

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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HUDSON OAKS

Council approves language for drive-thrus

Reappoints P&Z members

By Melissa Winn
The Community News

With many commercial additions to Hudson Oaks in recent years, one thing that city officials agreed needed updating was regulations regarding drive-thru facilities.

After the Planning & Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval at its May 14 meeting, it was the council's turn to take a look at language in the ordinance and decide what changes to make.

The existing ordinance had no regulations on drive-thrus that are not restaurant related, which meant, in essence, that any business could have a drive thru without it being properly reviewed by the city for safety and traffic concerns.

New definitions proposed in the land-use tables outline the need for a special use permit (SUP). Citing as an example, a dry-cleaning business with a drive-thru pickup lane would need an SUP to construct and use that lane.

"This does not meet the spirit of the overall zoning ordinance as drive-thru uses of other types can still pose a public risk in terms of traffic and safety," said Assistant City Administrator Hayden Brodowsky in a staff report.

That noted, "establishments providing services to customers in motor vehicles that are either temporarily parked, or through a service window and a drive-thru lane, such as drive-in or drive-thru restaurants, banks offering drive-thru services, pharmacies or dry cleaners offering drive-thru services, gas pumps/fuel sales, car washes, or similar concepts," will now be required to file for a SUP

after council voted to approve the changes May 30.

During the meeting the council also approved acceptance of a proposal from The Hub International for benefit consulting services to aid with challenges small group employers face when providing benefits for employees and their families.

The Hub, with a local office in Fort Worth, will charge \$10,900 annually for the city's 26 full-time employees. National Benefits Solutions will continue to administer the deductible reimbursement program/flex spending accounts and the third-party contract for the employee assistance program.

An existing contract with Brinson Benefits will expire on June 30.

Also at the meeting, council re-appointed Robyn Jackson, Dante Hall, and Angela Pereira to the planning and zoning commission for the 2024-2026 term.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

"Brad the Juggler" Johnson is way above the rest when it comes to pleasing kids. The Grand Prairie entertainer made an appearance at Willow Park Palooza on Saturday, June 1.

GRADUATION

Aledo's Gregory makes history

Crosses stage in Cherokee regalia

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Hunter Gregory grew up hearing about his Cherokee heritage. When he crossed the stage on May 24 to receive his diploma as a graduate of Aledo High School, he shared that heritage with all in attendance.

He is believed to be the first student in the history of the school to wear his Native American regalia when receiving his diploma.

"It means a lot for me to represent a part of me that I've always been extremely proud of, and I'm glad I can help pave the way for more to do so," he said. "Our heritage should be shared and shown as part of who we are."

"I don't know much other than my citizenship comes from my father's father, but it has made me a more spiritual person and I've always felt more in tune with nature whenever I take a moment to appreciate it."

Meaningful moment

Derek Gregory, Hunter's father, noted that tribal regalia, such as eagle/hawk feathers, cords, stoles, and beadwork on graduation caps, plays an important role in



LEFT: Hunter Gregory poses for a photo with Aledo ISD Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn and AHS Principal Angela Tims. | RIGHT: Hunter Gregory prepares to cross the stage in his Native American regalia at the Aledo High School graduation ceremony on May 24.

graduation ceremonies for many indigenous students. These sacred items are typically gifted to graduating students by their families or tribal elders to recognize the student's success and academic achievements, and to celebrate those achievements from both a spiritual and cultural perspective.

"Indeed, graduation ceremonies are especially meaningful for indigenous students because indigenous students have long faced structural barriers and discrimination in the educational context and are less likely to graduate from high school than their peers," Derek said. "We are incredibly proud that our son will be representing the Cherokee

Nation by wearing tribal regalia during his graduation ceremony."

While the Aledo ISD is allowing this honor to take place, doing so is up to the individual district. Derek said he is disappointed that the Texas Legislature did not pass legislation that would prohibit some school districts from preventing students like Hunter from wearing tribal regalia.

"I sent a letter formally requesting a religious exemption in accordance with state law to the superintendent of AISD. I also contacted all of my elected officials and gave them the information and the contact info for the superintendent," Derek said.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

"Having Cherokee ancestry has been good for our family because it has provided a sense of pride, belonging, and connection to something older than this very country," he continued. "Being a registered citizen of the Cherokee Nation is an incredible privilege and honor, and I am grateful to be able to pass that down to my son and for him to be able to pass it along to his children."

College plans

Hunter plans to attend Abilene Christian University and study criminal justice. A three-time state swimming qualifier at Aledo, he

does not plan to swim in college, but is open to participating in at least one sport if the opportunity presents itself.

"If Water Polo becomes available I will be the first to sign up," he said with a smile.

He'd also like to get more in touch with his tribe and learn more about their practices and become more involved with that part of his ancestry. In addition, he's shared what he does know with several classmates.

"I've told them a good bit of my heritage and they've been excited that I'll be the first to represent my tribe in Aledo," he said.



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Born and raised in Aledo, Dr. Darryl McEndree brings 24 years of veterinary expertise to his hometown, serving his entire career in Parker County. Dr. McEndree received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Texas A&M University in College Station.

The Clear Fork Veterinary team has expanded to include experienced veterinarians Dr. Kimberly Wise and Dr. Clare Williamson, and Dr. Emily Kingston, who joined the clinic in January of 2024.

It also has a full staff of veterinary technicians, customer service representatives and clinic

managers to ensure customer satisfaction for all.

"I have full confidence in all the veterinarians on our staff," Dr. McEndree said. "They are all dedicated to providing the best care for your pets."

The clinic provides comprehensive full-life-stage care to dogs and cats, offering wellness exams, vaccinations, hospital care, end-of-life care, pain management, dental care, surgery, radiology and imaging, internal medicine, pharmacy service, emergency care, micro-chipping, heartworm and flea treatment products and prescription food products.

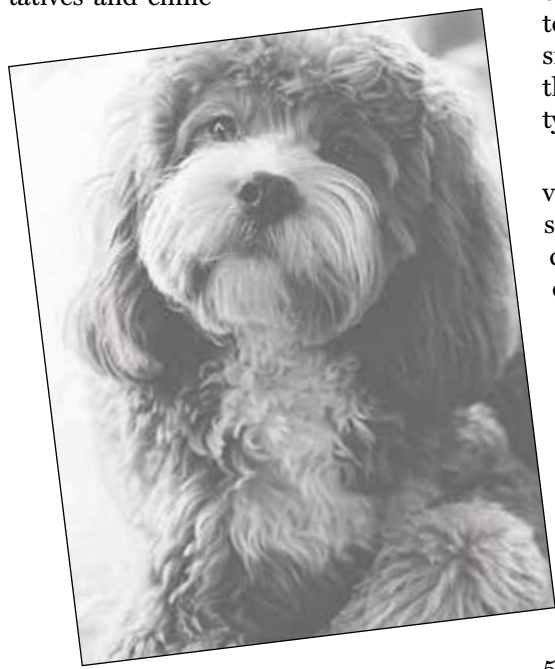
"We take the care of all pets very seriously," Dr. McEndree said. "We always try to remain very understanding and compassionate. We try to stay on the front edge of their care, while also providing high-quality treatment and medicine."

In addition to the pristine care it provides to its animal patients, Dr. McEndree said the practice maintains clear and open communication with their owners, and every visit will be one of compassion.

Dr. McEndree said they work to ensure all animals feel comfortable and safe when they are in their care.

"If anything is our niche, it's the time we spend with the owner and the pet," Dr. McEndree said. "We want to be able to make a difference in the lives of animals."

Clear Fork Veterinary Clinic is located at 8400 E. I-20. Call 817-678-5190 or visit cfvetclinic.com.



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EDUCATION

Million dollar donation aids Weatherford Christian School

Co-founder sells land, donates proceeds

Special to The Community News

Finding a high return on investment can be impossible in these uncertain economic times, but for Jim Bob and Kate Measures, there was no question where they wanted to donate their land sale for an eternal impact.

The Measures recently sold a tract of land and donated \$1 million of the proceeds to Weatherford Christian School.

“God has given me two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with,” said Jim Bob, co-founder of WCS. “When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I will not have a single earthly item left and could say ‘I used the many blessings You so richly blessed me with to help provide a Christ-centered education for every young soul fortunate enough to attend Weatherford Christian School.’”

In 2008, WCS purchased 72 acres on Ranger Highway through a mortgage loan. The private Christian school conducted a capital campaign to raise funds to fully cover the loan. However, the recession later that year caused a loss of more than half of the pledges and then later a sharp increase in

interest rates left the school with a hefty monthly financial burden that negatively affected the operational budget.

“Being able to relieve our budget of carrying the rising interest costs from a long-standing loan will be a huge blessing,” said Dr. Beth Riley, WCS Head of School.

It’s a balancing act to accommodate the needs of a growing school population and tend to the financial restraints of loan responsibilities to be fiscally responsible to parents, staff, and donors.

“Yet, God always provides for us just when we need Him,” said Dr. Riley.

The Measures have designated the \$1 million real estate sale proceeds to directly reduce the school’s original mortgage loan on the school’s acreage. Since there is no state or national funding for the private school sector, WCS relies 100 percent on donor support.

“This generous gift from the Measures will allow the school to move forward with additional projects to accommodate our current growth and prepare for the future,” Dr. Riley said. “God bless Mr. and Mrs. Measures for their extraordinary donation.”

The future-minded Measures offered students some encouragement, too.

“After graduating may they pursue higher education at a Christian college. At the proper time in life, choose a Christian spouse in marriage rearing their children in the nurture and admiration of the Lord, passing their love for the Lord on to the next generation,” Jim Bob Measures said.

Investing in Christian education has been in the Measures’ hearts for a lifetime and the couple said they’ve seen so many blessings because of their obedience. That’s why they wanted to extend an offer to the public to join them in supporting quality Christian education by prayerfully considering helping to pay off the remaining \$631,000 of the school’s land mortgage loan.

“I hope I live long enough,” Jim Bob Measures said, “to witness that day (for our mortgage to be fully paid off).”

The school said the donors’ contribution “is a testament to the power of community support and faith-based generosity, inspiring us all to invest in the future of Christian education and the development of young minds.

What else can truly have generational and eternal impact?”



Jim Bob and Kate Measures

WEATHERFORD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Weatherford Christian School, founded in 2001, is a non-denominational, Christ-centered, educational facility enrolling students in preschool through the 12th grade. The school’s mission is to provide a Christ-centered educational environment where children are equipped for lives of Christian leadership and service.

Emphasizing personal development, WCS strives to provide an education of high academic quality and motivates each student to

perform at his or her maximum potential. WCS is accredited by both National Christian School Association (NCSA) and Cognia. WCS is also a registered member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). The campus is located at 2300 Ranger Highway, just west of downtown Weatherford.

For more information, email Courtney McKeown at courtney.mckeown@wcsliions.org or call 817-341-0000.

Annetta Elementary School Choir honored



PHOTO COURTESY ANNETTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: The fourth- and fifth-grade Annetta Elementary choir, conducted by Jeannine Kessinger, earned a 1+ at the recent Pride of Texas competition held at Alley Cats Entertainment in Hurst. The score indicates the choir was the best choir the judges graded that day. **RIGHT:** With slicked-back hair and poodle skirts, the Annetta Elementary School Choir, under the direction of Jeannine Kessinger, entertained family and friends with a nostalgic sock-hop themed production which included songs by Bill Haley, Elvis, and other 50s icons on May 16.

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Capital Highlights

Phelan wins re-election bid, seeks speaker post again



Gary Borders
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House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, narrowly won re-election in a hotly contested runoff race and has vowed to seek his third term as speaker, drawing threats from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton to oppose any of his supporters in the 2024 primary.

"I've done it twice, Phelan told *The Dallas Morning News*. "I'll do it a third time." But Patrick was quick to threaten opposition to any representative supporting Phelan's bid.

"My message to Austin is clear: to those considering supporting Dade Phelan as speaker in 2025, ask your 15 colleagues who lost reelection how they feel about their decision now," Paxton said in a statement. "You will not return if you vote for Dade Phelan again."

Two former Phelan supporters already have announced they will run for speaker. Rep. Tom Oliverson, R-Cypress, announced his plans to do so before the runoff results were known. Rep. Shelby Slawson, R-Stephenville, announced her candidacy on Thursday.

Phelan has drawn Paxton's ire since supporting impeaching the attorney general, who was ultimately acquitted by the Senate last September.

FEMA opens more disaster recovery centers

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has opened more disaster recovery centers in southeast Texas counties hit by recent storms and flooding, the *Houston Chronicle* reported. New centers opened in Hardin, Montgomery and Walker counties and are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Meanwhile, Gov. Greg Abbott added five more counties to the disaster declaration list: Dallas, Fannin, Hockley, Lynn, and

Rockwall. That means more than 100 Texas counties are now under a disaster declaration after severe storms and flooding swept a considerable portion of the state in late April, with heavy rainfall, flash flooding, flooded rivers, large hail and hazardous wind gusts.

"I encourage every Texan who sustained damage to their home or business to report it using the Texas Division of Emergency Management's iSTAT damage survey," Abbott said. The link to the survey can be found at: damage.tdem.texas.gov.

SBOE to approve more rigorous course material

Public comment is now open for new course materials proposed by the Texas Education Agency and under consideration by its governing body, the State Board of Education.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the state has developed academic content that will be offered free online for kindergarten through fifth grade reading and language arts, and for kindergarten through eighth grade math. SBOE must approve the materials for use in all public schools that wish to use them.

Education Commissioner Mike Morath said the intent is to provide free, state-developed and vetted course materials. He said teachers have said in TEA surveys that they spend many hours outside of school looking online for such material.

"In many cases, the materials that have been cobbled together by curriculum teams or grade level teams, while seemingly appropriate, have not given students exposure to the background knowledge they need," Morath said. "You want kids to be able to read independently, but you want them to be really stretched."

If approved by the board, districts will receive an additional \$40 per student to use board-approved books and \$20 to print state-owned content. Anyone interested in viewing the proposed materials and provide feedback by going to the board's website — sboe.texas.gov — and finding the "Instructional Materials Review and Approval" page.

The board could approve use of the materials in November.

TPWD approves rules for trapping mountain lions

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission last week approved rules for hunting and trapping mountain lions in the state, banning canned hunts and setting a 36-hour limit for checking traps for live mountain lions, kut.org reported.

Before the vote, there were no requirements for checking traps, and whatever was trapped could be left to die of exposure or dehydration.

"We don't need to facilitate negligence. We have a duty to manage wildlife. We have a duty to be ethical as hunters," Brandt Buchanan, a ranch manager and hunter, told commissioners.

Violating the new regulation is a class C misdemeanor. Prior to the vote, Texas was the only state that did not have any rules for trapping or hunting mountain lions.

Wildlife filmmaker Ben Masters told commissioners that technology provides an economical way for ranchers and trappers to comply with the new regulations for live mountain lions caught in traps, showing them a small motion-activated camera that can let them know what is in a trap.

"Y'all have the opportunity today to show some dignity and respect to our cats," Masters said prior to the regulation being approved.

State revamps Narcan distribution following delays

Texas is revamping its distribution program for an overdose-reversing medication after years of supply and distribution challenges, *The Texas Tribune* reported.

The state has tapped into more than \$45 million in federal funds since 2019 in order to get Narcan into the hands of law enforcement and members of the public seeking to reduce overdose deaths. The program has been beset by delays, supply

challenges and communication lapses, however.

UT Health Science Center San Antonio will continue to administer the program, now called Naloxone Texas, and says it has improved distribution and communication in recent months.

"I am aware that individuals have expressed concern about the rapidity with which they receive naloxone," said Jennifer Sharpe Potter of UT Health San Antonio. "This is life-saving work, and we want to make sure that people get naloxone as quickly as possible."

UT Health San Antonio's contract with the federal Health and Human Services Commission requires it to distribute at least 120,000 doses a year in Texas, *The Tribune* reported. This year marks the first time the state is using its own funds in part for distributing naloxone instead of relying solely on federal money.



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

LETTERS POLICY

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The following pages celebrate the Class of 2024, starting at the beginning...

Kindergarten Graduation

This year we visited Vandagriff Elementary School's Kindergarten Graduation



ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2024



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Leah Bechert



Grayson Bentley



Presley Bergen



Zoie Blackett



Henry Blake



Roderick Blake



Katlyn Blaker



Riley Blankenship



Jaden Blue



Colton Bock



Anna Bone



Ariaya Bonilla



Savannah Bowers



Emma Boyd



Nicholas Brandt



Lillian Brauns



Reichen Brewer



Faith Brooks



Connor Brown



Matthew Brown



Mia Browne



Caroline Browning



Tyler Bullard



Jonathan Bullock



Jake Bumgardner



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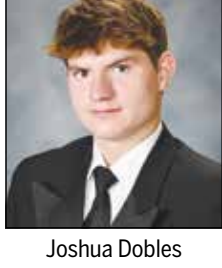
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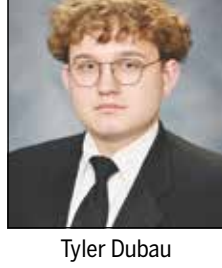
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Isabell Galaviz



Noah Galaviz



Gabriel Galvez



Aneth Garcia



Olivia Gartman



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Brady Meins



Maria Merrill



Catherine Messer



Zachary Meyer



Lilly Michaelis



Sara Michaelis



Hudson Miller



Brooke Mills



Reagan Mitchell



Cade Moore



Jett Moore



Kyla Morales



Neddary Moran Gonzalez



Allie Moreno



Isabelle Morin



Riley Morrill



Journey Morrow



Weston Nance



Marco Nava



Niklas Nawrocki



Ashlyn Neeley



Claire Nelson



Megan Nelson



Sam Newburn



Bruno Nogueira



Darrius Nolte



Josslyn O' Bryant



Ashley Oberg



Kaleb Oestreich



Nicholas Oetinger



Kirin Opstad



Natalie Ostrom



Rakesh Pachigolla



Jackson Parker



Kennedy Parker



Vivian Parker



Paige Parks



Keiran Patrick



Nathan Patridge



Asa Patterson



Gustin Paul



Tyler Paul



Jon Paulsen



Matthew Petersen



Owen Peterson



Frank Phillips



Jake Phillips



Savannah Pike



Skylar Pittman



Cole Plumbley



Claire Poindexter



Hattie Poland



Abigail Powell



Taylor Prestage



Taelynn Price



Jacob Prichard



Averi Pruitt



Brayden Pruitt



Blake Pryor



Adrianna Quinones

ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2024



Anthony Ramirez



Vanessa Ramirez



Emory Rapp



Mason Rauschuber



Sarah Ray



Cooper Reed



Johnnie Reed



Zachary Reilly



Jude Rekerdres



Garrett Rester



Lily Revard



Ana Robbins



Emily Rodgers



Blake Rogers



Lane Rogers



Chase Rohe



Jesus Rosas Cano



Dominic Rue



Alexa Saenz



Alexander Salvatore



Simone Sanchez



Cole Sandefur



Sonia Sanders



Carter Sandoval



Luke Saunders



Jack Sawyer



Kyle Scharlow



Rowan Schlotterbeck



William Schmidt



Zaine Schmidt



Ava Schmitz



Jackson Schneider



Madison Scott



Jacob Seaman



Jenna Seeley



Morgan Sehnem



Sofia Shaw



Ethan Shelton



John Shiman



Ridglea Shumate



Brendan Sides



Luke Slabbekoorn



Connor Smith



Harley Smith



Hayden Smith



Gabrielle Soto



Brandon Southwick



Kamryn Spears



Kailyn Speed



Lauren St Peters



Alexandra Steffe



Brinklee Stegall



Maya Stevens



Charles Stinchcomb



Breckston Stokes



Maizie Stone



Aiden Stover



Elizabeth Suchocki



Rebecca Sullivan



Samantha Sullivan



Lauren Suttle



Christopher Suzow



Kendrick Swain



Sage Symns



Dakota Taylor



Hayden Taylor



Katherine Taylor



Valerie Tello



Evan Thompson



Mitchell Thompson



Zoe Thompson



Landrie Thurman



Tyson Timms



Miranda Tinoco



Jackson Todd



Kaydee Torres



Daniella Tregellas



Lucy Trotter



Brett Turner



Luke Turner



Addie Unterwagner



Beckett Unterwagner



Finn Unterwagner



Kylie Valdez



Elisabeth Van Cleef



John Vance



Rebecca Vandenberg



Hailey Vandiver



Bryce Vonasek



Anabel Waggoner



Noah Wagner



Kaitlyn Walker



Caroline Ward



Maryn Ward



Lanham Watts



Payton Weaver



Andrew Weckel



Jenna Weikert



Caden West



Sasha West



Taima Westbrook



Brittyn Wheeler



Joshua Wheeler



Levi Wheeler



Abbey White



Briley White



Brooke White



Parker White

ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2024



Madison Widmayer



Grant Wiggins



Devron Williams



Savannah Williams



Taylor Williams-Sensintaffar



Chloe Wilson



Lillian Wilson



Kallie Wisdom



Bryce Wolf



Cayley Wolfe



Preston Wyss



Aiden Yielding



Jonathan Zenteno



Zane Zielinski



Evan Zimmermann



Georgia Zirbser



Skylar Zwetzig

TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY CLASS OF 2024



Jacob Anderson



Ava Blanton



Brody Blauser



Carson Blauser



Gracie Bruner



Luke Byrne



Meredith Cobble



Olivia Cockrum



Peyton Crumpler



Samuel Deary



Anna Gasowski



Taylor Hale



Christopher Hicks



Colby Jacobs



McKenna Kelley



Kyle Kerrigan



Kostas Luecker



Giuliana Marcantonio



Walker Merrill



Ezekiel Miller



Brasen Moore



David Morgan



Preston Morrow



Dustin Ratliff



Lucas Sims



McKenna Sims



Maxwell Skogsberg



Elle Smith



Marla Stanfield



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Matthew Sykes



Caroline Thompson



Grace Vaughn



Gracee Whitaker



Meredith White



Wilson Winchester

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Kid Scoop Together

Sea Star Patterns

In each column, draw the missing sea star that continues the pattern. Have an adult check your answers.

1	2	3

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



JUNE 11

Dementia Support Group
Join the Dementia Support Group from 4-5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11 at Harvest of Aledo 1043 Bailey Ranch Rd. We are honored and privileged to care for those affected by dementia. Even more so, we value the efforts of the caregivers, especially the families of our residents. This meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of every month. For more information call 682-209-0643



JULY 4

Boomin' 4th
Enjoy a great evening of family fun, food and amazing fireworks from 5 - 10 p.m. on Thursday, July 4, at Gene Voyles Park, 210 Hudson Oaks Drive, Hudson Oaks, TX. The entertainment will be the Party Machine which brings the same high energy, interactive performance. Choose from a variety of delicious eats and treats from local vendors! The Kid Zone is FUN for

ALL brought to you by local community partners! Fireworks start at approximately 9:30 p.m. and are choreographed to music on 92.1 Hank FM. Lawn chairs and coolers are welcome. No canopies, fireworks, grills, tents or glass.

For more information and shuttle bus parking maps visit <https://www.hudsonoaks.com/Visitors/eventscoho/July-4th-Event>



Spark in the Park
Join Weatherford Parks and Recreation for Spark in the Park 2024, 6 - 10:30 pm on Thursday July 4 at Heritage park. Come enjoy music, food, waterslides and fireworks.

The Eli Young Band is headlining at the amphitheater.

Following artist concerts fireworks will begin after dark, approximately 9:30 PM.

The event is FREE TO ATTEND! Checkout the webpage for Facebook for event/parking maps: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1448007752777165>

JULY 13

Parker County Peach Festival
Mark your calendar to come celebrate the 39th Annual Parker County Peach Festival in #WeatherfordTX on



Saturday, July 13, 2024!
Come enjoy and shop the more than 200 art/craft/food & activity booths as well as the amazing shops, restaurants & boutiques in historic downtown Weatherford. The expanded festival area makes it easy to spread out and enjoy the day! Save the date for this "peachy" family fun-filled event!

Tickets will be available online in June 2024!!

\$10.00 for adults
\$5.00 children 5-12
Under 5 are free

For more information on www.peachfestivaltx.com



JULY 14-18

AUMC VBS 2024
This year's Vacation Bible School theme is "Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God!" Each evening from 5:30 - 8:40 p.m. at Aledo United Method Church will include a snack supper, music, games, Bible Stories, crafts and more! For ages 4 years to 6th grade. Children must be 4 years old by July 1st, 2024 and fully potty trained. Nursery is available for Volunteer's

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 on highway 199, NW of Fort Worth
- 5 Texas ___ has a star of five points
- 6 "French Legation State Historic ___"
- 7 "Lake ___ Pines"
- 8 billiards stick
- 9 regulator of DFW Airport (abbr.)
- 12 TXism: "plain ___ nose on your face"
- 17 Texas has made ___ into controlling litter
- 19 TXism: "don't change horses in the middle of the ___"
- 21 meeting items lists
- 22 TX Ginger's "Heart-beat" with Jean-Aumont
- 23 Gov. Greg ___
- 28 TXism: "he has short arms and pockets" (frugal)
- 29 most Texas soldiers in the Civil War
- 30 tackle, Mark, who helped Cowboys win 3 Super Bowls
- 31 Luke Bryan country hit: "Down ___"
- 35 shorthand writer, for short
- 36 Texas-based 1960 film: "___ Hill"
- 42 defamed someone's character
- 44 "W" of Texas crime "DWI"

DOWN

- 1 "Sheriffs' ___ Texas"
- 2 "New Braunfels Herald-___"
- 3 TXism: "___ up" (mad)
- 4 Gen. Robert ___
- 9 TX Buddy Holly's "Not ___ Away"
- 10 Texas epic "Giant" was ___
- 11 biblical donkey
- 12 Egyptian cobra
- 13 TXism: "that's ___ different color"
- 14 one under par in golf
- 15 this program brought women into the USAF from 1948 to 1976
- 16 speech sound uttered with breath, not voice
- 17 golf gadget (2 wds.)
- 18 ___ Green County
- 19 Dallas-born "Usher" 1999 film: "___ All That"
- 19 TXism: "so many you couldn't ___ a stick"
- 20 TX Strait's "I Think She Still Loves ___"
- 21 TXism: "chompin' ___ the bit" (eager)
- 22 Dallas-based Greyhound transport
- 23 TXism: "ain't worth two ___" (useless)
- 24 TX Strait's "I Think She Still Loves ___"
- 25 TXism: "ain't worth two ___" (useless)
- 26 "___ for all" (same legal system for everyone)
- 27 in Shelby County on U.S. 84 & 96
- 28 TX Tanya's "Some Kind ___ Trouble"
- 29 "use it ___ lose it"
- 34 TXism: "nah"
- 36 TXism: "___ earned his spurs" (merited)
- 37 rocks with gold, e.g.
- 38 "take ___ to the ball game . . ."
- 39 ___ Rivers, Texas
- 40 cow skins
- 41 UT grad, Wallach
- 43 ___ Pepper
- 45 boot width
- 47 TX Nimitz was a Navy rear
- 48 Abilene's Dyess Air Force ___
- 55 gambling, e.g.

children. For more information or to volunteer to help contact Teresa Chisum: Teresa@aledoumc.org



JULY 9

Dementia Support Group
Join the Dementia

Support Group from 4-5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9 at Harvest of Aledo 1043 Bailey Ranch Rd. We are honored and privileged to care for those affected by dementia. Even more so, we value the

efforts of the caregivers, especially the families of our residents. This meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of every month. For more information call 682-209-0643

EVENT SUBMISSIONS

Send event submissions to 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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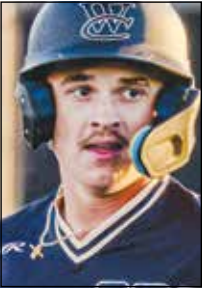
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BASEBALL

Mason, Tockey among WC all-conference honors

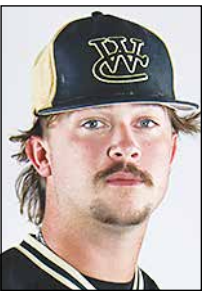
Staff Reports
The Community News

After winning their second straight conference title, the Weatherford College baseball team dominated the All-Conference list released recently. The coaches of the Northern Texas Junior College Athletic Conference honored 11 Coyote players and their head coach Jeff Lightfoot.



Trace Mazon

Among those are former Aledo Bearcat Trace Mazon and former Weatherford Kangaroo Dayton Tockey. Tockey was named to the first team and Mazon to the second.



Dayton Tockey

Tockey, a sophomore who played a key role in the Coyotes' third-place finish at the NJCAA Division I World Series in 2023, posted a .310 batting average with a team-high nine home runs. He also drove in 45 runs, had a team-high 46 walks, along with a .594 slugging percentage and a .465 on-base percentage.

Mazon, a freshman, made an immediate impact at the college level. He led the Coyotes in doubles with 21 and 65 RBI. He also batted .339, hit three home runs, walked 25 times, posted a .508 slugging percentage and had a .429 on-base percentage.

Turn to **BASEBALL**, page 15

FOOTBALL

Bearcats' reloading begins with spring ball

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

As he prepares for his second season as head coach, Aledo's Robby Jones liked what he saw during spring workouts as the Bearcats start the reloading process.

In places like Aledo - well, actually, there is no place like Aledo in Texas since the Bearcats have a dozen state championships, more than any other program in the state - the old cliché "they don't rebuild, they reload" applies.

In fact, the Bearcats are coming off back-to-back championships. In his debut season at the helm, Jones led the squad to a 16-0 record after being a

Turn to **FOOTBALL**, page 15



Brady Powell reaches to receive a pass during spring workouts.

BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

TRACK AND FIELD

St. Peters honored as Legacy All-Star

Staff Reports
The Community News

Lauren St. Peters of the Aledo Ladycats track and field team was honored by the Texas Girls Coaches Association as a Legacy All-Star recently.

St. Peters, who graduated from Aledo High School on May 24, wrapped up her high school career by winning a gold medal in the shot put at the University Interscholastic League State Track and Field Meet at the University of Texas in Austin on May 3. She also finished fourth in the discus.

It was her third consecutive season to compete at state. She captured a bronze medal in the shot put as a junior and was fourth in both the shot put and discus as a sophomore.

St. Peters will compete for the University of Nebraska next season on an athletic scholarship.

The TGCA selects a maximum of 20 All-Stars, from conferences 1-4A and 5-6A. These athletes are selected by the TGCA Track Committee, which is composed of track and field member coaches of the association, at their annual meeting. Selections are made from nominations submitted by member coaches.

Athletes must be seniors to be selected. These all-stars will not participate in the summer clinic all-star activities but will receive a certificate and a letter jacket patch.



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Lauren St. Peters of Aledo competes in the Class 5A girls shot put event at the UIL State Track and Field Meet on Friday, May 3, 2024 in Austin.

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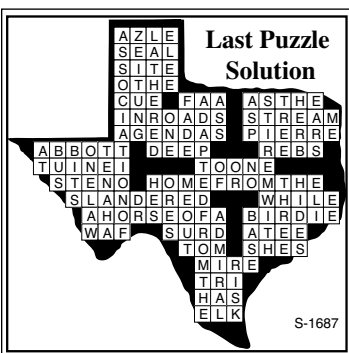
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**CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS
ORDINANCE 2024-207**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS, AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VI "TECHNICAL CODES," OF CHAPTER 10, "BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS," OF THE ALEDO CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADOPT THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, THE 2020 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, 2021 INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE, THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, THE 2021 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, THE 2021 EXISTING BUILDING CODE, AND THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE; TO ADOPT LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE ADOPTED CODES; PROVIDING FOR RECORDING OF THE CODES AS PUBLIC RECORDS; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWS PAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sec.10-179. - Penalty.
Any person, firm, or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects, or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty and is subject to the penalties as set forth in section 1-10 of this Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 8.
This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 23rd DAY OF MAY, 2024.
Nick Stanley, Mayor

ATTEST:
Deana McMullen, City Secretary

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BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Caleb Hart

Colby Smith

FOOTBALL

from page 13

part of 10 others as offensive coordinator since 2009.

"I think we made a lot of improvements throughout the spring on both sides of the ball," Jones said. "The defense is a little ahead of the offense right now, but when you don't have your starting running back (junior Raycine Guillory) and only returning starting offensive linemen (junior Payton Williams), that is to be expected. We will be a lot better in the fall when those two guys are back to 100 percent."

Both Guillory and Williams are recovering from injuries. Despite missing several games last season, including almost the entire last half of the postseason, Guillory accounted for almost 1,400 yards and 21 touchdowns.

"Ray was not able to participate in spring drills. We had to hold him back at times because he wanted to be out on the field with his teammates," Jones said. "We just must be smart with his rehab and get all the strength back in his leg before we put him back on the field."

Jones said the focus on the defensive side of the ball is replacing the entire secondary, with all four starters signing NCAA Division 1 college scholarships and the top backup signing a NCAA Division 2 scholarship. This includes State Championship Game MVP Davhon Keys, who is now with LSU.

"We are still trying to figure out the best combination in the secondary going into the summer months, but we feel pretty good about the guys that we have," Jones said.

On offense the focus is rebuilding the line, with only one returning

starter back (Williams) and he got injured the second week of spring.

"It left us very experienced up front. We saw a lot of improvement by those guys as a unit as the spring went on, and we fully expect to have a good offensive line when we get going in the fall," Jones said.

Other key losses on the offense include now graduated QB Hauss Hejny, the 2022 State Championship Game Offensive MVP and 2023 State Championship Offensive MVP Hawk Patrick-Daniels. Hejny is now with TCU and Patrick-Daniels signed to play for Tyler Junior College.

Gavin Beard is the heir apparent to Hejny. In limited action last season the sophomore completed 45 of 62 passes (73%) for 517 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions.

"Gavin showed that he is a more than capable QB. The coaching staff knew going into spring that Gavin has a chance to be a really good QB for us, and I think he showed that throughout the spring," Jones said.

"The major competition is in the two areas that we focused a lot of attention on this spring, the defensive secondary and offensive line. There is still competition going on to decide who the starts are going to be in some of those positions," Jones continued. "We also have a lot of competition at the wide receiver and tight end positions. There are several players that can fill different roles for us in those positions."

Jones added that junior Kayden Finley, who has seen action at tight end and wide receiver the past two seasons, is expected to get the ball even more in 2024 after catching 39 passes for 602 yards and six touchdowns in 2023.

BEARCAT SCHEDULE

Aledo Bearcats 2024 football schedule

- Aug. 22, at Mansfield Timberview (scrimmage), TBA
- Aug. 30, at Denton Guyer, 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 6, Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.
- District 3-5A Division I
- Sept. 13, at Brewer, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 20, Brewer (Homecoming), 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26, at Keller Fossil Ridge, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 4, Denton Ryan (Band/Dance Parent Night), 7 p.m.
- Oct. 11, at Granbury, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 25, Richland, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 1, at Azle, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 8, Denton (Senior Night), 7 p.m.

Jones said the defensive line is the strength of the team right now with a lot of returning players.

"Carson Dempsey (junior) and Cooper Cyphers (junior) are going to be two of the best defensive end duos in the state," Jones said. "Then we have four defensive tackles in Decker Sander (junior), Talan Forman (senior), Jaxon Richter (senior) and Tymon Meeks (sophomore) that we are going to rotate, that are as good as anyone out there."

"Linebacker Ben McElree (senior) should provide some leadership on the defense as a returning starter and will also see time at running back this fall."

Jones also noted there is a lot of talent from the JV program whom he expected to be strong contributors in the coming season.

RODEO

WC's Sorey third in national roping

By Crystal Woerley
Weatherford College

Weatherford College's Trent Sorey finished third at the National Finals Steer Ropin — College Division national championship in Clarendon on Monday, May 27.



Trent Sorey

The top 18 qualifiers competed in three preliminary rounds. The top 12 returned for the final round and overall championship. Like the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming, the NFSR national championship is based on competitor's performances at the finals.

Sorey, the defending national champion, led the national standings for most of the season but finished the season ranked third in the nation. Sorey's times were 14.2 for sixth in round one, 14.2 for sixth in Round 2, 11.5 for third in Round 3, and 11.0 for second in the finals round. His total time of 50.9 on four head was good for third place overall.

Slade Wood (Southwest Texas Junior College) won the national title after roping four steers in 46.8, followed by Chisum Allen (Sul Ross State University) with a time of 49.5. Wood, Allen and Sorey were the only competitors to have qualified runs on four head.

WC's Catcher Gasperson finished eighth in the nation after tying three steers down in 46.0, and Cash Fretwell finished 11th overall by tying two steers in 25.6.

SOFTBALL

from page 16

third base and home plate, ultimately getting tagged for the dramatic final out of the intense contest.

McKean went the distance for Aledo, giving up only one hit against six walks with 14 strikeouts. Marina Taveras, Pawlak and Edington each recorded a hit for the Ladycats.

On the way back to state, Aledo (35-4, 12-0) won District 5-5A then took down Everman, Birdville, Joshua, Monterey and Burleson Centennial to claim a well earned

Region I crown. The Ladycats, led by head coach Heather Myers, outscored their district opposition by a margin of 128 runs. The game was originally supposed to be played at McCombs Field in Austin but was moved to East View High School due to weather-related concerns.



BASEBALL

from page 13

Lightfoot was named Coach of the Year for a third time since starting the program in 2003.

Sophomore Robert Fortenberry and freshman Cade Crossland are Co-Pitchers of the Year in the NTJAC. Fortenberry set a school record and was second in the nation in wins with a 13-0 record. The Mississippi State commit has posted a 2.19 earned run average with 75 strikeouts.

Crossland had a 2.37 ERA with a 9-2 record and 100 strikeouts. He has committed to the University of Oklahoma.

Sophomore Kasen Wells was named Offensive Player of the Year.

The outfielder had a .383 batting average with 53 RBI, 15 doubles and seven triples (tied for ninth nationally). The Dallas Baptist University commit also stole 33 bases.

Also on the first team from WC are sophomore second baseman Miguel Luevano, sophomore outfielder Luka Daoust, freshman designated hitter Uriah Walters, freshman relief pitcher Tanner Wiggins and sophomore relief pitcher Charlie Giese.

Wiggins, a University of Tennessee commit, has seven saves (eighth nationally).

Joining Mazon as a second team all-conference selection are sophomore pitcher Cody Morse, another Oklahoma commit.



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SOFTBALL

Ladycats lose 1-0 in state semifinal heartbreaker

Aledo's resurgent season concludes against historic Harlingen South squad

By Geoff Heppes
The Community News

GEORGETOWN - After losing to Richland in the area round of the 2023 postseason, the Aledo Ladycats softball team bounced back with a resurgent 2024 campaign that took the squad back to Austin.

The Ladycats marched into their state semifinal match against a Harlingen South squad making its first appearance in program history at this juncture of the postseason. Ultimately, the Lady Hawks pulled the upset in the pitchers' duel, courtesy of a third-inning RBI single and coming out on the right side of a defensive rundown between third base and home for the game's last out and a 1-0 victory Saturday afternoon at East View High School in Georgetown.

Aledo junior Taylor McKean took the circle for the Ladycats, who batted second in the contest and dazzled with a healthy combination of her offspeed repertoire and location on the outside corners. She nabbed two of her 14 strikeouts in the top of the first inning, but Lady Hawks junior pitcher Lexi Sandoval responded by striking out Aledo's top of the order in succession.

Aledo got a strong scoring opportunity in the bottom of the second when third baseman Kyleigh Pawlak doubled to right field and

was moved to third on a sacrifice bunt by Texas Tech-commit Brynlee Gonzales. After that, McKean drew a walk and her pinch runner, Grace Heath, stole second base shortly after her substitution on the base paths. However, an infield popout and a groundout during the next two at bats ended the threat.

Then, Harlingen South mustered the game's only offense on a two-out RBI single by its second baseman Emily Ruiz for a 1-0 lead. The Ladycats threatened with two base runners in the bottom of the same frame but were stranded after a groundout to Lady Hawks' star third baseman Amira Rodriguez, a Washington commit and the state's current RBI leader.

Defensively, Aledo remained stalwart throughout the contest. McKean collected six more strikeouts in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings while the Ladycats played errorless defense behind her to keep the deficit at one run.

After McKean retired three of four Harlingen South batters in the top of the seventh inning, the Ladycats still had one more chance to either extend the game or walk it off. With two outs and momentum growing for the Lady Hawks, center fielder Jordyn Eddington blooped a double to right field that gave Aledo life and hope late in this state semifinal. Next, leadoff hitter Addie Perry beat the muffed throw from third to first for an infield single as Eddington rounded third base and raced for home plate. However, she was caught in a rundown between

Turn to **SOFTBALL**, page 15



PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Aledo sophomore Jordyn Eddington arrives steals second base, putting the game-tying run in scoring position in the bottom of the seventh inning of the Class 5A state softball semifinal between Aledo and Harlingen South, on May 31, 2024 in Georgetown. Harlingen South won, 1-0.



Aledo left fielder Maddy Flora catches a fly ball for an out.



Aledo sophomore Kyleigh Pawlak reaches second base ahead of the throw.

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Salute to Seniors 2024

June 7, 2024

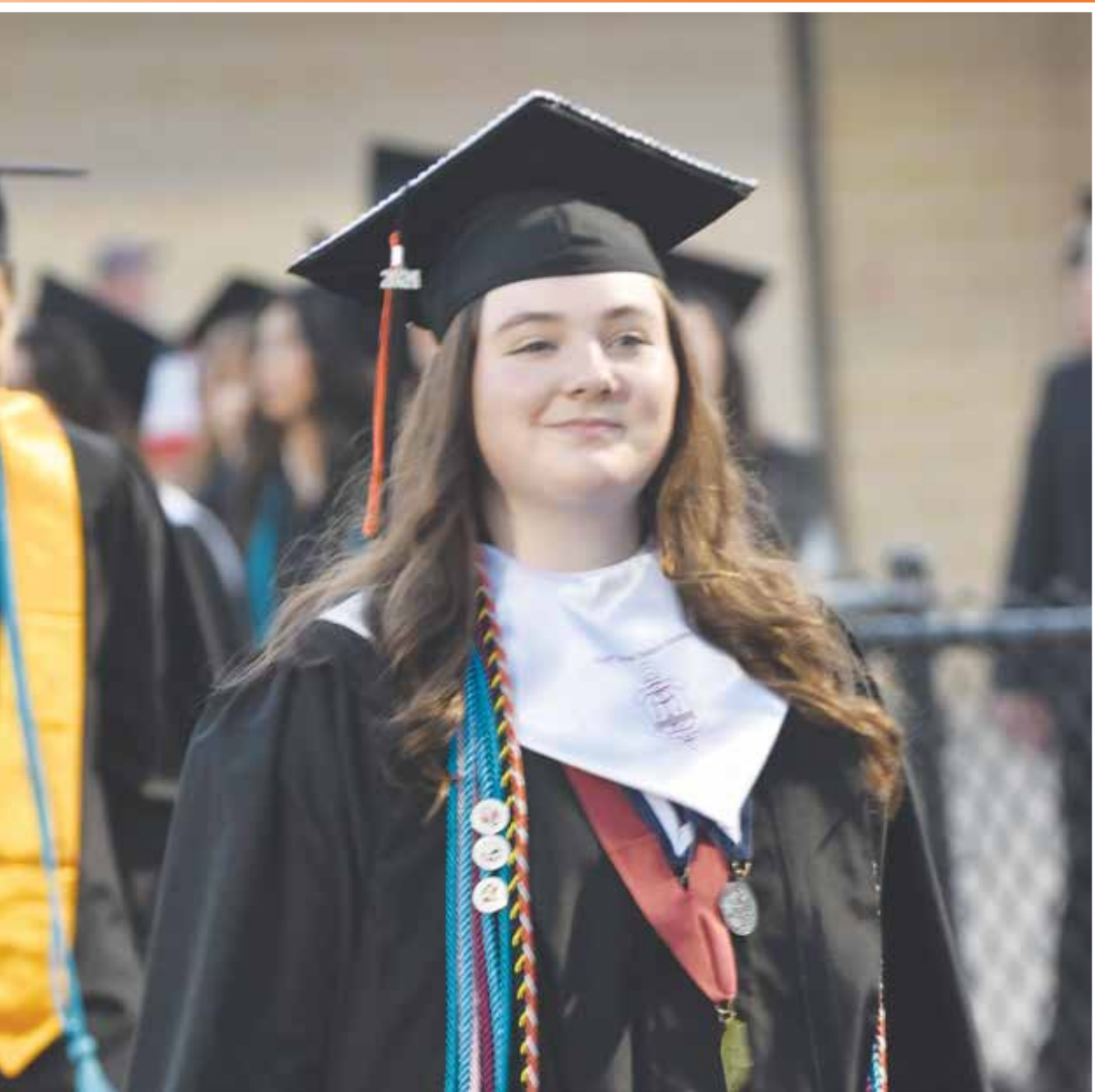
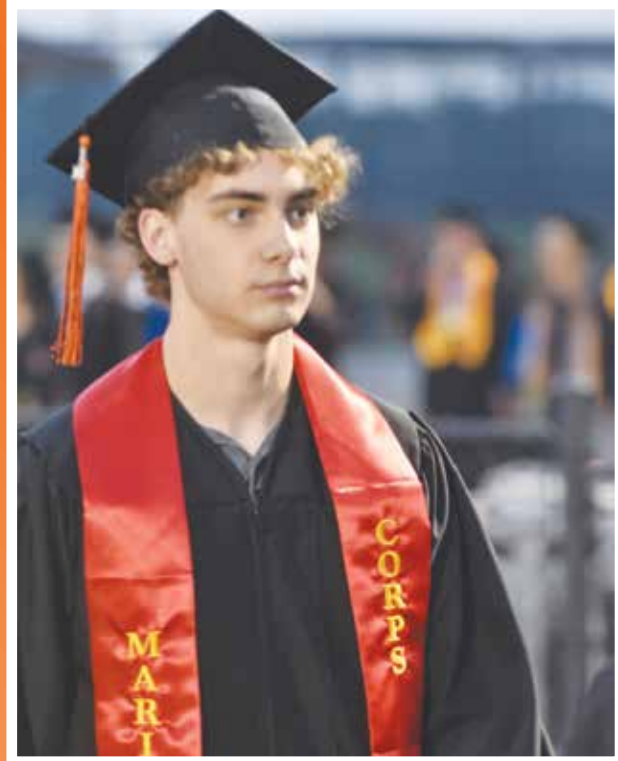


This section is published by: The Community News • 1015 Champions Dr. • Aledo, TX 76008 • 817-441-7661 • www.community-news.com

Aledo High School Graduation

Aledo High School's Commencement Ceremony was held May 24 at Tim Buchanan Stadium.

PHOTOS BY RANDY KECK



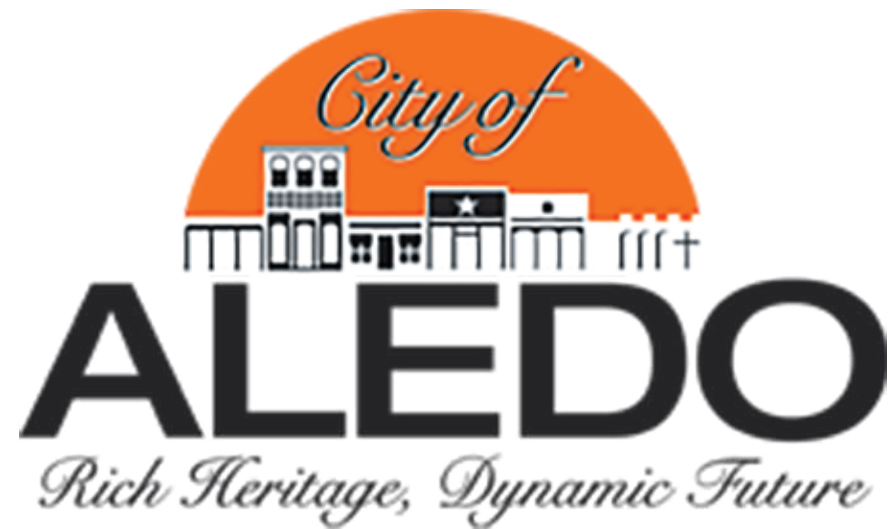




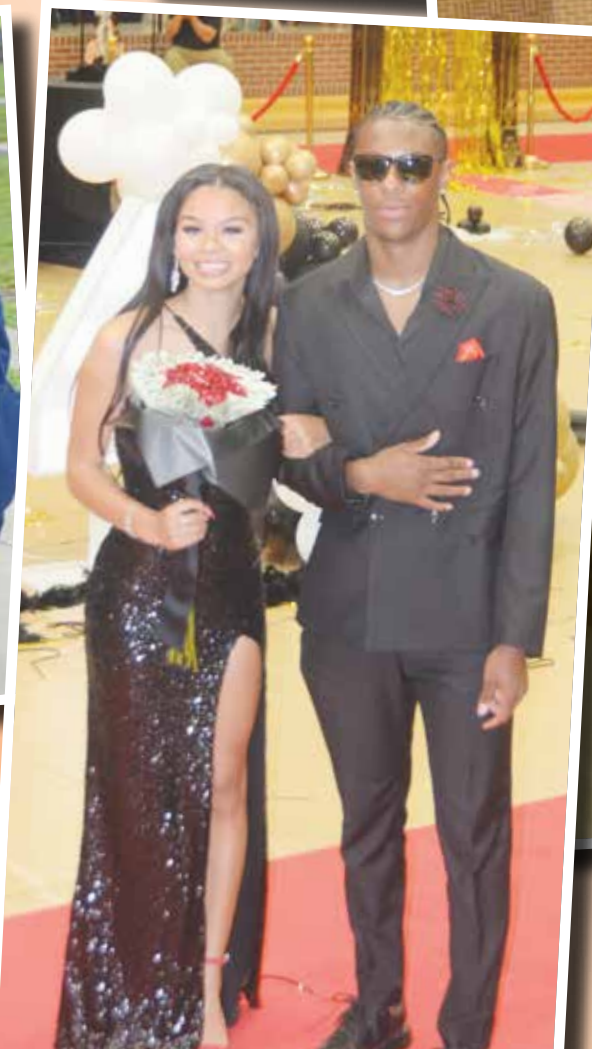
Congratulations!

CLASS OF 2024

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The annual Promenade was held May 6 at Aledo High School.





Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

Best wishes on the road ahead.



dw | **DOUGLAS WEGNER, CPA**

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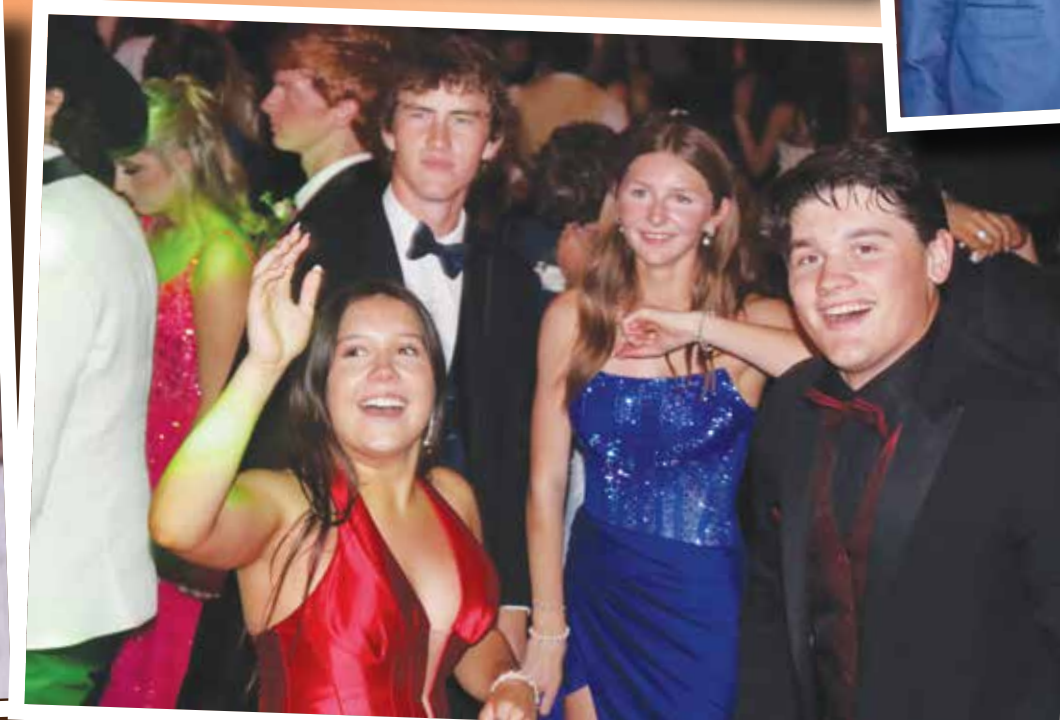
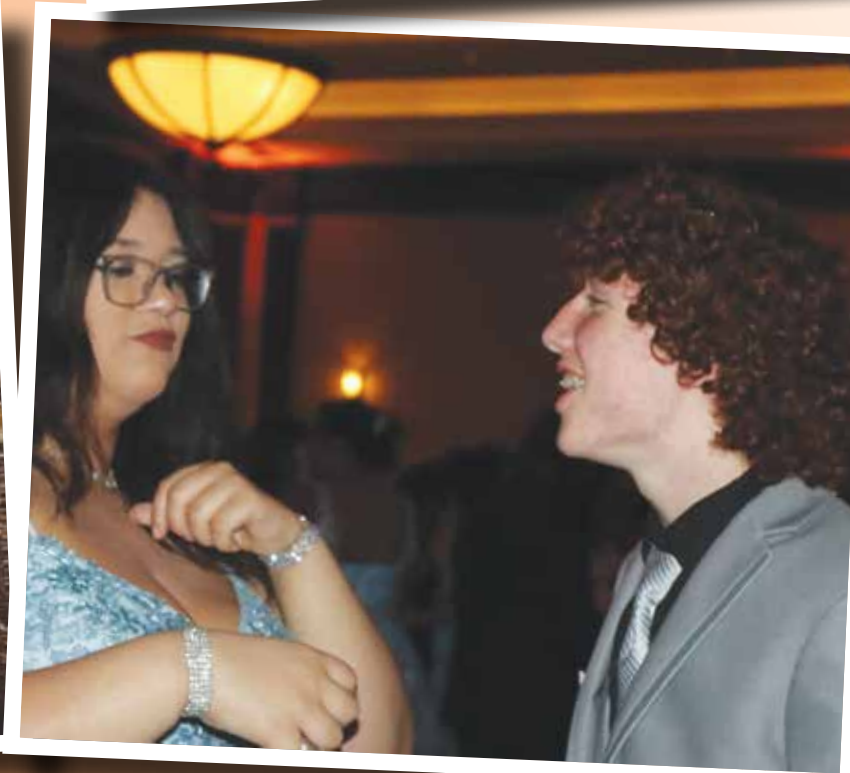


From the mayor, city council, and staff at City of Willow Park

Aledo High School Prom

The Prom was held May 6 at the Worthington Hotel.

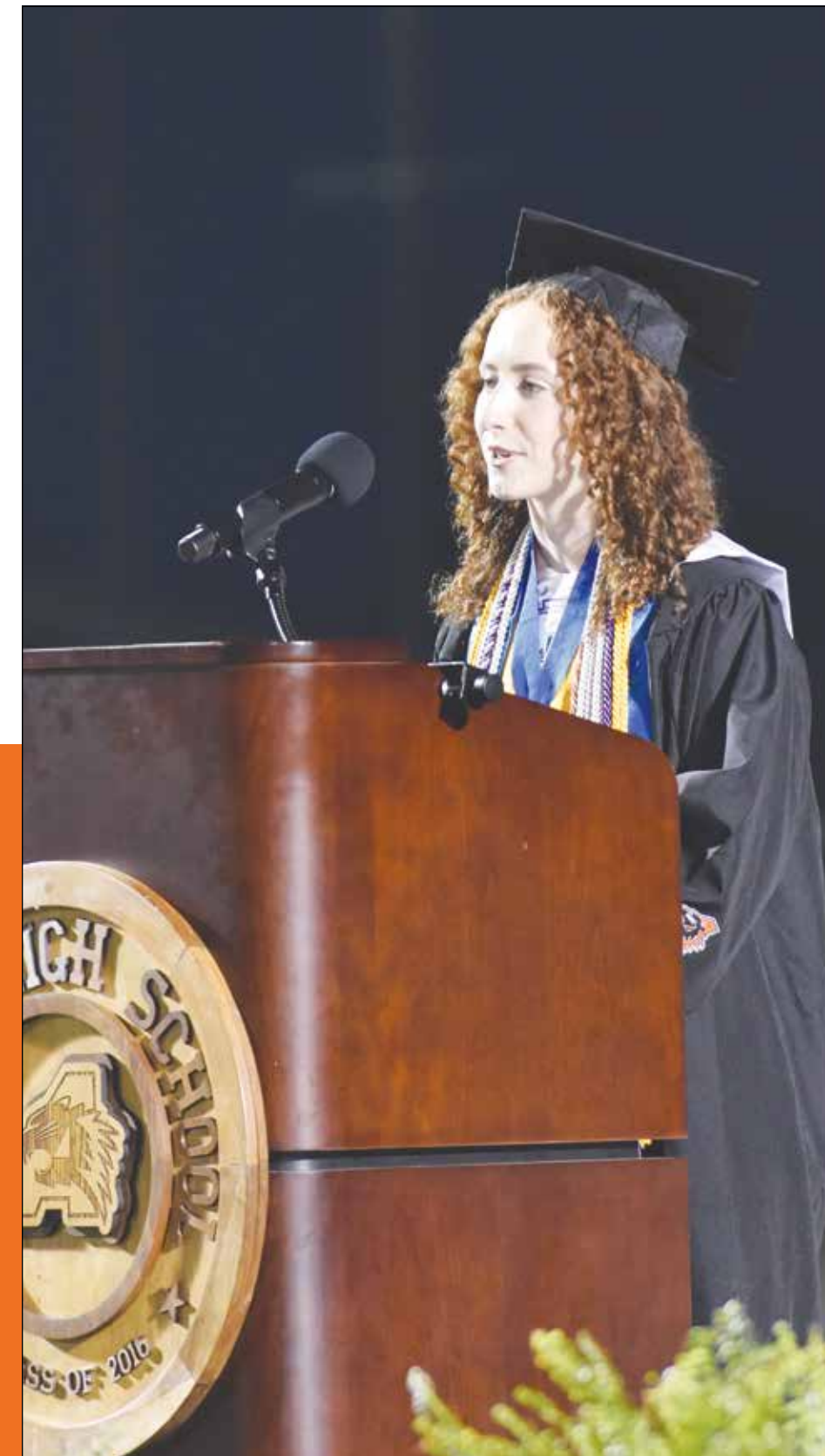
PHOTOS BY BIANKA BURKART AND MADISON COOK/ALEDO STUDENT MEDIA



Grace has attended Aledo ISD Schools since the Eighth grade. Grace has been involved in Student Council, National Honor Society, and the Aledo Page Turners. She will attend the University of Texas at Austin, majoring in statistics and data science, with a possible career as a data scientist.



**Grace
Lefferts
Salutatorian**



Morgan has been a student in the Aledo ISD since kindergarten. Morgan has been involved in National Honor Society, Girls Powerlifting, Leading Ladies, Student Council, Page Turners, and HOSA. She plans to attend UC San Diego majoring in Data Science with a potential career in Law.

**Morgan
Sehnem
Valedictorian**

Congrats, Aledo and TCA Grads!

Project Celebration

PHOTOS BY BIANKA BURKART AND MADISON COOK/ALEDO STUDENT MEDIA



Earning a diploma takes hard work, perseverance, and dedication. PlainsCapital Bank congratulates the Aledo and TCA graduating class of 2024, and wishes them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

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Lions Club Scholarships

The Aledo Lions Club passed out scholarship checks to recipients on March 4.



Bob Carlson, Jeffrey Streetman, Caroline Browning and Russell Green



Jeffrey Streetman, Emery Tapp, Morgan Sehnem, Russell Green, Weston Nance and Bob Carlson



Megan Loftin, Russell Green, Natalie Anderson, Jeffrey Stretman and Bob Carlson

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Congratulations Class of 2024!



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Softball at State

At press time the Aledo Ladycats were in the UIL state softball tournament in Austin.

PHOTO BY RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Top 10% Banquet

Aledo High School Class of 2024 Top Ten Percent

- ☆ Natalie Anderson
- ☆ Jane Claire Anderson
- ☆ Nate Ashabraner
- ☆ Jackson Babb
- ☆ Maverick Baranger
- ☆ Austin Beal
- ☆ Leah Bechert
- ☆ Presley Bergen
- ☆ Henry Blake
- ☆ Anna Bone
- ☆ Emma Boyd
- ☆ Reichen Brewer
- ☆ Carter Campbell
- ☆ Cassidy Cole
- ☆ Harrison Cornwell
- ☆ David Culler
- ☆ Garhett Daves
- ☆ Grace Edwards
- ☆ Edyn Esquivel
- ☆ Noah Fernihough
- ☆ Madeline Flora
- ☆ Elizabeth Green
- ☆ Trinity Hindman
- ☆ Jeremy Howard
- ☆ Ryan Jones
- ☆ Carson Key
- ☆ Grace Lefferts
- ☆ Meagan Loftin
- ☆ Kennis Marx
- ☆ Scott Mason
- ☆ Jack McCarty
- ☆ Catherine Messer
- ☆ Marco Nava
- ☆ Niklas Nawrocki
- ☆ Rakesh Pachigolla
- ☆ Emory Rapp
- ☆ Lily Revard
- ☆ Chase Rohe
- ☆ Jack Sawyer
- ☆ Morgan Sehnem
- ☆ Charlie Stinchcomb
- ☆ Landrie Thurman
- ☆ Kaydee Torres
- ☆ Daniella Tregellas
- ☆ Luke Turner
- ☆ Addie Unterwagner
- ☆ Maryn Ward
- ☆ Joshua Wheeler
- ☆ Grant Wiggins
- ☆ Savannah "Gracie" Williams

Photos by Allie Stephens and Faith Hannaway
Students are shown with their honored teachers



Jane Claire Anderson



Leah Bechert



Henry Blake



Anna Bone



Cassidy Cole



Harrison Cornwell



David Culler



Edyn Esquivel



Elizabeth Green



Carson Key



Meagan Loftin



Scott Mason



Grant Wiggins



Marco Nava



Niklas Nawrocki



Emory Rapp



Daniella Tregellas



Addie Unterwagner



Joshua Wheeler

class of
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Congratulations Graduates

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Schreiner University

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Tarleton State University

Texas A&M University - Galveston

Texas Christian University

Texas State University

Texas Tech University

Texas Wesleyan University

University of Alabama

University of Arkansas

University of Colorado - Colorado Springs

University of Mary Hardin Baylor

University of Mississippi

University of Missouri

University of Nebraska - Kearney

University of North Texas

University of Oklahoma

University of Texas

University of Texas at Arlington

Utah State University

Weatherford College



Valedictorian
Caroline Thompson



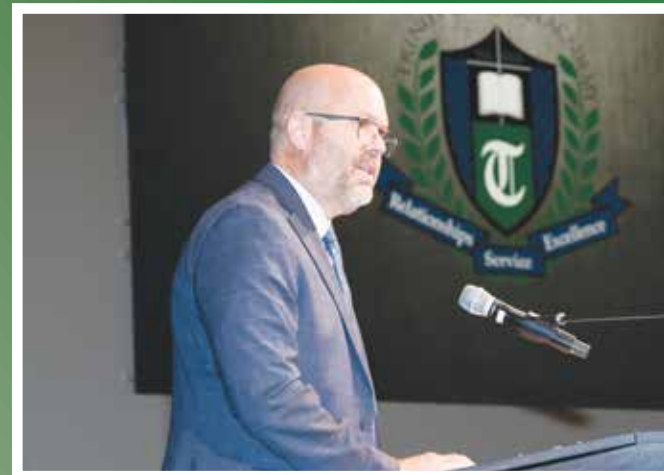
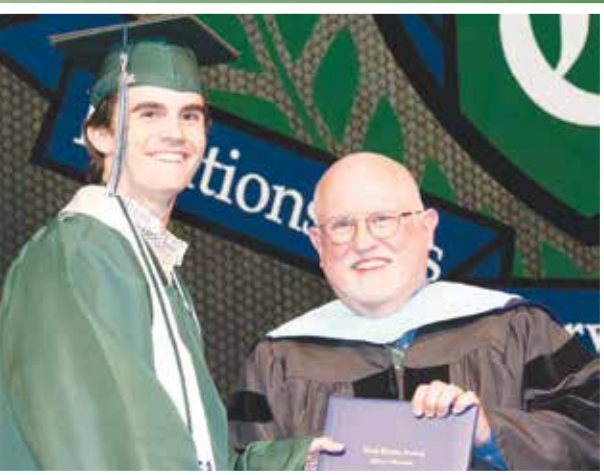
Salutatorian
Meredith White

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Trinity Christian Academy Graduation

TCA's Commencement Ceremony was held May 17 at Willow Park Baptist Church.

PHOTOS BY TAMMY GRAHAM - LOCATIONS PHOTOGRAPHY



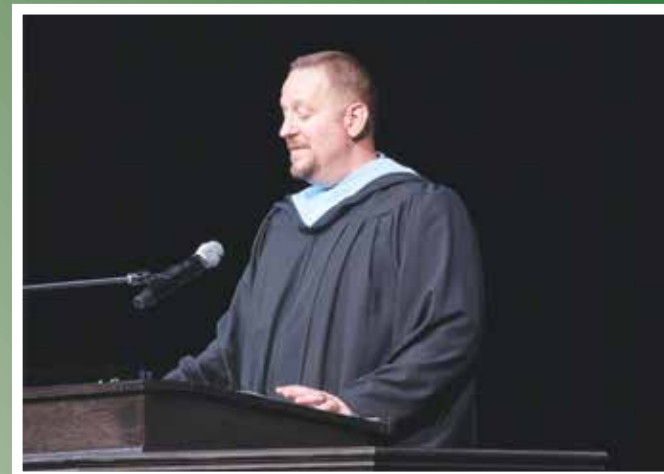
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