

A Word from the Publisher

The Christmas season is a very special time of year, and we are excited that the celebration of Christmas, from a community standpoint, is back after pandemic shut-downs in 2020.

Two of the biggest events in Parker County, Christmas Time in Aledo and Christmas on the Square in Weatherford are back in full swing after taking a year off.

The annual Weatherford Christmas parade moved to an after-dark time last year, and the Weatherford Lights

the Night Christmas Parade promises heavy attendance as well.

This publication also skipped last year, and we are so pleased to have the opportunity to present to you a guide of activities and projects that we hope will enhance your experience of Christmas.

- Randy Keck
Publisher

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1015 Champions Dr.
Aledo, TX 76008
817-441-7661
www.community-news.com



Editor: **Randy Keck**
Director of Business Development:
Loydale Schmid

Merry Christmas
from



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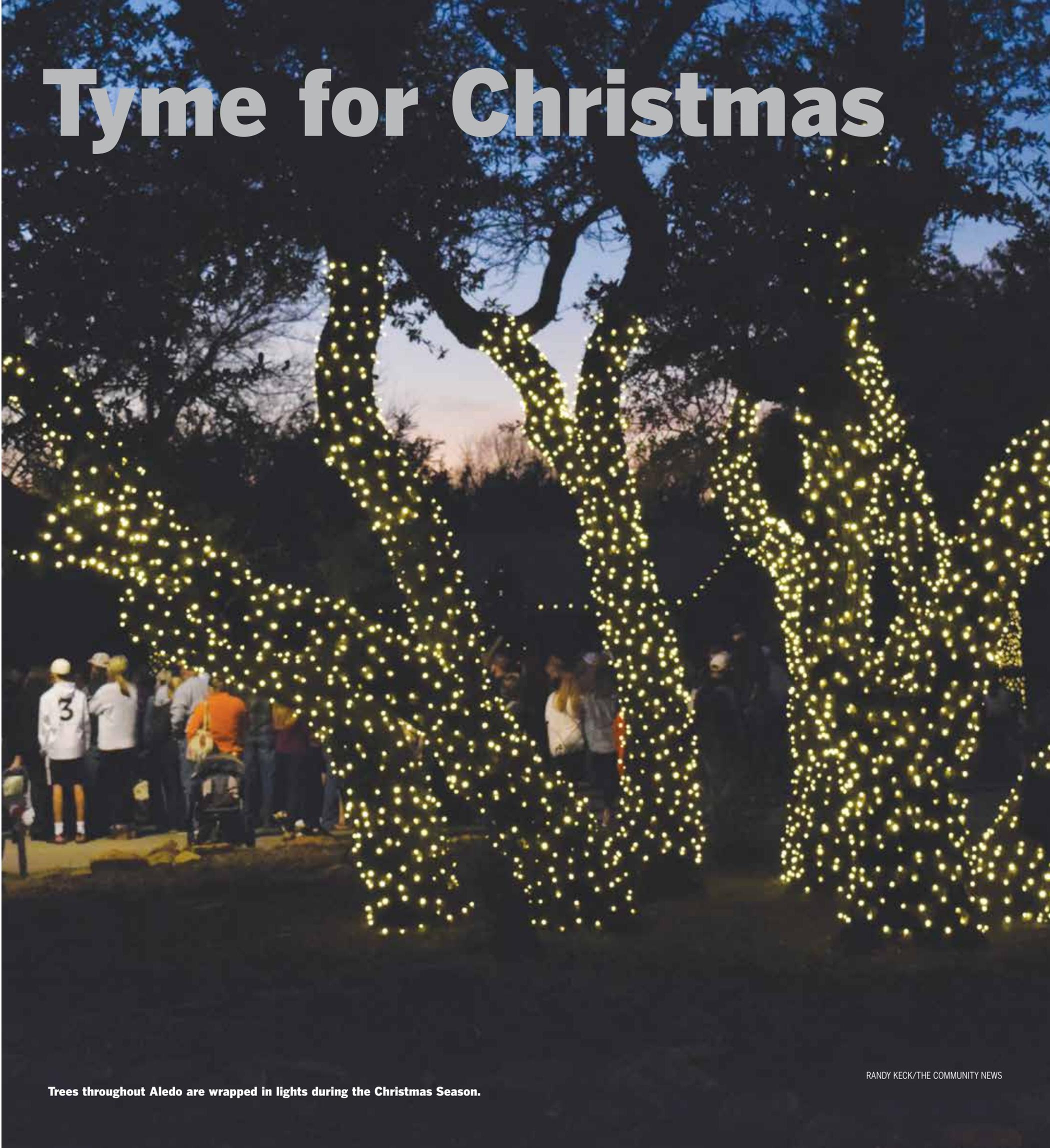
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The advertisement features a festive holiday theme. On the left, a cartoon cowboy with a white beard, wearing a red hat and green vest, holds a lasso. In the center is the CFM logo, a green diamond shape with the letters 'CFM' inside. To the right, a tall green cactus is decorated with colorful lights and wears a red Santa hat. A brown reindeer with a red nose and candy canes in its mouth stands next to the cactus. At the bottom, there are several wrapped gifts, one of which has a 'DO NOT OPEN UNTIL Dec 25th' tag, and a pair of brown cowboy boots.

Tyme for Christmas



Trees throughout Aledo are wrapped in lights during the Christmas Season.

RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS



The City of Aledo and the Aledo Economic Development Corporation will once again bring holiday spirit to Downtown Aledo with the 21st Christmas Tyme in Aledo event on Saturday, Dec. 4.

To kick things off, the 44th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair will begin at 11 a.m. in the gymnasium at the Church at the Crossing. Vendors will sell homemade and handmade items until 8 p.m. Food will also be available for sale by the Church at the Cross youth group..

The events downtown and at Aledo Community Center will begin at 5 p.m. and will include many returning attractions.

RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Tiny Kix member Lillian Estupinan dances.

There will be plenty of activities that veteran attendees will recognize. Returning attractions include the Disco Snowman bounce house, the inflatable maze, Artificial Ice Rink, and of course, the Mini-train rides. Many live performances are scheduled.

The East Parker County Library will accept Letters to Santa this year.

A very special guest is expected to attend the Christmas Tyme event as well. Santa is expected to arrive at the Aledo Community Center by fire truck, courtesy of ESD1 Station #34, at 6 p.m. Santa will assist with the official Christmas Tree lighting. After Santa has had time to settle in, pictures will be available until 8:30 p.m.

44th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair - 11:00 am to 8:00 pm @ Gymnasium in Church at the Crossing. Admission is FREE. Food for SALE by CATC Youth Ministries.

A festive Christmas advertisement for Brookshire's food & pharmacy. The background is a light blue sky with falling white snow. Green pine branches with needles and several red and silver Christmas ornaments are scattered across the top. The text "Best wishes for a merry, merry Christmas!" is written in a green, cursive font. Below this, the brand name "Brookshire's" is in large red letters, with a green leaf icon above the 's'. Underneath, "food & pharmacy" is written in green. At the bottom, the address and phone numbers are listed in green: "5118 E I-20 Service Rd South • 817-441-5980 • Pharmacy: 817-441-5982".

Best wishes for a
merry, merry Christmas!

Brookshire's
food & pharmacy

5118 E I-20 Service Rd South • 817-441-5980 • Pharmacy: 817-441-5982

The Community Center

6:00 pm Santa's arrival; Annual Tree Lighting with Mayor Kit Marshall

Letters to Santa - 5-9 pm: write your letters tonight at East Parker County Library. Craft Activity and Christmas Treats, too. ALL FREE

Downtown Fun - 5-9 pm: Lots of fun things for kids of all ages; Vendors; Live performances. FREE activities; Items for SALE & FREE

Outside Vendors & Food - 5-9 pm: Local businesses selling services & products along Elm Street & in Aledo Commons area; Items for SALE & FREE

Aledo Businesses - 5-9 pm: Many storefronts are open to stop in and visit, offering FREE refreshments, special offers, sales, & door prizes.

Turn to **TYME**, page 6

RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Issy Powell welcomed visitors to her front door at the 2019 Christmas Tyme in Aledo.



*"when they saw the **STAR** they rejoiced."*
Matthew 2:10

WE WISH YOU
a very
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A
Happy New Year



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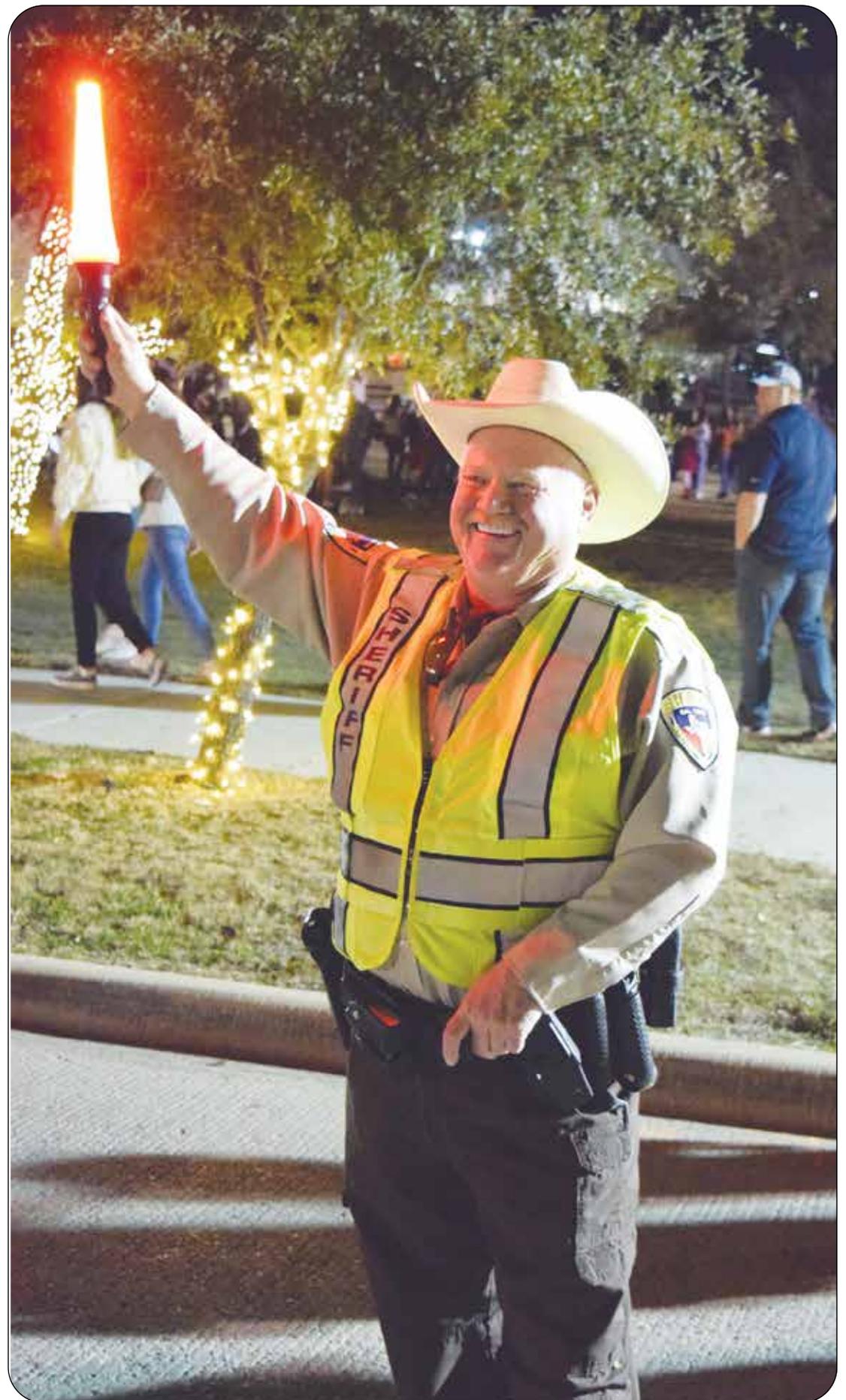
TYME

from page five

Aledo Commons - Visit Aledo Veterans Plaza to pause and honor our service men and women. FREE activities.

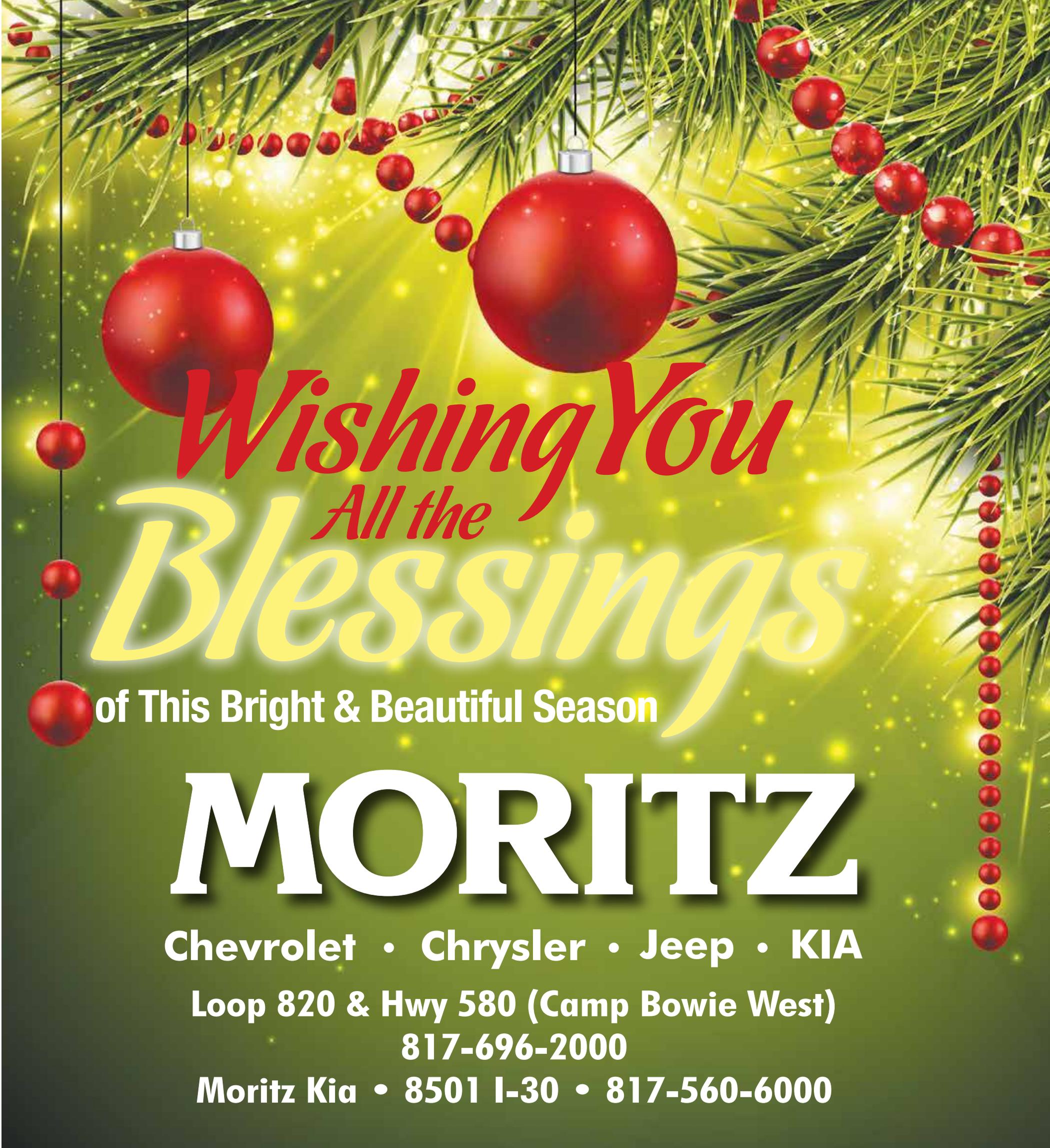
6:15 to 8:30pm FREE Visit with Fireman Santa For more information, visit Discover Aledo's Facebook Page .

See the Christmas Tyme map on pages 16-17.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LEFT: Kim Talley and Tami Koenig had plenty available at their We Be Jellin booth during the 2019 Arts & Crafts fair. Plenty of similar merchandise will be available this year. | **RIGHT:** Parker County Sheriff's Reserve officers come out in force every year to keep traffic moving and, more importantly, keep visitors safe. Shown is Sheriff's Deputy Mark Hughes at the 2019 event.



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“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good
will toward men.”

Luke 2:14



“Mandy, our family, and I
wish you a very Merry
Christmas and Happy New
Year! May God bless you!”

- Dr. Glenn Rogers



Threefur

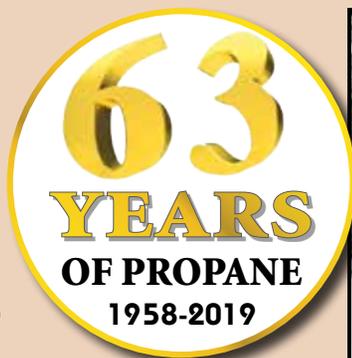


Christmas on the Square, Weatherford Lights the Night Parade, and Jingle Ball will provide a full day of activities.

The Weatherford Chamber of Commerce will hold the 35th Annual Christmas on the Square celebration in Historic Downtown Weatherford from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4

The event will feature plenty of family-friendly fun, with more than 75 vendors from the community providing opportunities to shop and enjoy activities and treats for people of all ages. Many of the booths will be non-profit community organizations. Many local churches will have booths as well,

5 Generations
of the *Same*
Family,
Same Phone
Number,
Same Address



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WILL BE HERE”***



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in Weatherford

This year's celebration will include live carolers, an entertainment stage, a carousel, Santa Claus and lots of free family activities. Be on the lookout for the red mailbox and have your letters mailed to Santa (he will respond before Christmas)!

Local downtown merchants will be open for holiday shopping. These stores are already decorated to help you get in the holiday spirit and would love to help you with your gift/wish list. Many will offer discounts and treats throughout the day.

Following Christmas on the Square,

the Second Annual Weatherford Lights the Night Parade will kick off at 6:30 p.m. Festive, lighted floats will start at the Weatherford Ninth Grade Center and travel down South Main around the Courthouse Square where the Courthouse Christmas Tree will be lit at the kick off of the Parade.

Following the parade, Downtown Weatherford Inc., will host the first ever Jingle Ball. There will be live entertainment by the Royal Dukes, live

RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS
Misty Moore was Mrs. Santa.

Turn to **COTS**, page 12



MERRY CHRISTMAS

from Our Family to Yours

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PlainsCapital.com

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Willow Park, TX 76087

PlainsCapitalBank 



COTS

from page 11

reindeer and Santa too!

Admission and parking are free for all. Christmas on the Square is brought to you by the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 817-596-3801 or visit www.weatherford-chamber.com.



Celebrate Christmas

at  the well CHURCH

WELL KIDS SERVICE
PICTURES WITH SANTA!

DEC 12TH | 10AM

CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

DEC 19TH | 5:00PM & 6:30PM

NO SERVICE

DEC 26TH



@THEWELLALEDO
WEBSITE: WITHTHEWELL.COM



700 WILLOW CROSSING EAST, WILLOW PARK TX, 76008



Weatherford Lights the Night Parade



Scenes from 2020 • Photos by Randy Keck



Happy Holidays

Invested in our community
for generations.

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THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

By Marilyn Sallee

Editor's Note: One of my favorite Christmas features we ever ran was this interpretation of the popular "12 Days of Christmas." It was written by one of our readers, Marilyn Sallee, and we first published it in 1998.



On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

A Partridge in a Pear Tree

The Partridge, who gathers her chicks under her wings for protection, is God's first and best gift to humanity - His Son, Jesus Christ



On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Two Turtle Doves

In the Jewish religion, two birds are sacrificed at the birth of a son.

These two turtle doves represent the birth of the Saviour in human form who would be sacrificed for us.



On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Three French Hens

The three French hens symbolize the Gifts of the Magi, wise men from a foreign land. Their gifts, Gold, Frankincense and

Myrrh, stand for Faith, Hope and Charity.



On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Four Calling Birds

The four calling birds are the Four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Their calling, to chronicled Jesus' life in the New Testament, recorded it for all future generations.



On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Five Golden Rings

Since the four calling birds remind one of the New Testament, the Five Gold Rings represent the five books of the Old Testament.



On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Six Geese A-Laying

Six geese a-laying are the six days of creation before God rested. Also the six days of human labour before resting on the Sabbath.

Merry Christmas

from TCA

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2:11

Happy New Year!



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On the seventh day of Christmas,

My true love gave to me:

Seven swans A-Swimming

The Seven Swans a-swimming are the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Piety, Wisdom, Counsel, Fear of the Lord, Understanding, Knowledge and Fortitude.



On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Eight Maids A-Milking

The eight maids a-milking are the Eight Beatitudes:

Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst

after righteousness for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Nine Ladies Dancing

The nine ladies dancing exemplify the wondrous Fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.



On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Ten Lords A-Leaping

The ten lords a-leaping represent the following of the Ten Commandments.



On the Eleventh Day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Eleven Pipers Piping

Eleven pipers piping are the voices of the eleven apostles who remained faithful to Jesus.



On the Twelfth Day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Twelve Drummers Drumming

The twelve drummers are the twelve Articles of Faith in the Nicene Creed, the basis for the Christian religion.

Our family serving your family since 1908.

Have a blessed holiday season.

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 130 Houston Ave. • Weatherford
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 www.whitesfuneral.com



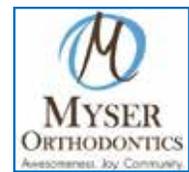
21st Annual CHRISTMAS TYME

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015



The City of Aledo would like to extend a
 WARM, CHRISTMAS "THANK YOU" TO OUR SPONSORS
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The Chiropractic Place



New Faith Baptist Church

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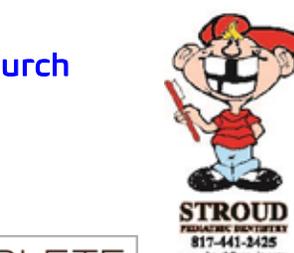
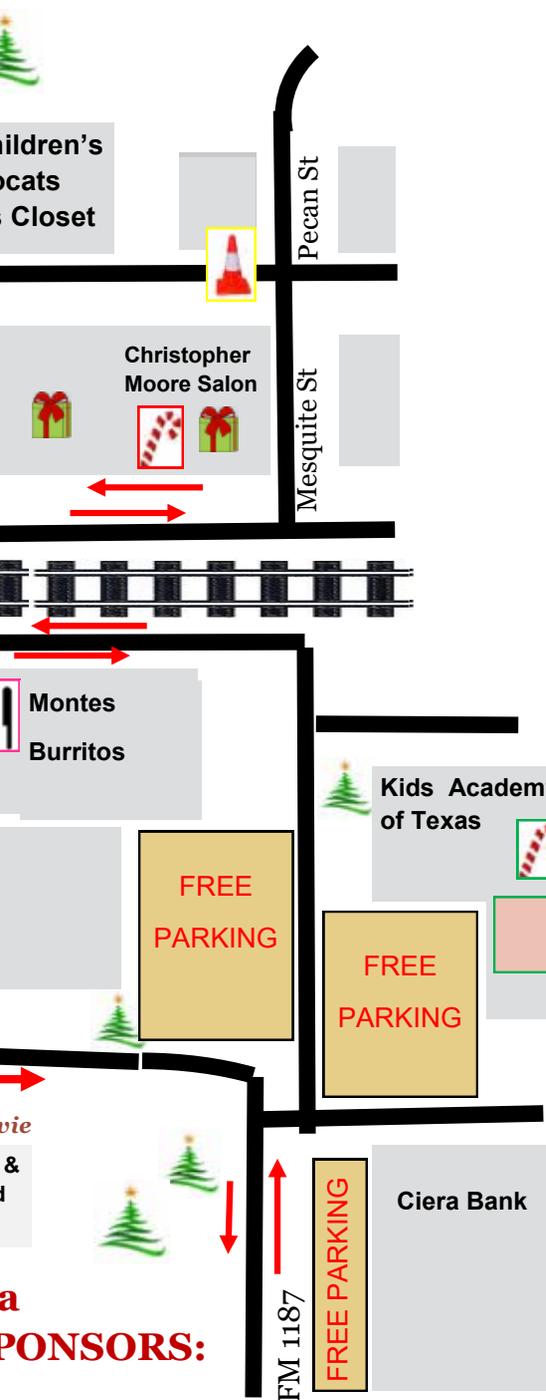


Yesterday's Sandwich Shop



IN ALEDO

4, 2021 5-9 P.M.



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Share your holiday fun by posting this Event's pictures on the **Discover Aledo's** Facebook Page!

For Event Updates, please visit Discover Aledo's Facebook Page

Very Merry Things To Do:



44th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair - 11:00 am to 8:00 pm @ Gymnasium in Church at the Crossing. Admission is **FREE**. Food for **SALE** by CATC Youth Ministries.

The Community Center -

6:00 pm Santa's arrival; **Annual Tree Lighting** with Mayor Kit Marshall

Letters to Santa - 5-9 pm: write your letters tonight at **East Parker County Library**. Craft Activity and Christmas Treats, too. **ALL FREE**

Downtown Fun - 5-9 pm: Lots of fun things for kids of all ages; Vendors; Live performances. **FREE activities; Items for SALE & FREE**

Outside Vendors & Food - 5-9 pm: Local businesses selling services & products along Elm Street & in Aledo Commons area; **Items for SALE & FREE**

Aledo Businesses - 5-9 pm: Many storefronts are open to stop in & visit, offering **FREE refreshments, special offers, sales, & door prizes.**

Aledo Commons - Visit **Aledo Veterans Plaza** to pause and honor our service men & women. **FREE activities.**

6:15 to 8:30pm FREE Visit with Fireman Santa

"MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!"

KEY:

- WRITE LETTERS TO SANTA (FREE)**
- ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING 6:00**
- VISIT WITH FIREMAN SANTA 6:15-8:30 PM (FREE)**
- OPEN PHOTO BOOTH (FREE)**
- MINI TRAIN RIDES (FREE)**
- LIFE SIZE SNOW GLOBE**
- GIFT SHOPPING**
- THE ARTS TRUCK: ART ON THE GO (FREE)**
- VENDOR BOOTHS**
- RAILROAD CROSSING**
- ARTIFICIAL ICE RINK - FREE TO SKATE (ICE SKATES PROVIDED)**
- INFLATABLE MAZE (FREE)**
- BOUNCE HOUSE (FREE)**
- 35' DOUBLE SLIDE (FREE)**
- FOOD SERVICE: FREE & FOR SALE**
- CHRISTMAS TREATS FREE & FOR SALE**
- RESTROOMS**
- PEDESTRIAN SIDEWALKS & CROSSINGS**
- ROAD CLOSURE**

Map is not to scale. For illustration only.



What, When,

Your guide to holiday activities in and around east Parker County

ONGOING



The Modern Lights, Fort Worth

The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth is hosting its Modern Lights display daily through Sunday, Feb. 6. Dinner with the Modern Lights is offered each Friday between 5 to 8:30 p.m. at the museum's Café Modern. Museum galleries are open with free admission until 8 p.m. on Fridays.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/the-modern-lights/31497/>

Panther Island Ice, Fort Worth

Panther Island Ice returns for the holiday season daily through Monday, Jan. 17 at Coyote Drive-in Theatre in Fort Worth. A full food and drink menu will be offered at the ice-skating rink. Tickets can be purchased online. General admission is \$13. Military tickets are \$10. Tarrant County College and Tarleton State University students and faculty tickets are \$10.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/panther-island-ice/31407/>

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Fort Worth

A musical adaptation of 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer' will show through Friday, Dec. 23 at Casa Manana. Tickets are range from \$19-39. Times vary.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/rudolph-the-red-nosed-reindeer/30167/>



CoHoHo is a lights extravaganza in Hudson Oaks. See the events listing for additional activities.

Radiance! At the Ranch Light Show, Weatherford

The Radiance! drive-thru light display will run daily through Dec. 31 at the Parker County Sheriff's Posse in Weatherford. Cars can line up at 6 p.m. General admission tickets can be purchased online for \$30 per vehicle, and VIP tickets can be purchased online for \$50 per vehicle.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/905921183362378/?ti=ls>

The Gift of Lights, Fort Worth

The Gift of Lights' drive-through display begins at 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving at the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth. The event will occur daily through Jan. 2. Tickets are \$30 per car.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/gift-of-lights-texas/31498/>

Texas Wild! Wonderland, Fort Worth

The Fort Worth Zoo will host its inaugural Texas! Wild Wonderland season every Saturday and Sunday between Saturday, Nov. 27 and Sunday, Dec. 19. The event is free with zoo admission or membership.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/texas-wild!-wonderland/31593/>

NOVEMBER 30

Nashville Christmas, Fort Worth

The Reid Cabaret Theatre launches its Nashville Christmas show at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 30 at Casa Manana in Fort Worth. The show will run through Saturday, Dec. 18 for \$65 per ticket.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/nashville-christmas/29756/>

and Where

DECEMBER 1

Holiday in The Park, Weatherford

Weatherford's Holiday in The Park will start with an inaugural tree lighting led by Mayor Paul Paschall at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 1. There will also be photos with Santa, a petting zoo, crafts and food vendors until 9:30 p.m. The 42-foot live tree and pathway of lights will be on display through Jan. 2.

For more information, visit: <https://www.experienceweatherford.com/events/2021/httpsfbmee4per8h75n2>

DECEMBER 3

CoHoHo Christmas Corridor tree lighting, Hudson Oaks

The City of Hudson Oaks will kick off its free holiday light display with a tree lighting, followed by an 'Elf' showing and free hot chocolate at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/344855224075952/>

The Nutcracker, Fort Worth

Ballet Frontier will present the Nutcracker ballet Friday, Dec. 3 through Sunday, Dec. 5 at Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth. Shows are 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are between \$35-55.

For more information visit: <https://www.balletfrontier.org/>

DECEMBER 4

Breakfast with Santa, Hudson Oaks

The Rock Team Gymnastics will host its Breakfast with Santa event from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Rock Gymnastics in Hudson Oaks. Advanced tickets are \$15 per child, while tickets at the door are \$20 per child. One adult plate is free with each child ticket. The event includes open gym and Santa pictures.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/breakfast-with-santa/187332653561449/>



Jingle Bell Run, Fort Worth

The Arthritis Foundation's Jingle Bell Run kicks off at 9 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 at Trinity Park. Registration is \$40 per person.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/2021-jingle-bell-run-north-texas/31567/>

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 Located in Downtown Aledo
 Sunday Mornings: 9:30am Small Group
 10:45am Worship

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Holidays at the Hearth, Fort Worth

The Log Cabin Village hosts its Holidays at the Hearth from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. Holiday activities include games, Santa photos, DIY ornament-making and more. Ages 3 and younger are free. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$7 for children and seniors, 60 and older; \$6 for groups of 10 and more.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fortworth.com/event/holidays-at-the-hearth/31474/>

Christmas on the Square/Lights the Night Parade, Weatherford

Weatherford Chamber of Commerce's Christmas on the Square is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4 in the Historic Downtown Square. The 2nd annual Weatherford Lights the Night Parade will follow at 6:30 p.m. at the Ninth Grade Center.

For more information visit: <https://www.weatherford-chamber.com/chamber-events/christmas-on-the-square.html>

Jingle Ball, Weatherford

Downtown Weatherford's Jingle Ball begins at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 with street dance and performance by the Royal Dukes. The event followed Christmas on the Square and the Weatherford Lights on the Night parade.

For more information visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/downtown-weatherford/jingle-ball/967451847138909/>

Christmas Time in Aledo, Aledo

Aledo celebrates its 10th annual Christmas on the Square event with food, music, entertainment, children's activities, and the official Christmas Tree lighting at 6 p.m. with Mayor Kit Marshall and Santa Claus at Aledo Community Center. Activities run from 5-9 p.m. For more information visit: <https://www.facebook.com/discoveraledo/>

A Fifth of Christmas, Fort Worth

Arts Fifth Avenue presents A Fifth of Christmas, an adults-only holiday show at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4. Tickets are \$12 per person. Masks or proof of vaccination will be required.

For more information, visit: www.tinyurl.com/Fiftjof2021

Chilly Winter Ball, Fort Worth

The Fort Worth Swing Dance Syndicate will host its Chilly Winter Ball with La Pompe from 8 p.m. to midnight on Dec. 4 at DanceMakers of Texas in Fort Worth. Tickets are \$20 each.

DECEMBER 5**Aledo Middle School Honor Winds Send-Off, Aledo**

The Aledo Middle School Band Honor Winds Send-off Concert (for the Midwest Clinic) at UNT Meyerson Symphony Center in Denton, will be held on Dec. 5 time TBD. Watch The Community News for updates.

Holiday Memorial Service, Weatherford

Galbreath Pickard Funeral Chapel will host its 17th annual memorial service for passed family members from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5. Bring an ornament for the memorial ornament tree. RSVP is requested.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/17th-annual-holiday-memorial-s/287667969930582/>

Faith Presbyterian Church

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Potluck breakfast for dinner, Crafts, Cookie Decorating
Pictures with Santa



6-8pm
8th
December

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&
Happy New Year



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www.MikeHaleAgency.com





The Aledo High School Choir Concert will be on Dec. 7.

“My hearing aids from Kurt Chappell have literally been life-changing. If you are missing out on the punchlines of jokes, or find yourself in conversation nodding like you are hearing when you are not, go see Kurt. It’s the best gift you can give yourself and those around you.”

- Aledo customer

New Pure Charge&Go AX hearing aids are the world’s first to offer Augmented Focus™ technology to deliver outstanding speech clarity without compromising comfort and awareness.



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- Same day fittings and personalized service
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- Free hearing and screening consultation
- Free 14-day in-home trial
- 12 months no-interest available for those who qualify
- Offering a variety of brands
- Independently owned and operated for more than 20 years

Hear for the Holidays

During this special season, it’s more important than ever to be a part of every celebration and conversation. At Chappell Hearing Care Center, we want to make sure you hear every moment of the holidays.



HEARING CARE CENTER

4736 Bryant Irvin Rd., Ste. 702 Fort Worth
 Located in Cityview Shopping Centre
 Phone: 817.263.1971

www.chappell-hearing-aids.com



Kurt Chappell
 C.E.O., B.B.A.,
 Practice Director
OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

DECEMBER 6

Aledo Middle School and McAnally Band Winter Concert Aledo

The Aledo Middle School and McAnally Band Winter Concert (No Winds) will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, at the Aledo High School Auditorium.

DECEMBER 7

AHS choir concert, Aledo

The Aledo High School Choir Christmas Concert will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the Aledo High School Auditorium.

DECEMBER 8

Breakfast with Santa

Faith Presbyterian Church in Aledo will host a potluck breakfast for dinner from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at 301 Bailey Ranch Road in Aledo. For more information, visit: www.faihaledo.com.

DECEMBER 9

AHS Band Concert, Aledo

The Aledo High School Band Christmas

Concert (Symphonic Band, Wind Band and Jazz I Band) will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Aledo High School Auditorium.

DECEMBER 10

CoHo Christmas Corridor carriage rides, Hudson Oaks

The City of Hudson Oaks will host carriage rides and food trucks from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 10, Saturday, Dec. 11, Friday, Dec. 17 and Saturday, Dec. 18. The Weatherford High School Wind Symphony and Blue Belles will perform on Dec. 10.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/344855224075952/?ti=ls>

DECEMBER 11

Breakfast with Santa, Weatherford

CASA – Hope for Children is hosting Breakfast with Santa at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 1602 South Main Street in Weatherford. Tickets are \$5 per child, securing opportunities for a free photo with Santa, crafts, a hayride and tattoos with the elves.

For more information, visit: <https://www>.

[facebook.com/events/s/breakfast-with-santa/413638703536425/](https://www.facebook.com/events/s/breakfast-with-santa/413638703536425/)

Old-Fashioned Christmas, Springtown

The City of Springtown will host its annual Christmas event from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 on the Springtown Square.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/626447251692472/?ti=ls>

DECEMBER 12

Storytime with Santa, Weatherford

Ruby Mae Toy and Clothing Boutique will host Storytime with Santa between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12. Tickets are \$40 each. Santa will also take photos and give each child a goodie bag and a hand-written letter mailed home.

For more information, visit: <https://www.shoprubymae.com/>



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OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

Christmas is a time of giving and sharing. Parker County has numerous non-profit organizations that would benefit from gifts or service. Below is a listing of Parker County non-profit organizations. Specific needs will be in callout boxes.

Aledo Children's Advocats' Clothes Closet
 209 East Oak Street
 Aledo, Texas 76008
 817-441-2707
www.aledoadvocats.com

American Red Cross Parker County
 1740 Bethel Road
 Weatherford, Texas 76086
 817-341-4516
chisholmtrail.redcross.org

Careity Foundation
 P.O. Box 126038
 Fort Worth, Texas 76126
 817-882-4100
www.careity.org

CASA Hope for Children
 305 South Rusk
 Weatherford, Texas 76086
 817-599-6224
www.casahopeforchildren.org

Center of Hope
 629 Palo Pinto Street, Suite D
 Weatherford, Texas 76086
 817-594-0266
<http://centerofhopetx.com>

Children's Advocacy Center of Parker County
 118 West Columbia
 Weatherford, Texas 76008
 682-615-1992
www.cacparkercounty.org

Flourishing Tree of Life
 604 E. West Oak Drive
 Aledo, Texas 76008
 817-458-0123
<http://flourishingtreeoflife.org>
info@flourishingtreeoflife.org

Freedom House of Parker County
 1149 Fort Worth Hwy.
 Weatherford, Texas 76086
 817-596-7543
freedomhouse@hotmail.com
www.freedomhousepc.org

Goodwill Store
 1801 South Main Street
 Weatherford, Texas 76086
 817-594-2560
 Hours: Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Turn to **GIVING**, page 24

Gift cards to restaurants or
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GIVING

from page 23

Grace House Pregnancy Assistance Center
919 E. Eureka Street
P.O. Box 1416
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-599-4700
www.gracehouseministries.net

Size 4 and 5 Diapers
Baby Wipes
Boy infant car seats

Gracefully Strong
206 S. Elm Street
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-458-8259
www.gracefullystrong.com

Hemispherectomy Foundation
P.O. Box 1239
Aledo, Texas 76008
hemifoundation.org
kristi@hemifoundation.org
Chris Hall (Executive Director), Kristi Hall (president), Jane Stefanik (vice president)

Manna Parker County
129 East Spring Street or P.O. Box 9
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-599-6569
mannastorehouse.org
mannastorehouse@sbcglobal.net

Miracle League of Parker County
P.O. Box 1911
Aledo, Texas 76008
817-304-2356
miracleleagueparkercounty.com

Our Community Our Kids
A division of ACH Child and Family Services, provides foster care services
844-644-9240
www.thefosteringcommunity.org

Parker County Pets Alive
nokillweatherford.webs.com
facebook.com/parkercountypetsalive
Working toward no-kill shelter

Parker Paws
P.O. Box 781
Weatherford, Texas 76008
817-694-5718
parkerpaws.org

Pecan Valley MHMR
1715 Santa Fe Drive
P.O. Box 894
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-599-7634
pvmhmr.org

Pythian Home
1825 E. Bankhead Dr.
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-594-4465
www.pythianhome.org

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Trash Bags (all sizes)

Sanctified Hope Transitional Living Program for formerly incarcerated women
PO Box 581
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-901-5446
sharon@sanctifiedhope.org
www.sanctifiedhope.org

Thanksgiving Trot
P.O. Box 1333

Aledo, Texas 76008
aledothanksgivingtrot.com

Theatre off the Square
114 N. Denton Street
Weatherford, Texas 76008
817-341-8687
www.theatreoffthesquare.org

United Way of Parker County
106 Austin Avenue, Suite 105
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-596-5986
www.unitedwayofparkercounty.org
www.peachpedal.com

Weatherford Access Center
220 Fort Worth Hwy., Suite 125
Weatherford, Texas 76086
817-374-7911

Weatherford/Parker County Animal Shelter
Steve Bates
Director of Municipal and Community Services
403 Hickory Lane
Weatherford, Texas 76086
Dustin Deel
817-598-4111
www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/index.aspx?nid=15

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Oh, Christmas Tree!

Eat, drink and make memories with a tree-trimming party to ornament holidays present with decorations past

By Hannah Seligson

CTW Features

While it might sound as outdated as aluminum trees and bubble lights, tree-trimming parties are a cozy throwback to holidays past, and a great way to kick off the season. Blending the festive with the casual, it gets guests on their feet, mingling and reminiscing about cherished childhood memories. "Old ornaments are like old friends," says Jill Scheetz, lifestyle expert and host of "The Art of Holiday Design" (Journey4 Productions, 2005), a DVD of creative holiday enter-

taining and decorating ideas.

Decorating a tree might seem like old hat to most, but with so many delicate and irreplaceable keepsakes involved, Scheetz suggests setting some ground rules. "At my tree-trimming party, there's just one rule – each guest has to bring an ornament and hang it on the tree. Some ornaments are funky, others are exquisite, but each one represents a cherished holiday memory with family and friends."

Scheetz recommends asking guests to purchase an inexpensive yet meaningful ornament, and then present that ornament at the tree with the story it represents. You will get a glimpse of each

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person's past, as well as what makes holidays special for him or her.

David Tutera, celebrity party planner and author, says it's important to make your tree trimming party into more than just hanging ornaments on branches. "To add some texture to your party, set up a self-service bar for guests to make specialty drinks, or have a make your own ornament table," he says.

The make your own ornament table is a nice compliment to requiring guests to bring their own ornaments. Plus, as Scheetz points out, "It's hysterical to watch grown men make holiday crafts. That always gets the party started." Hosts can offer pre-made, tree-ready cookies or inexpensive bulbs with dishes of embellishments, ribbon and plenty of glue.

When it comes to the formalities, Scheetz says that even though her party is an annual tradition, she still sends out invitations. "E-mail is fine for casual correspondence, but a formal invitation announces the theme of the party and sets the mood."

For those particularly crafty (or ambitious) party-throwers, Scheetz suggests making your own invitations. "The most spectacular invitation I ever made was a real ornament that was delivered to each guest in a small box. I found large plastic bubbles in a local craft store. The bubbles came apart in two halves. I printed the text of the invitation on heavy paper, then cut it into a circular disc, somewhat smaller than the inside diameter of the ornament, and hung it with a gold string. Then I re-assembled the

two halves, tied them together with a holiday ribbon and placed each bubble inside a box. People are still talking about that one!"

As for the basics, Tutera says the most important thing is to have the trees and lights setup prior to the party. "Make sure that all the ornaments, hooks and other tree decorations are easily accessible for guests to reach and use." To add another festive touch, Tutera suggests putting the hooks and the other tree decorations in small, festive bowls. Tutera's other cardinal rule for your personal collection that will be handled by guests: "Ornaments should be separated and placed close to the tree, but in a safe place, so they won't roll around or break." Withhold any ornaments you deem too fragile or important to see broken.



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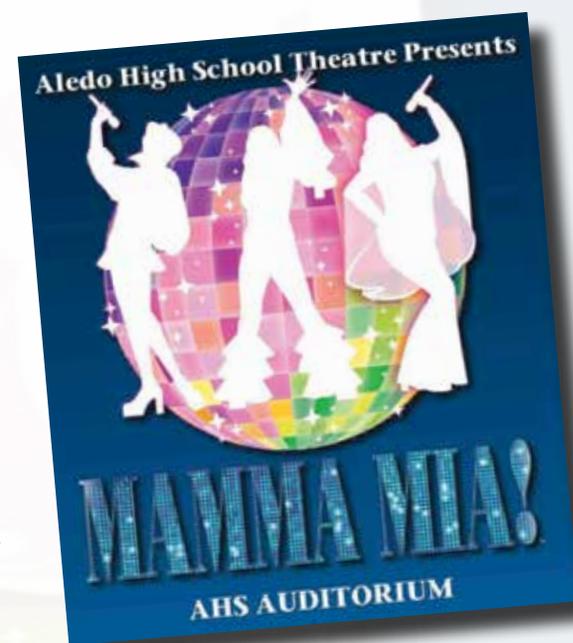
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But if this all sounding too retro for you, Tuteria says there is no reason you can't modernize this traditional bash. "You can still retain the time-honored idea of decorating the tree, but everything else can reflect your own style. The decorations can be fun and festive, by incorporating feathers and crystals, or play teddy bears and candy. You can have a wine and cheese tree-trimming party, a bubble and baubles champagne party and decorate with clear ball ornaments or even a martini party and decorate using modern ornaments in bright colors," he says.

Whether you decide to go with the retro theme or not, everyone appreciates the retro staple: a party favor. Scheetz says she always gives departing guests a memento of the evening. "I buy inexpensive solid colored ornaments and personalize each one with the guest's name and the date of the party. Scheetz hangs these

"party-favor ornaments" from a bare tree branch set in a vase near the front door. As each guest departs, they take their ornament as a keepsake.

Forget, though, about what your guests will take with them, what will they eat while they are there? Scheetz's party-throwing philosophy – one cultivated after a few disasters – is re-heat and serve. "I do all the cooking the day before. I've learned that the secret ingredient that can make or break a party is a gracious and relaxed host – something you are more likely to be if you aren't worried about your food burning."

Remember: A party is supposed to be fun, so set realistic goals. But advance planning is crucial, says Scheetz, especially around the holiday season. "If you're stressed, then your guests feel uncomfortable."

© CTW Features

TIPS FOR THROWING A MEMORABLE TREE-TRIMMING PARTY

- Set some rules. Ask guests to bring an ornament.
- Make it into more than a tree-trimming party by having a bar, buffet or other festive activities.
- Send out invitations. Anything from e-mail to handmade ones are fine, just remember to send them.
- Set up the trees and lights prior to the party.
- Put the hooks and tree decorations in decorative bowls.
- Separate and place ornaments close to the tree.
- Don't get boxed by tradition. Put your own spin and style on the party.
- Give a personalized party favor to each attendant.
- Do all your cooking the day before so all you have to do is re-heat and serve!



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TCA Christmas Gift Market

Trinity Christian Academy hosted its annual Christmas Gift Market in a full house on Nov. 6.

Photos by Randy Keck/The Community News



LEFT: Cheri Morgan checks out Shawna Allen at the Wildtoad Coffee booth. | RIGHT: Christa McCanlies displayed at the Ryby Moon booth.



LEFT: Displays were set up in every "nook and cranny." | RIGHT: Shauna Bevers, Diane Lamb, Carrleigh Caillouette, Angie Stanley (owner), Mandi Gibson, and Katie Severson sold decorations at the Bloom Where You are Planted booth.



LEFT: LaPomna Moore sold Usborne Books. | RIGHT: Weston Freeman and Stratton Hutchinson shopped with Shari Whitmire and Kindall Freeman.

May your days be merry and bright!

A festive Christmas scene featuring a lit candle, blue and white ornaments, and snowflake decorations. The background is a warm, golden-brown color with white snowflakes and lights. The text "May your days be merry and bright!" is written in a blue, stylized font at the top. At the bottom, the text "THE COMMUNITY NEWS" is written in a large, black, serif font.

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

A group of four people (three women and one man) are standing in front of a large State Farm logo. They are all smiling and dressed in professional attire. A red banner with the text "Merry Christmas" is positioned in front of them.

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