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# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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**ANNETTA** 

## Council meeting turns into inspiration and motivation

#### Wheelchair basketball player shares story

**By Jim Zimmermann** 

ning out of gas.

The Community News

It started with a new car run-

Mary Beth Stasey, wife of Annetta Mayor Pro-Tem Kent Stasey, was traveling in Aledo when her new company car ran out of gas. "My old company car I could go 50 miles before I got worried. This new one, when it says "E" it means "E," she said.

She pulled over in a driveway and a concerned homeowner came to see if she needed help.

Chris and Amy Parks came out to check on Mary Beth. She explained that she ran out of gas and called Kent to come to her rescue. Well, one thing led to another and they filled the time waiting on Kent with wonderful conversation.

Chris and his wife are new to Parker county and Mary Beth was more than happy to tell them what a wonderful area they just moved to. When Kent showed, he was also more than happy to share his knowledge and thus a new friendship was created.

It was Mary Beth's idea to have Chris and Amy come to the April 17 city council meeting to share their story about what brought them to Parker County. Chris is President and founder of the Texas Outlaws.



JIM ZIMMERMANN/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Shown are (from left) Eric Heaton, Shane Mudge, Amy Parks, Chris Parks, Brandon Thompson, Mayor Sandy Roberts, and Mayor Pro-tem Kent Stacey.

The Outlaws are members of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. Chris' story on how he was an active member in the military to having his leg amputated and playing wheelchair basketball is one of inspiration.

This is Chris' journey:

"I was in the Army stationed in Fort Hood — it was February 28, 2014. I was asked to host a charity poker game for the Officers wife club. I was sick earlier that day and I knew I had strep throat. I was a P.A, physician assistant, so I knew that I needed to get some rest in order for my body to heal itself.

"I went to bed on Feb. 28 and woke up April 15. Between this time, I became very ill and on March 1 my leg was amputated. When I was at the hospital the doctors did extensive tests and discovered that I had a flesh-eating bacteria.

Turn to **OUTLAWS**, page 2

ALEDO

## Weber brings art, enthusiasm to PR roll

## New communications manager hired in March

By Christopher Amos
The Community News

A new face has joined the operations of the City of Aledo, a face that comes with a big smile, outgoing personality, and creative imagination.

Laura Weber is the new communications manager for the City of Aledo. Hired in March, the Willow Park resident said after her first week of making contacts, meeting people, and evaluating the city's communications needs, she felt like it was, "The longest year of my life, but I'm having a lot of fun."

Her first job after graduating from Texas Christian University was working for the Burleson Chamber of Commerce and she also worked for the Tarrant Regional Water District as the public information officer for the Trinity River Basin Authority. She volunteers in the community and wants to incorporate her social media and visual talents into her new position.

"Oh my goodness. There is so much opportunity to create informative and engaging content for the city so the residents can know what is going on and how they can be a part of the community," she said. "Community engagement is what makes me wake up every morning. It's my honor to be able to be a part of making the place I live better. I'm a huge advocate for being involved with the community and I care about every single person and every single business in Aledo."

Away from work, Weber's most coveted activity is spending time with her family,



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Laura Weber is shown in front of what will eventually be her office in the back of Aledo City Hall, 200 Old Annetta Road.

husband TJ, and son Louis. Weber's outgoing and involving personality is influencing Louis. He is one of four Bearcat Ambassadors at Annetta Elementary School, Weber proudly mentioned, welcoming new students and representing Annetta Elementary at school board meetings by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Weber is also a gifted artist and spends away-time in her art studio she calls her "she shed." Her art is featured in businesses and private collections and she enjoys working with acrylic, pastels, charcoal, and ink, and sometimes combines those media.

"I have paintings from San Francisco to New York City and everywhere in between," Weber said.

She creates art and decor for summer camps at Trinity Bible Church, Willow Park, and will soon be painting a wall mural for Annetta Elementary School.

To view some of her work, visit www.lau-raweberart.com.

## Historic hail storm remembered

Storm damaged homes, cars, livestock

By Christopher Amos
The Community News

Monday, May 5, is the 30th anniversary of what the National Weather Service calls, "The costliest hailstorm in the history of the U.S.," when a combination of atmospheric events produced large hail driven by winds up to 50 miles per hour.

The 1995 storm caused more than \$2 billion in damage across north Texas, an equivalent of more than \$4.5 billion in today's money, according to the Federal Reserve Bank inflation calculator.

The storm stripped trees, broke windows, injured livestock, and smashed cars. So many power lines were down across the Metroplex that it took three days for the electric company to reach many parts of Parker County and restore power. Windows stayed boarded up for weeks, and out-of-state roofing companies came in to nab their share of hundreds of damaged roofs across the Metroplex.

Called the Texas Cinco de Mayo Hail Storm in many record books, it is referred to as The Mayfest Hail Storm in some of the National Weather Service online records because so many injuries were incurred at the annual Fort Worth Mayfest that afternoon.

Care Flight nurse Rene Taggart lived in Aledo at the time and was stationed at the medical tent of Mayfest. Taggart and fellow Careflight nurse Melissa Irving were caring for two children when the hail began beating the tent and they quickly put the children under tables.

There is a creek that runs behind the Mayfest grounds which suddenly overflowed.

"The creek started rising and we had equipment in there like a defibrillator and a cardiac monitor," Taggart said. I started unplugging the equipment as fast as I could while Melissa watched over the children and all of a sudden the creek swept through the back side of the tent and took the equipment away."

#### The aftermath

"We couldn't leave because all the electrical lines were down, and the police said it would be too dangerous," Taggart recalled. "We were trying to treat the people that we could that were coming in, and when we finally left, the hail was almost up to our knees. Melissa and I had to hook arms and hold on to each other to walk because the hail was so deep."

Both of the nurses' vehicles were destroyed and they caught a ride back to Aledo with another nurse whose windows were broken but the truck was drivable. However, upon reaching Aledo, they found Old Annetta Road impassable because the hail was so deep.

Turn to HAIL, page 3











14 LOCATIONS PLUS 2 ATM LOCATIONS ACROSS TEXAS





**2** April 25, 2025 THE COMMUNITY NEWS

ALEDO HIGH SCHOOL

# Spring Fling

More than 125 vendors from Parker and Tarrant County set up shop at Aledo High School March 29 for the annual Aledo Spring Fling. The craft fair and market expo was held in the high school cafeteria while food trucks lined the front driveway to feed hungry shoppers. The event raised money for the Aledo High School Class of 2026 prom.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS Kevin and Donna Robertson shop at Leanne Barton's booth, Barton



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Shoppers enjoyed a wide array of merchandise during the day.



House Designs.

Three year-old Leighton and four year-old Waverly have the best seats in the house on top of parents Paige and Waylon Mugartefui as they shop clothes and crafts of Aledo Spring Fling.



Nicole Stuart and daughter Sadie sort through apparel accessories at a booth.



Plenty of apparel was on display.



Gail Bagley admires colorful clothes at one of the Aledo High School Spring Fling's 125 booths on Saturday, March 29.

#### **OUTLAWS**

from page one

"I went from 6'2 to 4'9, because I am now sitting in a wheelchair." Chris has a warped sense of humor!

So, Chris spent his time in physical therapy and his children were young teenagers watching his every move. He had a brilliant epiphany — he said, "I can sit here and cry in my beer or I can show them it's not what happens to you but, it's about what you do next."

After some more therapy, Chris wanted to get back to working out and getting stronger. He had played basketball in school and also for the Army. Chris was at a crossroad. There was no wheelchair basketball leagues or teams for him so, Chris's wife Amy said: "Make your own."

With that, Chris started getting the word out. It didn't matter if a person was in a wheelchair or not, he was telling everyone he meets that there was a new wheelchair basketball league

"We went from three players to 17 players in just a matter of months. Then, we started to get competitive and playing other teams from not just Texas but from all over."

#### Let's see how good we are

"We wanted to go and be competitive on a different level. We decided to put our team in the National Wheelchair Basketball Association tournament and play for a national championship. The best teams from all over the United States were there.

"In almost every game, we were the underdog. But, we played as a team, made some crucial shots, and when it was all said and done, The Texas Outlaws were the Division 3 2025 National Champions!"

Chris and Amy are always looking for more players and sponsorships. Chris, Amy, and the players have been this success on their own dime. They even have some extra wheelchairs if that is what is holding a new player

You can contact Chris on the Texas Outlaws Wheelchair Facebook page.

Reporter's note: Working for The Community News has allowed me to be witness of wonderful moments from our community that I get to share with all of you. Thursday night's city council meeting was one of those moments.

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#### HAIL

In a home on Old Annetta Road, one could stand in the master bedroom and look out to the backyard through the wall because hail beat the wood siding and sheetrock away, leaving only the vertical studs.

The broken windows and ruined roof of Bill and Sharon Pate's home in Aledo have long been repaired, but they kept a souvenir of the storm. There are half-dollar-size pockmarks where hail broke the tile on the front porch that still remain.

"The noise was horrendous," Sharon recalled while standing with her husband on their front porch. "It was so loud you couldn't hear yourself."

Bill described a close call their daughter, Ashley, encountered. The garage door was closed when she and a friend returned from Aledo High School cheerleader practice and the couple had to sit terrified in the front seat as hail beat the friend's car and broke the windows out around them.

"All the windows on our north and west sides of the house were broken," Bill recalled. "The windows and the skylight were broken and the roof, of course, was ruined."

The storm came without much warning and few knew how intense the hail would be.



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Finding humor in the aftermath of the chaos, the writer painted family members on some of the 26 boarded-up windows of his home in the Deer Creek area of Aledo.

news and the weather and they remembered.

"I actually was watching the didn't say anything about it," Bill

"And then I heard all this noise, so I got up to walk out of the TV



Shattered glass and damaged furniture were common in many Parker County homes after the 1995 hail



The writer took photos of the dining room while taking cover around the corner of the kitchen during the hail storm, capturing flying glass and hail stones on the table and in the air over what was intended to be dinner with a guest.

room to see what was causing the noise and that's when all the windows blew out and the hail came in."







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We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-386-1469 or email news@community-news.com. Please provide the basic story information as well as contact information.

We welcome letters, articles and guest opinions from our readers. Opinions expressed in this newspaper will be labeled as opinions, editorials or letters, and do not reflect the opinions of the ownership. Letters should be signed, and limited to approximately 300 words. All submissions to the newspaper should include a telephone number in case we have questions. Letters are due by Monday at noon for that week's paper. Community announcements, achievements and obituaries are due by noon Friday for the following week's paper.

Photos submitted should include names of the people in the photograph.

The Community News does not charge for timely wedding, engagement and birth announcements provided they are of reasonable length. Lengthy announcements will either be edited to a reasonable length or, at the discretion of the person submitting the announcement, be charged a fee.

### Capital Highlights

## House passes school voucher bill



**Gary Borders** gborders@texaspress.com

The Texas House on Thursday, April 17, passed Gov. Greg Abbott's school voucher bill after a years-long campaign by the governor and his allies, the  $Austin\ American$ -Statesman reported. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the Senate, announced Friday he recommended that chamber accept the House version, which prioritizes children with special education needs for vouchers.

The Senate version, which is less restrictive, passed in early February.

In addition to passing the voucher legislation, the House passed a \$7.7 billion school finance package, which will increase the base-level funding per student by almost \$400 — to \$6,555 — and pays for teacher raises and increases in special education funding. The Senate's version is considerably different, so the two school finance bills will have to be reconciled.

#### **House cuts Lottery Commission budget** to zero

The budget for the Texas Lottery Commission was reduced to zero in the 2026-2027 budget passed by the House, the Statesman reported.

The commission has been under fire for not aggressively curtailing third-party "courier companies" that broker ticket sales for players online. In one instance, a single player bought House agreed to urge budget ing the position.

enough tickets to guarantee a winning ticket for a \$95 million jackpot, according to the Houston Chronicle.

The Senate has already passed a bill outlawing courier companies. It is uncertain whether the Senate will go along with the House measure to end all lottery commission funding.

The lottery brings about \$2 billion a year to the state treasury.

#### Senate bill would ban fluoride in water systems

A bill filed by state Sen. Bob Hall, R-Edgewood, would ban adding fluoride to public drinking water, a cause being championed by U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

The Dallas Morning News reported that Hall talked about the potential side effects of consuming an "excessive amount" of fluoride. Health officials assert fluoride has protected against tooth decay and resulted in fewer cavities over the decades it has been added to public water systems.

Hall's bill would ban adding 'any form of fluoride to any public water supply for the purpose of fluoridation, regardless of the intended concentration."

Kennedy has said he plans to ask the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to stop recommending fluoridation of public water systems. Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller has also called for a ban on water fluoridation.

In Texas, nearly three-fourths of the state's population drinks water with fluoride in it, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

#### House agrees to give Paxton back pay

Largely along party lines, the

writers to give Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton nearly \$64,000 in back pay to cover the period when he was suspended while impeached. The Chronicle reported the measure passed by a margin of 88-56.

Paxton was impeached by the House in 2023, but the Senate acquitted him. He went without pay for about three months.

"If we believe that not only politicians but regular citizens are entitled to the presumption of innocence, we should truly believe that he should have been entitled to his salary during the course of this suspension," said state Rep. Mitch Little, R-Lewisville, the bill's sponsor. "Now that he's been acquitted, if you broke it, you bought it."

The House and Senate versions of the budget still have to be reconciled.

#### Middleton jumps into Texas AG's race

Republican state Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston, has jumped into the race to replace Paxton, who is pursuing a primary challenge to U.S. Sen. John Cornyn. The *Chronicle* reported that Middleton will self-fund his campaign with \$10 million.

"I am running for Texas Attorney General to continue the fight for our shared conservative values that keep the Texas Miracle alive," Middleton said in a statement. "As Attorney General, I will join President Trump in his efforts to return America and Texas to common sense and to fight to secure the border, ensure law and order, and be tough on crime."

Middleton was elected to the Senate in 2021 after previously serving in the House. Former U.S. Attorney John Bash declared earlier he also was seek-

#### **Nate Paul fined** \$1 million, confined to home

Real estate developer Nate Paul was fined \$1 million and sentenced to four months of home confinement after pleading guilty to making false financial statements, The News reported. Paul's ties to Paxton in part led to the impeachment charges against the attorney general. The attorney general was accused in a whistleblower suit of using the agency to interfere in Paul's civil and criminal disputes.

While he will not face any prison time. Paul will be a convicted felon.

"That may not mean anything to some people - after all, we have a president who's a convicted felon at the moment," said Senior U.S. District Judge David Ezra, an appointee of former President Ronald Reagan. "But I'm sure it's important to Mr. Paul."

#### It's looking like a warm spring

The departure of the La Niña climate pattern makes it likely much of the state is in for a warm, dry spring, the Statesman reported. As of mid-April, more than 80% of Texas was already abnormally dry or in drought, with little relief in sight.

Drought conditions are especially severe in Far West Texas into the Big Bend area and throughout Central Texas. The eastern part of the state is the only region not facing drought conditions as of yet.

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, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar

#### Idle American

## **Looking Back at Easter**



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

Easter, 2025, was a time like none other!

Before choirs proclaimed that He is risen, before church bells sounded around the world celebrating Jesus' resurrection and before children skittered across lawns for multicolored eggs, I saw history's greatest moment patterned in a quiet Fort Worth neighborhood.

It's a place where tattered lives are transformed by Christ, these parolees who earlier chose the craggy streets of ungodly pursuits, inevitably crashing into barriers, their lives splintered.

Chandler Fozard founded HOPE Prison Ministries in 2009. It offers Christ-centered HOPE, counseling and living.

He was born into a dysfunctional family, raised in boys' homes and incarcerated by age 22. But God's judgment was just the beginning of his redemption. Completing his incarceration early, he likewise was granted early release from supervised probation.

Thirteen years later in 2001, he was married, with a thriving business in full swing. Then, he felt "led of the Lord" to help others released from prison. There's

a reason why he's often contacted by the Texas Juvenile Justice System, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and countless others for help.

HOPE'S founder presses on relentlessly.

I've known Chandler for about two months, believing that he embodies the poetic lines on the Statue of Liberty that proclaim: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

'Tis true, 'tis true.

His passion exceeds life's highest bar. At age 55, he's on task constantly as he prays, works, and plans, all the while dealing with folks who are intellectually, mentally, and/or physically challenged.

After 5 p.m. one Friday, he drove to Houston for retrieval of a parolee who was off to a bad start upon his release after 21 years in prison. Arrival back home was after 4 a.m.

Stricken with multiple illnesses, the "newbie" had been denied health care by another alternative housing program, kicked out because he was physically unable to work. He was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. Is it any wonder that he had been unable to work?

In the early days, Chandler and his wife, Barbara, housed clients in a renovated garage, depending heavily on faith and funding from a few donors. In addition to monetary donations, the ministry is in constant need of mentors, vehicles, household items and more.

Today, housing 44 men and a few women (separately), the ministry operates multiple, Christ-centered transitional homes in west Fort Worth. Its leadership includes people who've received ministry from HOPE, and others who've known Chandler and been associated with HOPE for many years.

Clearly, the Lord has provided. An article in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram touched the hearts of several eventual donors, one of whom-a CPA and wealth manager-continues to provide significant support so critical to the ministry's continuance.

Though it might be an overstatement to describe facilities as modest, therein HOPE abounds, love thrives, and victories are

In a computer lab, clients worked on scripturally-bathed curricula.

I met six clients-most in their early 20s-who've put multiple drug issues behind them. Two of the couples are soon to be married, with Chandlerfounder of the program's More Than Redemption Church-officiating. The couples will reside in the house recently established for married couples. Their comments about HOPE were tearful; I joined them in joyous boo-hooing.

With almost two decades of service, HOPE is gaining momentum but remains in constant need of regular donors. Learn more on its Facebook, YouTube and Instagram channels.

Hundreds of clients have been served to date. Among those



**Chandler Fozard** 

mentored by HOPE during and after incarceration, not one has returned to prison. One recently completed his GED and is seeking college admission!

Their church attracts some 50 worshipers most Sundays. Guests are welcome; understandably, few attend. I was chilled by Chandler's parting comment. "Each year, we participate in North Texas Giving Day. We are grateful for gifts received, but pet charities receive more." (HopeGivesBack. com provides more information.) Perhaps it was providential that I visited on Maundy Thursday, reflective of Jesus' Last Supper, when he urged His disciples to

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.

love one another.

# Community Life

# Taste of Parker County

#### Event a success for 16th year

By Crystal Woerly
Weatherford College

The Weatherford College Foundation welcomed nearly 600 attendees to the 16th annual Taste of Parker County held at Heritage Park on April 15.

"This year's Taste of Parker County was once again a wonderful success, bringing our community together for a great cause," said Susan Sodek, WC advancement specialist and Taste of Parker County organizer. "The generous support from our sponsors, vendors, and attendees makes a tangible difference in the lives of Weatherford College students, and we are deeply grateful for their continued generosity."

Event attendees had the chance to vote for their favorite eats and drinks, and the results are in. Winners of the year's Taste of Parker County are:

Bar & Grill, 2. (tie), CiBi Italian Restaurant and Heim Barbecue, 3. The Saddle at Canyon West.

• **Best Entrée:** 1. Bush League

- Best Side Dish: 1. Flavor on 51/Seventy-One, 2. Heim Barbecue, 3. Aaron's Catering.
- Best Dessert: 1. Dulce Panda Creamery, 2. Back Home Bakery, 3. DERS Desserts.
- **Most Hospitable Vendor:** 1. Flavor on 51/Seventy-One, 2. I Do Events Bartending & Staffing, 3. (tie) Ghostwood Whiskey and Piamonte Coffee.
- **Best Appetizer:** 1. Caitlyn's Catering, 2. The Perfect Pepper, 3. Aaron's Catering.
- **Best Healthy Choice:** 1. Caitlyn's Catering, 2. Piamonte Coffee, 3. Yesterday's Sandwich Shop.
- **Most Unique Dish:** 1. CiBi Italian Restaurant, 2. Heim Barbecue, 3. Caitlyn's Catering.
- **Best Beverage:** 1. Ghostwood Whiskey, 2. I Do Events Bartending & Staffing, 3. Major Perk.
- **Best Décor:** 1. Aaron's Catering, 2. I Do Events Bartending & Staffing, 3. Caitlyn's Catering.
- Best "Mom and Pop": 1. Piamonte Coffee, 2. Dulce Panda Creamery, 3. Flavor on 51/Seventy-One.
- **Judge's Favorite Best Overall:** 1. CiBi Italian Restaurant, 2. Bush League Bar & Grill, 3. Major Perk.
- Judge's Favorite Entrée: 1. Heim Barbecue, 2. The Saddle at Canyon West, 3r. Tailgaters
- **Judge's Favorite Dessert:** 1. DERS Desserts, 2. Dulce Panda Creamery, 3. Major Perk.

Photos by Rick Mauch



**Beckoning Events** 



Aaron's Catering



**Bush League** 



Caitlyn's Catering



**Donut NV** 



**HteaO** 



Tailgaters BBQ



**Ghostwood Whiskey** 



Kona Ice



Major Perk



**Nothing Bundt Cakes** 



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

## Kid Scoop Together

### **Happy** Cinco de Mayo!

This year, Teacher Appreciation Week starts on another special day: Cinco de Mayo!

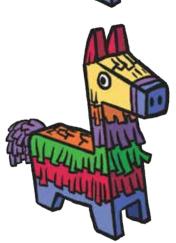
On Cinco de Mayo, it's fun to break open a piñata filled wth treats.

Look closely to find the piñata below that is different than all the others.











This week's word: **APPRECIATION** 

The noun **appreciation** means a feeling of thanks.

I feel **appreciation** for my awesome teacher!

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



Can you find at

least 10 differences

between these twin

teacher pictures?

Have a friend or

family member try.

Did they find any

differences you

Standards Link: Find

in common objects.

missed?

## THE COMMUNITY NEWS online and/or print delivery

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**TEXAS** 

**CROSSWORD** 

by Charley & Guy Orbison

# Events



#### **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 goalsetting, 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.

will receive trophies, certificates, and cash prizes, with the first-place winner also offered a concert opportunity to perform at Weatherford College during the 2025-2026 academic year. All finalists will take part in a Q&A session with the judges after the final round.

Competition. The winners

The preliminary round will take place online, with performances judged based on submitted videos. Twelve selected finalists will perform live before the judges from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at the Marjorie Alkek **Performing Arts Center** 



The Hatmakers Wife

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performances are at 8 p.m.

Thursday performances

are at 7:30 p.m. Friday

Saturday performances

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**Competition Finals** 

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Weatherford College

International Piano

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in Fort Worth presents

The Hatmaker's Wife

May 10.

\$45.

#### STUDENT ART **EXHIBITION**

MAY 1

Weatherford College will host its bi-annual Student Art Exhibition from 5:30-7 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, at the Alkek Fine Arts Center.



#### MAY 4

#### **Parker County Aggie Clay**

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.

#### "Ace in the

Musial 5 TX George Strait's

**ACROSS** 

the Man'

- 6 in Liberty County on U.S. 90 7 Paris, TX FM
- 8 TXism: "table graze" 9 Robert Mueller was dir. of this agcy. for TX George W.
- 17 Alamo's Travis drew 19 Sutton County seat
- 21 astronaut, TX "Deke" 22 TX Robert Howard created "Conan" played by this
- up like a trough" 28 actress Patricia in
- Texas-based "Hud" 29 TXism: "piece of
- 30 this Gary hit last
- Arlington Stadium 31 TXism: "jumpy as a cat
  - a child actor and
  - (4 wds.)
- 44 TXism: "cute as a white-46 debonair

- 47 Texas fiddler, Robertson
  - a baby's bottom"
- "Petticoat" Texan, Meredith Mac\_ 52 in Hockley County
- 54 TXism: "
- 55 tallest in Texas: Guadalupe
- 12 "can't put \_ to the name
- Schwarzenegger 58 TX Buddy Holly's 23 TXism: "bunched
- 2 in Harris County homer in old

Sponsored by the Parker

County Aggie Moms' Club,

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County Aggie sponsor-

ships. For sponsorship

**Baccalaureate Service** 

The Baccalaureate ser-

vice for the Aledo High

School Class of 2025 will

May 21, at Aledo United

Methodist Church.

All-Class Reunion

SAVE THE DATE: An

all-class reunion for

Weatherford High School

will be held on May 31 at

**Culture Center. For more** 

the Doss Heritage and

info. call 817-894-1822.

be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday,

com/ClayShoot.

MAY 21

**MAY 31** 

information, visit parkerco-

moms.membershiptoolkit.

for \$5,000.

- 35 this TX Gilpin was Eliot in film with TX 36 TXism for "skinny"
  - Richard Bradford 9 Greek cheese
  - Sauce" control uses
    - natural predators 11 Texas' "Pizza

- - Vernon, TX (abbr.)
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Stanley Gardner

Texas poet Naomi

"the year of our

Lord" (abbr.)

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27 airy lobby

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no longer in effect

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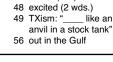
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Darrin (init.)

anvil in a stock tank" 56 out in the Gulf





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# Sports

TRACK AND FIELD

## Aledo qualifies seven for state

#### Garrison, Averett advance in two events

By Rick Mauch

Senior Adam Averett was wondering if he'd competed in the 300-meter hurdles for the last time as an Aledo Bearcat. He finished third in the event at the Class 5A Region I Meet at Texas Tech University on April 18-19 in Lubbock.

However, he learned on Monday, April 21, that he will indeed be in Austin on Friday, May 2, competing in the event at Mike A. Myers Stadium on the campus of the University of Texas, along with four other Bearcats and a pair of Ladycats. His time of 37.87 seconds was the fastest of all third-place finishers across four regions, qualifying him as a wild card.

In addition, Averett will return to state in the 4x400 relay, on which he also ran in 2023. He ran the anchor leg this time, joining seniors Trey Warner and Jace Lay, along with junior Lincoln Tubbs in finishing second at regionals with a time of 3:17.09.

"I thought we ran great at the regional meet," Bearcats coach Andrew Clark said. "State is an awesome experience, and anything can happen. We have to keep getting faster between now and then, and see how it all plays out."

Junior Molly Garrison led Ladycat qualifiers, advancing in both the 1600 (5:05.19) and 3200 (11:08.52). This will be her first trip to state in track, though she has competed at state cross country three years, finishing sixth this past season.

"Everyone competed really well. Very proud of all the girls," Ladycats coach Mike Pinkerton said.

A pair of pole vaulters round out the Aledo contingent competing

in Austin. Braylon Brown looks to improve from his bronze medal performance in 2024 as he makes his state encore, and Emma Ralph will join him. Brown cleared 15-6 to take second, while Ralph was also runner-up with a 12-0 vault.

"I'm super excited for both of them. Different ends of the spectrum," Aledo pole vault coach John Rhodes said. "Braylon, a senior who got third at state last year and Emma, a freshman whose goal for the year was to make varsity and get a letter jacket."

"Braylon is really coming around at the right time. He had a lull in middle of season after a week-long mission trip to India took more toll than he realized. He is starting to get reps on bigger poles and I expect him to jump great at state."

"Our area meet for girls was the toughest in the state with six girls over 11-6, and Emma getting second there really prepared her for regionals. Top four at regionals were from our area."

"Emma will have a shot at a medal, and I won't be a bit surprised if she gets on after watching the way she competed the last two weekends."

"They are both great kids who are very coachable and fun to be around."

Narrowly missing state in two events was sophomore Micah Neal of the Ladycats. She was third in both the 1600 and 3200. Meanwhile, junior Sofia Brandenburg, who had qualified for state the previous two years (along with three state cross country qualifications) placed third in the 800.

In the team standings, both the Bearcats and Ladycats finished third. The boys scored 36 points, trailing only Mansfield Timberwith with 74 and Denton Ryan with

48. The girls scored 57, behind Amarillo's 66 and Ryan's 57.

#### **Class 5A Region I Meet** April 18-19 at Texas Tech **University, Lubbock**

Top two in each event automatically qualify for state

Running events in meters, field events in feet

Aledo results

Girls

Team score: 57 points, third place (Amarillo 66, Denton Ryan 59) Individual results

100: 7. Addison Smith. 12.15. 200: 5. Smith, 24.74.

800: 3. Sofia Branndenburg, 2:16.51; 7. Mykel Murry, 2:21.24.

1600: 2. Molly Garrison, 5:05.19; 3. Micah Neal, 5:07.67.

3200: 2. Garrison, 11:08.52; 3. Neal, 11:14.17.

100 Hurdles: 8. Savannah Thompson, 16.35.

300 Hurdles: 6. Victoria Crews, 47.77.

4x400 Relay: 4. Murry, Mayden Mitchell, Brandenburg, Smith. 3:58.38.

High Jump: 9. Sawyer Voight, 5-0. Pole Vault: 2. Emma Ralph, 12-0; 4. Maggie Kilburn, 11-6.

Team score: 36 points, third place (Mansfield Timber view 74, Denton Ryan 48).

200: 7. Adrian Fuller, 22.21. 400: 6. Trey Warnner, 49.11.

1600: 6. Tyler Connelly, 4:29.39. 3200: 6. Connelly, 9:51.80.

110 Hurdles: 12. (prelims) Adam Averett, 15.08. 300 Hurdles: 3. Averett, 37.87 (quali-

fied as a wild card). 4x100 Relay: 11. (prelims) Fuller, Kai Taylor, Alex Patton, Lincoln Tubbs,



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Jace Lay, shown at the area meet in Aledo, will run a leg of the 4x400 relay at the state meet.

4x200 Relay: 13. (prelims) Fuller, Taylor, Patton, Gavin Richardson,

4x400 Relay: 2. Warner, Jace Lay, Tubbs, Averett, 3:17.09.

High Jump: 13. Caden Cunningham,

Pole Vault: 2. Braylon Brown, 15-6; 6. Kantyn Kasich, 13-6.

Discus: 7. Christian Sandoval, 148-0; 8. Averett, 147-2. Shot Put: 5. Carson Dempsey, 50-4.

#### Weatherford vaulter narrowly misses state

Brigham Harmer of the Kangaroos placed fourth at the Class 6A Region I Meet in Arlington on April 18-19. He cleared a height of 14-6.

Also from Weatherford, for the Lady Roos, Braelee Gilbert threw the discus 125 feet to eighth and Cory Pantoja ran a time of 10.92 seconds to place 14th in the preliminaries of the 100 dash.



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- Lowered our property tax

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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
- Early voting through April 29th at Willow Park Public Safety Building.
- Election Day voting, Saturday May 3rd, 7AM to 7PM at Willow Park Public Safety **Building**

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The Community News

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## Aledo competes in Northwest Tourney

#### Heckathorn/Britz win in doubles

#### Staff Reports

The Aledo Racquet Cats tennis team faced tough competition again at the Northwest tournament this past week. Several players placed, including Jacob Heckathorn and Francois Britz winning the boys B doubles championship.

They defeated teammates Paxton Psencik and Tom Ruminsky in the finals.

Lila Satterfield placed third in the A bracket of girls singles and McKinley Hayes was fourth in the B division.

Ben Kurth and Patrice Loftin teamed to finish second in mixed doubles B.

At the junior varsity level, Addie Cass placed second in B girls singles. Elizabeth Kehrt and Vivian Beeby captured the girls A doubles consolation title, and Bailey Martin and Parker Shiro were fourth in girls A doubles.

The Racquet Cats were competing in the District 5-5A Tournament in North Richland Hills at press time. The top two finishers in each event qualify for the Region I Tournament May 7-8 in Lubbock.

From regionals, the top three finishers in each category qualify for state in San Antonio May 15-16.

#### **CHEERLEADING**

### Novice team earns superior rating

#### Championship rings also garnered

**By Emily Alverson** 

The Level 1 Novice team from Impact Cheer and Tumble's brand-new cheerleading gym received a Superior rating at a recent cheer competition.

The top-tier rating is awarded to teams that demonstrate outstanding skill, precision, and athleticism throughout their

The team also took home Championship Rings as a testament to their excellence and hard work. The rings symbolize the team's achievement of being the best in their division, a testament to their dedication and perseverance.

The team also scored the highest in the Youth Novice division, solidifying their spot as the top performers among their peers.

"We are incredibly proud of our Level 1 Novice team," said Coach Taylor, head coach of Impact Cheer and Tumble. "Their hard work, focus, and determination have truly paid off, and they've shown that with dedication, anything is possible. This victory is a result of their commitment to excellence and their love for the sport."

The team's sights are now set on future competitions, where they hope to continue their streak of success.

SOCCER

## Randriamahefa named district MVP

#### **Davis Offensive** Player of Year

**By Rick Mauch** 

Aledo Bearcat Austin Randriamahefa has been named the District 5-5A Most Valuable Player by the league's coaches. His teammate, Trapper Davis, was honored as the league's Offensive Player of the Year.

The duo are among 15 Bearcats named all-district. The Aledo staff of head coach Derek Vierling and assistants Efran Martinez and Dawson Lake were named district Coaching Staff of the Year.

The Bearcats won the district championship.

Randriamahefa, a senior, scored 17 goals with 13 assists this season, including a pair of game-winning goals. Davis, a junior, tallied four game-winners among his 17 goals, along with six goals.

First team accolades went to junior goalkeeper Pierce Ling (51 saves, 6 shutouts), junior defender Hunter Waugh, sophomore defender Evan Randriamahefa, junior midfielder Robby Sloan (3

Turn to **BEARCATS**, page 11



Austin Randriamahefa spins around two Richland defenders before taking a shot at the goal during the bi-district match at Farrington Field on Thursday, March 20.

SOCCER

## Weimer leads Ladycats league honors

#### Aledo garners plenty of accolades

By Rick Mauch The Community News

Sophomore midfielder Allyson Weimer of the District 5-5A champion Aledo Ladycats was named the league's Offensive MVP. She is one of 15 Ladycats honored by the league's coaches.

Weimer led the Ladycats in goals (19) and assists (9).

"She a good player that deserves the recognition," Ladycats coach Brian Johnson said. "She works hard and practices daily to be the best player she's able to be. She is a competitor."

First team honorees are freshman defender Avery Sands, senior midfielder Katie Cox (2 goals, 8 assists), senior defender Emery Thompson, freshman goalkeeper Audrey Obana (73 saves, 13 shutouts), sophomore defender Lillie Gideon, and sophomore forward Ainsley Elmore (10 goals, 5 assists).

Named to the second team were junior midfielder Reese Harz, sophomore forwards Kylee Vandiver, and Baylee Velarde, freshman midfielder



Allyson Weimer leads the charge for the Aledo Ladycats against Brewer as Ainsley Elmore and Addison Clark follow behind during Aledo's 5-0 shutout of the Lady Bears on Friday, Feb. 14.

Abigail Cates, and junior defender Addison Clark.

Honorable mention went to senior goalkeeper Ava Fennell, junior defender Haley Mourer, and senior midfielder Conley Hamilton.

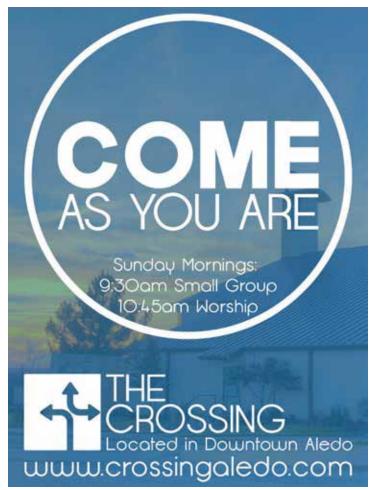
#### **Academic all-district**

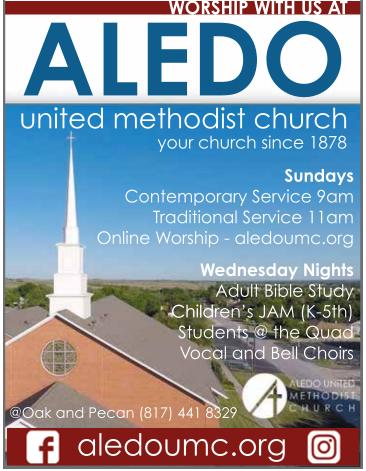
Academic all-district honors were earned by all of the Ladycats named to the all-district field team, along with freshman forward Jules Avery and sophomore midfielder Alexa Plantz.

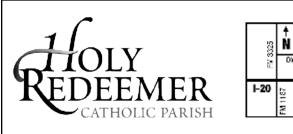
Four senior Ladycats were named academic all-state by the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches. They are Thompson, Hamilton, Fennell, and Cox.

**Academic all-state** 

## Churches







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For current Mass Times visit our website at: www.HolyRedeemerAledo.org For more information contact the Parish Office at 817-441-3500



# Classifieds

April 25, 2025 THE COMMUNITY NEWS www.community-news.com

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 238**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ANNETTA, TEXAS, BY APPROVING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR THE USE OF AN ACCESSORY DWELLING ON A 13.5 ACRE PARCEL AT 1595 CROUSE LANE; PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REFLECT SUCH CHANGE: PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE **CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A** SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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 not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate

The Town Secretary is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance in compliance with state law.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by state law and it is so

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th day of April, 2025.

(s) Sandy Roberts Mayor

Attest: (s) Jamee Long Town Secretary

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Zoning Board of Adjustment for the Town of Annetta will conduct a public hearing on May 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane, Annetta, and will act upon the following request:

- 1. A Special Exception for 222 Deer Creek Drive, a property containing .689 acres of land (Lot 15, Block 19, Subdivision: Deer Creek Phase VII) to allow for an 800 square foot accessory structure that exceeds the allowed square footage as set forth in Section 8.10.B.2.c of the Town of Annetta Zoning Ordinance 215.
- 2. A Special Exception to Section 8.10.B.10 of the Town of Annetta Zoning Ordinance 215 for 222 Deer Creek Drive, a property containing .689 acres of land (Lot 15, Block 19, Subdivision: Deer Creek Phase VII), to allow garage doors on any size accessory structure to face the right-of-way with additional landscaping, exterior materials or colors and ornamental features to ensure compatibility with the neighbor-
- 3. A Special Exception to Ordinance 215, Section 8.10.A, to allow for an accessory building placed in a portion of the side yard instead of the rear of the lot.

All interested persons are urged to attend. TO BE PUBLISHED: Friday, April 25, 2025

(s) Jamee Long, City Secretary/Administrator Town of Annetta, Texas

#### ATTENTION PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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.

#### **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.



#### **QUOTABLE**

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

Martin Luther King Jr.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 239**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ANNETTA, TEXAS, AMENDING ITS DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN: AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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 not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

The Town Secretary is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance in compliance with state law.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by state law and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th day of April, 2025.

(s) Sandy Roberts Mayor

Attest: (s) Jamee Long **Town Secretary** 

#### community-news.com



TexSCAN Week of April 20-26, 2025

#### **AUCTION**

Covote Hills Ranch Production Sale — Sat., May 3. 1 p.m., Chattanooga, OK. Selling 75 lots of pairs with 15 bulls. Bid live online at www.LiveAuctions.tv. For more information, call 580-704-6739 or view catalog online at www.coyotehillsok.com.

Wheeler Consignment Auction — Sat., April 26, 2025, 9:43 a.m., Wheeler, TX. '23 Chevy 1500 4x4, JD 5525 w/Loader, JD 7800, Ford 8670, pickups, Peterbilt, Humvee, dirt bikes, trailers, hay/farm/cattle curist troils & moral Auction/Finesure Cole Wilson equip., tools & more! AuctionZip.com. Cole Wilson Auctioneers, (806) 662-5796.

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#### **EVENTS**

Lamesa — Chicken Fried Steak Festival — April 25-27. More than 100 booths, live music Fri. & Sat., volleyball tournament, car & motorcycle show, children's story time, pet costume contest, petting zoo, chicken fried steak cookoff, 5K run, worship service, carnival games, and more. Registration forms and more info: www.ci.lamesa.tx.us or 806-872-2124 ext. 322.

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THE COMMUNITY NEWS April 25, 2025 11

SOFTBALL

## Lady Eagles wrap up regular season

Play bi-district Friday

Staff Reports
The Community News

In the final week of the regular season, the Trinity Christian Lady Eagles swept a double-header at home against Trinity Valley, 12-3 and 15-0 on April 15 before falling 8-1 at Lake Country Christian on April 16.

The Lady Eagles ended the regular season with a 14-11 overall record and 2-2 in TAPPS Division III District 1. They will play bidistrict at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 25, at Carrollton Prince of Peace.

In the 15-0 win, Pitchers Christina Kuschel and Ashlynn Chaffy combined for a no-hitter. Kuschel pitched two innings, striking out three, and hitting a batter, while Chaffey pitched an inning and hit two batters.

Offensively in 15-0 win: Kruschel two hits, walk, run batted in; Emily Ickert two hits, double, RBI; Rylie Reeder two doubles, walk, four RBI; Claire Chaffey two hits, RBI; Molly Speaks two hits, double, RBI; A. Chaffey home run, three RBI, hit by pitch twice; Gina Paul hit; Avery Tiwater hit, two walks; Breely Chapman home run, RBI.

Hitting in the 12-3 win included two hits and an RBI each from Gracelyn Ruda, Olivia Dominy, and Alex Ickert. Mary Graves had a walk and RBI, as Harley Wilson, while Charlie Soule had a hit and RBI, with Speaks and Charity Gables each walking.

Alex Ickert got the pitching victory, striking out six, and surrendering three hits and two earned runs in four innings.

In the loss, C. Kruschel had a hit and RBI, and Speaks had a hit. Alex Ickert, Tiwater and both Chaffeys walked. A. Chaffey was also hit by a pitch.

C. Chaffey surrendered just four earned runs on six hits, striking out five, walking three, and hitting a batter in six innings.

### **BEARCATS**

from page nine

goals, 9 assists), junior forward Brody Gill (10 goals, 8 assists, 2 game-winners), and senior utility player Cole Crawford.

Second team honorees include senior defender Elliot Smith, junior defender Erik Soltow, senior midfielder Ryan Spriggs, senior forward Adrian Solis, and junior forward Harrison Kear.

Honorable mentions went to senior midfielder Alberto Rubio, junior forward Kyle Storck, sophomore midfielder Luke Brown, and sophomore defender Calvin Gruber.

"I think both Austin and Trapper were very deserving of their honors. The numbers they put up in 12 district games were very impressive," Bearcats coach Derek Vierling said. "Unfortunately, we probably should have had a couple more superlatives, but when people vote, sometimes it doesn't go the right way."

"Luckily, the rest of our squad was well represented with first and second team all district as well as honorable mention. It just shows how deep and talented we really were this year. Our success in district depended on that depth and it paid off for us with a district championship."

#### Academic all-district

In addition, 15 academic all-district honors were earned by the Bearcats. They



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

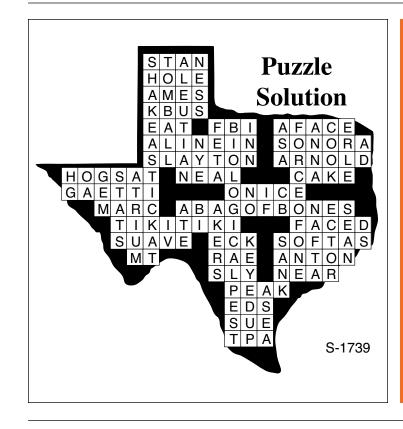
Trapper Davis makes a pass with a Weatherford defender hot on his trail during a preseason match at Tim Buchanan Stadium on Jan. 17.

include Davis, Waugh, Evan Randriamahefa, Sloan, Gill, Soltow, Kear, Rubio, Storck, Brown, and Gruber, along with juniors Mark Graham, Peyton Shaffer, and Drew Vozeh, with sophomore Trent Newton.

#### **Academic all-state**

Seven senior members of the Bearcats earned academic all-state honors from the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches. They are Austin Randriamahefa, Crawford, Solis, Smith, Noah Peffer, Kaden Calloway, and Sean Michel.

"Academically, it was an incredible year with so many seniors receiving academic all-state and the majority of the team receiving academic all-district," Vierling said.







Track & Field

The junior runner qualified for state in two events at the Region I Meet in Lubbock. She placed second in both the 1600-meter and

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## BEARCAT OF THE WEEK



### Braylon Brown Track & Field

The senior pole vaulter qualified for his second consecutive Class 5A State Track Meet this past weekend with a second-place finish at the Region I Meet in Lubbock. He cleared 15 feet, 6 inches

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**GOLF** 

## Bearcats fall short in chase for state

#### Finish sixth in region

By Rick Mauch The Community News

Just when it looked like the Aledo Bearcats would be returning to state as a team, their season came to an end the next day at the Class 5A Region I Boys Golf Tournament on April 16-17 in Lubbock.

The Bearcats finished sixth among the field. For the first time since 2021, they will not have a representative at state. The entire team qualified in 2022, followed by Braylon Mahanay individually in 2023 and Braden Stokes last season.

Mahanay is now playing at Weatherford College.

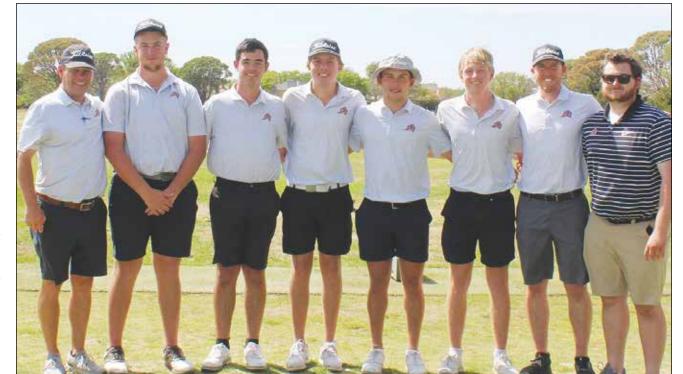
Emily Crick of the Ladycats qualified individually for the Ladycats after their tournament April 14-15. It extends a streak dating to 2004 of Aledo having a team or individual at state.

She will compete at Legacy Hills Golf Club in Round Rock April 28-29.

Following the opening day of this year's regional tournament, the Bearcats were a shot out of first place, shooting a 312 behind Amarillo Tascosa Red and Abilene Wylie. However, Day 2 saw Aledo shoot 336 to finish with a 648 total, while Tascosa went on to win the region with a 624, Wylie took second at 628 and Burleson Centennial rallied to take third with a 642.

Those three teams, along with the three lowest individuals not on those teams qualified to compete at state May 5-6 at Legacy Hills.

The Bearcats were led by Ethan Elmore, the lone senior on the team.



The Aledo Bearcats once again played at the Class 5A Region I Tournament on April 16-17 in Lubbock, finishing sixth. Pictured are (from left) head coach Brian Mourning, Logan Lund, Braden Stokes, Ethan Elmore, Ryland Haley, Maddox Jessup, Coach Brendan Adams, and assistant coach Alex Groff.

He shot a 159 over two days to finish 15th individually.

The rest of the Bearcats playing at regionals, all juniors, were Maddox Jessup, 160, 20th; Stokes, 162, 27th; Ryland Haley, 167, 37th; and Logan Lund, 179, 64th.

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

"The boys played really good the first day, but Day 2 things got away from us," Aledo coach Brian Mourning said.

Mourning said the normally challenging West Texas conditions were even more so on the second day. Winds were gusting up to 30 miles per hour, plus the course had some extremely difficult pin placements — so difficult that play was stopped for a while to move the pin to a more playable spot on the

"They had some pin placements that weren't suited for high school — or anybody, for that matter," he said. "But all the teams had to play in the same conditions.

"But I'm proud of the boys and the season they had. We've got a lot of talent coming back, so I'm hard the last two years. She put us

excited about the boys — and girls can do next season."

#### Crick's return

Two years ago, Crick was a freshman and competed at state as the No. 5 player on the Ladycats. Now, as a junior, she has qualified individually and is the top player in the girls program.

She'll be facing the top golfers in the state — but, as Mourning said, that includes her.

"Emily has a shot. She's worked

on her back that first day at regionals," he said. "There will be some great golfers playing those days and she's one of them."

Mourning is also excited about having Crick back to lead the girls program next season as they along with the boys — seek a return

"She's coming back, and when we get down there as a team, she'll be the leader — and the same for Braden," Mourning said.

to state as a team.

Like Crick this season, Stokes qualified individually for the Bearcats last season.

#### **Continuing a tradition**

Since 2004, the Bearcats and Ladycats have each been represented at state 16 times, with both being represented in the same season 10 times, most recently in 2022 and 2023. The Bearcats won a team state championship in 2007 (and 1978), while Cheyenne Knight, who is now on the LPGA Tour, won girls individual state titles in 2014 and 2015.

"That's a testament to the kids we have here," Mourning said. "They work hard and expect success.

"It also says a lot about the local courses. The kids have the resources and they use them."

The Bearcats and Ladycats regularly practice at nearby courses Squaw Creek, Split Rail and Oeste Ranch, along with Leonard Golf Links driving range.

"They do everything they can to help us out," he said. "Without them I don't think we'd have the success we have."

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