Grace House Annual fundraiser, page 2

April 18, 2025 · www.community-news.com · 75 cents

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Earning a second chance

Hart petitions governor for pardon By Candy McMichen

The Community News

A nineteen-year-old homeless man, walking the Weatherford streets, learned that his wife had died of a drug overdose, and that he'd lost custody of his two babies.

Addicted to methamphetamines, David Hart's own mother did not want him under her roof.

He was arrested for possession, was incarcerated for 16 months, spent 10 months in rehab, then moved to a halfway house.

That was when Hart began to rebuild his life.

Add 20 years, a stint with the Texas Guard, three marriages and six children, Hart now is a familiar, and beloved, face within his community. A successful entrepreneur, he says he could not have accomplished his journey without the love and support of his mother, wife Shawna, children, and the community he loves serving.

"It gives me joy, to be able to help our neighbors, whether it's a financial gift, or donation of services, I'm here to do what I can," Hart said of his involvement.

He recently lost his tough-love mother, who never lost faith in her son. He says his heart for widows and our veterans serves as daily motivation.

He is painfully aware of being needful, and how difficult it is to ask for help.



David Hart has served his community as a volunteer firefighter.

COURTESY OF DAVID HART

Hart is active in numerous areas of life within Parker County.

Where there is a need, Hart is usually somewhere in the equation of solving the problem.

He has also served as a youth soccer coach, volunteer firefighter, and would like to add auxiliary police officer to his realm of service.

With a felony on his record, he is unable to do so.

Hart owns Hart HVAC and Electric, which has locations in

three states with 47 employees.

Hart recently purchased and restored the Malt Shop, an almost 60-year staple of the Weatherford burger crowd. The shop was in danger of being permanently closed, and when Hart and partner Sean Allen heard the county's moans and groans, they decided to rescue the Fort Worth Highway eatery, preserving a piece of history for the next generation to enjoy.

Hart enjoys his community,

and so he chose to petition Governor Abbott, whom he has met on one occasion, for a pardon for his 20-year-old victimless crime which has labeled him a felon for two decades.

"I don't particularly feel like I deserve a pardon," Hart explained, "but I'd like to know there are second chances for people like me, and want others to know they can make a difference."

Turn to HART, page 3

Monday forum By Candy McMichen The stage was set for the candidates' forum April 14, Monday evening, by the Parker County Republican Women. Mayoral, city council, and school board candidates and constituents alike were hosted at the Doss Center in anticipation of the May 3 election.

POLITICS

meet

Constituents

candidates

GOP women host

"Elections start here, at the local level," moderator Rachael Watson, said, as she began questioning candidates.

Aledo Mayor Nick Stanley said that Parker County was the ninth most rapidly growing county in the nation, and Aledo needed to manage the growth that is coming. He cited the creation of an Aledo Police Department, and that, "Economic development policies needed to benefit all Aledo."

He believes growing Aledo's business community is key in the city's success.

Paul Paschall, Weatherford's two-term mayor, laid out a fourphase plan that included public safety, transportation, parks, and trails, as well as projections for expected growth.

"We need things that people and families can do," Paschall said, "as well as protecting who we are and what we're about."

He believes that small businesses will grow if the government stays out of the way.

William Montgomery, Paschall's challenger, believes his business background in the cutting horse industry will serve the city well.

"We cannot outrun our power

COMMUNITY LIFE Network helps firefighters cope, heal

Trained counselors work with first responders By Christopher Amos The Community News

Firefighters are there for us when we need help. Who is there for the firefighters?

A trained network of peer-to-peer representatives work within the Parker County Emergency Services District 1 to keep tabs on firefighters' emotional status, particularly after stressful or dangerous events.

Chaplain Cliff Spain, who coordinates the group, points out these individuals are not counselors. That designation would require a total of six to eight years of college plus supervised practice to become certified counselors, according to the Texas Counseling Association. However, professional licensed counselors are available to the firefighters when needed.

The 10 personnel who conduct peer-to-peer services for the ESD1 are firefighters themselves and know firsthand the pressure and emotions that comes with being a firefighter. When needed, peer-to-peer group has access to licensed professionals such as psychologists, counselors, and social workers familiar with firefighters and the type of situations they face.

"We address anything that can cause stress or create PTSD," Chaplain Spain explained. "Intense situations or events involving a fatality or a difficult rescue can cause lingering stress on a firefighter."

Spain or another peer support member will meet with the team of firefighters that responded to the sensitive call. One such call We address anything that can cause stress or create PTSD. Intense situations or events involving a fatality or a difficult rescue can cause lingering stress on a firefighter.

Chaplain Cliff Spain

Spain described was an auto accident resulting in multiple fatalities.

"After the incident, we met the responding team at their station and sat down and talked with them about the call. From there, we can see if we need to go a little further and have what is called a de-briefing."

Quality of life, personal well-being, and family contentment are also important to a first responder's life.

Spain, who retired from the City of Fort Worth Fire Department after 30 years of service, is trained and certified through the Federation of Fire Chaplains. He has been conducting peer-to-peer support for 15 years and is approaching 40 years of firefighter service.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS Fire Department Chaplain Cliff Spain oversees a peer-to-peer support network for fellow firefighters.

"We're the first responders to the first responders," Spain said. "These guys, they take care of themselves, they work out and eat right, they train and do everything to be ready to respond. Our job is to make sure they stay healthy mentally."

and water, or our properties become worthless," Montgomery said.

A long road, with no instant fix, he said there were some gaps in how the city was handling some of these issues, and said he can fill those gaps.

"People want to be heard," Willow Park Mayor Doyle Moss said, "and I think we're doing a great job of listening."

Moss explained that the concern for the water supply is valid, and that there will be a new treatment plant coming online in September.

"Our staff is doing a great job," Moss said, 'we need to let them do it."

Springtown mayoral candidate Mike Kelley said the leadership skills he has developed through the years will help him contribute to the city.

He stressed that the water crisis must be solved with neighboring communities in order to succeed.

"Infrastructure, and incentivizing businesses to come to Springtown, making it more appalling to families," Kelley explained.

Turn to FORUM, page 9

FDIC





Grace House presents fun fundraiser





Grace House executive director Charley Rickey

Bubba, ventriloquist Gloria Gilbert-Barron, and Jo Warren chat before Gilbert-Barron entertains supporters of Grace House.



Fred Barber, Trinity Christian Academy founder Dr. Marsha Barber, Elizabeth Baker, and Weatherford College vice president of institutional advancement Brent Baker visit before the Grace House banquet.

By Christopher Amos The Community News

Fine food, laughter, and music were keynotes of the Grace House Ministry's annual fundraiser banquet April 10. The event, "Better Together," was held at Willow Park Baptist Church.

The banquet packed the lobby of the church where supporters ate, mingled, and cast bids on silent auction items. The event later moved into the church's sanctuary for entertainment, laughter, and information about Grace House goals.

Jo Warren, Grace House communication relations coordinator, welcomed supporters and recognized board members past and present, volunteers and members of other non-profits in attendance.



Toby Hutchinson entertained at the opening of the meeting with praise and worship songs accompanied by his father, Andy Hutchison, on piano.

Applause was also given for members of the armed services in the audience.

"Tonight is a night to say 'Thank you." We just can't thank you enough," Warren said.

Ventriloquist Gloria Gilbert-Barron entertained the gathering with her puppet partner, Bubba, as the duo cracked jokes, sang, and involved the audience.

Grace House Ministry was founded to promote, educate, and offer alternatives to abortion. Learn more about the organization's goals at www.ghmtx.com or contact Grace House by email at info@ghmtx. com or call 817-599-9080.

> PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER AMOS

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Since being elected Mayor of the City of Willow Park, we have:

- Solved Willow Park's water issues working with our neighbor Hudson Oaks to get Water from Fort Worth
- Solved our Waste Water problem with a new Waste Water plant to open in 2025
- Lowered our property tax rate
- Doubled our sales tax revenue
- Improved approximately 10 miles of needed road repair with plans to do more
- Annexed 321 acres of I-20 frontage road East of our city which will include Retail and Residential development
- We upgraded the Cross Timbers Park and are in the process of upgrading Kingsgate Park
- I have 100% support from our current City Council

I'm asking for your vote Doyle Moss

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FORUM

from page one

Eric Contreras, Willow Park city council incumbent, said that infrastructure, water shortages, roads, and parks were his areas of concern.

"I must be available as a public servant," he said, "and I am."

The Aledo ISD school board Place 4 candidate Jeremiah Stoker said teacher turnover and concerns of the special ed community were his top issues, and suggested the creation of an ombudsman position in the district will help solve certain internal issues.

Forrest Collins, AISD Place 4 incumbent, said that the growing community needed to build on their successes to strengthen their future, and that the parents are what makes the district successful.

Aledo ISD's Place 5 candidates Lynn Morgan and Kelli Stahl are first-time runners.

Morgan said she was impressed by how the district is run and by its transparency.

She wants to encourage the board to work more closely with teachers since they are the ones who know best about the needs of their students.

Stahl, a Parker County native, said she is running to protect and preserve the community, and is here to make a difference.

Stahl also believes that teacher input is invaluable in determining the community's needs and wants as they relate to the district.

Samuel Stephens, Weatherford ISD Place 4 candidate, believes in the transformative power of education. He said it is essential for students to use their educations to succeed in life.

Dan Woods, running for the WISD Place 4 spot, said that every student has an avenue that he or she can grow in and that involvement benefits their achievement.

He believe that there is always something to improve upon, and that is imperative to grow technology and the trades.

Stephen Rorai II and Jim Cox are running for the Walnut Creek Special Utility District Directors, where voters may vote for one, or both of them.

Rorai is concerned about the rubber-stamping approval of developers in the region, without the necessary water supply to support new builds.

Cox said that getting infrastructure up-to-date is crucial, since we are already 20 years behind.

Editor's Note: Every candidate who spoke at the forum is covered in this story. Some candidates did not attend. Follow additional coverage at community-news.com/ election2025.

HART from page one

Hart has garnered the support of countless local businesses, friends, elected officials, legislators, and numerous civic groups, including the Azle Police Officers Association. Letters are being sent to the governor's office, and it is no longer accepting phone calls in his favor, as they are overwhelmed by the sheer volume of calls, according to the governor's office staff.

Interestingly, Hart says his passion has been stoked by the realization that his pardon is not the most important part of this procedure.

"I wonder how many others are out there who feel helpless, hopeless, not knowing how to go about starting over. I want to help them."

As of press time, the governor's office has not responded to the pardon request.



COURTESY OF DAVID HART

David Hart met Governor Greg Abbott at an event for State Rep. Ben Bumgarner, right, in 2024.

Your Views LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

doesn't make him a leader, it makes him a problem.

Education in Texas is facing some interesting challenges. Regardless of your position on vouchers, school funding will be, as always, a difficult battle for the stakeholders. It will be critical to have experienced and knowledgeable leadership on the board. The Aledo ISD is a well-run district with a long history of great successes. Keeping good leadership, like Forrest Collins, is essential to addressing the challenges we face now and in the future. Please join me in voting for Forrest.

-Rob Helms

Permitting Problems

I am trying to obtain a permit to modify an existing two-car garage on the rear of my 1.2 acre home lot to an up-to-date efficiency studio apartment. It has been Mission Impossible! We have read the Willow Park ordinances that discuss pool houses and mother-in-law homes. We have licensed builders, plumbers, HVAC, and septic contractors all lined up. I have paid floor plans ready. What's my problem? No Willow Park permit.

Willow Park is still in the fifties. They say no lot can have a second resident building, but buildings are going up without permits. The city knows this - what great planning and zoning! Toni Fisher in Planning and Zoning is trying hard. The story you hear is we have been working on the issue for a long time! Planning and Zoning only has the labor of one attorney, and he is put to a lot of use. Let me tell you I am ready for some results from my city government! The April 15 Planning and Zoning Meeting was canceled, and the business to address the second residence on a property is not scheduled until late May. I suggest the mayor look at available assets and see if permit planning might receive a little better

priority, because right now you are stuck behind LA.

- Col Bill Kindred, USAF, (Ret)

Stepping Up

An important school board election is coming soon. Please take time from your busy schedule to vote and reelect Forrest Collins to this key position.

We were privileged to join the Bearcat teaching staff in 1986 and had the honor of serving many wonderful students, families, and staff during our 30 plus years of service before retiring.

As you experience daily, the Aledo schools and community are growing quickly. Bearcat tradition includes exemplary service to students, incredible parent involvement, and community pride. What makes this school community such a special place for families does not happen by accident, it is the result of careful planning, leadership, commitment, and the hard work of all involved.

Forrest joined the School Board in 2016 and has consistently stepped up for all kids. He is an outstanding communicator and seeks feedback from all stakeholders and is always willing to listen. More importantly, you can count on him to follow through as he maintains his focus on providing exceptional learning opportunities for all programs and students. He doesn't just talk, he takes action, we have seen this time and again. Forrest regularly attends academic, fine arts, CTE, extracurricular, and athletic events at all levels and truly works to understand the critical attributes of all programs.

Please honor Forrest Collins with another term of service so he may continue to ensure Aledo ISD achieves Greatness Together. He is a caring family man of integrity.

> Respectfully, Lynn and Randal McKinney Retired Aledo ISD Educators







community has been a master class on servant leadership, dedication, and problem solving. He is a tremendous father, the kind of father he didn't have in his life. His dedication to his family and the practice of values are

Servant Leader

As the race for Aledo ISD

Place 4 progresses and Mr.

Stoker attempts to unseat

Forrest Collins, I feel compelled

mine. I met Forrest when he

was elected to the school board

in 2016 and have followed as he

has served and then been elect-

ed board President. Since his

election, he has been all in for

Aledo ISD, working, learning,

and most importantly, con-

necting with the people in the

community. If there is a more

approachable or engaged board

member, I don't know who it

Watching Forrest serve his

would be.

Forrest Collins is a friend of

to write about what is at stake.

remarkable. He doesn't do it alone. His wife, Stefanie, is an elementary educator with a fierce commitment to the needs of all the children she serves. The Collins family has battled significant health issues in the not-so-distant past. The grace, humility and faith they displayed through this challenging season speaks to their approach to trials. I would encourage you to go to www.runningwithforrest.com and read about Forrest and his beliefs.

I don't know Mr. Stoker but I've read what he has published. The first thing on his agenda is to unseat a very dedicated board President. Then he has a whole list of people he's going to fire, starting with the Superintendent. This seems like a "scorched earth" approach that will lead to chaos. He may have a plan to run off all the leadership in the district, but getting the rest of the board to execute that plan will be difficult. That



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Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton made it official last week, announcing he will challenge U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in next March's Republican primary. The fireworks already have begun, the Austin American-Statesman reported, with Cornyn calling his rival "a con man and a fraud."

Paxton, for his part, said he is running to "fight for President Trump's agenda and take a sledgehammer to the D.C. establishment." He accused Cornyn of being insufficiently loyal to Trump.

Paxton's decision to run for the Senate leaves the attorney general's seat open in 2026. Former U.S. Attorney John Bash, a lawyer for Elon Musk, has announced plans to run, The Dallas Morning News reported. He will almost certainly have company in the GOP primary. Longtime lobbyist and political consultant Bill Miller said the job's high profile makes it attractive to potential candidates.

"It's the most attractive job below being senator or governor. You have this enormous machinery to put yourself in almost every issue, state or federal," he said. "You can make news and be news almost at will."

The News named several possible GOP candidates, including state Sens. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola, and Mayes

Paxton, Cornyn gear up for primary battle

Capital Highlights

Texas version of DOGE heads to Abbott's desk

If signed, the first bill headed to Gov. Greg Abbott's desk would create the "Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office," the Statesman reported. A supermajority of the House passed Senate Bill 14 last week, following its approval in the Senate in late March.

The measure is expected to save taxpayers \$25 million for five years by identifying rules that are "unnecessary, duplicative, expensive or prohibitive." It would also look for ways that state agencies could cut costs.

House sponsor state Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Keller, noted the state of Texas has more than 274,000 rules and regulations.

"The purpose of the office is to have technical professionals, people skilled in those regulations, review those regulations and to come up with recommendations to the agency on how they can make things better for the constituents of Texas," Capriglione said.

Visas revoked for international students in state

At least 110 international students at Texas universities have had their visas revoked or their immigration status marked as terminated in a federal database, The Texas Tribune reported. As of last week, these universities confirmed the number of international students affected:

- University of North Texas: 27 University of Texas at Dallas: 19
- University of Texas at Arlington: 27
- Texas A&M University: 19
- University of Texas Rio Grande Valley: 9
- Texas Women's University: 4 Texas Tech University: 3

Justice Eva Guzman, who ran for immigration status but declined to say how many.

On Wednesday, the Department of Homeland Security said it would begin screening the social media feeds of international students for "antisemitic" content. Pro-Palestine protests were held at several Texas campuses after Israel retaliated in Gaza after the Oct. 7, 2023, attack by Hamas.

Measles cases surpass 500; outbreak could last for months

The number of measles cases in West Texas and the Panhandle has surpassed 500, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported. Health experts say the outbreak likely will continue to grow and could last for months.

Measles was declared eliminated in the U.S. in 2000, The News reported. The World Health Organization defines that as the "absence of endemic measles transmission" for at least 12 months. If the current measles outbreak lasts longer than a year, which seems likely, the U.S. would lose its elimination status.

"We are almost certainly going to lose that," Dr. Greg Poland, a vaccinologist, said. "In that sense from a public health view, we are going backwards. And that will hurt people."

House passes \$337.4 billion budget

The Texas House on Friday overwhelmingly passed a \$337.4 billion budget that includes funding for school vouchers, teacher pay raises, and property tax cuts. The Dallas Morning News reported. The General Appropriations Act passed by a 118-26 margin after 14 hours of debate on the House floor.

"[The bill] stays well under all spending limits and grows The University of Texas at less than population and infla-Middleton, R-Galveston; state Austin and the University of tion-ensuring we protect Rep. Mitch Little, R-Lewisville: Houston said that some of its taxpavers while meeting the and former Supreme Court students had a change in their needs of a growing Texas," said Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar House Appropriations Chairman Greg Bonnen, R-Friendswood.

Senate Bill 1 now goes into negotiation with the Texas Senate, which passed its version of the budget in March. House Speaker Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, said that chamber can now turn its attention to other priorities. Before passing the budget, only a handful of bills had made it out of the House, in contrast with the Senate, which has passed nearly 200 bills thus far.

"Now that we've established a strong fiscal framework, the House will soon act on key legislation-starting first with school finance and school choice-knowing exactly the resources we have in place to deliver real results for Texans," Burrows said.

The House budget bill contains \$6.5 billion to continue Operation Lone Star, Abbott's border security initiative, as well as \$3 billion to create a Dementia Research Prevention and Institute.

March brought higher temps, less rain

Warmer-than-usual temperatures in March, combined with less rain for most of the state, meant 70% of the state was in drought by the end of last month. That's a rise of 21 percentage points since late February, according to hydrologist Dr. Mark Wentzel, with the Texas Water Development Board.

"In the next few months, drought conditions are expected to improve somewhat in South Texas but expand across the Panhandle and North Central Texas," Wentzel wrote.

He added he expected some easing of drought severity in South Texas, which was hit with torrential rain last month, and no drought areas in East Texas.

Gary Borders is a veteran awardwinning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Park. Email: gborders@texaspress. 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.

the job in 2022.

Idle American **Uppers With Downers**

have attended. Most importantly, 4,156 have accepted Christ.

Son of Rev. and Mrs. Roger Greer, the Lewisville native was a three-sport star at Huffman High School, near Houston, but decided to forego intercollegiate sports during his four years at East Texas Baptist University.

A professed Christian at age 15, Jared began his youth ministry with a part-time church assignment as an ETBU freshman. As sophomores, he and the former Sally Tacquard were wed. Now, they have sons Micah, 14, and Bennett, 10.

His family leads cheers as he jumps, grabs, balances, reaches, dodges, grimaces and swings in manners he never dreamed of until his church youth urged him in 2013 to submit a video to the TV show. Since, they have prayed for him as he faces obstacles known for their dips, dives, rolls, shakes and twists, often changing speeds and sometimes disappearing. Remember, just four of several hundred thousand entries have totally mastered the course.

When he was tabbed to compete in 2014 - claiming to be "in no way fit for it" - he worked hard and ate right to lose 30 pounds in 30 days to compete at 145 pounds. Standing 5-9, he keenly remembers his first performance foiled by a large log that added insult to injury. While half on the mat and half on the log, it swung around, bopping him in the head. He was greatly embarrassed, doubly so a few episodes later when his "pratfall" opened the show – with voice

accompaniment - "Jared Greer gets on log, but it comes back for a knock-out!"

Former youth minister at First Baptist Church in Grandview, he resigned six years ago to enter his "Ninja outreach" full time. He and pastor Corey Cornutt remain strong friends, and another valued encourager is Dr. Brad Collins, a fellow churchman and chiropractor who keeps Jared's body aligned for long road trips, obstacle placement, performance,s and sharing The Word.

For a couple of years, Jared's dad was alongside. At ages 68 and 69, he helped with driving and setting up obstacles. He also joined Jared in scaling a 14-foot warped wall, juggling all the while. At one church, Jared reached the top, held on with one hand and fired a basketball at a goal a half-court away with the other. Nothing but net!

It's evident that Jared uses his athletic talents as a means to an end. He knows that few candidates older than age 40 are selected for the TV show. In fact, now nearing age 38, he had no intention of competing this season, but The Word goes on. And it was Micah - committed to following in his dad's footsteps - who prepared and submitted the video.

"To God be the glory," Jared beams, referencing Gideon, a Biblical figure used of God "to make the impossible possible."

One day, Micah may go warped-wall-climbing with his dad. And his granddad - now



Rev. Jared Greer

a Latexo, Texas, pastor - might join them. What a remarkable trio! God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform.

(More information at obstacleministry.com.)

Dr. Newbury, a speaker in the Metroplex, may be reached at 817-447-3872; email: newbury@ speakerdoc.com. Column audio version at www.speakerdoc.com.



Dr. Don Newbury newbury@speakerdoc.com

Don't ever mention falling through cracks in the presence of Rev. Jared Greer – unless you delight in seeing eyes roll, hair stand on end and bodily contortions with "rigors" followed shortly by "mortis."

With three appearances on NBC's American Ninja Warrior television show and a fourth segment to run at 7 p.m. (CST) on June 23, the former youth pastor is *not* one of the four warriors claiming a million dollars each for total victories over all obstacles during the show's 17-year run.

Yep, he's found many cracks through which to fall, as have 180-200 other participants annually. But, he has improved each time, endearing himself to producers and now a tester and consultant for a program receiving up to 50,000 three-minute video submissions annually. The upside, though, is the discovery of a unique career ministry for presentation of the Gospel. At 514 churches, schools, and Christian camps during the past decade, some 200,000 young people

Community Life

April 18, 2025 **THE COMMUNITY NEWS** www.community-news.com

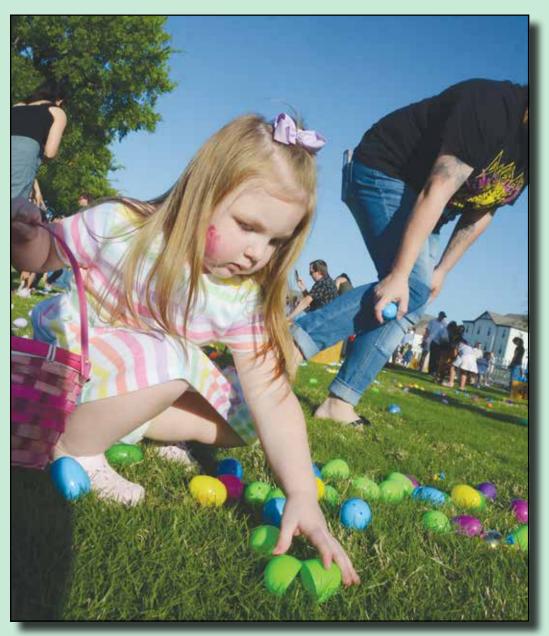


APRIL 20

The City of Hudson Oaks got an early jump of spring with The Hoppin' HOCO, the city's annual Easter egg hunt at Gene L. Voyles Park.

Families enjoyed food trucks, a petting zoo, area business and church booths, and kids scrambling for a field of plastic eggs with candy at the April 11 event.

Photos by Christopher Amos





Ben and Emily Raven pick out prizes they won at the Lakeshore Baptist Church booth.

There were so many eggs to choose from, three year-old Everly Sawyer had trouble deciding.



Five year-old Kayanne Ketcherside finds a friend at the petting zoo.



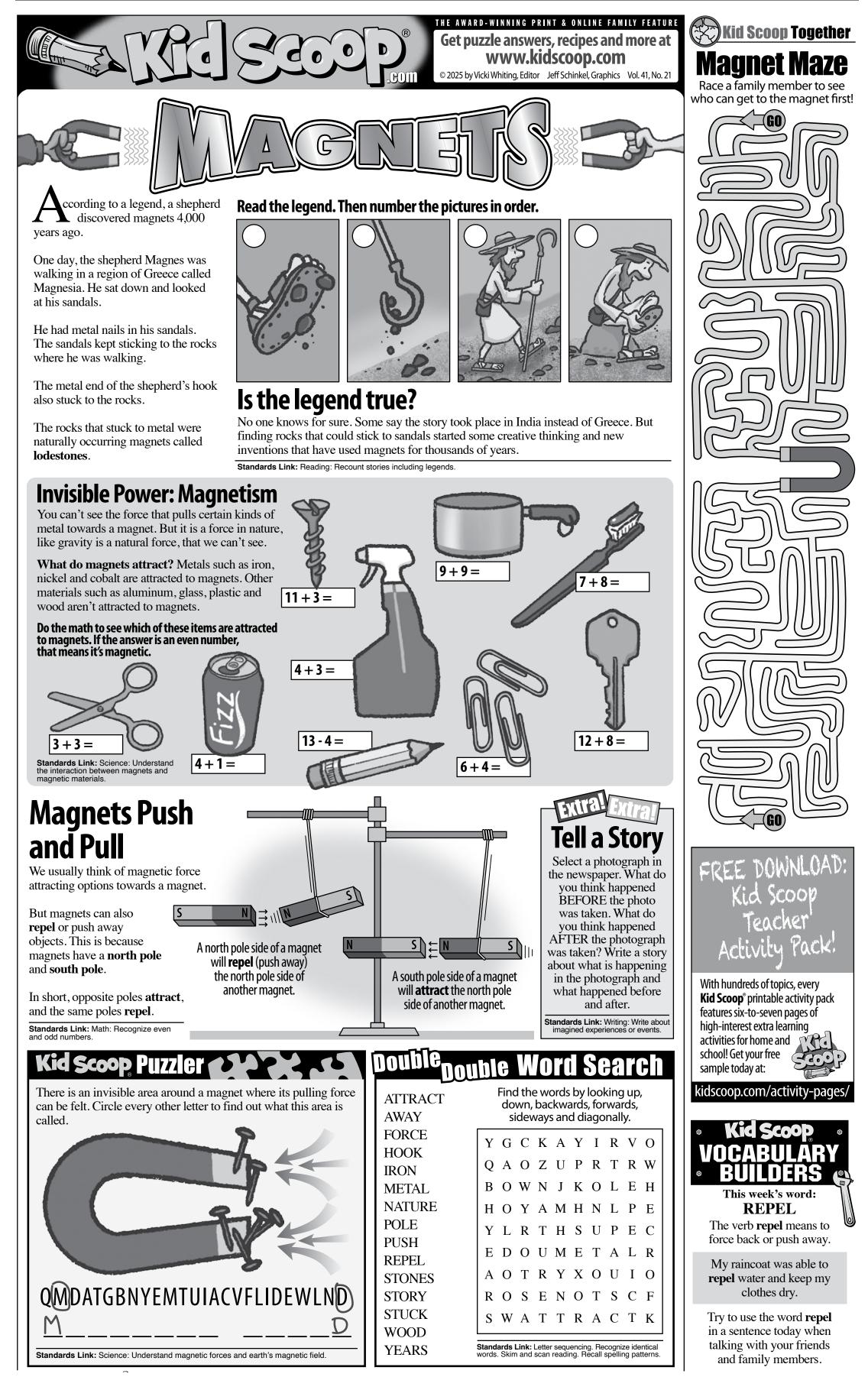
Volunteer Matt McCarroll spreads hundreds of eggs for the first of three groups of children.



Two year-old Elliana Scott found it best to open her eggs right away.



Volunteer Lexi Webber distributes eggs in Gene Voyles Park.





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Fvents

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APRIL 21

All Summer Stage Auditions

Weatherford College will hold all summer stage auditions beginning with video auditions, which are due April 21.

The following dates are important:

- In-Person Callbacks: April 27, 1 to 4 p.m.
- Pick Up Rehearsals: May 3, 10, and 24, 1 to 4 p.m.
- Camp Date: May 26 -30, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Performances: May 30 (7 p.m.), May 31 (3 and 7 p.m.), June 1 (3 p.m.)

Summer shows include Snow White and Rose Red, King Lear, and Cinderella.

For links to audition information, visit https:// wc.edu/news/wc-summerstage-auditions-announced. php

APRIL 26

Weatherford Lemonade Day

Lemonade Day is coming to Weatherford! This nationwide program is more than just selling lemonade—it's a hands-on entrepreneurial experience designed to



empower our youth with skills like goal-setting, business planning, budgeting, and customer service.

On April 26, kids across Weatherford will set up their very own lemonade stands, turning their sweet dreams into reality!

Whether you're a parent, mentor, sponsor, or community member, you can be part of this incredible journey to inspire the next generation of business leaders.

Why Lemonade Day?

- · Teaches kids real-world life skills
- Encourages creativity and problem-solving
- Fosters community involvement
- **Creates lifelong memories**

This event is brought to you by the Weatherford Chamber and Young **Business Leaders**





MAY 4

Parker County Aggie Clay Shoot

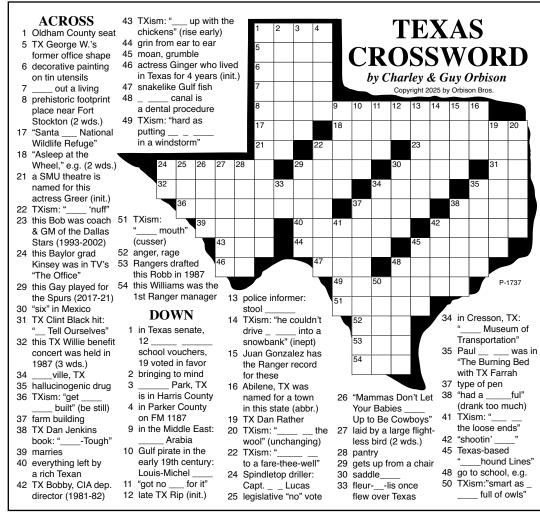
The inaugural Parker County Aggie Clay Shoot will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at Defender **Outdoors Clay Sports** Ranch, 8270 Aledo Road in Fort Worth.

Sponsored by the Parker County Aggie Moms' Club, sponsorships ranging from \$300 to Title Sponsorship for \$5,000.

Proceeds benefit Parker County Aggie sponsorships. For sponsorship information, visit parkercomoms.membershiptoolkit. com/ClayShoot.

MAY 21

Baccalaureate Service The Baccalaureate service for the Aledo High



School Class of 2025 will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, at Aledo United Methodist Church.

MAY 31

All-Class Reunion SAVE THE DATE: An all-class reunion for Weatherford High School will be held on May 31 at the Doss Heritage and **Culture Center. For more** info, call 817-894-1822.



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Sports

8



Adam Averett won a pair of gold medals, one individually in the 300-meter hurdles and one as part of the 4x400 relay.

TRACK AND FIELD

Area schools sending athletes to regionals

Aledo leads with **25** qualifiers By Rick Mauch The Community News

Competing on their own track, the Aledo Bearcats and Ladycats wasted no time - or distance - as they qualified 25 athletes (14 boys, 11 girls) to regionals from the Class 5A Area 5-6 Meet they hosted April 11 at Tim Buchanan Stadium.

The Bearcats also won the team standings in their division, scoring 116 points to runner-up Denton Ryan's 94. Ryan won the girls division with 150, followed by Aledo with 125.5.

Leading Aledo qualifiers were Adam Averett in four events and Adrian Fuller in three events for the Bearcats. Averett won a pair of gold medals, one individually in the 300-meter hurdles and

won the 100 dash and was on that same relay. Mykel Murry and Mayden Mitchell rounded out the gold medal relay.

"The girls did fantastic. We now have an extremely tough area, combining with District 6," Ladycats coach Mike Pinkerton said. "Unfortunately, there are many athletes from our area who have marks better than any other area, but will not be competing at regionals."

The Region I Meet is April 18-19 at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. From there the top two finishers in each event will qualify for state in Austin May 1-3, along with the top third-place finisher in each event from across the state's four regions.

"The wind is always a factor in Lubbock," Pinkerton noted. "It will all come down to who can deal with it. I am not worried about the girls at all - I



BASEBALL

Aledo wins critical district game at Granbury

Bearcats attack early, fend off Pirates down the stretch

By Geoff Heppes The Community News

In the first of two pivotal district games between unbeaten foes, the No. 4 Aledo Bearcats took on the Granbury Pirates as the visiting team in the first game of Aledo's most important district series to date. After a barrage of early offense and plenty of mettle down the stretch, the Bearcats walked away with a 7-2 victory on April 15.

The Bearcats got a quality performance on the mound from Grayson McKelvey while Ethan Hodo and Luke Sandefur contributed with their arms as well. Combined, Aledo's arms totaled 11 strikeouts while allowing only two hits and one walk.

Offensively, Aledo scored in each of the first three innings and collected 13 hits as a team. The Bearcats scored once in the first, third, and sixth innings and produced four runs in the second inning. Landon Barnes, who went deep in the second inning, finished 3-for-4 with two runs scored, four RBI, and also stole one base to lead the way. Meanwhile, Nic Foster produced three hits as well and crossed home plate once while Noah Graham collected two hits, stole two bases, and scored once.

The Bearcats (18-6, 7-0) can take a commanding district lead as they face the Pirates again at press time.

Bearcats overwhelm Saginaw

In their first of two weekend games, the No. 4 Aledo Bearcats hit the road Friday night, April 11, to complete Turn to BASEBALL, page 9

BEARCAT **OF THE WEEK**



Track & Field On the heels of winning district championships in the same event, the senior won those same events in the Class 5A Area 5/6 Meet, capturing the 400-meter run and running a leg of the 4x400 relay that set a school record time of 3:19.01 to advance to this weekend's Region I Meet in Lubbock.

Trey Warner

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LADYCAT

CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

one as part of the 4x400 relay, along with a silver and bronze. Fuller captured three bronze.

Trey Warner also won two gold medals for the Bearcats, one in the 400 and one as part of that same relay. Also winning gold medals for the Aledo boys were Lincoln Tubbs and Jace Lay on the 4x400 relay.

"Always great to win the area championship. The guys ran their best times of the season in all three relays. Had three school records broken," Bearcats coach Andrew Clark said. "It's a good time to be running our best times. We've got some really good chances to qualify for Austin."

For the Ladycats, Molly Garrison won gold medals in the 1600 and 3200. Sofia Brandenburg took gold in the 800 and as part of the 4x400 relay, while Addison Smith

know they will compete."

Clark added about regionals, "Weather is always a factor in Lubbock. Can't predict it. Just have to deal with it. Everybody else is running in the same conditions we are."

For the Ladycats, Brandenburg is looking for a third consecutive trip to state, having finished fifth and eighth previously. Pole vaulter Braylon Brown is seeking a return to state after finishing third a year ago.

Class 5A Area 5-6 Meet

Top four finishers qualify for regionals. Running events in meters, field events in feet.

Aledo Girls

Team score: 125.5, second place (Denton Ryan 150) **Regional qualifiers** 3200: 1. Molly Garrison, 11:03.07; 100 Hurdles: 4. Savannah

CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

2. Micah Neal, 11:16.77. 800: 1. Sofia Brandenburg, 2:16.29; 4. Mykel Murry, 2:18.36.

Addison Smith won the 100 dash.

Thompson, 15.93. 100: 1. Addison Smith, 12.15. 300 Hurdles: 3. Victoria Crews, 46.59.

Turn to TRACK, page 9





Track & Field The freshman pole vaulter finished second in the Class 5A Area 5/6 Meet. She cleared a personal record of 12 feet to qualify for this weekend's Region I Meet in Lubbock.

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BASEBALL

from page eight

their home-and-home series with Saginaw, who Aledo defeated 14-0 at home Tuesday night. The sequel of this series proved nearly identical as the teams' first meeting, as Aledo surged late en route to a 13-0 victory in five innings.

The Bearcats got another quality start on the mound from Devin Miller, who struck out seven Saginaw batters across five innings against one hit and one walk allowed. The offense got on the board early with a first-inning run, but the scoreboard production halted until Aledo exploded for 12 runs in the fourth and fifth innings combined.

As a team, the Bearcats tallied 11 hits and saw four players with multiple hits. Lucas Nawrocki shined at the plate with team-highs in hits and RBI. Nawrocki, who was a home run short of hitting for the cycle, powered the offense with three hits and six RBI. Meanwhile, Nick Foster, Blake Burdine, and Dylan Duran each recorded two hits and scored two runs apiece for the Bearcats while Luke Trager registered an RBI triple and scored two runs. Luke Gladchuk also chipped in with an RBI single while Brooks Burdine crossed home plate twice.

In their Saturday, April 12, outing against Lake Ridge, the Bearcats fell behind 3-0 but managed to trim the deficit to one run after narrowing the gap with one run in the fifth and sixth innings - scored by Reese Hetherington and Johnny Ruflin - but could not extend or walk it off in the bottom of the seventh. Aledo and Lake Ridge each saw their respective bullpens get plenty of action as the teams sent out a combined 12 pitchers — six arms per side.

GOLF Crick headed back to state

Ladycats fourth in region

By Rick Mauch The Community News

It just wouldn't seem like a state golf tournament without someone from Aledo competing.

Emily Crick made sure that longstanding tradition continues as she is returning to the Girls Class 5A State Golf Tournament. The Ladycats junior qualified individually from the Region I Tournament this past Monday and Tuesday at Lubbock's Lake Ridge Country Club.

This is her second time in three years to be competing at state. She was part of the entire Ladycats team that qualified in 2023.

Crick posted a 36-hole twoday score of 153 (74-79). She was fifth individually and had the second lowest score among players not on an advancing team. Joshua's Kaylee Yuan was the low medalist with a 151, finishing in a three-way tie for the overall top spot with Jumee Lee and Audrey McCallum of Colleyville Heritage.

The Ladycats team placed fourth with a 693. They were tied with Grapevine for third after the opening day with a 344 and finished with a 349 on the second day.

Amarillo won the tournament



COURTESY OF BRIAN MOURNING

Emily Crick of the Aledo Ladycats will compete at the Girls Class 5A State Golf Tournament for a second time in three years after qualifying from the Region I Tournament in Lubbock.

by Colleyville Heritage at 642 (332-310) and Grapevine at 673 (344-329). The top three teams and top three individuals not on those teams qualified for state April 28-29 at Legacy Hills Golf Club in Georgetown.

"If you had told me after the with a 638 (322-316), followed regional preview we'd have been

tied for third after Day 1, I'd have been been surprised, but I'm so proud of the girls for fighting like they did," Aledo coach Brian Mourning said.

The Ladycats struggled in the regional preview on the same course in early March.

As expected, the often unpredictable West Texas winds had to be dealt with in the tournament. Mourning said they were out of the south during the practice round, from the north on the first day and out of the south again on the final day.

"We've been hit by it all," he said. "But all I wanted was a shot on Day 2 and we had that.

"The dryness out here, it affects you. Your body has to acclimate."

He stressed his joy in Crick going back to state.

"She definitely earned it. She's really excited," he said. "I told her we'll be in Georgetown and she laughed and said, 'No wind!""

As to whether Crick will have company, that was being decided at press time as the Aledo boys were playing in their Region I Tournament on the same course. The Boys State Tournament is also at Legacy Hills May 5-6.

The Bearcats and Ladycats qualified for regionals by winning their respective District 5-5A Tournaments at Cross Timbers Golf Course in Azle.

MS, MMS Boys

- Team scores: Aledo 131 points, first place; McAnally 55 points, fifth place. Top individuals 2400: 1. Jonah Clary, Aledo, 7:52.73; 2. Maddox Murry, McAnally, 7:56.17; 3. Josh Fink, Aledo, 8:01.34. 4x100 Relay: 1. Aledo 44.43. 800: 3. Clary, 2:14.34. 100: 2. Wyatt Dorsey, Aledo, 11.24. 4x200 Relay: 2. Aledo, 1:36.53. 400: 3. Edward White, McAnally,
- 55.25. 300 Hurdles: 2. Colin Overstreet,
- Aledo, 44.01. 200: 2. Sawyer Smith, Aledo, 23.00.
- 1600: 1. Murry, 5:00.19; 2. Brody Bruno, Aledo, 5:04.75.
- 4x400 Relay: 4. Aledo, 3:45.03. Pole Vault: 1. Zach Redmond,

SOFTBALL **Seniors** honored in Ladycats' home finale

Aledo uses big 4th inning to secure 10-0 win

By Geoff Heppes he Community News

With the District 5-5A title already in hand, the No. 4 Aledo Ladycats hosted one more district game with Granbury entering Ladycat Softball Field on *Tuesday night. Furthermore, the Ladycats celebrated their Senior Night as Grace Heath, Gracie Jones, Austyn Marriage, Taylor McKean, Marina Taveras, Addie Perry, and team manager Olivia Brown were honored after the game.

"They're just phenomenal young women all around. They are the epitome of a student-athlete, but they are kind people, too," Ladycats head coach Heather Myers said. "Sometimes, you meet athletes and they are really arrogant, these girls are not arrogant. They've brought a lot of class into this program and watching them grow up in their game and seeing the maturity in their game is incredible to see as a coach. To see them be good human beings is even better. I'm

Turn to **SOFTBALL**, page 11

TRACK from page eight

200: 2. Smith, 24.87.

- 1600: 1. Garrison, 5:13.39; 2. Neal, 5:18.18. 4x400 Relay: 1. Murry, Mayden Mitchell, Brandenburg, Smith, 4:00.15. High Jump: 3. Sawyer Voight, 5-2. Pole Vault: 2. Emma Ralph, 12-0; 3. Maggie Kilburn, 12-0.
- Aledo Boys
- Team score: 116 points, first place. **Regional qualifiers** 3200: 3. Tyler Connelly, 9:33.19. 4x100 Relay: 4. Adrian Fuller, Kai Taylor, Alex Patton, Lincoln
- Tubbs, 42.37. 110 Hurdles: 2. Adam Averett.
- 14.48.

Pole vaulter Brigham Lions will be sending four Harmer leads a contingent of three from Weatherford who will move on to compete at the Class 6A Region I Meet. He won the Area 3/4-6A Meet.

The regional meet is April 18-19 at the University of Texas at Arlington. WeatherfordGirls

Team score: 11 points, 13th place.

Regional qualifier Discus: 2. Braelee Gilbert, 123-6.

Weatherford Boys Team score: 16 points, 11th place. **Regional qualifiers** 100: 4. Cory Pantoja, 10.76. Pole Vault: 1. Brigham Harmer, 14-3.

individuals and two relays and the Lady Lions will have four individuals and three relays advancing from the TAPPS 1-3A Meet.

TAPPS District 1-4A Meet

April 10-11 at Lake Country Christian School, Fort Worth. Top four in each event qualify for regionals.

TCA Girls

Team score: 75 points, sixth place Regional qualifiers 3200: 3. Emma Saadeh, 13:07.54. 800: 4. Saadeh, 2:39.63. 1600: 4. Saadeh, 6:22.44. Pole Vault: 1. Paisley James, 8-0; 3. Kami James, 7-6.

Shot Put: 2. James, 40-11.50. Sprint Medley Relay: 3. TCA, 44.39. AMS, McAnally shine at Meet of

Champions

Aledo Middle School eighth-grade boys won their division at the recent Meet of Champions, while the eighthgrade girls were second. The seventh-grade AMS boys also won, with the girls taking third.

The McAnally seventhgrade girls placed second. Middle School Meet

of Champions - April 10 at

Eighth grade AMS, MMS Girls

Burleson.

4-8.

300 Hurdles: 2. Aubrey Fluitt, McAnally, 51.45.

- 1600: 1. Wiatrek, 5:17.24. 4x400 Relay: 3. McAnally, 4:30.08.
- Pole Vault: 1. Brooke Johnston, McAnally, 8-6; 2. Payslei Harrison, McAnally, 7-0.
- Long Jump: 1. McKinlee Hunstable, McAnally, 16-4.50.
- High Jump: 2. Tatum Warren, Aledo, 4-8.
- Triple Jump: 2. Eden Jenkins, McAnally, 34-1; 3. Maci Tucker, McAnally, 31-4.50.

AMS, MMS Boys

Team scores: Aledo 156.5, first place; McAnally 40 points, sixth place.

Top individuals

- 4x100 Relay: 1. Aledo, 46.66. 800: 2. Hunter Bromberek, Aledo,
 - 2:12.61.

110 Hurdles: 3. Jakoby Clukey, Aledo, 16.90. 4x200 Relay: 3. Aledo, 1:43.00. 400: 3. Bromberek, 56.27. 300 Hurdles: 1. Clukey, 43.86; 3. Gage Wilburn, McAnally 44.81. 200: 2. Jackson Clark, Aledo,

4x200 Relay: 4. Fuller, Taylor, Patton, Gavin Richardson, 1:28.45.

400: 1. Trey Warner, 49.54. 300 Hurdles: 1. Averett, 38.01. 200: 4. Adrian Fuller, 22.20. 1600: 4. Connelly, 4:27.47. 4x400 Relay: 1. Warner, Jace Lay, Tubbs, Averett, 3:19.01. High Jump: 4. Caden Cunningham, 6-2. Pole Vault: 2. Braylon Brown, 15-6; 4. Kantyn Kasich, 14-6. Discus: 3. Christian Sandoval, 152-9; 4. Averett, 146-3. Shot Put: 3. Carson Dempsey, 49-6.50.

Weatherford sending three to regionals

TCA, Weatherford Christian qualify plenty

The Trinity Christian Academy Eagles and Lady Eagles will be well-represented at the Texas Association of Private Schools Class 4A North Regional Meet April 25 at the University of Texas at Arlington. At that same meet, the Weatherford Christian Lions and Lady Lions will have a strong contingent.

The Eagles qualified five individuals and three relays from the TAPPS District 1-4A Meet, while the Lady Eagles advanced six individuals. The Long Jump: 4. Avery Huffman, 15-9.50.

Discus: 1. Ella Cockrum, 134-10; 3. Addison Shoppach, 92-8. Shot Put: 2. Shoppach, 32-8.75;

3. Cockrum, 32-8.25. TCA Boys

Team score: 112 points, sixth place. **Regional qualifiers** 3200: 2. Bo Merrill, 10:49.69. 110 Hurdles: 1. Owen Coates, 15.29. 4x200 Relay: 2. TCA, 1:33.43. 1600: 2. Merrill, 5:02.00; 3. Jonas O'Dell, 5:03.00. 4x400 Relay: 2. TCA, 3:35.94. Long Jump: 3. Coates, 20-5.50.

Triple Jump: 2. Garrett Gough, 42-7. Discus: 3. Kadin James, 132-6.

Team scores: Aledo 99 points, second place; McAnally 16 points, 10th place. Top individuals 2400: 1. Holland Gladchuk, 8:32.35. 4x100 Relay: 2. Aledo, 51.61. 800: 1. Gladchuk, 2:21.06; 3. Harper Harbuck, Aledo, 2:32.03. 100: 2. Katelyn Tatarevich, Aledo, 13.15. 4x200 Relay: 2. Aledo, 1:51.90. 1600: 2. Ashley Lawrence, Aledo, 5:46.30. Pole Vault: 2. Savannah Shackelford, Aledo, 7-6. High Jump: 3. Mia Combs, Aledo,

McAnally, 10-0; 2. Luke Miller, Aledo, 9-0. High Jump: 3. Kevin Jones, McAnally, 5-6. Triple Jump: 2. Wyatt Dorsey, Aledo, 40-4.20.

Seventh grade AMS, MMS Girls

Team scores: McAnally 102 points, second place; Aledo 75 points, third place. Top individuals 2400: 1. Austyn Wiatrek, Aledo, 8:24.70; 2. Isabel Rush, McAnally, 9:36.51. 800: 2. Blythe Haynes, Aledo, 2:34.26. 100: 3. McKinlee Hunstable, McAnally, 13.06. 400: 2. Holcomb, 1:00.20.

24.79. 1600: 1. Kaden Sellers, Aledo, 5:07.68.

4x400 Relay: 1. Aledo, 3:49.94.

Pole Vault: 2. Kason Weaver, McAnally, 8-6; 3 Jack Deary, Aledo, 8-0.

Discus: 2. Caleb Lancaster, McAnally, 101-9.

Long Jump: 3. Hudson Barns, McAnally, 17-5.

High Jump: 3. Clukey, 5-4. Triple Jump: 1. Clukey, 40-1.25; 3. Beckham Berlin, Aledo, 38-6.75.



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The following Federal Programs, authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, may be available for eligible students attending private schools: Title 1 Part A-Improving Academic Achievement, Title II Part A-Professional Learning, Title III English Language Acquisition, Title IV part A-Student Support and IDEA - Special Education. Private Schools interested in learning more about these services are invited to attend an informational meeting on Monday, May 5, 2025 @ 1:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Aledo ISD Administration Building at 1008 Bailey Ranch Rd. Schools that choose to access these funds must comply with all requisite federal policies and procedures. For more information, contact Candace Summerhill or Karen Odom at Aledo ISD by email, csummerhill@aledoisd.org or kodom@aledoisd.org. A packet of information concerning these federal requirements will be available at the meeting.

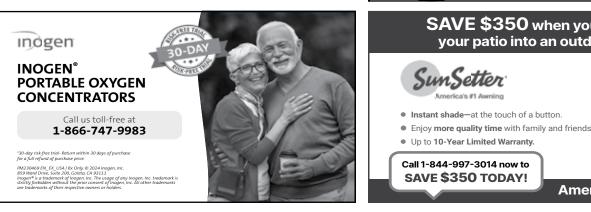
NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING** ON A RE-PLAT OF A SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN PRECINCT #4

THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS' COURT of Parker County, Texas, will conduct a Public Hearing on the First Floor of the Main Courthouse, located at One Courthouse Square, Weatherford, Parker County, Texas, on Monday, the 12th day of May. 2025. at the hour of 9:00 a.m. to consider, discuss, and/or act on the re-plat of a subdivision located in Precinct 4, Parker County, Texas:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN APPLICATION HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE PARKER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT TO APPROVE THE REPLAT OF THE FOLLOWING SUBDIVISION:

REVISION DU CHANE CHATEAUX

Consider/discuss/and, or act on a replat of lot 5R & 6R in a subdivision known as Du Chane Chateaux located off of Brandon Drive in Precinct #4.



QUOTABLE

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Notice of Public Sale

To satisfy landlord's Lien. Sale to be held at Ranch House Storage at 9699 E Bankhead Hwy, Aledo, TX 76008 on May 6th at 8:00 a.m. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest cash bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant - Eric Bailey: 2024 Freightliner.



Public Hearing Notice Town of Annetta North

The Town of Annetta North will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday the 13th of May 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Annetta Methodist Church. 2836 FM 5, Annetta, Texas, in the Fellowship Hall on a request for a Re-Plat of Lots 1R-1 and 1R-2, Block A, Buck Dobbs Addition an addition to the Town of Annetta North, Parker County, Texas being a 24.829-acre tract consisting of all of Lot 1, Block A, Buck Dobbs Addition, according to the plat recorded in Cabinet F, Slide 453, Plat Records, Parker County, Texas and a 1.143-acre portion out of the A.J. Bell Survey abstract No. 129, Parker County, Texas

Robert Schmidt //SE Mayor

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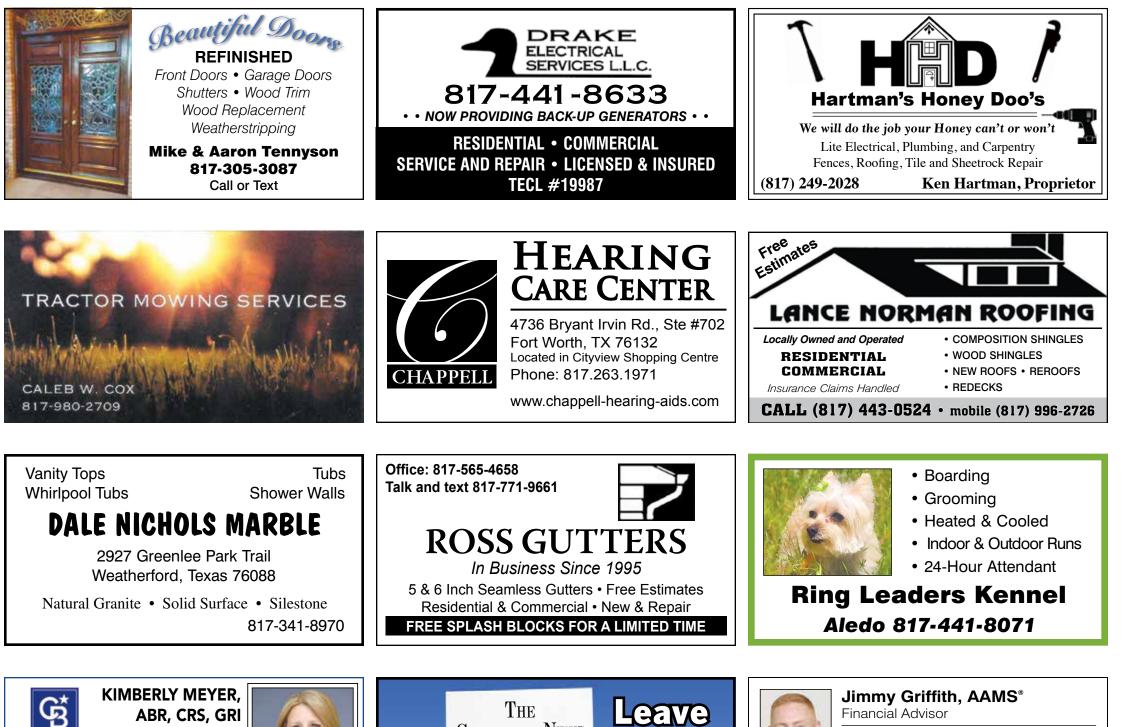
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> Edward **Jones** MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

SOFTBALL

from page nine

so proud of them and I will definitely miss them."

The game itself was scoreless through one inning, but the Ladycats got things rolling at the plate from there as the defense and pitching remained dominant. Ultimately, McKean's perfect game on the mound, coupled with a seven-run fourth inning, fueled Aledo to a 10-0 win in five innings.

"I think what makes playing at Aledo different is our mentality because we really are like a family," Taveras said. "We play for each other and you just don't find that everywhere."

"I've never had a team like this," Marriage said. "I've known what it's like to be somewhere without this kind of chemistry, and I'm so grateful for it [chemistry] — it's life changing. It shows up when we're on the field and in how we play it's amazing."

The powerful blend of an authentic bond mixed with sheer talent and execution was on full display throughout Aledo's home finale. Taveras helped record the first out of the second inning with a beautiful play from her shortstop position. On a high-flying hit to the shallow outfield, Taveras turned and tracked the ball then made an impressive one-handed catch on the run. After that, McKean recorded consecutive strikeouts to give the offense a chance to strike first blood in the bottom of the frame. The star pitcher led off the inning with a standup triple, and was eventually sent across home plate via a sacrifice fly from sophomore Rylee Marx. After that, Heath electrified the crowd with an insidethe-park home run that also scored Jones, who had previously drawn a walk, stole second base and then advanced to third on Marx's sacrifice to give the home team a 3-0 advantage.

Following a scoreless third inning, Aledo saw its offense reignite with a highly productive fourth inning. Marriage started things off with a standup double to left and her courtesy runner, Tempe Perry, scored in the next at bat after a Marx RBI single. Then, Addie Perry's sacrifice fly made it 5-0 after Marx scored, and junior third baseman Kyleigh Pawlak added two more runs to the lead after she roped an RBI double down the left field line.

The scoring flurry continued with a hard-hit RBI single to center by Taveras that pushed the lead to 8-0 with one out. McKean then provided the exclamation point with a two-run blast over the right field wall as the lead swelled to 10-0. The pitcher then recorded three more strikeouts in the top of the fifth to clinch the victory via run-rule.

"It is so basic but obviously we have a lot of emotions because this team is a family," Marriage said. "I want to say despite the challenges they (younger players) might come across, you've got to stick it out with these people because they'll love you like nobody else will." The team's heartfelt ceremony following the game's conclusion provided a harsh reality for the seniors but also an overwhelming amount of gratitude for what has passed along with what is to come.

"I'm very excited and with our final goal being getting back to state, I can't wait to try to get there with these girls," Taveras said. "Just going through this together will be special. Even if we don't get there, which we should, I know just being with them will be enough."

McKean recorded 12 strikeouts to go with a hitting line of 2-for-3 with two RBI, a triple and a home run. Heath had two RBI from her inside-the-park home run while Taveras finished 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored while Perry hit a double and produced an RBI. Jones scored once and Marriage added a double.

The Ladycats (23-3, 11-0) will play their regular season finale at 7 p.m. *Thursday at Azle ahead of what they hope and expect to be another long postseason run.

"They know that we've won district, but we are going to attack Azle with a lot of discipline at the plate and a lot of consistency on defense to take into playoffs," Myers said. "We know that on any given day, any team can show up and beat us just like we can beat any team. We have that never-quit mindset, and they're looking forward to a long playoff run, but they know it's going to take one pitch at a time and one game at a time. We're not jumping to see who we're playing next, we're going to stay in it until somebody

knocks us out, which hopefully does not happen."

Ladycats dominant in weekend contests

The Ladycats' impressive season continued with a district rout Friday night, April 11, and a strong non-district win Saturday. First, the Ladycats used a staggering 13-run sixth inning to separate from Saginaw and followed that up with another quality performance — a 7-0 win at Boswell.

Before their penultimate week of district play, the Ladycats held a 7-0 advantage at Saginaw before breaking the game wide open in the sixth inning. In that frame, Aledo scored 13 runs and cycled through its entire hitting order. Leading the charge was Kellyn Overturff, a junior outfielder who posted a herculean statline. Overturff packed plenty of power into her bat as she accounted for both of Aledo's home runs. She clubbed a grand slam and a three-run shot to account for her team-high seven RBI.

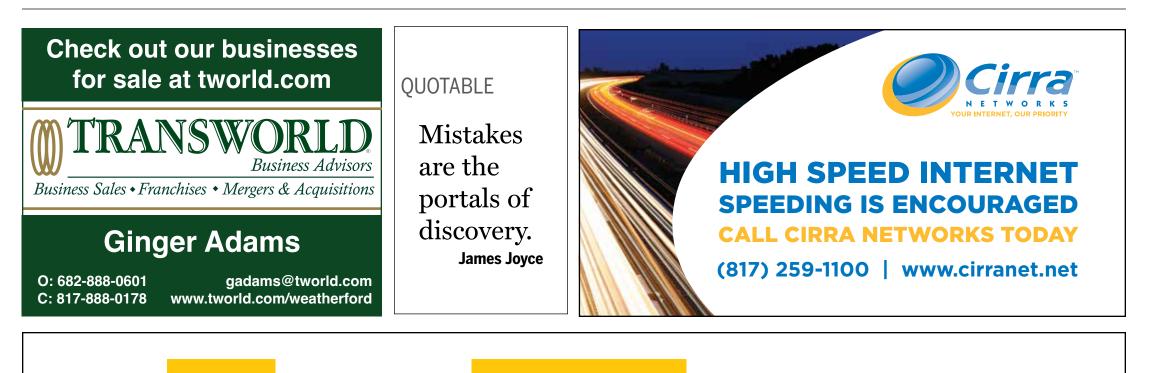
Additionally, Rylee Marx had two hits and three RBI — highlighted by her RBI triple — and performed exceptionally in the circle. The sophomore threw a no-hitter across all six innings with 13 strikeouts against two walks allowed. Kayleigh Martin also collected a pair of hits. Tempe Perry, a freshman, finished 2-for-3 with three runs and three RBI while Gracie Jones, Grace Heath, and Breleigh Mayer each had one hit, and combined for five RBI and six runs. Addie Perry and Jordyn Edington were also strong



on the base paths as each scored three runs.

On Saturday, Tempe Perry and senior ace Taylor McKean teamed up to shut out Boswell as McKean started the first three innings and Perry came to the mound for the last four. McKean gave up one hit and struck out nine batters while Perry posted four strikeouts and surrendered two hits.

Offensively, Aledo collected six hits and scored multiple runs in the second, third, and fourth innings. Overturff's bat continued to scorch as the offensive leader once again. She finished 2-for-3 with an RBI double and scored two runs while McKean and Kyleigh Pawlak each added RBI singles. Addie Perry also drove in a run.





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TCA wins despite being outhit Earns doubleheader split

By Rick Mauch

The Community News

The Willow Park Trinity Christian Eagles improved to 8-7 with a 4-2 win over Lubbock Christian at home on April 11 despite being outhit 9-3. They dropped the opening game of the doubleheader 2-1.

The Eagles are 1-2 in TAPPS Division III District 1.

In the victory, Hank Nash, Caleb Hart, and Zander Gasowski each had a hit for the Eagles. Ironically, all of the TCA runs were driven in by batters who did not have a base hit, Lucas Smith (2), Ryan Leet, and Tripp Morgan.

The Eagles also benefited from eight walks received by Gasowski (2), Patrick Gullatt, Campbell Karr, Dane Southworth, Hart, Leet, and Morgan.

Nash got the pitching victory and Gullett got the save for the Eagles. Nash pitched 5.2 innings, giving up six hits, one earned run, striking out three, and walking four, while Gullett pitched 1.1 innings with three hits, one earned run, two strikeouts, and three walks.

In the loss, Gullatt had a hit and RBI and Morgan had a hit, while Hart walked. On the mound, Smith pitched six innings, surrendering 10 hits with two earned runs, five strikeouts, and three walks, along with Nash striking out one, walking two, and giving up a hit in his single inning.

The Eagles were ending the regular season with games at Lake Country Christian and at Lubbock Christian, both at press time.

Racquet Cats compete in Mansfield

District on horizon

By Rick Mauch The Community News

TENNIS

With the District 5-5A Tournament lying in wait, the Aledo Racquet Cats warmed up by competing in the always tough Kowbell Classic in Mansfield on April 11. They posted a pair of third place finishes and a fourth place.

Leading the Aledo contingent was Lila Satterfield. She finished third in girls A singles, winning three of her four matches. In that same division, McKinley Hayes split her two matches.

In boys A doubles, the duo of Jacob Heckathorn and Francois captured the consolation trophy with a 3-1 record in the tournament.

Also, the mixed doubles B tandem of Paxton Psencik and Kieren Christensen went 2-2 and finished fourth.

Also for Aledo, Alex Vozeh was 2-1 in boys A singles, Natalie Nawrocki and Sydney Byrd were 2-1 in girls doubles.

The Racquet Cats were playing in their final predistrict tournament at Northwest at press time. The District 5-5A Tournament is April 22-23 at the Richland Tennis Center in North Richland Hills.

Junior varsity

The JV Racquet Cats won three divisions at the Kowbell Classic JV tournament on April 8. Alli Munoz and Addie Cass each posted 3-0 records to win girls singles A and B, respectively.

The team of Bailey Martin and Vivian Beeby were a perfect 4-0 en route to the girls A doubles championship. Elizabeth Kerht and Parker Shiro were second with a 2-1 record.

Also placing second were Ryan Gilliland and EJ Everett in mixed doubles, finishing with a 3-1 record.

Fourth place finishes were posted by Vassar Rekerdes and Blake Mitchell in boys A doubles (2-2), Brody Plumbley and Wesley Clarke in boys B doubles (2-2), and Liam Mitchell in boys B singles (2-2).

In boys A doubles, Christian Carver was 2-2.

The JV District 5-5A Tournament is also at the Richland Tennis Center on April 28.

SPORTS BRIEFS FOR APRIL 18

By Rick Mauch The Community News

BASEBALL

Roos coach gets milestone win

Weatherford Kangaroos coach Jason Lee picked up his 200th career victory on April 8 with a 5-3 victory against Mansfield Lake Ridge. The Kangaroos entered this week with a 13-12 overall record and in third place in District 3-6A with a 6-2 record.

Strawn Pitcher of the Week

The North Texas Junior College Athletic Conference named Weatherford College freshman pitcher Cooper Strawn as Pitcher of the Week for the week ending April 6.

A native of Farmersville, Strawn was a key component for the Coyotes' clean sweep series against Ranger College. His five innings pitched helped WC secure the 10-2 victory. Allowing just one earned run on four hits, he struck out seven batters and walked two.

FISHING

Anglers compete at Brownwood

The Aledo Anglers high school fishing team finished third at Brownwood recently out of 144 teams. Top individual finishers were:

Tyler Page/Peyton Hills, ninth, 10.42 pounds caught.

Declan Lickerman/Dominic Rigoli, 11th, 9.86.

Aidan Bristow/Mason Nutt, 20th, 6.52.

Garrett Hoff/ Maxton Ferreira, 25th, 4.93.

Regional qualifiers are Page/Hills, Bristow/Nutt, Lickerman/Rigoli, Hoff/Ferreira, MarkCerja/Miller Hill, Landon Benton/Sam Belyeu, Collier Morgan/Kayden Dendy, Eli Eshraghipour/Alec Dolman, and Noah Peffer/Logan Belt.

GOLF

Aledo JV teams sweep district

The Aledo boys and girls junior varsity teams swept District 5-5A titles recently at Oeste Ranch Golf Course in Weatherford.

The boys Black team took first and the Orange was third, while the Ladycats won the girls division.

Individually for the boys, Christian Moll placed first with a score of 77, Andrew Todey placed third with a 78, and Jack Hagood was fourth with an 80.

For the girls, Korbyn McBride was first with a 93 and Makenna Ellison was third with a score of 99.

RODEO

Steiner wins The American

Weatherford's Rocker Steiner won the bareback riding championship at this past weekend's The American Rodeo in Arlington at Globe Life Field. For his win, he earned \$100,000.

Steiner posted a top score of 91.75.

TRACK AND FIELD

Former Lady Roo sets school record

Former Weatherford Lady Roo Ella Pando, a 2022 graduate, recently set a school record in the 5K run for Midwestern State University. She clocked a time of 17 minutes, 31.94 seconds.

VOLLEYBALL

WHS to host Grass Bash tourney

The Weatherford Lady Roos will host the Grass Bash Volleyball Tournament on May 10. Games start at 9 a.m. at the Hall Middle School football field.

The tourney features teams with four to six players and can be co-ed. Deadline to enter is April 17 and entry fee is \$25 per team.

For more information, email chammett@weatherfordisd.com or kbrannon@weatherfordisd.com.



alo



Emily Crick of the Ladycats qualified individually for the Girls 5A State Golf Tournament April 28–29.

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