



## Van Alstyne Welcomes You Home!

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Welcome to Van Alstyne! As you begin to put down roots, raise your families and get acquainted here, we invite you to get involved and become a vital part of our community.

In this correspondence, you will find information to assist you in making a smoother transition and facilitate easier connections with friends and neighbors. There are many activities to get involved with besides what is listed here and as growth continues, there will be more. If we can be of help to you, please do not hesitate to reach out to us as we are here to serve.

If you are interested in helping us make Van Alstyne the warmest, friendliest town in North Texas, please join us. We have started an Ambassador's program in all of the new developments to welcome folks who are moving in. It is our desire to have everyone participate in this endeavor to welcome others, create close community and strengthen connections.

If interested, please contact: *Judy Womack*, [judy@judywomack.com](mailto:judy@judywomack.com), Cell: 469-450-2241

The following pages list pertinent information you may find helpful:

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## Interesting, Fun Facts about Van Alstyne!

1. In 1872, a little over 35 inherited acres were sold to the Houston and Texas Central Railway by William McKinney for 20 gold coins per acre. William McKinney was a 9 year old boy who later passed away at the age of 14. This later became the city of Van Alstyne.
2. Van Alstyne was named after Maria Van Alstyne and is the only incorporated town to be named after a woman in Grayson County.
3. Van Alstyne city limits was originally in a square shape with the center at the railroad tracks on Hwy. 121. Later the corners were cut off and it became an octagon.
4. The Interurban Railway began connecting Van Alstyne from Denison to Dallas (and beyond) around 1907-1908. The tracks and depot can still be seen on Preston Road between Jefferson and Marshall.
5. Collin McKinney was the oldest man to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence and is buried in the Van Alstyne Cemetery.
6. In 1929, Police Chief Will Echols was shot on the street in front of the old bank building while trying to thwart a bank robbery. He was taken to Wilson and Jones Hospital in Sherman and died the next day.
7. Many Civil war veterans are buried in the Van Alstyne Cemetery. One of the Immortal 600 Soldiers is buried there.
8. On the weekends in the 1940's, Van Alstyne was the place to be. Folks from all the surrounding towns would come to enjoy the opera house, movie theater, bowling alley and more.
9. Bushwhacker Bill Wilson (Whom the movie Josey Wales was named after, died in Van Alstyne and was buried in a shallow grave somewhere on the side of the road between Van Alstyne and Mantua.
10. There are several churches in Van Alstyne that are over 100 years old.



## **City of Van Alstyne**

### **Van Alstyne City Hall**

City Manager: Mr. Lane Jones  
152 N Main Dr.  
Post Office Box 247  
Van Alstyne, TX 75495  
Phone: 903-482-5426  
Monday – Friday...8:30am - 5:00pm

### **Van Alstyne Police Department:**

242 N. Preston Street  
903-482-5251 (*non-emergency phone number*)

### **Van Alstyne Fire Department:**

280 N. Preston Street  
903-482-6666 (*non-emergency phone number*)

### **Van Alstyne Public Library**

151 W Cooper St,  
Van Alstyne, TX 75495  
(903) 482-5991

**Register for Code Red (Weather Warning System):** <https://www.co.grayson.tx.us/page/oem.cred>

**Local Newspaper: Van Alstyne Leader**

**Register to Vote:** <http://www.co.grayson.tx.us/page/vote.home>

**Driver's License:** <https://www.dmvnearme.net/en/drivers-license/tx-texas/grayson-county>

### **Popular Facebook Pages:**

Van Alstyne Community Facebook Page

Live in Van Alstyne

Van Alstyne Area Facebook



## Get Involved:

**Organizations:** There are many organizations in town other than the schools and churches... here are a few.

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**Van Alstyne Sports Authority (VASA):** Youth Sports  
President - Valerie Whitehill - [president@vasayouthsports.com](mailto:president@vasayouthsports.com)

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DARS):** Sister Grove Chapter

**Hurricane Creek Rotary:**  
Meets Thursdays at noon  
Hurricane Creek Country Club  
1800 Fairway Lane  
Anna, TX 75409-5244

**American Legion**  
293 Jay Road, Van Alstyne, Texas 75495  
(903) 482-9360

**Boy Scouts / Troop 44** (*Troop 44 has been in existence for 105 years, serving the community of Van Alstyne. It is the 3rd oldest troop in the state of Texas and 5th oldest troop in the nation.*)  
Meets every Tuesday from 7:00p.m. – 8:30p.m @ the Boy Scout Hut on Hwy. 5 (Waco Street)

**Quilter's Guild:**  
Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:30 P.M., Motley Room @ the First Christian Church located at 274 S Waco



### **City Boards:**

*We welcome you to get informed and participate in our city by visiting or becoming a member of one of our City Boards.*

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#### **Van Alstyne City Council**

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm at City Hall located at 152 N Main Dr.

#### **Van Alstyne Planning and Zoning Commission**

Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 6:30pm at City Hall located at 152 N Main Dr.

#### **Van Alstyne Economic Development Board - (EDC)**

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month @ 6:00pm at CED offices located at 228 E Marshall St

#### **Van Alstyne Community Development Board - (CDC)**

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month @ 6:00pm at CED offices located at 228 E Marshall St

#### **Van Alstyne Library Board**

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm at the Library located at 151 Cooper Street

### **Community Boards:**

*We welcome you to get informed and participate in our community by visiting or becoming a member of one of our Community Boards.*

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#### **Van Alstyne Friends of the Library**

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month @ 6:00 in the Library located at 151 Cooper Street

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

228 E. Marshall Street

903-482-6066

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VanAlstyneChamber/>

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month @ 5:30pm at City Hall

#### **Keep Van Alstyne Beautiful**

#### **Van Alstyne Senior Center**

Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ 8:30 A.M. at the Senior Center located at 148 S. Main Street

#### **Van Alstyne Historical Society**



## **Activities:**

*(Come and have fun or join us as an event volunteer)*

### **Weekly:**

#### **Railcar Farmers Market:**

Every Tuesday 4:00pm – 7:00pm (April – October)

### **Monthly:**

#### **Friends of the Library Monthly Breakfast: (PRESENTLY ON HOLD DUE TO COVID)**

\$7.00 for all you can eat sausage, pancakes, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee

Held the first Saturday of each month, 7:00 – 10:00 A.M. @ the Community Center (262 N. Preston)

#### **Music in the Park:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month (May – September) 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Dorothy Fielder Park, 107 N. Main Dr. (*downtown Van Alstyne*)

### **Annually:**

Little Big Town 5K and Family Fun Run

July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration and Fireworks

Fall der All Festival

Fall der All Parade

Christmas Tree Lighting

Christmas Parade

### **Van Alstyne Public Library: (HOURS MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN LISTED DUE TO COVID)**

*Van Alstyne Library offers enrichment activities for adults and children, technology services and much more.*

151 W Cooper Street, Van Alstyne

903-482-5991

Hours: Mon.-Wed. 10:00 – 6:00, Thurs. 12:00 – 8:00

Fri. Closed, Sat. 10:00 – 2:00

### **Van Alstyne Museum: (HOURS MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN LISTED DUE TO COVID)**

214-218 East Jefferson Street, Van Alstyne

903-482-6176

Hours: Tues., Thurs, and Sat, 1:00 – 3:00



## **Educational Facilities / Schools / Colleges**

### **John and Nelda Partin Elementary**

*(for those living on the south side of 121)*

Principal: Kristi Odom

Address: 201 Newport, Van Alstyne, TX 75495

Phone: (903) 482-8805

### **Bob and Lola Sanford Elementary**

*(for those living on the north side of 121)*

Principal: Sherry Stillman

Address: 300 Williams Way, Van Alstyne, TX 75495

Phone: 903-712-1900

### **Van Alstyne Middle School**

Principal: Dr. Kelly Moore

Address: 1314 N. Waco, Van Alstyne, TX 75495

Phone: (903) 482-8804

### **Van Alstyne High School**

Principal: Craig Dennis

Address: 1722 N. Waco St., Van Alstyne, TX 75495

Phone: (903) 482-8803

### **Grayson College / South Campus** *(the Main Campus is in Denison)*

1455 Van Alstyne Parkway, Van Alstyne, Texas 75495

903-465-2500



## **Churches**

### **First Baptist Church**

Address: 102 E Marshall, Van Alstyne, TX  
75495  
Phone: (903) 482-6334

### **Elmont Baptist Church**

Address: 13999 FM 121 Van Alstyne TX 75495  
Phone: (903) 482-6356

### **First United Methodist Church**

Address: 303 South Preston Van Alstyne TX  
75495  
Phone: (903) 482-5505

### **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

Address: 274 S Waco Van Alstyne, TX 75495  
Phone: (903) 482-5515

### **Greywood Heights Church of God**

Address: 352 Sanford Circle, Van Alstyne, TX  
75495  
Phone: 903-482-6700

### **Holy Family Catholic Church**

Address: 919 Spence Road, Van Alstyne, Texas  
75495  
Phone: (903) 482-6322

### **Crossroads Community Church**

Address: 2024 South Waco Street, Van Alstyne,  
Texas 75495  
Phone: 972-439-3955

### **First Pentecostal Church**

177 E Cooper Street, Van Alstyne, Texas 75495  
903-482-6646

### **Van Alstyne Church of Christ**

521 Rigsby Drive, Van Alstyne, Texas 75495  
903-482-6033

### **King's Trail Cowboy Church**

498 Bethel Cannon Rd, Whitewright, TX  
Phone: 903-364-KTCC (5822)