

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

ALEDO

## City council celebrates McMullen

### City secretary retires after 13 years

By Ryan Wade  
The Community News

After 13 years of service to the City of Aledo, City Secretary Deana McMullen officially retired on Monday, Sept. 30. Current and former members of the city council gathered at the Aledo Community Center prior to the council meeting on Thursday, Sept. 26, to celebrate McMullen's devotion to the community as an employee, as well as the compassionate friend she has

become to so many during her tenure in Aledo.

McMullen came to Aledo in October 2011 by way of the City of Everman where she was the court clerk. At that time, the City of Aledo was in need of an experienced professional who could organize the city office and elevate the level of customer service being offered to residents. Thus began what would become a 13-year journey that allowed her to positively impact every person at the Community Center for her retirement party, and

Turn to **COUNCIL**, page 3



RYAN WADE/THECOMMUNITY NEWS

TOP: Aledo mayor Nick Stanley and former mayor Kit Marshall pose for a photo with Deana McMullen on Thursday, Sept. 26. McMullen officially retired as City Secretary after 13 years with the City of Aledo.

LEFT: Deana McMullen proudly displays the placard bearing her name that will hang in the new Aledo City Hall upon completion.



## National Night Out



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

A Willow Park Police car was open for inspection. The City of Willow Park hosted National Night Out on Oct. 1 at Kings Gate Park. Local families were treated to games and give-aways with the purpose of helping learn about safety.

ANNETTA

## New propane tanks installed

### Council proclaims Oct. 5 as World Teacher Day

By Jim Zimmermann  
The Community News

The Annetta Town Council approved the installation of two new propane tanks at its meeting on Sept. 19. They have been placed at the Lakes of Aledo and at Water Plant No. 4.

The council approved the expenditures of \$6,400 for the installation and filling of the tanks from vendor Haigood & Campbell LLC. Also, Mayor Pro Tem Kent Stacey read the proclamation for World Teacher Day.

"The Town of Annetta will proclaim that Oct. 5, 2024, will be Teacher day in the City of Annetta. We ask that the citizens of Annetta support our teachers by displaying ribbons from their homes and

places of business. This will be a symbol of support for the Aledo teachers."

Another item on the agenda was administering the oath of office to Brandon Thompson, council member Place 3. Thompson, however, was not present at this meeting but is scheduled to be officially sworn in before the next council meeting, which is set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17 at Annetta City Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane.

HUDSON OAKS

## Council approves budget

### Will continue with no property tax

By Jim Zimmermann  
The Community News

With a complete and informative presentation City Administrator Sterling Naron dotted the proverbial I's and crossed the T's while presenting the 2024-2025 Hudson Oaks proposed budget to fellow council members and fellow citizens.

"I quickly want to highlight some of the city's achievements in FY24. The city accomplished many feats in fiscal year 2024," he said.

These achievements included:  
• Mass meter swap - The city used funds from previously passed debt to replace every water

meter in the city. This project was long overdue, as there was a substantial amount of water meters that were defective.

- Street grading project - The city signed a contract with a third party engineering firm to grade all the streets in Hudson Oaks. "This grading gives us a list of which streets are in the most need of being improved," Naron said.
- The continuation of attracting new businesses, such as Chuy's, Sherwin Williams, Jersey Mike's, and much more.
- Street improvements per the city's schedule with drainage improvements.
- Green Ribbon - In FY24 the city continued its partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation with another phase of Green Ribbon projects. The newest phase of these projects includes beautifying sections directly off Exit 414

going westbound off Fort Worth Highway. It also includes the planting of new trees, and the replacement of dead trees, along Interstate 20.

"The most substantial element in the fiscal year 2025 budget is the adoption of water rates and wastewater rates for all water customers the city currently serves," Naron said. "This is due to the new capital projects the city plans to undertake."

The 2024-25 budget is just over \$5.8 million, which is just over \$325,000 less than the 2023-2024 budget.

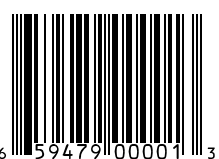
A much-needed expenditure that was noted is the purchase of a 2025 Ford Police Interceptor for \$48,505 for the Hudson Oaks Police Department.

A proclamation made by Mayor Tom Fitzpatrick was to make October Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



JIM ZIMMERMANN/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Hudson Oaks Mayor Tom Fitzpatrick issued a proclamation to make October Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Brie Pierce with Freedom House is shown accepting the proclamation.



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# In & Around Parker County

## Call on Atex Trash Service

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

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

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

and dependable, worthy of our trust.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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EVENTS

# Clouddancer gala set for Oct. 12

## Organization provides funds for veterans seeking pilot training

**Staff Reports**  
The Community News

The Ashton Johnson Memorial CloudDancer Scholarship has announced its third annual Black Tie and Boots Gala. Founded in November 2021, the organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit established in honor of Ashton by his father, Willow Park resident Joe Johnson, and Ashton's his dream of becoming a pilot.



Ashton Johnson

Get ready to tip your hats and kick up some dust, because on Saturday, Oct. 12, the River Ranch Stockyards in Fort Worth will be the stage for the annual Gala. With a Texas-style buffet, toe-tappin' country music and more, this event promises a boot-scootin' good time. The real star of the show will be the live auction. Organizers have

rounded up a stampede of treasures that'll have you reaching for your wallets faster than a rattlesnake strikes. From handcrafted goods to authentic Western wear, there's something for every buckaroo in this auction lineup.

The CloudDancer Scholarship is intended to help veterans interested in pursuing careers in aviation. They are looking for veterans with honorary military performance along with passion, drive, and tenacity either starting off or in the process of private pilot training.

### About Ashton Johnson

Ashton Johnson was born in Fort Worth on Dec. 3, 1992. He graduated from Keller High School, attended Tarrant County College, and then joined the US Army in 2016. He served his country for nearly four years as an air defense specialist (MOS 14G). He received numerous medals and accolades and was honorably discharged in 2019. He completed an eight-month combat tour in Afghanistan, where he was instrumental in several specialized military operations. Before his enlistment, Ashton played paintball professionally with X-Factor of San Antonio. A rising star within the paintball industry,

Ashton became well known for his agility, grit, and wit. Ashton was also an accomplished country dancer and shared a mutual passion for flying with his dad. On the dance floor, there were no strangers. His innate ability to teach even those with two left feet was uncanny. As for flying, one of his favorite spots was the family hangar. He often brought his friends there to share the family PT-17 Stearman biplane, which he loved to fly. Although he had soloed numerous times (his first solo was in June of 2020), Ashton didn't complete his venture before passing on October 4, 2021, at the young age of 28.

Finally, and most importantly, Ashton was a beloved brother and son. Cherished by his older brother and younger sister, he never missed an opportunity to return his affection to them.

For more background on Ashton, visit <https://www.community-news.com/stories/willow-park-man-honors-son-with-scholarship-organization,10829>.

For information on the Gala, visit [www.CloudDancerScholarship.org](http://www.CloudDancerScholarship.org) or email [info@clouddancerscholarship.org](mailto:info@clouddancerscholarship.org)



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Ryder Miles tries out a velcro jump suit at National Night Out on Oct. 1 at Kings Gate Park.

EVENTS

# Annual Coyote Chase Race set for Nov. 16

The 31st annual Coyote Chase Race 5K and 1-mile run will take place Saturday, Nov. 16, at Weatherford College.

Pre-registered runners will receive a long-sleeved, microfiber T-shirt. RunTime Racing Services will handle the event's timing and course layout, and those who opt in will be able to use RunTime's chip-timing technology.

"We are grateful for our sponsors and community for their ongoing support of this great event," said Susan Sodek, advancement specialist. "We hope to see you at this year's race, and make sure to stick around after the run for more food and fun." First Financial Bank and First Financial Trust will continue to provide trophies and medals for the event, a service the bank has



provided every year since the race's inception in the mid-1990s. The top three finishers in more than 40 age categories will receive medals. Categories include all ages for the 5K and up to age 12 for the 1-mile. Prior registration is \$20 per adult runner, with race day registration at

\$25. Children 12 and under are \$15 during pre-registration and \$20 on race day. Both races begin at 9 a.m. For more information, including online registration, visit the event website at <https://wc.edu/about/foundation/coyote-chase-race.php>.

## COUNCIL

from page one

countless others who were unable to attend.

As part of the festivities, Mayor Nick Stanley read a proclamation to officially denote Thursday, Sept. 26, as Deana McMullen Day in the City of Aledo. City Manager Noah Simon surprised McMullen by presenting a placard bearing her name that will be placed in the new Aledo City Hall, naming one of the conference rooms in her honor once construction of the facility is complete.

### Down to business

Following McMullen's retirement celebration, the council got its scheduled meeting underway. Mayor Pro Tem Nelson Rowls presided over the meeting.

The official business of the meeting was brief, with only two action items on the agenda. The first order of business was a proposed amendment to the Aledo code of ordinances around the

issue of fence maintenance. The proposed amendment would permit code enforcement for property maintenance standards across the city as it pertains to broken, or unsightly fencing structures.

The second proposed amendment will help create limitations for parking on public streets.

During the discussion, Simon stated the goal of the amendment is not to ticket residents for short-term parking on city streets, but rather compliance that will keep city streets clear and passable.

Both amendments passed unanimously.

### Upcoming meeting agenda

Aledo's City Council will meet again on Thursday, Oct. 3. On the agenda will likely be presentations regarding delinquent tax collection, the state of the IT infrastructure for the City, and an update on the establishment of the Aledo Police Department. That meeting will take place at the Aledo Community Center starting promptly at 6 p.m.

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



**OCTOBER 4 - 31**  
**Clark Gardens Pumpkin Patch**  
Clark Gardens Pumpkin Patch will be open daily Monday - Saturday from 8 - 5 p.m. and Sunday 10-5 p.m. Our Pumpkin Patch is the perfect place for a cozy, family-fun filled, fall experience. Choose from pumpkins of all shapes and sizes to purchase and take home. Enjoy pumpkin ring toss, pumpkin bowling, and other festive games. Model Trains: View Model Trains at the Clarks Station Garden Walks: Stroll through our gardens and enjoy Fall in full bloom. Purchase snacks and refreshing beverages in our admissions booth. Make Clark Gardens a stop on your Fall bucket list! Admission: \$10 adults, \$8 Senior, \$5 children, 3 and under FREE. \*additional fees apply for pumpkin purchases.

**OCTOBER 6**  
**Sanctuary Grand Opening**  
New Faith Baptist Church is having a Grand Opening of the new sanctuary at 11 a.m. on Oct. 6. 3303 W FM 5, Aledo, TX. The community is invited to attend.

**OCTOBER 8**  
**Dementia Support Group**  
Join the Dementia Support Group from 4-5 p.m. at Harvest of Aledo

1043 Bailey Ranch Rd. 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

**OCTOBER 10**  
**Alzheimer's Group**  
The East Parker County Alzheimer's Group meets from 1-3 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at Aledo United Methodist Church, 100 Pecan. Drive. For more information, call 817-441-8329.



**OCTOBER 12**  
**Aledo UMC Lord's Acre Fall Festival**  
Gather the family for a fall bucket list event y'all won't want to miss from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 12th. AUMC will host its annual community fall fest with kid's activities, food, vendors, silent and live auctions, live music performances, and community fun. The money raised helps support AUMC's mission efforts in Aledo, surrounding areas, state-wide and around the world. Forward this event to all your friends and follow us on our page to stay in the loop on all the fun things we have planned!

**OCTOBER 17**  
**Burgers & Bingo**  
Parker County Committee on Aging - Meals on Wheels



and The Senior Center is having Burgers & Bingo benefitting Meals on Wheels and the Senior Center from 5:30-8 p.m., on Thursday, October 17. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. which includes a hamburger dinner (burger, chips, drink, and dessert). Following dinner, we will play Bingo for your chance to win locally donated prizes. Tickets are limited to 200 guests. Additional Bingo cards will be available for purchase at \$5 a piece, while supplies last (limit 1).



**OCTOBER 18**  
**Movies in the Park**  
"They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky, they're all together ooky"... and they're coming to the Heritage Park Amphitheater, 503 Santa Fe Dr. Weatherford, TX 76086, at 7 p.m. on October 18th for a FREE screening of the original Addams Family movie (1991). Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and get

**ACROSS**

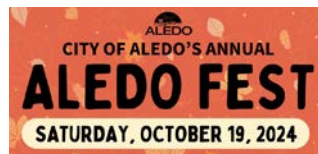
- John of 1954 "Shield for Murder" with TX Carolyn Jones
- Texas-based jeweler "Corporation"
- in Parker and Tarrant Counties on highway 199
- salacious, smutty
- Love Field abbr.
- "Affordable Care \_\_\_\_" (Obamacare)
- "Texas Health and Services"
- Mavericks gave fans \_\_\_\_ of excitement by advancing to 2024 NBA finals
- TXism: "couldn't fight his way out of \_\_\_\_ bag" (weak)
- officially giving up land by a state
- in Palo Pinto County on highway 16
- framework or plan
- bronzes in the Texas sun
- TXism: "roosters crow, \_\_\_\_ deliver"
- Kermit has the last \_\_\_\_ oil derrick
- member of TX Don Henley's band
- grungy and dirty
- TXism: "\_\_\_\_ sunburn a horny toad" (hot)
- TXism: "brave enough to eat in \_\_\_\_ cafe"
- "don't split \_\_\_\_" (quibble)

**DOWN**

- "Wild \_\_\_\_" trail near Newton
- Burnet newspaper: "Citizen's \_\_\_\_"
- some fanny packs fit \_\_\_\_ sizes
- this TX Jim was married to Belle Starr
- TXism: for "against" government work"
- XIT stretched thru \_\_\_\_ Texas counties
- TXism: "he \_\_\_\_ a grip like a snappin' turtle"
- Cowboys kicker in 1993 Super Bowl (2 wds.)
- TX Farrah Fawcett had a red swimsuit \_\_\_\_
- hosp. trauma areas
- non-Texas primate
- TXism: "\_\_\_\_ bien" (good)
- TXism: "haven't seen one in a coon's \_\_\_\_" (rare)
- \_\_\_\_-gallon hat
- cowboy covers
- "New Deal" pres. (init.)
- TXism: "gave \_\_\_\_" (died)
- female horse
- used on a stovetop (2 wds.)
- publication: "Pampa \_\_\_\_"
- U.S. intelligence agcy.
- hosp. nurse
- dir. from Pampa to Canyon
- gear tooth
- Jewish circle dance
- okay to eat
- TX Jessica Simpson \_\_\_\_:
- "Open Book"
- TXism: "bend \_\_\_\_ elbow (drink)
- TXism: "\_\_\_\_ makes waste"
- Nissan \_\_\_\_ truck will be discontinued after 2024 model
- \_\_\_\_ City, TX, in Upshur County
- TXism: "it belongs to \_\_\_\_ and the bank"
- TX George H.W. to TX George W. (abbr.)
- Beaumont univer.
- TXism: "\_\_\_\_ do til something better comes along"
- painted tinsplate
- \_\_\_\_ lap (back and forth in a pool)
- "three" in cards

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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cozy under the moon as we relive the strange and delightful antics of The Addams Family!



**OCTOBER 19**  
**2024 Aledo Fest**  
Aledo fest will be from 10 .m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 19 in downtown Aledo. It will feature live music and activities for kids of all ages. Meet your local businesses at vendor booths, do some gift shopping, and get a little something for yourself!

Come hungry for a variety of food trucks on-site for good eats & autumn treats! Vendor and sponsorship applications are available now - please visit our website. <https://www.aledotx.gov/AledoFest>

**OCTOBER 26**  
**Fall Fest Willow Park North**  
Join Willow Park North and The Shops at Willow Park for the second annual Fall Fest. This family-friendly event is free to the public.

**Mayor Roberts' Second Annual Seed Ball Event**  
Town of Annetta will host the Seed Ball Event from 9a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, at Annetta

Town Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane, Annetta  
Join us in making milkweed seed balls to help "grow" the population of the Monarch Butterflies. Your seeds will grow next spring and help nourish the butterflies during their migration next year. Bring your family and meet your neighbors! Call (817)441-5770 or email [info@annetatx.gov](mailto:info@annetatx.gov) to RSVP. A box lunch for participants will be provided. Take home the seed balls that you make to plant in your gardens prior to Halloween.

Event Submissions - Send [eventsubmissions@community-news.com](mailto:eventsubmissions@community-news.com)

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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

# Phelan's GOP foes back one challenger



Gary Borders

gborders@texaspress.com

Texas House Republicans who want to oust Speaker Dade Phelan have coalesced behind a single opponent: state Rep. David Cook, R-Mansfield. A total of 48 representatives are backing the two-term representative, including four who dropped their own bids for speaker.

Phelan's opponents, including Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, claim he has given too much power to Democrats by naming some to lead legislative committees.

"This vote highlights the growing momentum for change within the Texas House, as members rally behind a shared vision of a decentralized leadership model that empowers all members," Cook said in a statement.

Phelan is seeking his third term as speaker after narrowly surviving a challenge for re-election to represent his district in the GOP primary, winning a runoff election.

"Not only are their actions disappointing and unacceptable, they are futile, as I proudly have the clear majority votes needed to be the Speaker today and will have the clear majority support needed to become Speaker again come January," Phelan said in a statement.

### Polls show near tie in Cruz-Allred race

The U.S. Senate race in Texas has tightened, with a poll last week showing Democratic challenger Colin Allred nearly within the

margin of error in his race against incumbent Republican Ted Cruz, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported. A poll released by the Texas Hispanic Policy Foundation shows Cruz ahead of Allred 48% to 45%, nearly within the margin of error of 2.83%.

Cruz is seeking his third term in the Senate. He won his last race against challenger Beto O'Rourke by just 2.6 points.

The tightening race prompted the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee to announce last week that it is sending millions of advertising dollars to Texas to boost his campaign. The committee plans to put its money toward airing more Allred campaign ads. Committee chair Gary Peters said the Democratic candidate needs more funding to get his message out.

"But it is his message," Peters said. "He knows Texas inside and out."

### Texas Supreme Court rules on gun ban at state fair

The State Fair of Texas opened last week with its newly enacted ban on weapons intact after the Texas Supreme Court rejected a challenge by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton just 13 hours earlier. *The Statesman* reported the court ridiculed the state's legal arguments in a five-page opinion, with Justice Jimmy Blacklock writing that "the State's filings do not even attempt to answer" the question at the heart of the case.

Two lower courts also rejected Paxton's attempt to lift the ban, enacted after three fairgoers were injured in a shooting incident last year.

The state fair runs through Sunday, Oct. 20.

### Party game company sues SpaceX for trespassing

Cards Against Humanity, makers of a humorous adult party game, is suing Elon Musk's SpaceX company for trespassing and damaging land the company purchased in Cameron County. The company purchased the land in 2017 to send a political message to then-President Donald Trump's campaign to not build a border wall.

KUT reported that the company raised money to purchase the land by soliciting \$15 donations from 150,000 people. It says the land has been kept in its pristine state, but SpaceX has dumped gravel, tractors, and space garbage on it.

A website maintained by the company announced it is seeking \$15 million in damages and displayed photos purportedly showing "before and after" images of its land. SpaceX did not respond for comment from Texas Public Radio.

### Going lights out for migrating birds

Audubon Texas is asking residents to not leave the porch lights on this fall, during peak migration season for millions of birds. *The Texas Standard* reported the 2024 Lights Out, Texas, campaign is underway, and Texans are urged to turn off unnecessary lights to minimize light pollution. Migrating birds can become disoriented when traveling through densely populated areas.

Up to 1 billion birds are killed each year due to collisions with buildings. Peak migration runs through Oct. 29, with fall migration ending around Nov. 30. One of every four birds migrating through the U.S. passes through

Texas, according to Audubon Texas.

Building owners, businesses, developers and homeowners can help protect migrating birds by turning off all non-essential lighting from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. each night. Lighting shields that direct light downward can reduce bird casualties. More information is available at tx.audubon.org.

### Looking back on last summer's weather

The summer of 2024 is in the books, and Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, says it ended up in the middle of the pack when compared to the last 25 summers – the 12th most miserable during that time period.

The amount of the state in drought declined to 28 percent from a high of 88 percent during the summer of 2022, Wentzel wrote. Last summer certainly was an improvement over the two previous, which were considered the second and third most miserable in the past quarter century. But they both pale in comparison to the summer of 2011, which had the worst drought conditions in Texas history, and wildfires swept the state.

Relatively plentiful rain made last summer seem more tolerable, but records indicate it was the fourth-hottest summer of the past 25 years.

Thank goodness for autumn.

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

## State Representative Update

# Good Apples, Bad Apples



Dr. Glenn Rogers

glenn.rogers@house.texas.gov

Public school teachers in Texas overwhelmingly consist of dedicated educational professionals who have committed their lives to teaching and nurturing our most precious resource, our children. Teachers sit beside us in church on Sunday, parent their own children, and become an important influence in the development and lives of future citizens and leaders.

Arguably, the teaching profession today faces more challenges than any other time in history. Teachers have become the scapegoat for societal woes and the break-down of the traditional family. More and more children depend on their time in public school for nutritional and emotional nourishment.

Instead of providing critical support, politicians readily berate teachers to score political points with their extremist base. Whether it's Governor Abbott echoing "Education not indoctrination," Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller calling public schools a "closed socialist system that hurts kids," or Michael Quinn Sullivan saying public education is a "babysitting service...about employing otherwise unemployable adults," political figures at the highest (and lowest) levels have centered

their careers on tearing down public school teachers.

As the propagandist mouthpiece of the Farris Wilks and Tim Dunn political machine, the Texas Scorecard seems hellbent on unfairly smearing Texas public schools. While the occurrence is rare, any time there is a case of a teacher acting inappropriately, the Scorecard pushes out an article blasting all public schools in general. While these few teachers should be held accountable and justice should be served in cases of illegal behavior, these few bad apples are not representative of all 370,000 Texas educators. Percentage-wise, bad acting teachers are a minute fraction of all Texas teachers.

Many political operatives from the Wilks & Dunn political network, along with other billionaire funded out-of-state organizations, continually trash-talk our public schools.

They should take a look in the mirror before throwing the first stone at public schools. Mr. Dunn, Mr. Wilks, and Ms. Betsy DeVos should focus on weeding out the deviants in their own organizations.

Just recently, reporters uncovered and alleged that Corey DeAngelis, self proclaimed "school choice evangelist," previously engaged in the performing of homosexual pornography. Disturbing and lewd photos were released as part of the report. DeAngelis works for a DeVos funded organization and is a regular guest on Fox News segments. His lobbying got him into meetings with top officials, including Governor Abbott.

The former Defend Texas Liberty PAC's President and CEO of Pale Horse Strategies,

Jonathan Stickland, infamously once wrote, "rape is nonexistent in marriage, take what you want." Cary Cheshire, Pale Horse Strategies Senior Advisor, and Tony McDonald, General Counsel to the Texas Scorecard, were recorded making derogatory remarks about Governor Abbott's use of a wheelchair in 2020. This was the event that led to the Empower Texas group "dissolving" and reappearing as Defend Texas Liberty.

Yet, after those incidents and revelations, these bad actors were kept as essential employees of the political machine...and they continued their outrageous behavior. Stickland and his Pale Horse Strategies company went on to host known neo-Nazi sympathizer and anti-semitic, Nick Fuentes, meeting with him for 6.5 hours. Reports say that after a week of a negative news cycle, Tim Dunn was forced to replace Stickland as President of Defend Texas Liberty with Luke Macias and to once again rebrand the organization, this time as Texans For a Conservative Majority.

But take a look at Macias; he was a political consultant for disgraced former State Representative Bryan Slaton, expelled from the Texas House after an investigation concluded he got his 19 year-old staffer drunk and then had sex with her at his apartment. Slaton received large sums of money from the Wilks & Dunn funded Defend Texas Liberty PAC.

In another instance, Luke Bowen, the Political Director of Wilks and Dunn funded Texas Right to Life, was arrested for solicitation of a minor. Montgomery County officials say that Bowen communicated via

social media with who he thought was a 13-year old girl; he asked for explicit images, sent pictures of his genitalia, and arranged to have sex. He was arrested upon his arrival. In February, 2023, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years in prison.

Wilks and Dunn, just two men, yield an incredible amount of power, control, and sway in Texas politics. One would hope that they would use that power for good, first by assembling a team of outstanding citizens and then ethically pursuing causes that benefit all Texans. But that is not the case. When looked at on a per capita basis, the small workforce behind the Wilks and Dunn political machine appears to have a large ethics problem. The number of incidents of bad behavior goes way beyond the ones mentioned here. It seems with them, bad roots can grow no good fruit.

Don't give Texas Scorecard's tabloid trash any attention when they paint the noble teaching profession with a broad brush of negativity and false accusations. Good apples dominate the teaching profession.

The endgame of Dunn & Wilks' myriad of organizations, along with other out-of-state billionaires, is the privatization and elimination of our public schools. Texas teachers and public school employees are in their crosshairs. Make no mistake, rather than teachers, the financiers, puppets, and puppeteers carrying out these nefarious operations to destroy public education are the BAD APPLES.

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



FOOTBALL

## No. 2 Bearcats host No. 1 Raiders

### District title could be on line

By Rick Mauch  
 The Community News

Quick, can you name the last time Aledo played a football game involving a No. 1 team and they weren't that team?

Don't worry, it's not likely anyone else can either.

However, that is the case when the top two Class 5A Division I teams in the state of Texas square off Friday night, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. in Tim Buchanan Stadium in Aledo. The No. 1 Denton Ryan Raiders (4-0, 2-0 in District 3-5A Division I) will clash with the No. 2 Aledo Bearcats (4-1, 3-0).

"Normally, if we're in a game with the No. 1 team, that team is Aledo," Bearcats coach Robby Jones said. "But it doesn't make any difference. They still have to come in here and win."

"We were No. 1 in preseason and they were No. 2. Either way, Friday is going to be a heck of a game."

### Back to old Ryan

Aledo coach Robby Jones believes the Raiders have returned to being the program that enjoyed phenomenal success for many years before what Raiders fans would consider a "down period." Ryan was only 14-7 in 2022 and 2023 combined, with first-round and second-round playoff exits.

Before that, the Raiders were 97-7. They won a Class 5A Division I state championship in 2020 with a 15-0 record, were state runners-up in 2019 and reached the semifinals from 2016-18. In addition they reached the state quarterfinals in 2015 and 2021.

The Raiders also won state championships in 2001 and 2002.

"That was one of the comments coach (Dave) Henigan made last year, that they were as talented as they've ever been."

Now, those young players have even more experience and appear primed for the team's best campaign in years. When asked what facet of

the team is the most dominant for Ryan, Jones noted, "Their defense. It's probably the best defense we'll see all year - and we'll probably see it twice."

Jones was referencing a possible - many would say probable - rematch in the Region I final.

Jones also praised Ryan's depth, which, like Aledo, is strong.

"They even have one of their returning starters who doesn't start for them this year," he said. "Their defensive line is similar to ours, a lot of depth."

### On a pair of rolls

Both teams have made short work of their district opponents. Aledo has defeated Brewer on the road, Birdville at home and Keller Fossil Ridge on the road, outscoring the three 183-3.

Ryan has blasted its first two league foes, Fossil Ridge on the road and Granbury at home 119-23.

That's an average of 61-1 for the Bearcats and 59.5-11.5 for the Raiders.

On the entire season, Aledo is outscoring its opponents by an average of 50-13. Ryan is outscoring its opponents by an average of 47-14.

Ironically, the stumbling block for both teams was in Week 1. The Bearcats lost 35-30 at Denton Guyer, which is ranked 20th in the state in Class 6A.

Ryan avoided an opening upset, edging Haslet Eaton 42-32.

### Big returns

In a game such as this, special teams could be a factor, particularly returning kicks. Aledo has four kick returns of more than 35 yards this season, including two kickoffs for touchdowns.

This past week, in a 63-3 win at Fossil Ridge, senior Adrian Fuller returned the second-half kickoff 82 yards for a score. Earlier in the season, junior Lincoln Tubbs returned a kickoff 78 yards for a touchdown.

Also, senior Blake Burdine has a kickoff return of 40 yards and junior Lamel Swanson has a punt return of 36 yards.



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Brady Powell (39) scored a touchdown against Fossil Ridge.

"It's valuable, it's kind of like stealing points," Jones said.

Jones recalled the now-graduated Jake Gillespie and his ability to field almost every punt that came his way.

"Punts hardly ever hit the ground. Lamel's stepped in and he's doing the same thing," Jones said. "Most long punts in high school are because they were not fielded. When a punt is fielded it gives us a chance at better field position."

### Finley having great season

As the Bearcats enter the second half of the regular season, junior wide receiver Kaydon Finley is having a standout campaign. Through five games he has 28 catches for 489 yards and eight touchdowns.

And he could be a difference maker against Ryan.

"Which is why we moved Kaydon, to make sure we can get the ball to him, similar like we did with JoJo Earle," Jones said.

Earle began his college career at Alabama in 2020-21 and is now playing for TCU.

### District winning streak

This game cannot be played without mentioning Aledo's 122-game district winning streak. The Bearcats have not lost a league game since starting 0-2 in 2007.

Two seasons ago when the Raiders hosted a young Aledo team, there were rumblings the streak might end. Aledo left Denton with a 35-21 victory.

Last season, when the experienced Bearcats hosted a young Raiders squad, Ryan came close to ending the streak. The Raiders overcame a 17-0 deficit to take a 19-17 lead in the final moments before Aledo quarterback Hauss Hejny - now at TCU - broke free for a touchdown of more than 50 yards to escape the upset with a 25-19 win.

### All-time series

The Bearcats and Raiders have split their first four meetings. Ryan won the first two in 2002 and 2003, 34-27 and 17-0 - the last time the Bearcats were shut out.

Following three of the four previous meetings the winner has gone on to win a state championship. Ryan took the crown in 2002, with Aledo winning in 2022 and 2023.

Though they did not play, both won a state title in 2020.

### Subvarsity

The Bearcats combined junior varsity teams to defeat Keller Fossil Ridge last week, 49-8. The freshmen Black team won 20-0 and the freshmen Orange won 27-6.

Turn to FOOTBALL, page 9

### SPORTS BRIEFS

Staff Reports  
 The Community News

#### Cross country Ladycats JV sixth at Decatur

The Ladycats and Bearcats junior varsity participated in the Decatur Reunion on Thursday, Sept. 26. Both competed in the varsity 5K division.

The Ladycats were sixth as a team, led by Carley Couch, who was 14th individually with a time of 20:31.70. Also for the Ladycats:

22. Paula Redondo, 20:59.97.  
 29. Sadie Williams, 21:14.04.  
 52. Ashlynn Durnil, 22:32.12.  
 77. Lila Kovacs, 25:01.28.  
 80. Maggie McQuatters, 25:50.98.

For the Bearcats:  
 61. Andrew Walsh, 18:46.42.  
 80. Dylan Hoover, 19:53.26.  
 81. Zach Rivas, 20:02.50.  
 91. Marcus Rodriguez, 22:18.36.

#### Weatherford Tison

Top medalists from the Brock Invitational were Aiden Houghton, second, eighth-grade boys, and Mattie Boone, second, seventh-grade girls.

#### Weatherford Hall

Top medalists from Brock were Anna Wyatt, 10th, seventh-grade girls, and Ian Edwards, eighth, eighth-grade boys.

#### Fishing Aledo Anglers

The Aledo Anglers high school fishing team got their season underway recently in a tournament on Lake Whitney. They played fifth out of 37 teams.

Duo leaders included Mark Cerja/Miller Hill, sixth; Aidan Bristow/Mason Nutt, 23rd; Collier Morgan/Kayden Dendy, 24th; Peyton Hills/Tyler Page, 35th; Declan Lickerman/Dominic Rigoli, 46th.

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**SPORTS BRIEFS**

**Golf**

**Roos golfer records ace**

Weatherford Kangaroos golfer Trent Poston made a hole-in-one Friday at a tournament in Glen Rose. It was the first tournament of the season for Weatherford. The Lady Roos placed third as a team, with Erin Caldwell, Ava Corday, Brooke McMahon, Katelan Smart and Linda Patterson. Carter Bruton led the Kangaroos, shooting an even-par 144 over two days (73-71).

**WC women win at Jacksonville**

The Weatherford College women's golf team won the championship at the Jacksonville College Invitational on Sept. 23-24 at Cherokee Ranch Golf Club. This is the first event championship since the program's start in the fall of 2023. "They battled on a tough golf course and carried themselves extremely well," said Katie Johnston, WC assistant golf coach. The Coyotes won by a whopping 30 strokes, shooting 330 and 328 as a team in the two-round tournament. WC's Emily Gutierrez finished in second place individually with rounds of 84 and 76. Corrina Haros led the tournament after the first round with a 79. But an 82 in the second round dropped her to third place overall. Kyla Morales (84-83) was eighth. Ella Barton (83-87) finished tenth. Next, WC travels to Ardmore, Oklahoma, Oct. 7-8 for the Fall Aggie Invitational at Lake Murray State Park Golf Course, hosted by Murray State College.

**WC men fourth**

The Weatherford College men's golf team finished in fourth place out of 12 teams at the Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso High Country Shootout Sept. 22-23. The tournament was played at the Links at Sierra Blanca. As a team, WC (28-under) was only one stroke behind third-place New Mexico Junior College. Odessa College and Midland College tied for the championship at 55-under. WC's Giovanni Vezza finished in

a four-way tie for third place at 13-under (66-69-68). Vezza is a transfer from NMJC and a native of Turin, Italy. Aledo High School graduate Jett Moore finished in ninth place at 11-under (71-67-67). The Links at Sierra Blanca is a par 72, 6,691-yard course. The Coyotes will next compete at the Herb Wimberly Intercollegiate at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces Oct. 14-15. Find the team's full schedule at [wcatletics.com](http://wcatletics.com).

**Volleyball WC wins sixth straight**

The Weatherford College volleyball team dominated a match with Ranger College on Saturday, Sept. 28, winning 25-13, 25-13, 25-11 at the Betty Jo Graber Athletic Center. With their sixth consecutive victory, the No. 7 nationally ranked Coyotes improved to 17-5 overall and 4-0 in conference play. WC has won 24 consecutive sets in conference play, going back to the 2023 season. Abby Morris and Gabriela Maldonado had 10 kills each. Lorena Gomez logged 23 assists and Victoria Sanchez added 13 assists and nine digs. Weronika Urbanska had 10 digs and nine kills. AMS vs. Bursleson Kerr Seventh grade: A team won 25-16, 25-19; B team won 25-11, 25-13; C Team won 25-10, 25-22. Eighth grade: A team lost 25-17, 25-20; B team won 25-23, 25-20; C team won 25-22, 25-15.

**Weatherford Hall vs. Joshua Loftin**

Eighth-grade: A team won 25-20, 25-19, player of the match Cece Richards; B team lost 25-8, 19-25, 25-21, player of the match Mackenzie Glasgow. Seventh grade: A team won 25-14, 25-6, players of the match Vivian Scarbro, Elizabeth Jansen; B team lost 20-25, 25-22, 25-11, players of the match, Tinley Firenza, Alysia Torres.

**Weatherford Tison wins tourney**

The Tison Lady Roos eighth-grade A team won the North Crowley

Turn to **SPORTS BRIEFS**, page 9

**CROSS COUNTRY**

**Aledo, Weatherford leave state to compete in elite meets**

**Face some of nation's top runners**

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

Runners from Aledo and Weatherford squared off against some of the best the nation has to offer this past weekend, leaving the state to do so. The Bearcats/Ladycats competed in the Chili Pepper Cross Country Festival hosted by the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, while the Kangaroos/Lady Roos were at the Cowboy Jamboree hosted by Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

"All athletes performed really well. It was a great day to run," Aledo coach Mike Pinkerton said. "It was dry, with temperatures in the low 60s. Couldn't ask for better conditions. The kids made the most of it, with many posting season bests."

"It was a great trip, made even better with many college/university coaches inquiring about our athletes."

Aledo will next compete in the District 5-5A Meet at Central Park in White Settlement on Friday, Oct. 11. Weatherford will compete in the District 3-6A Meet at Lynn Creek Park in Grand Prairie on Wednesday, Oct. 9.

**Fink leads Aledo boys**

Jack Fink of the Bearcats led all local runners, finishing 11th in the El Caliente division, the top division. He clocked a time of 15:38.7 over the 5K course.

Tyler Connelly placed 30th, posting a time of 15:59.8. Also for the Bearcats:

- 136. Ian Robbins, 16:55.2.
- 195. Luke Schabel, 17:15.8.
- 233. Dominick Barrera, 17:32.9.
- 234. Thatcher Pettit, 17:34.7.
- 279. Reed Murray, 17:59.8.
- 294. Landon Eaton, 18:15.2.

As a team the Bearcats placed 21st.

Garrison paces Aledo girls to sixth-place finish

Competing in El Caliente Heat 1, the top girls division, Molly Garrison led Aledo, placing 12th with a time of 18:07.2 over 5K. Micah Neal was 16th in 18:31.

Also for the Ladycats:

- 60. Sofia Brandenburg, 19:21.7.
- 83. Madison Larsen, 19:34.4.
- 105. Kjerston Loy, 19:54.
- 114. Mayden Mitchell, 20:06.9.
- 180. Hadleigh Walton, 20:59.7.

As a team, the Ladycats finished sixth.

**Lady Roos' Boone 11th in Stillwater**

The Lady Roos finished 11th as a team in the Cowboys Jamboree in Stillwater, led by Remington Boone's 11th-place individual finish. She had a time of 19:17.40 over 5K.

Also for the Lady Roos:

- 44. Macayla Kopacz, 20:42.30.
- 70. Paige Blake, 21:22.80.
- 105. Ivy Scott, 22:03.90.
- 106. Nayelli Ordenez, 22:04.70.
- 146. Sophia White, 22:41.90.
- 161. Gianna Buchfink, 23:01.30.
- 194. Madison Pulis, 24:02.50.

For the Kangaroos:

- 109. Aideon Breaux, 17:58.50.
- 121. Erick Ibarra, 18:05.40.
- 138. Tate Nobis, 18:16.50.
- 139. Tony Gorman, 18:18.30.
- 152. Jett Hendrix, 18:27.00.
- 153. Andrew Scott, 18:27.30.
- 154. Kelan Bush, 18:27.40.
- 276. Saldivar Saul, 19:43.10.
- 295. Austin Fugitt, 19:58.80.
- 388. Aaron Valenthe, 20:29.10.

The Kangaroos placed 19th as a team.

**TCA competes in Jesuit Classic**

Willow Park Trinity's Eagles and Lady Eagles competed in the Dallas Jesuit Classic at Prestonwood Polo Club in Oak Point on Sept. 28. The Eagles were fourth as a team and the Lady Eagles were sixth.

Leading all TCA runners was Emma Saadeh, who was third



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS  
**Aledo's Ian Robbins**

among varsity girls. She ran the 2-mile course in 13:07.00.

Also for the Lady Eagles:

- 20. Olivia Quinn, 14:19.00.
- 54. Ellery Wright, 15:34.00.
- 60. Isabella Hooper, 15:50.00.
- 88. Kara Whiteaker, 17:07.00.

The Eagles were led by Jonah Brown, who was 17th over the 5K course with a time of 19:08.00. Right behind was Henry Reynolds, 18th, in 19:10.00. Also for the Eagles:

- 26. Jonas O'Dell, 19:39.00.
- 39. Harrison Brown, 20:29.00.
- 41. Luke Harless, 20:30.00.
- 52. Jack Brammer, 21:01.00.
- 63. Tripp Morgan, 21:19.00.

TCA will compete in the Private School Warmup on Saturday, Oct. 5 at the Buff in Haltom City. The North Texas Small School Championship is Oct. 19 at the same site.

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**CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS  
ORDINANCE 2024—216**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS, AMENDING THE ALEDO CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 10, "BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS," BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE, ARTICLE IX, "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE STANDARDS," TO PROVIDE FENCE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY'S BUILDING OFFICIAL TO ENFORCE AND ADMINISTER THIS ARTICLE; 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 NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**SECTION 4.**

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 Ordinance shall be fined as provided in Section 1-10 of the City's Code of Ordinances. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

**SECTION 9.**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law, and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 26th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2024.

ATTEST:  
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:  
City Attorney

Nick Stanley, Mayor

**CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS  
ORDINANCE 2024—217**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEDO, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 62, "STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTY" OF THE CITY OF ALEDO ZONING ORDINANCE, BY ADDING ARTICLE III, "STOPPING, STANDING, AND PARKING," TO ESTABLISH LIMITATIONS FOR PARKING ON CITY STREETS; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE IS CUMULATIVE; PROVIDING A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**SECTION 4.**

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 Ordinance shall be fined as provided in Section 1-10 of the City's Code of Ordinances. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

**SECTION 7.**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its date of passage and publication as provided by law, and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 26th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2024.

Nick Stanley, Mayor

ATTEST:  
Deana McMullen, City Secretary  
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:  
City Attorney

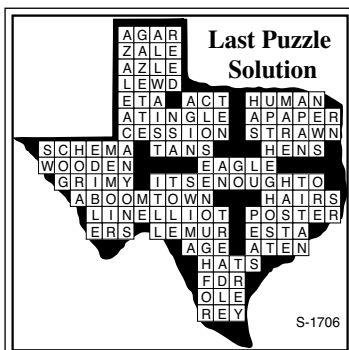
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FOOTBALL

# Eagles fall short in Tyler

## Return home this week

By Rick Mauch  
The Community News

After defeating a visiting team from Tyler (T.K. Gorman) the previous week in their homecoming, the Trinity Christian Academy Eagles made the trek down Interstate 20 this past Friday to the Rose City to face All Saints.

In a back-and-forth contest, the Eagles came up short, 26-24. TCA attempted a 49-yard game-winning field goal with four seconds left that came up short.

"This was a great game for both teams that went back and forth until the end. Our team showed resilience and heart on both sides of the ball," Eagles coach Cody McKenzie said. "We saw great individual efforts and moments of teamwork that remind us we're on the right path. These are the building blocks we'll continue to work on as we push forward."

Leading TCA (1-4) on offense were quarterback Canaan Kaznowski, who was 11-of-25 for 170 yards passing while rushing eight times for 40 yards, along with Owen Coates, who rushed a dozen times for 44 yards and a touchdown and caught three passes for 58 yards.

Also for the Eagles offense, Pearson Kuykendall rushed 11 times for 55 yards with a 16-yard catch, and Ezra Burk and Hank Nash each



TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

**Canaan Kaznowski of the Trinity Christian Academy Eagles finds yardage down the sidelines in a 26-24 loss at Tyler All Saints on Sept. 27.**

caught three passes for 64 yards and 34 yards, respectively.

On defense, Matthew Nestor led with eight tackles. Maxwell Johnson, Rhyder Dawson and Kuykendall each had six tackles, and Coates had five tackles, including two for a loss with a sack.

Also, Micah Harless posted five tackles and Dane Southworth had an interception.

The Eagles wrap up pre-district play at home Friday, Oct. 4 against Arlington Newman International, a 7 p.m.. The Warriors (1-3-1) are coming off a 40-34 home loss to Dallas Shelton.

TCA will begin play in the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division III District 1 at Arlington Pantego Christian (4-0).



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

**AJ Staggs (46) picked up 30 yards on nine carries.**

## FOOTBALL

from page 6

### Rankings

Along with their state rankings, both teams are ranked in the top 100 nationally. Ryan is No. 84 and Aledo is No. 87.

### In the wings

Waiting in the wings and yet to play both teams is Richland. The Royals are ranked No. 5 in the state.

Ryan hosts Richland in the next game on Oct. 11. The Royals come to Aledo on Oct. 25.

### District 3-5A Division I

District/Overall Points for-against	3-0	4-1	250-65
Aledo	3-0	4-1	250-65
Richland	2-0	5-0	257-105

Denton Ryan	2-0	4-0	189-55
Azle	2-0	4-0	186-97
Birdville	1-2	2-3	117-226
Denton	0-2	1-3	42-163
Granbury	0-3	1-4	77-155
Keller Fossil Ridge	1-2	1-4	79-208
Brewer	0-3	0-5	79-217

### Last week's results

Aledo 63, Fossil Ridge 3  
Ryan 63, Granbury 20  
Azle 42, Denton 21  
Richland 62, Denton 34  
Brewer bye

### This week's games (all at 7 p.m.)

Thursday, Oct. 3  
Brewer at Denton  
Friday, Oct. 4  
Ryan at Aledo  
Birdville at Azle  
Fossil Ridge at Richland  
Granbury bye

### Game at a glance

Denton Ryan Raiders (4-0, 2-0 in District 3-5A Division I) at Aledo Bearcats (4-1, 3-0).

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13 Tim Buchanan Stadium.

Last week: Aledo won 63-3 at Keller Fossil Ridge, Ryan 63-20 at home over Granbury.

Last season: Aledo went 16-0 and won Class 5A Division I state championship, Ryan was 8-3 and reached the second round of the playoffs. Aledo won 25-19 at home.

All-time series: Tied 2-2..

Returning starters: Aledo 3 offensive, 4 defensive. Ryan 8 offensive/7 defensive.

**Aledo offensive players to watch:** WR Kaydon Finley 28 catches, 489 yards, 8 TD; RB Ray Guillory 503 yards, 9 TD rushing; RB Kaden Winkfield 322 yards, 5 TD.

**Ryan offensive players to watch:** ATH Braeden Mussett, team took off when he moved to the QB position in 2023, has returned mostly playing receiver, but will still come in for certain plays at QB; OL Ty Haywood, four-year starter who has committed to play for Alabama..

**Aledo defensive players to watch:** CB Adrian Fuller 13.5 tackles, 2 interceptions, 5 pass break-ups, kickoff return for 82 yards and TD; DE Cooper Cyphers 15 tackles, 3.5 sacks, 4 for loss; LB Owen Henderson 19.5 tackles.

**Ryan defensive players to watch:** LB Dillon Arkansas, who has committed to TCU; CB Trae Williams, an Air Force commitment.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

Continued from page 7

Luau Fest, going 5-0 on the day. Players of the day were Berkeley O'Neill and Braelyn Swilling.

The seventh-grade A placed second in the silver bracket, going 4-2. Player of the day was Dayla Taylor.

Earlier in the week, Tison played Cleburne.

Seventh grade: A team won 25-17, 25-18, player of the match Mattie Boone; B team won 25-17, 25-18, player of the match, Brixley Gonsalves.

Eighth grade: A team lost 23-25, 25-22, 25-7; B team won 25-17, 25-18, player of the match Mickenna Adkins.

### Rodeo

#### WC wins at Sul Ross

Weatherford College's Mason Stueve won the Men's All-Around title at the Sul Ross State University Rodeo this past weekend in Alpine.

Stueve placed seventh in tiedown roping with 8.5 on one, and fourth in team roping with 16.1 on two with teammate Trey Adams.

Nathan Torres finished eighth in bare-back riding with 115 on two.

In tiedown roping, Pax Vogel placed third with 18.4 on two and Lane Webb was fourth with 18.5.

Following some no times in the short go of breakaway roping, Kaydence

Tindall came in seventh while Brooke Crenshaw and Chaney Chamberlain tied for eighth place.

Jacee Graff finished ninth in goat tying. Chamberlain took seventh in barrel racing.

Cole Smith and Cashton Weidenbener won second place in team roping with a 5.3 for first in the first round and a 6.0 in the second round. Jett Stewart and John Hisel placed third overall with 11.8 one two, and Cayden Harmon and Zack Nicholson finished seventh with 5.7 on one head.

Catcher Gasperson won third in steer roping with a 29.7 on two.

### Football

#### AMS vs. Mansfield Coble

Seventh grade: A won 28-0, B won 27-6, C won 6-0.

Eighth grade: A won 16-6, B won 24-0. Seventh grade teams combined record is 10-1, eighth-grade teams are 8-0.

#### Weatherford freshmen vs. Crowley

Blue team won 44-28. Players of the game Ethan Yeats, Cole McKay and Logan Blount.

White team won 63-44. Players of the game Devin Preston, Ace Feriend and Braxton Anderson.

### Bearcat/Ladycat golf fundraiser

The 21st Annual Bearcat/Ladycat Golf Booster Fundraiser Tournament is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 27 at Split Rail Links and Golf Club. It has a 1 p.m. shotgun start with lunch served at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact AledoHSGolf@gmail.com.

### Tennis

#### Weatherford JV vs. Boswell

The Kangaroos/Lady Roos pulled out a win over Boswell. Dylan Poston secured the 10th win of the match, making him the boys player of the day. The girls POD was Lila Wells.

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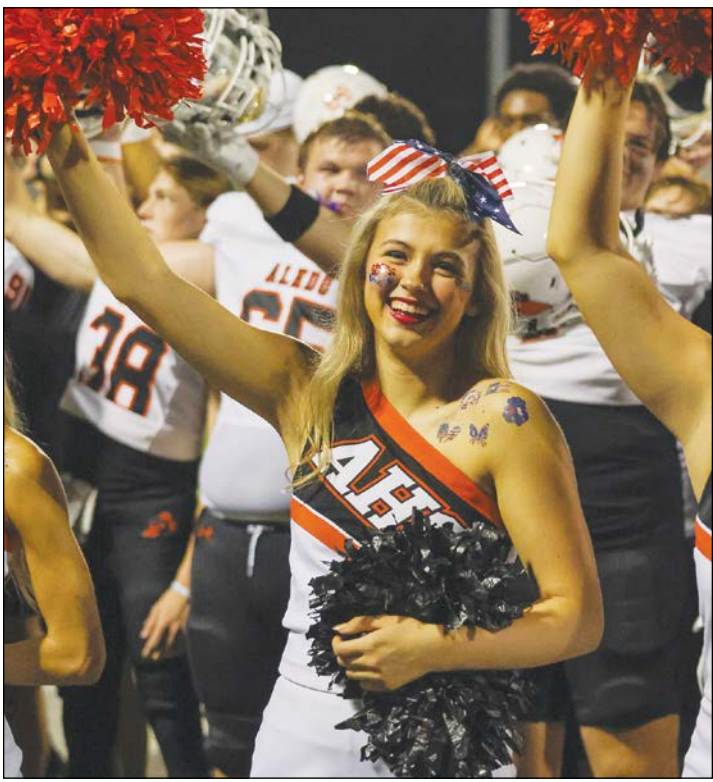
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# LADYCAT OF THE WEEK



**Molly Garrison**  
**Cross Country**

Competing in the Chili Pepper Festival in Fayetteville, Arkansas, Garrison placed 12th in the elite field featuring some of the nation's top runners in the toughest division. The junior had a time of 18 minutes, 7.20 seconds.

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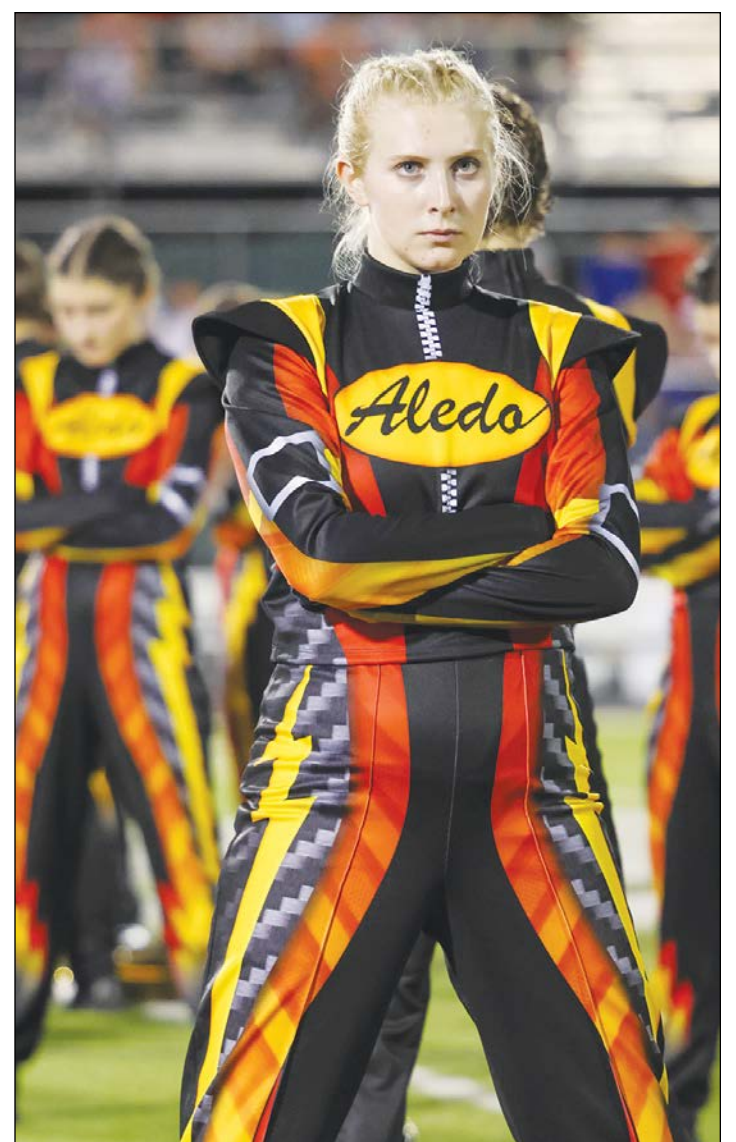
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# BEARCAT OF THE WEEK



**Jack Fink**  
**Cross Country**

Running in one of the nation's top meets, the Chili Pepper Festival hosted by the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas, the senior finished 11th in the top division. He posted a time of 15 minutes, 38.70 seconds over the 5K course.

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**FOSSIL RIDGE**  
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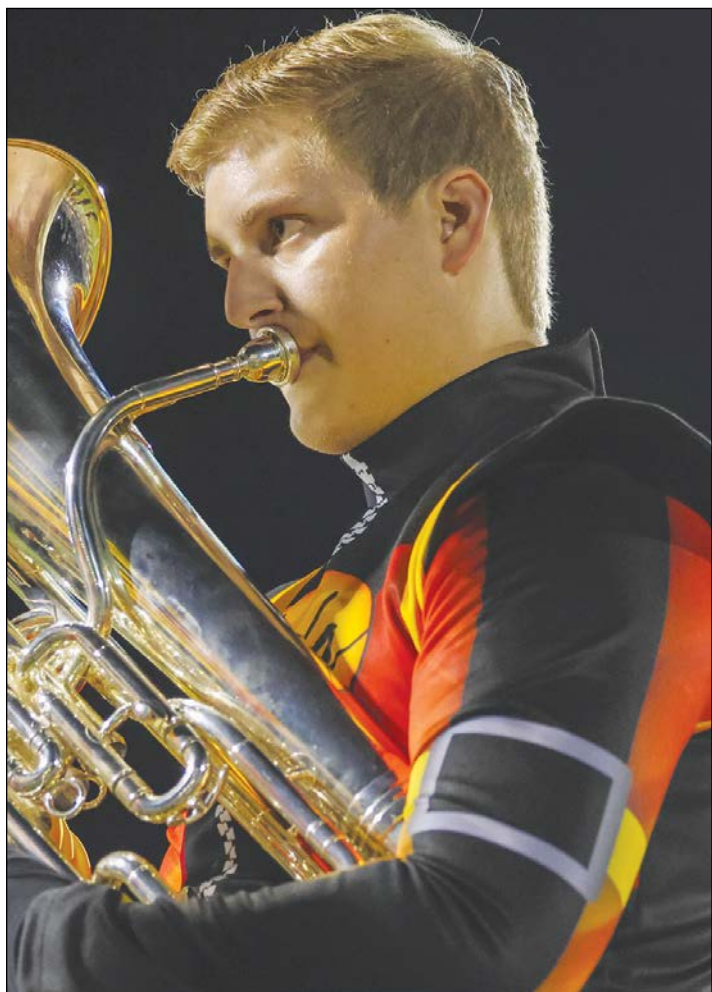


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TENNIS

# Racquet Cats remain unbeaten in district

## Sweep Fossil Ridge

By Kelly Dishman  
Special to the Community News

Aledo varsity tennis had another strong showing on their home courts, defeating Fossil Ridge High School 19-0.

There were also five additional practice matches played during the meeting between the two schools that were also victories for Aledo.

The team faces their final district match next week with confidence due to their District 5-5A record of 5-0 and overall record of 12-3. The Racquet Cats were hosting Chisholm Trail at press time in a match that will determine the District 5-5A champion.

Very few games were given up in the doubles lines. For the boys, Line 1 Jacob Heckathorn/Francois Britz won 6-0, 6-0; Line 2 Ben Kurth/Casen Freeland won 6-0, 6-1; and Line 3 Noah Nottingham/Tom Ruminsky won 6-2, 6-1.

All Girls doubles were also strong finishes, with Line 1 Elli Kate Bussmeir/Sydney Byrd (6-2, 6-1), Line 2 McKinley Hayes/Lila Satterfield (6-1, 6-2) and Line 3 Eleanor Jack/Patrice Loftin (6-1, 6-0).

Mixed Doubles Paxton Pscenk/Natalie Nawrocki walked off court, winning 6-2, 6-3.

The boys swept every singles line, with Line 1 Heckathorn (8-4), Line 2 Kurth (6-0, 6-0), Line 3 Ruminsky (8-4), Line 4 Britz (6-1, 6-1), Line 5 Freeland (8-6) and Line 6 Pscenk (9-7).

Girls dominated each singles line, with Satterfield at Line 1 (6-0, 6-1), Bussmeir at Line 2 (8-2); Byrd at Line 3 (8-0), Hayes at Line 4 (6-0, 6-0), Gracie Heydman at Line 5 (8-1) and Line 6 played by Jack (8-1).

The Chisholm Trail match was also Senior Night for graduating seniors Britz, Heckathorn, Bussmeir, Heydman, Jack and Loftin.

VOLLEYBALL

# Ladycats roll to fourth straight district sweep

## Aledo garners 12th consecutive victory

By Geoff Heppes  
The Community News

The Aledo Ladycats volleyball team continued to dominate the

competition in District 5-5A with another convincing win Friday night, Sept. 27. In that contest, Aledo handled the Fossil Ridge Lady Panthers in straight sets, winning the match by a final score of 25-9, 25-11 and 25-19.

Along with the varsity squad's victory, each of Aledo's sub varsity teams emerged victorious in straight sets. The ninth-grade B team walked away with a 25-8 and 25-11 victory while the freshmen A team claimed victory by a final score of 25-19 and 25-9. The junior varsity team earned a straight-sets win by a final score of 25-8 and 25-13.

Star junior Alyssa Todd produced 11 kills, 13 digs, two blocks and two aces while senior middle Kinley Elms had 10 kills and one block. Senior middle Haley Lowe recorded six kills and four blocks while Ella Isbell and Morgan Estevez combined for nine kills. Senior setter Ava Reding registered an impressive stat line of 23 assists, 12 digs and one ace. Seniors Kenrie Pruitt and Ella Meador anchored the back line defense with 23 and 13 digs, respectively.

Meanwhile, Sophie Frank served a team-high three aces along with six assists. Ali LoBaugh had one block and Kailey Hamilton added four assists.

The Ladycats (23-7, 5-0) had a bye on Tuesday, but will be back in action at 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4 at home against Chisholm Trail to conclude the first round of district play. Aledo has now won 12 matches in a row, remains unbeaten in the district and boosted its league road record to 3-0 overall

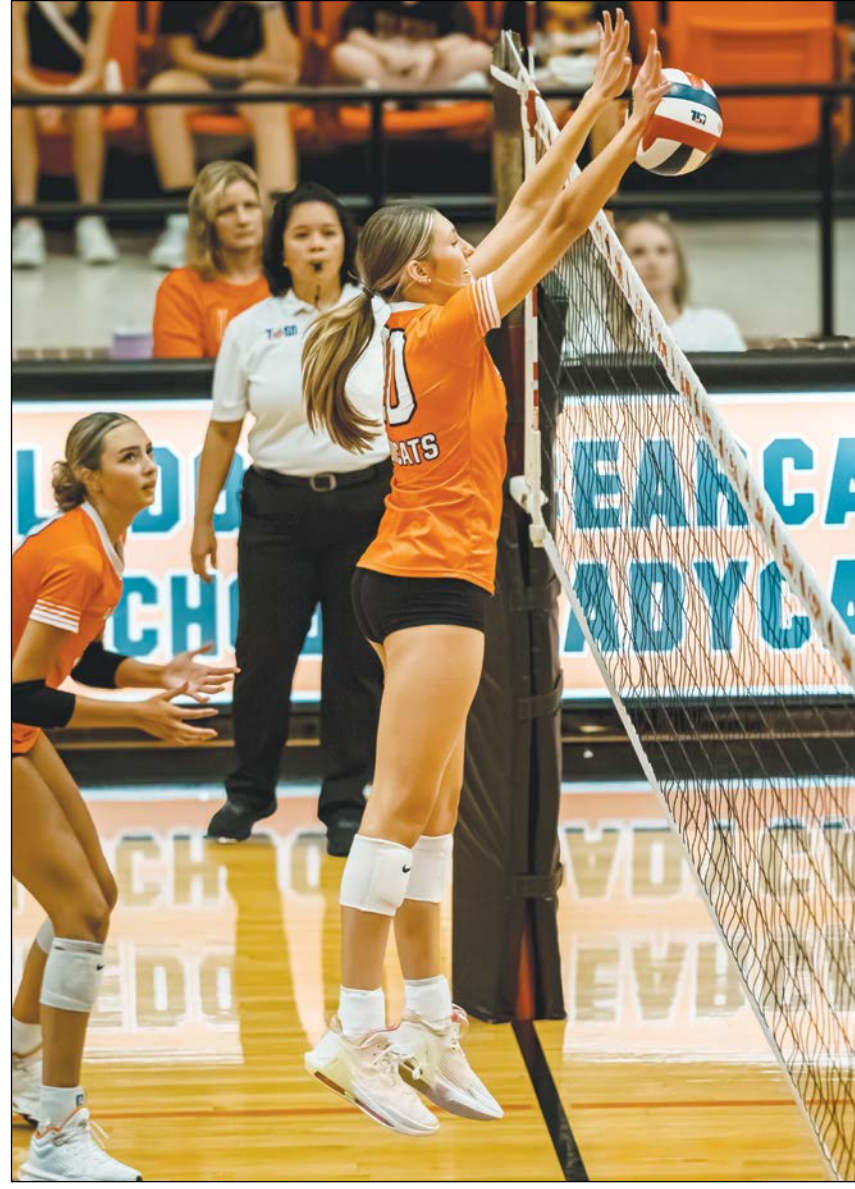
after sweeping its fifth consecutive district foe.

## Aledo dominates Azle at home

The Aledo Ladycats volleyball team resumed its district dominance with a home contest Tuesday night, Sept. 24 against the Azle Lady Hornets. Aledo defended its home court well, winning its third consecutive home match and its 11th straight win overall, in straight sets. The Ladycats emerged victorious by a final score of 25-14, 25-12 and 25-17.

Aledo got another strong performance from star junior outside hitter Alyssa Todd, who led the way with 10 digs, 13 digs, three service aces and two blocks. Todd has posted double-digit kills in each of her team's four district matches.

Meanwhile, senior middle blockers Haley Lowe and Kinley Elms had strong showings as they combined for 13 kills and five blocks while senior Ella Isbell registered a team-high five stuffs at the net. Seniors Kenrie Pruitt and Ava Reding tallied 11 and 10 digs, respectively, while the former served a team-high four aces and the latter distributed 16 assists. Senior defensive specialist Ella Meador served two aces while Tatum Kosse added three blocks.



RYAN WADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Haley Lowe (10) gets a block in action earlier in the season.

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