY 1187. A MAP DEPICTING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED REINVESTMENT ZONE IS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT 200 OLD ANNETTA ROAD, ALEDO, TEXAS 76008, AND IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. AT THE PUBLIC HEARING, ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY SPEAK FOR OR AGAINST THE INCLUSION OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE PROPOSED REINVESTMENT ZONE AMENDMENT, THE AMENDMENT OF THE REINVESTMENT ZONE, ITS BOUNDARIES AND/OR THE CONCEPT OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING, THE CITY COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE REINVESTMENT ZONE AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.



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

**BROADWAY & Breadsticks**  
A FUNDRAISER BENEFITTING PARKER COUNTY THEATRE COMPANY  
SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH 6-8 PM  
ALEDO UMC FELLOWSHIP HALL  
\$25 FOR ADULTS  
\$15 FOR STUDENTS & SENIORS  
TICKET INCLUDES 3 COURSE MEAL + LIVE SHOW

**MARCH 30**  
**Broadway & Breadsticks** Join Parker County Theatre Company for an evening of food and fun from 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 30, at Aledo United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Hear from some amazing singers, as they bring Broadway to Parker County. Ticket includes a three-course dinner.

**APRIL 6**  
**Community Shred Day** The City of Willow Park will host a community shred day from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, Apr. 6, at 516 Ranch House Road. Residents can bring all their old documents for free shredding!  
- No cardboard and no hard metals such as 3-ring binders  
- Paper clips, brads, and staples are ok  
- You MUST bring proof of residency in the form of a photo ID or current utility bill. Any questions can be directed to the city secretary's office at 817-441-7108x108.

**APRIL 13**  
**Parker County Master Gardener Association's** Annual plant sale from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, Apr. 13, at First Monday Trade Days Grounds Pavilion - Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe Drive, Weatherford, 76086.

**GAME ON FORT WORTH**  
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SIGN-UP A SAND VOLLEYBALL TEAM HERE BY APRIL 18TH.

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Bring your plant gardening questions to our "Ask a Master Gardener" table! Proceeds help fund horticultural, educational, & local projects in Parker County.  
Bring your wagon!  
Cash or Check Only

**APRIL 16**  
**Container Gardening** Learn how to plant flowers to create stunning containers from the expert, Gay Larson at the Container Gardening event from 6 - 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Apr. 16 at the Aledo Community

Center. Seating is limited, \$15 per person cash or check at the event. Pre-register through the Parker county Agrilife Extension office.

**APRIL 27**  
**Willow Park Palooza + Car Show** Get ready for some serious family fun because The Shops at Willow Park are back with their annual event, Willow Park Palooza from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, Apr. 27. It is FREE to the public. The event promises to be a blast for parents and kids alike, with live music, face painting, balloon artists, food trucks, local vendors, and even a car

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

**ACROSS**  
1 San \_\_\_ County  
5 Palestine AM  
6 \_\_\_ wood, Texas  
7 Greek god of love  
8 this Texas doctor was the first to implant an artificial heart (2 wds.)  
17 respect and wonder  
18 TXism: "book \_\_\_ horse smart" (wise)  
21 this Darrin helped the Cowboys win 2 Super Bowls (init.)  
22 TXism: "could shoot the eyes out of a \_\_\_" (good aim)  
23 33rd Chief of Staff of the Army, Dennis Joe, who got training at Fort Bliss in Texas  
24 petitioned God  
29 when a tennis serve hits the net and then goes over (2 wds.)  
30 football snap  
31 TX Clint Black hit: "\_\_\_ Tell Ourselves"  
32 TXism: "he can \_\_\_ and dance all night" (stamina)  
34 physicians, for short  
35 bikini top  
36 interprets a situation incorrectly  
37 TXism: "I can dance to that \_\_\_" (agree)  
38 TX Bob Wills sang "Ding Dong Daddy"  
39 TXism: "cut \_\_\_ \_\_\_" (ease up)

**DOWN**  
1 TXism: "\_\_\_ of here" (flee)  
2 western part of this county has two radioactive waste disposal sites  
3 poetic "go away"  
4 school exam (2 wds.)  
9 in Young County on highway 79  
10 tidy  
11 TXism: "fraidy \_\_\_" (coward)  
12 "use it \_\_\_ lose it"  
41 dribbles  
42 a Canadian "cent"  
43 TXism: "got to play the hand you're \_\_\_"  
44 early Rio Grande: "\_\_\_ las Palmas"  
45 Bible's 2nd part (abbr.)  
46 \_\_\_ Ross State University in Alpine  
47 "yankee behaviors never \_\_\_ to amaze me"  
48 most wealthy

13 TXism: "covered like white \_\_\_"  
14 vegetables related to the onion  
15 actress Adams in "Racquet" with TX Lynda Day George  
16 sweet tater  
19 TXism: "he'd complain if they hung him with a \_\_\_" (particular)  
20 TX Roy Orbison ballad: "In \_\_\_"  
22 TX Roy Orbison wore dark ones  
24 this Texan was TV's Clair Huxtable (init.)  
25 Sea \_\_\_ State Park  
26 "I take \_\_\_ view of that" (disapprove)  
27 affirmatives  
28 TXism: "plain as the \_\_\_ a mule"  
29 totalled  
30 car horn sound  
33 "Gone to Texas" meant "on the \_\_\_"  
34 "fix it" tape  
35 TXism: "dainty as a June \_\_\_"  
37 TXism: "he sits \_\_\_ saddle"  
38 in Navarro County on highway 22  
40 TX Tommy Lee 1978 film: "Eyes of \_\_\_ Mars"  
41 "buenas \_\_\_" (good day)  
44 rod and \_\_\_  
47 exotic deer raised in Texas since 1932  
49 TXism: "paddle your own \_\_\_" (do it yourself)

**5TH ANNUAL WILLOW PARK PALOOZA**

show! It will be an unforgettable day filled with fun and excitement, so don't miss out on this spectacular event! Visit the Willow Park Palooza page on our website for more information and a schedule of events.

<https://theshopsatwillowpark.com/willow-park-palooza/>

**Car Show**  
Registration: 9-11 a.m. (first come, first served)  
Event Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Cost: \$15 show participant fee, FREE to attend.

**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](mailto:events@community-news.com). Please include time, date, and place of the event, a short description, and phone/email for obtaining further information, along with photos, graphics, or flyers.

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GOLF

## Bearcats second in district preview

### Stokes runner-up medalist

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Led by Braden Stokes' runner-up individual finish, the Aledo Bearcats Black Team placed second in the District 5-5A Boys Preview Tournament at Sugar Tree Golf Club on March 20.

Aledo Black posted a team total of 309, four strokes behind tournament champion Northwest Blue with a 305. Aledo Orange placed fourth with a 337, behind third-place Wichita Falls Rider's 324.

Stokes shot a 3-over-par 75. The top medalist was Cort Quella of Northwest Blue, who finished with a 4-under-par 68.

Also for Aledo Black, Gavin Beard tied for third individually with a 76. Jett Moore and Ethan Elmore tied for eighth with 79 each, and Helton Mossiello posted an 83.

For Aledo Orange, Tyler Anderson and Brian Yarbrough led with an 82 each, with William Kirkman right behind at 83. Cade Moore came in with a 90 and Johnnie Reed shot 93.

The four lowest individual scores comprise the team score.

"I'm happy with how the guys played at Sugartree. For one, Sugartree is a tough course that can get you in trouble if you are not able to keep it in the fairway. It's a course where you don't have a lot of room for errors off the box," Bearcats coach Brian Mourning said. "We have got to get it going from the first tee and not give away shots within the first three holes.

"I believe as a team we were plus-11 thru the first two or three holes, then the guys settled in. We must get off to a better start.

"Gavin Beard and Braden Stokes played well for us. Both of those guys are sophomores and I'm happy with how they have come out and played this spring. Jett Moore struggled some Monday, I'm sure he will bounce back and be ready to go when district gets here in a few weeks. Ethan Elmore has played well the last two rounds at Sugartree."

Rounding out the team scores throughout the district were Granbury Purple, 341; Granbury Gold, 355; Saginaw, 387; Azle Green, 397; Brewer, 399; and Azle White, 411.

The tournament is meant to provide an early look at the opposition before the District 5-5A Boys Tournament, a two-day event April 1-2, also at Sugar Tree.

Turn to **GOLF**, page 9

BOYS SOCCER

## Bearcats take bi-district title over Arlington Heights

By Ryan Wade  
The Community News

BURLESON - The Aledo Bearcats' fourth-place finish in District 5-5A isn't all it seemed.

Aledo's played excellent soccer most of the year, save for the first three matches of their district run.

That was a lesson Arlington Heights learned first-hand when the two teams met in Burleson for the bi-district round of the 5A playoffs on Tuesday, March 26. The Yellowjackets' fast, aggressive style of play wasn't enough to help them overcome a disciplined Aledo squad that kept their shape and capitalized on every opportunity as they advanced to the area round of the playoffs with a 3-0 victory over Arlington Heights.

"We've been on a pretty hot streak the last nine games," said Aledo head coach Derek Vierling. "I hate to say we've got Heights' number, but that's four or five playoff games that we've beat them.

"The boys played well. That's what I've been seeing all year long."

Aledo (14-3-6) was playing Denton (16-5-2) in the second round on Thursday, March 28 at press time. The winner will take on the survivor between Everman (12-11-1) and Denton Ryan (17-3-3) Monday or Tuesday, April 1 or 2.

Heights (17-5-2), the champions of District 6-5A, controlled



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Bearcats pose for a team photo with the bi-district trophy while signaling that they're on to the second round of the playoffs.

much of the possession throughout the match. Their speed up front and in the midfield helped the Yellowjackets dictate where the action took place on the field.

Yet, despite the persistent pressure, the Bearcat defense was unyielding. Aledo's center backs stood their ground, and even managed to recover their position

the few times Arlington Heights appeared to be set up to score.

Senior goalkeeper Deagan Dietz played like he was 10 feet tall standing in the net with nothing evading his grasp during the 80 minutes of action.

Midway through the first half each team had taken some shots on goal, but came up empty. That

is until Austin Randriamahefa managed to sneak one by the Yellowjacket keeper during a scrum in the box when the ball leaked out his direction for goal No. 23 on the year.

With so many bodies clustered together, the keeper was unable to

Turn to **BEARCATS**, page 9

GIRLS SOCCER

## Ladycats look strong in bi-district, wallop Everman

By Jim Zimmermann  
The Community News

EVERMAN - The Aledo Ladycats traveled to Everman High School to take on the Everman Lady Bulldogs Tuesday, March 26 in the first round of the Class 5A soccer playoffs, looking to continue a streak of perfection.

The Ladycats came into the game with a 4-0 record against the Lady Bulldogs dating back to 2015, including a 10-0 win in their last match in 2016.

Now, they are 5-0 in that span as the Ladycats (11-8-3) made short work of their hosts (though Aledo was listed as the home team), winning 7-0.

Aledo advanced to host Midlothian (22-2), No. 7 in the state, in the area round at press time on Thursday, March 28 at Buchanan Stadium. That winner will move on to face No. 5 Colleyville Heritage (19-0-2) or the Ladycats' District 5-5A foe Azle (14-8-1) in the third round Monday or Tuesday, April 1 or 2.

The Ladycats finished second in District 5-5A with a 6-4-2 record. Everman (11-12-1 overall) was third in 6-5A with a 9-5 record.

Turn to **SOCCER**, page 9



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Emery Thompson breaks away from her marker during the first half of a bi-district playoff match against Everman on Tuesday, March 26. Thompson scored the first goal for the Ladycats with just eight seconds left in the first half.

TRACK AND FIELD

## Ladycats win at Joshua, Bearcats second

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

With the District 5-5A Meet right around the corner, the Aledo Ladycats took first place in the Joshua Owls Relays on Wednesday, March 20 in Joshua. The Ladycats scored 158 points to top runner-up Crowley with 132.

Meanwhile, the Bearcats finished second with 176 points to 181.5 for Crowley. The significance of this finish is that it is the first time the Aledo boys have not placed first in a meet since the 2021 season, ending a streak of 18 consecutive wins in regular season and in the area round of the postseason.

The Ladycats were led by Addison Smith with three gold medal performances. She won the 200- and 400-meter dashes, a long with running the anchor leg of the winning 4x400 relay.

Also winning gold medals for the Ladycats were Mykel Murry in the 800 and Molly Garrison in the 1600.

The Aledo girls had 1-2 finishes in two events, Smith and Murry in the 400, along with Miggie Kilburn and Taylor Hindman in the pole vault.

"It was a good meet. The girls competed well," Ladycats coach Mike Pinkerton said. "All of the

Turn to **TRACK**, page 12

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# BEARCATS

from page 8

get to the ball as Randriamahefa put the Bearcats on the board off the tapper with 25:26 left in the first half.

Coming into the match, Aledo knew Heights was going to be physical and aggressive. The game plan for the Bearcats was to be counter-punchers. When the Yellowjackets overextended themselves, they took advantage by running by their center backs with little help from the midfield being at the disposal of their defense.

With just over nine minutes left in the half, the plan worked to perfection. After fighting off a barrage from Heights, the Bearcats were ready to throw their counter shot.



Randriamahefa controlled possession, found a little space in the passing lane, and sent a good pass over to Brody Gill who won the foot race against the Yellowjacket defender. Gill made his run and put a clean shot on the wide side of the net for his 18th goal of the season as the Bearcats went up 2-0 heading into the half.

In the second half the Yellowjackets cracked up the aggression in hopes of erasing the 2-0 deficit. As they had done all night, the Bearcats found ways to weather the storm. Dietz successfully fended off multiple shots on goal by Arlington Heights as the Bearcats kept their eyes peeled for an opportunity to bury another goal and the Yellowjacket season along with it.

Trapper Davis found that opportunity in the 68th minute. Davis managed to get by his marker, leaving him with a wide open shot at the goal, with the back-up goalkeeper tending the net for Heights after their starter tore his hamstring. Davis made it look easy with a goal that cemented the victory for Aledo.

# GOLF

from page 8

From there the top two teams and top two individuals not on a qualifying team will advance to the Region I Tournament April 15-16 at Hillcrest Country Club in Lubbock.



From the regional tournament, the top three teams and top three individuals not on those teams will move on to the state tournament April 29-30 at Legacy Hills Golf Club in Georgetown.

The District 5-5A Girls Preview was being held at press time. The girls district tournament is April 4-5, both also at Sugar Tree.

# SOFTBALL

## Ladycats' win streak hits 17 games

By Ryan Wade  
The Community News

Aledo's Ladycats have been nothing short of spectacular this softball season. Following back-to-back run rule victories over Azle and Granbury in the last week, the Ladycats' win streak now stands at 17 games.

Having last tasted defeat on Feb. 17, the Ladycats (21-2 overall, 6-0 in District 5-5A) blanked the Lady Hornets, 10-0, on Friday, March 22 behind a stalwart performance in the pitchers circle by Taylor McKean. She was a lone issued walk away from a perfect game as she picked up the win with a complete game for Aledo.

As stout of a performance as McKean had on Friday, it was not to be outdone by Brenlee Gonzales' start on Tuesday, March 26, against Granbury. Gonzales tossed six shutout innings, surrendering just one hit to the Lady Pirates en route to an 11-0 win for the Ladycats.

Not only did she shine on the mound for Aledo on Tuesday, but

Gonzales also managed to get it done at the plate, as well. Aledo's hurler went 2-for-3 at the dish with a double and five runs batted in.

"I feel like we're locked in," Ladycats head coach Heather Myers said. "We're really focused on having quality at-bats versus just going up there and trying to hit the crap out of the ball all of the time. We're trying to flip and get more walks than strikeouts. That's really our focus. 'Discipline' is the word of the week every week. I feel like they're taking that to the plate with intention. I think it's paying off for them."

### Once they get going

It took four innings for the Ladycats to get on the scoreboard with their first run of the game. Once the dam broke open, Aledo scored runs at will.

Delaney Rosser, Ana Flores, and Marina Taveras all scored in the fourth inning. In the fifth inning, the Ladycats put three more on the scoreboard as Addie Perry, Rosser,

and Flores all crossed the plate in the inning. Five more runs in the sixth inning wrapped things up as the Ladycats steamrolled the hosting Lady Pirates in Granbury.

### Aledo vs. Granbury – Fri, Mar 26

	R	H	E
Ladycats	000	335	x - 11110
Granbury	000	000	x - 0 1 4

Aledo hitting: Addie Perry 1-for-3, BB; Delaney Rosser 2-for-3, RBI; Ana Flores 2-for-4, 2 RBI; Marina Taveras 2-for-4; Kyleigh Pawlak 1-for-4, RBI; Brenlee Gonzales 2-for-3, HR, 5 RBI; Austyn Marriage 1-for-2.

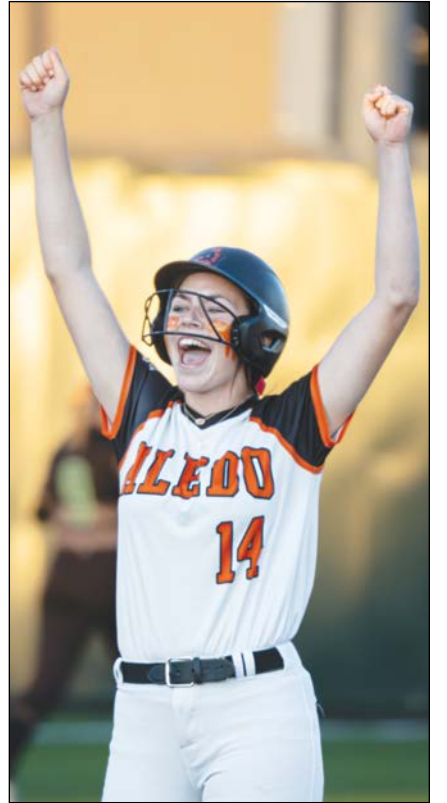
Aledo pitching: Brenlee Gonzales 6 IP, 0 H, 0 R, 0 BB, 8 K.

### Aledo vs. Azle – Fri, Mar 22

	R	H	E
Azle	000	00x	- 0 0 5
Ladycats	122	41x	- 10100

Aledo hitting: Addie Perry 1-for-3, BB; Ana Flores 2-for-4, RBI; Marina Taveras 1-for-1, 3 BB; Kyleigh Pawlak 1-for-4, RBI; Austyn Marriage 1-for-2, 2B, RBI, 2 BB; Gracie Jones 1-for-1, 2B, RBI; Kennis Marx 2-for-3, HR, 2 RBI, BB; Jordan Edington 1-for-2, RBI, BB.

Aledo pitching: Taylor McKean 5 IP, 0 H, 0 R, 0 BB, 7 K.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS  
Kyleigh Pawlak celebrates after driving in a run during the Ladycats' 10-0 win over Azle on Friday, Mar. 22.

# GIRLS BASKETBALL

## TAPPS honors six from TCA

Staff Reports

The Community News

Six members of the Willow Park Trinity Christian Lady Eagles basketball team have been honored by the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools.

Sophomores Emily Ickert and Sadie Gough were named second-team Class 4A All-State. Both were also selected first-team All-District 1 TAPPS 4A.



Named second-team all-district was senior Caroline Thompson. Honorable mentions went to junior Ella Cockrum, along with sophomores Ava Luecker and Berlynn Kaznowski.

The Lady Eagles advanced to the second round of the playoffs. They defeated Dallas Christian 48-31 in the opening round before being eliminated with a 52-37 loss to eventual state champion Fort Worth Lake Country Christian.

# SOCCER

from page 8

The first half of Tuesday's match was completely dominated by the Ladycats, though they led only 1-0 at the intermission. They had crisp passing and ball control throughout the first 40 minutes.

The Lady Bulldogs only crossed the midfield four times, and it was on clearing shots from Aledo's pressure defense.

All that work finally paid off as with only 10 seconds left in the first half Emery Thompson scored the only goal of the first half on a breakaway, with an assist from Allyson Weimer, giving the Ladycats a slim lead at the break.

The Ladycats didn't waste time in the second half to get on the scoreboard. On a perfect corner kick, Emaree Gibson found the

back of the Everman net at the 33:47 mark.

Not to be outdone, just 33 seconds later Weimer scored from 15 yards out to give Aledo a 3-0 lead. Assist from Hailey Vandiver.

Five minutes later, Georgia Zirbser scored from 10 yards out in front with an assist from Ainsley Elmore and the Lady Cats lead 4-0. Kylee Vandiver got in on the scoring at the 20:22 mark of the second half, giving Aledo a 5-0 lead with the assist coming from Katie Cox.

The Ladycats' pressure offense was in form and the Lady Bulldogs did not have an answer. Six minutes later, after some exceptional ball movement, Weimer was able to score from right in front of the goal, giving Aledo a 6-0 lead. Baylee Velorde had the assist.

To finish the scoring, Reagan Tomlin had the seventh goal and the assist was from Gibson.

# BASEBALL

from page 12

Brennon Evans drew a leadoff walk in the home-half of the seventh to put the Bearcats on the basepath.

Before the Bearcats stepped up to the plate, Aledo head coach Chad Barry told Lucas Nawrocki if Evans found his way aboard, Nawrocki would need to bunt him over. In spite of bunting not being Nawrocki's strong suit, he executed the maneuver perfectly, allowing Evans to advance to second with one out in the inning.

In a bit of a jam, Ayala continued to work on the mound for Brewer to strike out the next batter,

one out away from escaping and forcing extra innings.

Aledo had pressed in their approach at the plate for much of the game to their detriment. As the game wore on, Barry reminded his team to be more patient in their approach, work the count, and foul off pitches to give themselves a better chance of getting pitches they can handle.

When Ruffin came up to bat in the dream scenario, with two outs and a runner on second, he had to make the at-bat count. Ruffin took the first two pitches to get ahead of Ayala 2-0. Ayala found the zone for the first strike of the at bat as Ruffin watched the pitch go by. The 2-1 offering missed the zone, as well,

with nary a swing of the bat to this point.

Having worked his way into an extremely favorable count without so much as taking the bat off his shoulder, Ruffin got a pitch he could handle on the 3-1 offering. He smacked a fastball into the outfield as the baserunner and the ball made for the plate. The winning run narrowly crossed the plate ahead of the ball as the Bearcats walked off in front of the hometown crowd.

The Bearcats were playing at Granbury at press time and have a home-and-home series against Saginaw next week. They travel to Saginaw on Tuesday, April 2 and host the Rough Riders on Friday, April 5, both games starting at 6:30 p.m.

### Aledo vs. Granbury – Fri, Mar 26

	R	H	E
Granbury	000	020	000 - 2 7 3
Bearcats	000	002	001 - 3 10 0

Aledo hitting: Boyd Thompson 1-for-5, 2B; Brooks Burdine 1-for-5, RBI; Ryan Jones 1-for-4; Drew Weckel 2-for-3; Brennon Evans 3-for-3, HR, BB, 2 RBI; Johnny Ruffin 2-for-4.

Aledo pitching: Luke Saunders 4.2 IP, 3 H, 2 R (2 earned), 0 BB, K; Jake Huffman 4.1 IP, 4 H, 0 R, 0 BB, 3 K.

### Aledo vs. Brewer – Fri, Mar 22

	R	H	E
Brewer	000	000	0 - 030
Godley	000	000	1 - 151

Aledo hitting: Boyd Thompson 1-for-3; Brooks Burdine 1-for-3, 2B; Drew Weckel 2-for-3; Brennon Evans 2 BB; Lucas Nawrocki BB; Johnny Ruffin 1-for-3, RBI.

Aledo pitching: Devin Miller 7 IP, 3 H, 0 R, BB, 11 K.

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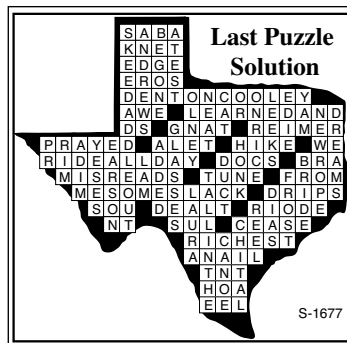
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AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WILLOW PARK, TEXAS, AMENDING ARTICLE 3.03 OF THE CITY OF WILLOW PARK'S CODE OF ORDINANCES; ADOPTING A CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATIVE CODE; ADOPTING THE FOLLOWING CODES: THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2020 EDITION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL & SPA CODE, AS AMENDED BY THE NCTCOG INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA CODE AND CITY OF WILLOW PARK AMENDMENTS; THE 2021 EDITION OF THE NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE; THE 2020 EDITION OF THE LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS CODE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN AMENDMENT CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500.00 FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS DAY 26TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

CRYSTAL R. DOZIER, TRMC, CMC  
CITY SECRETARY  
CITY OF WILLOW PARK

### Legal Notice

The Aledo Independent School District (the District) is requesting competitive sealed proposals for CSP# 2403-02, Aledo ISD Safety and Security Project. CSP documents, plans, and specifications can be viewed and downloaded on the District architect's website at <https://www.huckabee-inc.com/construction/>. The District will hold a mandatory pre-bid meeting on April 2, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at the Aledo ISD Administration Building, 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo TX 76008 followed by a site visit to each facility where scope is occurring. Proposals must be delivered to Aledo ISD, Administration Building, 1008 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, TX 76008 as specified in the CSP no later than 2:00 PM (CT) on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. Proposals received after that date will not be evaluated or considered. The District shall receive, publicly open, and read aloud at the specified date and time the name of each proposer and prices in the Walsh conference room at the Aledo ISD Administration Building, 1008 Bailey Ranch Rd, Aledo, TX, 76008. Proposals will be electronically unsealed and opened shortly after the specified time of closing. The District reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals, to accept the proposal(s) that provide(s) the best value to the District, and to waive all formalities with respect thereto.

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## FIT & FUN

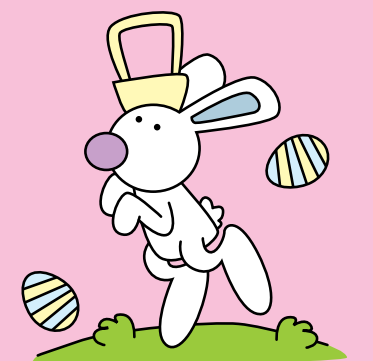
### Eggs-ercises

These exercises use your muscles and imagination! Try them with your buddy.



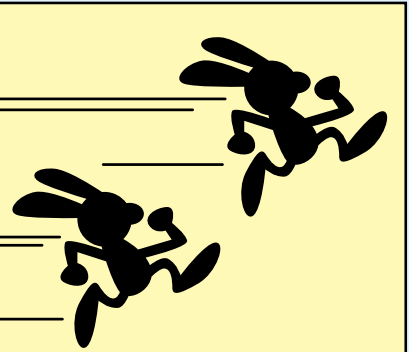
#### Slow Melt

Pretend you are a chocolate bunny melting on a hot day. Start by standing nice and tall, then slowly ooze to the floor.



#### Basket Balance

Try balancing an empty Easter basket (or a plastic bowl) on your head as you walk across your yard.



#### Rabbit Racers

Give a younger buddy a head start and race across the park. Try racing three times. Is your younger buddy getting faster?

Standards Link: Physical Education: Use a variety of basic and advanced movement forms.

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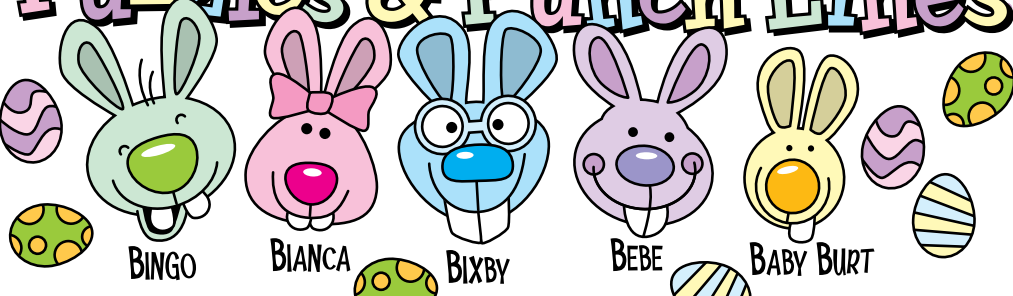
[kidscoop.com/activity-pages/](http://kidscoop.com/activity-pages/)

## Kid Scoop-doku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word SOLVE in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

				S
			S	O
		S		L
	S			V
S				E

## The Bunny Buddies' Puzzles & Punch Lines



**WAIT!** Don't do this page alone. If this page looks **TOO HARD**, find an older buddy to help you. If it looks **EASY**, find a younger buddy and help them!

### What is long and stylish and full of cats?

The code on Baby Burt's blocks reveals the answer to this riddle, but he's too little to figure it out. Can you help him before he starts to cry?

### Bunny Bathtime

While Bixby is enjoying his bubble bath, pop two bubbles at a time by crossing them out. Leave one letter, then cross the next two out. Keep going and you'll reveal the punch line to this riddle:

Who delivers treats to ocean fish at Easter?

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

### Bebe's Garden

Bebe planted some tasty veggies in her garden. But they grew so big that now she can't find her way through it! The letters on the correct path will solve this riddle:

How do you send a letter to the Easter Bunny?

### Bingo's Boxes

Use the clues to fill in the missing letters. The letters in the center vertical row reveal the answer to Bingo's riddle:

What do you need if your chocolate eggs disappear?



1.			E	
2.		A		
3.				M
4.			S	
5.				N
6.		L		
7.			A	
8.	C			
9.				P
10.		E		
11.				E
12.				P
13.	T			

#### CLUES

1. A tasty baked dessert
2. To grow older
3. Something you chew
4. Fuel for a car
5. You can fry eggs in this
6. Sick, not well
7. A baseball player's hat
8. Metal food container
9. A gorilla is one kind
10. An animal in your home
11. Frozen water
12. How bunnies move
13. One more than nine

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

### Extra! Extra! Say What?

Cut out a comic strip from the newspaper. Carefully remove the words from the word bubbles, and then paste the strip onto a sheet of paper. Write a new joke in the bubbles.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step directions.

### Hidden Egg Hunt

Bianca hid three egg designs all over this page. How many of each can you and your buddy find?

Me My Buddy

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Why do people dye Easter eggs?

+ cause -rabb **EZR**

Than + + -K  
**Them!**

ANSWER: Because it's easier than wallpapering them.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

### Double Double Word Search

- CHOCOLATE
- DISAPPEAR
- GORILLA
- STYLISH
- VEGGIES
- BUBBLE
- EASTER
- TREATS
- PUNCH
- BUNNY
- PAGE
- WAIT
- DYE
- BEST
- NINE

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

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

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

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

#### Scrambled Headlines

Cut out a lot of newspaper headlines. Then cut the headlines into single words. Have a family game night and see who can best recreate the correct headline or make a silly headline of their own.

Standards Link: Grammar: Construct grammatically correct sentences.

Why did the Easter Bunny fire the duck?

ANSWER: He kept quacking all the eggs.

### Write On!

#### Easter Bunny Spotted!

You are a reporter covering the news flash that someone has seen the Easter Bunny. Tell *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, and *why*.



BASEBALL

# Bearcats remain undefeated in district with pair of walk-offs

By Ryan Wade  
The Community News

The script for the start to District 5-5A play has been kind to the Bearcats varsity diamond dogs thus far.

A walk-off 1-0 win over Brewer on Friday, March 22, earned Aledo their first series win of the season. On Tuesday, March 26, the Bearcats (12-7-1 overall, 3-0 in district) pulled off a second walk-off win in a row to beat Granbury 3-2 in nine innings.

With the score tied at 2-2, Aledo needed to find a way to get on base. Johnny Ruffin started off the inning at the dish for the Bearcats by hitting the 1-2 offering on a line drive up the middle to give the Bearcats the baserunner they needed.

Unfortunately, Ruffin's time on the bases was short-lived. As Boyd Thompson stepped into the box with the lineup turning over, Ruffin was unceremoniously relieved of his baserunning duties when he was picked off at first.

After falling behind in the count, 0-2, Thompson fought off a couple pitches, took a couple more, and then grounded to short. An error by the shortstop allowed the Bearcats to put another runner on the bags with Brooks Burdine stepping to the plate looking to collect his first hit of the night.

The first offering to Burdine was a wild pitch that allowed Thompson to scamper over to second. With the winning run in



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

The Bearcat baseball team celebrates following their walk-off 1-0 win over Brewer on Friday, March 22.

scoring position, Burdine fouled off the 1-0 offering and the 1-1 offering.

Down 1-2 in the count, Burdine came up with his lone hit of the game when it mattered most. A single to center allowed Thompson to score all the way from second with a raucous celebration ensuing.

### Masterful Miller blanks Bears

Heading into their district home opener, the Bearcats knew facing

Brewer's Jayden Ayala was going to be a tough task. Fortunately for Aledo, pitching has been their strong suit so far this season.

Tasked with the responsibility of going head-to-head with Ayala for the Bearcats was Devin Miller. In a game that meant starting off District 5-5A with a sweep, Miller did not disappoint. The lanky right-hander carved up the Bears with a masterful performance on

the bump to keep Brewer off the scoreboard throughout the contest.

Midway through the seventh inning, Miller had spun a gem. Going all seven innings, he surrendered just three hits, walked one, and struck out 11 batters.

Most important, he shut out the Bears to give Aledo a chance to win it all in the bottom half of the inning.

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page 9

## TRACK

from page 8

girls, varsity and JV, continue to improve.

"We still have some things to work on in preparing for the district meet. Northwest will be extremely strong this year. We will continue to work hard and improve each day. I am very proud of all of these young ladies."

The Ladycats were without state shot put and discus qualifier Lauren St Peters and state 800 qualifier Sofia Brandenburg as they were competing in the Jesuit Shearer Relays this past weekend.

Gold medal winners for the Bearcats were Adrian Fuller (200), Adam Averett (400), Vincent Luffey (800), Jack Fink (3200), Braylon Brown (pole vault), Jayton Owens (long jump) and the 4x200 relay.

"Hate to see the streak end! Crowley had more depth, we had a short week of work because of moving the meet due to forecasted storms, and just had a bad day," Bearcats coach Andrew Clark said.

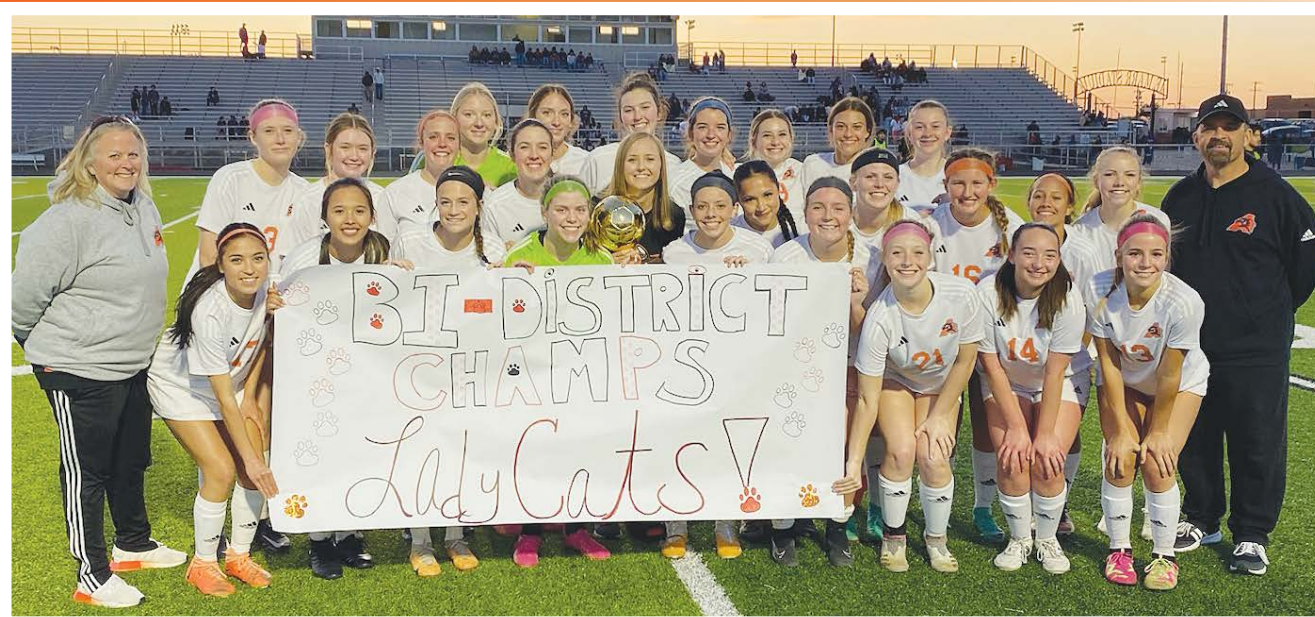
"We still have room to get faster. I think we will be ready to run when it comes to district. We have one more meet to get everything tuned up for the district meet."

"This time last year I thought we were reaching our peak speed, and I thought it might have been a little early. We aren't there yet this year and I think it is a good thing. Our times should start really dropping moving forward, kids getting in better 'track' shape coming out of basketball, and possibly getting a few guys back from injury. I think we have a really good chance to get kids down to Austin (for state)."

For results visit: <https://www.community-news.com/stories/ladycats-win-at-joshua-bearcats-second,76613>

# Congrats!!

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