

Altus High School's The Collar

Volume 17 Issue 11



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AHS Counselors

By Grey Woodward and Gavin Glover
Staff Writers



Altus High School has four wonderful counselors. They are Mrs. Holt, Mrs. Brewer, Mrs. Davis, and Mrs. James. The four of them take care of all of Altus High School's students.

Mrs. Holt is the counselor for students with the last names starting with A through C and J through K. She grew up in Altus and attended Altus High School. She has spent 23 years working as an AHS counselor.

Mrs. Holt has always enjoyed helping others. While it can be stressful, Mrs. Holt is proud to be a part of encouraging students to find, pursue, and embrace a passion that helps them find their place.

Mrs. Brewer is the counselor for students with the last names starting with D through I. She grew up in SW Oklahoma and attended Duke High School. Mrs. Brewer has been a counselor for APS for 3 years but worked at Western Oklahoma State College 11 years prior.

Mrs. Brewer loves working with students. She also loves that APS allows her to put her family first. When her family is taken care of, Mrs. Brewer feels that she can better focus on the students.

Mrs. Davis is the designated counselor for students with the last names M through R. She has moved around plenty before returning to Altus. She attended Tri-County High School. This is her second year working at APS. Mrs. Davis previously worked in the Head Start program in Hobart. Mrs. Davis loves her students like family, and the students are her favorite part of APS.

Mrs. James is the counselor for students with the last names starting with L and S through Z. She has been working for APS for 15 years and became a counselor in 2013. She taught at Blair for 10 years beforehand. The school spirit is what Mrs. James loves most about AHS. She is a proud bulldog.

Student Features

By Taylor Johnson
Senior Managing Editor

Jacob Rapp



Jacob Rapp is a sophomore here at Altus High School. This is his first year at AHS. Jacob grew up in Nampa, Idaho. His parents are Adrian and Bethany Rapp. His mom is 44, and his dad is 45. Jacob states, "They are very loving and supportive and have given me great advice. He was adopted when he was three by his biological aunt and her husband. Jacob says, "They have always been

mom and dad to me." He has only one full-blood brother who is 17 and is in the Marine Core. Jacob and his family have three dogs, Lucy, who just turned one is his dog and is a Broder Collie, pit bull, boxer, and a bunch of other breeds. They've had her since she was a puppy, Charlie, who is six and the family dog, is a Chocolate Lab and Huskey mix. Sulu is his parent's dog who is also a mutt. Jacob's aunts and uncles on his dad's side all are in Washington, and his mom's sister, whom he visited recently, lives in California. Jacobs says, "It's a pretty small-knit circle with my close family."

He is involved in AHS track and field as a distance runner. His favorite subject in school is psychology, "It's really interesting to learn why people think a certain way or how trauma affects someone later in life," Jacob states. He says psychology makes him think deeper almost to a philosophical point.

Jacob's interests are playing video games and working out. Jacob says that he is also growing to enjoy running. "I also enjoy important conversations with my friends, conversations that go a little deeper," he says.

His favorite thing about AHS is that the food is somewhat edible. Something AHS students may not know about Jacob is that he knows Jesus.

Jacob's plans after high school are to get a scholarship and become a doctor. He is motivated in life by a desire to do his best, be a perfectionist, and follow God.

Jacob's favorite quote is, "Anger is sad's bodyguard" Verse: Ephesians 2:8-9

Student Features

By Aubree VonDohlen
Senior Editor

Jocelyn Dennis



Jocelyn Dennis has attended Altus High School since her freshman year. Jocelyn grew up in many parts of Oklahoma, including Tahlequah and Ardmore.

She is involved in band and theatre at Altus High School. Jocelyn's favorite subject at AHS is English.

She also likes to sing, paint and play the trumpet. Jocelyn's family consists of her parents, Mathew and Brandi Dennis, and her siblings Marilyn and Wyatt. The Dennis family also owns three pets, Avery the dog, Bellatrix the cat, and Jack the guinea pig.

After high school, Jocelyn plans to attend college to earn a degree in education and music. Her favorite thing about Altus High School is the teacher's involvement in the students' needs.

Something cool about Jocelyn that people might not know about her is she is very passionate about performing arts.

Jocelyn's motivation in life is her family and the goal of making them proud.

Her favorite quote is, "Consider it pure joy, brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."

Teacher Spotlight

By: Lexie Scott
Senior Managing Editor

Denise Gilpatrick



Mrs. Gilpatrick has been teaching English for 20 years. Her teaching profession evolved from many things. When her own children became school-aged, she decided to go back to college. She had always taught Sunday school, and her husband was a youth minister at their church, so they were constantly around children.

English was her strongest subject at the time, so she decided to pursue a career as an English teacher.

Mrs. Gilpatrick grew up in Oklahoma, but she also lived in Texas and Ohio as her family moved a lot when she was growing up.

She met her husband, Kenneth, on a blind date during the first week of 1984, and they got married in December of the same year. They have two grown children, Stephen and Kayla. Her husband has worked at American Gypsum in Duke for 38 years. Stephen lives in Waco with his wife and two daughters, and Kayla lives in Yukon, OK with her husband and four sons.

Kenneth and Mrs. Gilpatrick enjoy being with their children

and grandchildren as often as they can, as well as vacationing with them. Mrs. Gilpatrick also enjoys shooting when she gets the opportunity.

When she was a child, her family raised a bobcat. His name was Bob, and he was both an indoor and outdoor cat. They lived in the country, so Bob enjoyed hunting rabbits and other small animals. He was a very good watch-cat as people would hesitate to go inside their home when they saw Bob sprawled on the living room sofa.

Mrs. Gilpatrick's favorite Bible verse is 1 Timothy 1:7. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Bulldog Bites

By: Elizabeth Risinger
staff writer

What is the best kept secret at AHS?



Freshman Lanya Martin states, "If you step on the bulldog, you will never graduate."



Sophomore Graham Hartgraves states, "The best kept secret is one that is kept a secret."



Junior Karley Froelich states, "The school spirit."



Senior Alan Chavez states, "Treat people the way you want to be treated."

Bulldog Clubs

By Dominic Rodriguez and
Malachi Reyes
Staff Writers

Dungeons and Dragons



Dungeons and dragons is sponsored by Morgan Mitchell Young. She is also the art teacher for AHS.

Dungeons and Dragons is a fantasy tabletop role-playing game originally designed by Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson.

Dungeons and Dragons departs from traditional wargaming by allowing each player to create their

own character to play instead of a military formation. These characters embark upon imaginary adventures within a fantasy setting.

The goal of Dungeons and Dragons is to encourage creativity and free-thinking, while also building problem solving skills, imagination, and acting skills by forming a

community in which people feel safe to explore their creativity. We aim to provide a way for players to entertain themselves, build necessary life skills, and have fun.

The presidents of Dungeons and Dragons are Taylor Ash and Rayne Louviere. They set and monitor the goals of the club, run meets, appoint committee chairs, and delegate tasks as necessary.

The vice president of Dungeons and Dragons is Sophia Finley. Her job is to assist the president and other officers in completing their duties.

The secretary is CJ Giancaspro. He prepares and distributes meeting agendas, notifies members of upcoming

events, and takes the attendance at meetings.

Lucinda Atkinson is the treasurer for the Dungeons and Dragons Club. Her job is to help run things, like fundraisers, and keep track of what things the club needs.

Anyone that is interested in joining the Dungeons and Dragons Club will just need to show up to a meeting in Mrs. Young's Room 7 on Fridays at 3:15.

Mrs. Young states, "The Dungeons and Dragons Club is a great opportunity for students to feel included and have a ton of fun, even when they don't feel welcome or safe to be themselves in other school programs. *Stanger Things* made it popular, but Altus made it cool!"

LEO Club

By Zoe Monterrubio and
Kenli Greer
Staff Writers

Altus High School's LEO Club is sponsored by Mrs. Tanya Cramer, the Spanish instructor here at AHS.

The LEO in LEO Club stands for Leadership, Experience, and Opportunity. It is a service club that does community service to help the fellow residents around Altus.

Members help by picking up trash, going to the dog shelter, and completing community service hours.

Some of the activities they have participated in are Harvest for the Hungry, AHS Angel Tree, the Chopped

Challenge, and the LIONS Club float in the Christmas parade.

The LEO Club Officers are Haley Cramer as the president, Hailey Ross as the vice president, and Kaylee Brown as the secretary and treasurer.

Students can join the LEO Club by going to room 211 to get an application and pay dues before starting. The LEO Club meets the first Wednesday of each month.

Mrs. Cramer states, "The LEO Club can be lots of fun, and we don't discriminate! All are welcome!"



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Grace Humble
Senior Editor

KELLI VALDEZ

Kelli Valdez is a senior here at Altus High School. She has attended AHS since her freshman year. Kelli grew up here in Altus.

Kelli is the youngest of three sisters and one brother. She also has four nieces and one nephew. Her mom and dad had celebrated twenty-five years of marriage before her dad's passing. The final member of her family, is a four-year-old chihuahua, Theodore!

Kelli is enrolled in the teacher prep program at SWTC, a Link Crew leader here at AHS, and an FCCLA officer. She has also been listed on the honor roll and created a children's book. Outside of school, Kelli enjoys traveling and going to dances.

Kelli's favorite things about AHS are the lifelong memories she has made here. After graduation, her plans are to obtain her associate's at WOSC, accomplish her bachelor's at USAO, and eventually teach kindergarten.

What motivates Kelli is "allowing everything to happen for a reason and getting through it." Her favorite verse is Matthew 14:22-23, "Focus on me, not the storm."



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Trina Patel
Staff Writer

REGGIE GUERRA



Reggie Guerra is a senior here at Altus High School. He has attended AHS since freshman year. He was born and raised here in Altus.

Reggie lives with his parents Raul Guerra and Mona Guerra. He has one sister and one brother. His sister is Alysa and is 21 years old. His brother is Robert and is 29 years old. Reggie also has two dogs, Cooper and Duke.

He is active in agriculture at Altus High School. When he is not in school, he enjoys fishing, sports, and being outside.

His favorite thing about Altus High School is having Mrs. McLeod as his teacher for the third time in his life. She was his teacher in first grade, seventh grade, and now in twelfth grade. After graduating high school, he plans on joining the Air Force.

Most people may not know this, but Reggie has been to over 15 states in the United States.

He is motivated in life to always do better than the day before. Reggie's favorite quote is from Tupac, "If you can make it through the night, there's a brighter day."

BULLDOG CLASSIFIEDS

By Abi Beane and Garrix Bauer
Senior Editors

enrollment information

Enrollment is now open!

-Once OLR is completed correctly, students will receive their enrollment packet in their English class.

-Remember, it take 2-3 days for the OLR to process once it is completed.

-All enrollment packets will then be due back March 3rd.

ALTUS AIR FORCE BASE AVIATION FAIR



Feb. 25 | 12 - 4 p.m.

Altus Junior High School Gym

1601 S Park Ln, Altus, OK 73521

**Free and open to
the public!**

**Kids of all ages
welcome!**

- Flight Simulator
- Virtual Reality Goggles
- Q&A with AAFB Pilots
- Photo Opportunities
- STEM Activities

For questions, contact: 97amw.pa@us.af.mil



Jackson County Junior
Livestock Show



Schedule of events

FEBRUARY 24-27

Friday, February 17, 2023
Entries for Livestock & Ag Mechanics Due 3:00 PM

Sunday, February 19, 2023
Set up at Jackson County Expo Center 2:00 PM
Stocker Weigh Back and Judging (Navajo Cattle Co.) 2:00 PM
Family & Exhibitor Social and Senior Spotlight 4:00 PM
Cornhole Tournament 5:30 PM

Friday, February 24, 2023
Ag Mechanics Projects in place 10:00 AM
Ag Mechanics Judging 11:00 AM
Weighing in of Meat Goat and Sheep 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Weighing in of Swine 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Weighing in of Beef 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Cattle & Doe Fitting Contest 1:00 PM
Judging of Breeding and Market Lambs 4:00 PM
League of Their Own Show 5:30 PM
Followed by Meat Goats

Saturday, February 25, 2023
Judging of Gilts and Barrows 9:00 AM

Sunday, February 26, 2023
Church Service 10:00 AM
Judging of Heifers and Steers 1:00 PM

Monday, February 27, 2023
Livestock Judging Contest 8:30 AM
Buyers Dinner by WOSC 5:00 PM
Premium Sale (following dinner)

**AHS BAND STUDENTS HAVE
COOKIE DOUGH
FOR SALE!**

**\$18 EACH FOR ONE TUB OF
CLASSIC CHOCOLATE CHIP,
PEANUT BUTTER, SUGAR COOKIE,
DOUBLE CHOCOLATE CHIP,
SNICKERDODGE, GLUTEN FREE
CHOCOLATE CHIP, GLUTEN FREE
SUGAR COOKIE**

AHS CHOIR STUDENTS HAVE

**CHOCOLATE BARS
FOR SALE!**

**\$1 EACH MILK, DARK,
CARAMEL, W.F.
CRISP, WAFER, &
ALMOND!**

