

# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Abbott Springer

## Abbott, Springer to visit county

The East Parker County Economic Development Forum has announced that Texas Governor Greg Abbott and State Senator Drew Springer will give an economic development update for our region at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20, at New River Fellowship.

Lunch will be served.

The event is open to the public, but reservations are required. For more information, call 817-441-7844 x 1 and ask for Jeanna, or email jeanna@eastparkerchamber.com.

### POLITICS

## Moorman announces plan to run for county judge

Special to The Community News

Dr. Thomas Moorman recently announced his candidacy to run for Parker County Judge.

Moorman is a longtime resident of Parker County who spent 28 serving the State of Texas as an educator. He served the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth for 25 of those years working his way through the administrative ranks beginning as a Student Development Coordinator until his final title, Vice Provost of Academic Initiatives.

Moorman recently retired and launched a full-time executive coaching business.

"I have been blessed to help educate a generation of amazing physicians, physical therapists, pharmacists, brilliant researchers, physician assistants, and public health warriors," Moorman said. "Working in administration for almost three decades, I understand how to build successful teams, manage public funds, and lead organizations. I am a collaborative servant leader who wants to make sure that the county I call home is meeting the needs of all of its citizens, in every corner of the county. I want to lead the development, implementation, and assessment of a 50-year infrastructure plan while

Turn to **MOORMAN**, page 2



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## Bushels of Fun



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Aspen Rutledge, Autumn-Skye Boden, and Emily Wrinkle were among the Just for Six dancers that entertained before the arrival of Fireman Santa at Christmas Time in Aledo on Saturday, Dec. 4. More photos can be found on page 6.

### ALEDO

## Officially a 'Home Rule' City

Here's what that means for residents

By Brandi Addison  
The Community News

Aledo residents voted in the Nov. 2 election to adopt a Home Rule Charter, which the council formally approved and canvassed during the November city council meeting.

The Home Rule governance structure officially went into effect at that time, City Administrator Sharon Hayes said.

Under Home Rule, the city has more flexibility to adopt its own legislation, in addition to state laws, allowing citizens more localized control over their government.

The 14-person Home Rule Charter Commission was compiled of individuals from several boards, commissions and other entities within the city.

The individuals were appointed in the spring, meeting alongside consultant Don Edmonds several times since, and the agendas can be found online at the city website.

The commission was chaired by Bill McElroy.

Turn to **HOME RULE**, page 2



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Everly and Easton Otto were all smiles at Breakfast with Santa, held Saturday, Dec. 4, at Aledo United Methodist Church.

### ALEDO ISD

## From one McAnally to another

Jenkins named principal for new middle school

By Mercedes Mayer  
Aledo ISD

Aledo ISD has named Josh Jenkins as principal at the new McAnally Middle School that is slated to open in August 2022.

Jenkins has been the principal at McAnally Intermediate School since the 2020-2021 school year after spending 11 years as an educator and administrator in the Fort Worth ISD. Prior to joining the Aledo ISD, Jenkins was an assistant principal at Western Hills High School (2017-2020) and Handley Middle School (2015-2017). He was also an assistant principal intern and TCU Principal Fellow at Southwest High School from 2014 to 2015, a math instructional coach for the district from 2012 to 2014, and a secondary math teacher at the Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (2011-2012) and Eastern Hills High School (2009-2011).

"With Mr. Jenkins' skill in leadership, understanding of quality instruction and emphasis on creating a campus where middle school-aged children feel connected, he has been an incredible asset to the McAnally Intermediate School family, our Bearcat Leadership Team, and our entire district," Superintendent Dr. Susan Bohn said. "We are excited to have him take the lead of all that is involved in the historic opening of our second middle school, and we are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to open the doors of McAnally Middle School to serve our growing student body."

Jenkins was the Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences Teacher of the Year in 2012. He has a bachelor of science and a master of science in mathematics from Tarleton State University and a master of education in educational leadership from Texas Christian University.

"Opening a new school has unlimited possibilities, and I am honored to be chosen to lead the new McAnally Middle School and its staff and students," Jenkins said. "The work has already begun as myself and AMS principal Mandy Musselwhite are in collaboration to ensure tight alignment between our two middle schools. Opening MMS is going to provide increased opportunities for all of our Bearcats in athletics, electives, and extracurricular activities. It will also help us to sustain

Turn to **JENKINS**, page 2

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# MOORMAN

from page one

preserving Parker County's culture and heritage."

Dr. Moorman had his formative years on U.S. military bases, having been born on one in Kenitra, Morocco, where his father, a World War II naval aviator, was stationed.

Moorman grew up in Corpus Christi, his father Commander E.R. Moorman's, final duty station, before heading off to Texas A&M where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. He then completed his Doctorate in Education at the University of North Texas.

He married his college sweetheart Melissa Dill Moorman whose family is from the Parker County area. Melissa's mother's family, the Bennetts, began their history in Aledo January 1, 1900 and can boast an Aledo mayor, her grandfather Marvin Bennett, in its number. Her father's family were early residents of Willow Park. Her parents, Helen and Durwin Dill, were the owners of Yesterday's Sandwich Shop for many years.

Dr. Moorman has won numerous professional awards, including a distinguished Alumni Award from the University of North Texas, The Edward E. Elko Distinguished Service Award from the UNT Health Science Center, The Jim Caswell Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators.



Moorman

Additionally, the UNT Health Science Center recently named Dr. Moorman as one of the "50 Heroes in 50 years" as part of their 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Dr. Moorman served as the legislative liaison for the Texas Council of Chief Student Affairs Officers. He served as the Chair of the Weatherford Parks and Recreation Board and as a member of the Weatherford ISD Health Advisory Board. He is a former chair of the Parker County Heritage Society Board. Moorman established a foundation for the Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators that awards fellowships each year, the Dr. Thomas Moorman Fellows Program. He also served on the Texas Higher Education Efficiency Committee with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Thomas and Melissa have two children, their daughter Emma, a recent honors graduate of Texas A&M, and a son, Bennett, who is a junior at Aledo High School. The Moorman family lived for more than 15 years in Weatherford in a 1902 Victorian home on West Lee Avenue. They recently built a new home in East Parker County.

# HOME RULE

from page one

Hayes said the shift to a Home Rule city won't necessarily "impact residents, day to day," but there are some overall benefits.

"General Law Cities are only allowed to do what the Texas Legislature says they can do," the city's website states. "Home Rule Cities can do anything they wish so long as it is not specifically prohibited by the legislature. Home Rule cities have more latitude."

In general, the home rule charter will give citizens more control over their local governing body by allowing the charter to determine the governmental structure of their city.

This includes the form of government — such as council-manager, mayor-manager and mayor-council — the size of a council and the fixed terms of office.

Aledo has adopted a council-manager government, though if residents decide otherwise, they could change it with a citywide vote to amend the charter.

Hayes does not expect that there will be many elections to amend the Home Rule Charter, but would usually occur due to shifts in population, demographics and even state legislation.

The city's elective council will consist of the mayor and five council members — the city's current government structure. The council is given authority to enact local legislation, adopt budgets, determine policies, appoint the city attorney and judge of the municipal

court, as well as the city manager, who will co-govern.

Upon the expiration of their current terms, all city council positions and the mayoral position will be three-year terms.

While not adopted by Aledo, in general, home rule charters could also impose requirements for council members and mayoral candidates, such as age, residency and terms of office. For this to occur, the city would have to hold an election to amend the Home Rule Charter Commission.

Hayes said one of the changes from the Home Rule Charter that could benefit Aledo residents is the opportunity for recall, initiative and referendum rights for citizens.

The proposed charter would allow the "people of the City (to) reserve the power to recall the mayor or any other member of the council" through a petition and a recall election. It also allows citizens, through a petition, to initiate legislation and to overturn ordinances passed by the city council through petition and election.

These powers are general not legally permitted in General Law cities.

Home Rule cities can also extend city boundaries through annexation, unilaterally, while general law cities can generally only annex with permission of property owners or with the majority vote of residents in an annexed area.

Chair McElroy told the council in July that he believes the city's governance will do a great job of guiding the population changes, state requirement and economic and regional changes that are "right around the corner."



SHARON ELLMAN

Josh Jenkins is shown at the groundbreaking for the new McAnally Middle School in April 2021.

# JENKINS

from page one

the educational excellence we have established in Aledo ISD. MMS is going to be an amazing school and I am looking forward to seeing the halls filled with students and staff."

McAnally Middle School is the district's second middle school, and it is being built as a part of the \$149.95 million Aledo Bond 2019 program that passed in November of 2019. McAnally Middle School, which has a maximum capacity of 1,449 students, and Aledo Middle School will both serve grades 6-8. MMS is located off of Old Weatherford Road to the east of FM 3325.

Also a part of the Aledo Bond 2019 program, the existing McAnally Intermediate School building will transition to become the new Vandagriff Elementary School when school starts in August of 2022, while the old Vandagriff Elementary building will become the new Aledo ISD Early Childhood Academy.

## GOOD NEWS IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

The Community News' annual Good News issue is in preparation with stories that are sure to warm your heart. Watch for it on Dec. 31!

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# In & Around Parker County

## Grand Adventure brings fun to the entire community

If you're looking for family fun, look no further than Grand Adventure in Weatherford.

Located off Tin Top Road, Grand Adventure is locally owned and locally operated by the Pennington Family.

Now the largest center for entertainment across all of Parker County, Grand Adventure was born from a small idea and grew to include a multitude of attractions, said managing partner Lonnie Pennington.

Pennington said the idea stemmed from inaccessible entertainment options in Parker County. Often, residents would travel 25 miles or

more to Fort Worth, and they wanted to fill the gaps.

A friend, at the time, suggested mini golf — and from there — it's expanded into several acres of fun. Grand Adventure plans to add even more adventures in the coming years.

"Grand Adventure is all about bringing glory to God by guiding our guests, the adventurers, on awesome adventures," Pennington said.

The adventure center has something for all, offering a go-kart track, large mini golf course, big virtual reality arena, and a classic arcade.

Grand Adventure is the perfect place for birthday parties, family reunions, youth groups, corporate parties and teambuilding fun, and just your everyday hangout.

Currently, it's only open on Fridays from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 10 p.m. But the entertainment center will expand its hours for the winter holiday on Dec. 16.

For meals, it serves pizza, corn nuggets, loaded cheese fries and funnel cakes.

Visit Grand Adventure at 2065 Tin Top Road. For more information, see [www.grandadventuretexas.com](http://www.grandadventuretexas.com).



One of the fun features of the mini golf course is a walk-through volcano. **BELOW:** Indoors, the arcade has plenty of options. Go Karts are a very popular activity at Grand Adventure.



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# Commentary

DECEMBER 10, 2021  
THE COMMUNITY NEWS  
WWW.COMMUNITY-NEWS.COM

## Capital Highlights

### State lowers price cap for power providers



**Gary Borders**  
gborders@texaspress.com

The state's Public Utility Commission last week lowered the maximum allowable wholesale price for electricity by almost half, from \$9,000 per megawatt hour to \$5,000.

The move came after prices soared to the maximum during last February's deadly freeze, causing financial havoc along with the widespread power outages. A number of electric providers declared bankruptcy after being faced with enormous bills, including Brazos Electric Power Cooperative and Griddy Energy.

As the *Austin American-Statesman* reported, the state's largely deregulated electricity market provides financial incentives to prompt power generators to deliver more electricity to the grid during peak demand. But those incentives came with steep prices, and some Griddy customers received electric bills of nearly \$10,000. Those bills were ultimately forgiven under an agreement negotiated by the attorney general's office.

Peter Lake, chairman of the PUC, said lowering the price ceiling will "make sure the people of Texas are not exposed to those extraordinary high prices" again, the *Statesman* reported.

However, the CEO of the state's largest power generator worries the state has not done enough to insulate itself against another deadly freeze. Curt Morgan of Vistra Corp. said that while his company has spent \$50 million this year weatherizing more than a dozen plants, the state still hasn't ensured a reliable supply of natural gas. The Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the natural gas industry, is still working to finalize rules that would set weatherization mandates. However, those rules would not go into effect until early 2023, the *Texas Tribune* reported.

Morgan told legislators that Vistra's plants couldn't get enough natural gas to run anywhere near full capacity during the freeze.

"Why couldn't we get it?" Morgan said. "Because the gas system was not weatherized. And so we had natural gas producers that weren't producing."

#### State to get \$35 billion in infrastructure funds

In the next five years Texas will get more than \$35 billion in federal funding for roads, public transportation, and water system improvements, The *Dallas Morning News* reported. The funding is part of the massive infrastructure bill Congress passed in November to provide \$548 billion in new investments across the country over five years.

The state's road system got a "D+" in a 2021 report card from the American Society of Civil Engineers.

"Current funding levels and resources from the state's gas tax are inadequate to keep up with Texas' projected growth, leaving a \$15 billion annual gap through 2040," the engineering report said.

The federal funding also includes \$1.2 billion for Texas airports, \$537 million to replace and repair bridges and at least \$100 million for broadband expansion, according to *The Morning News*.

#### Webinars explain tuition fund

The Texas Tuition Promise Fund is offering a series of webinars to provide an overview of the state's prepaid college tuition plan. In addition, the webinars will explain scholarship opportunities that are available.

"Upcoming webinars provide an overview of the Texas Tuition Promise Fund and information on different tuition unit types, tuition redemption values and payment options," according to a press release. "The webinars also offer information about matching scholarships and tuition unit grants available through the Texas Match the Promise Foundation."

Anyone interested can sign up for a webinar at [www.texas tuition promise fund.com/events/](http://www.texas tuition promise fund.com/events/).

#### New COVID-19 cases, deaths increase

While the appearance of the omicron variant of COVID-19 dominates the news, no cases of the variant had been reported in Texas as of Sunday. Health officials say it's a matter of time, but they don't yet know how severe and how contagious it will be.

What is known is that the number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas in the past week rose to 30,201, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University — the highest level since late October. A total of 564 deaths were reported. The delta variant continues to be the dominant strain, infecting mostly unvaccinated Texans.

Lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in the state was largely unchanged, with 2,886 reported by the Texas Department of State Health Services as of Sunday. The state crossed the 16 million mark of fully vaccinated people, with 3.175 million people also receiving an additional dose, according to DSHS. To date, 55% of the state's total population is fully vaccinated.

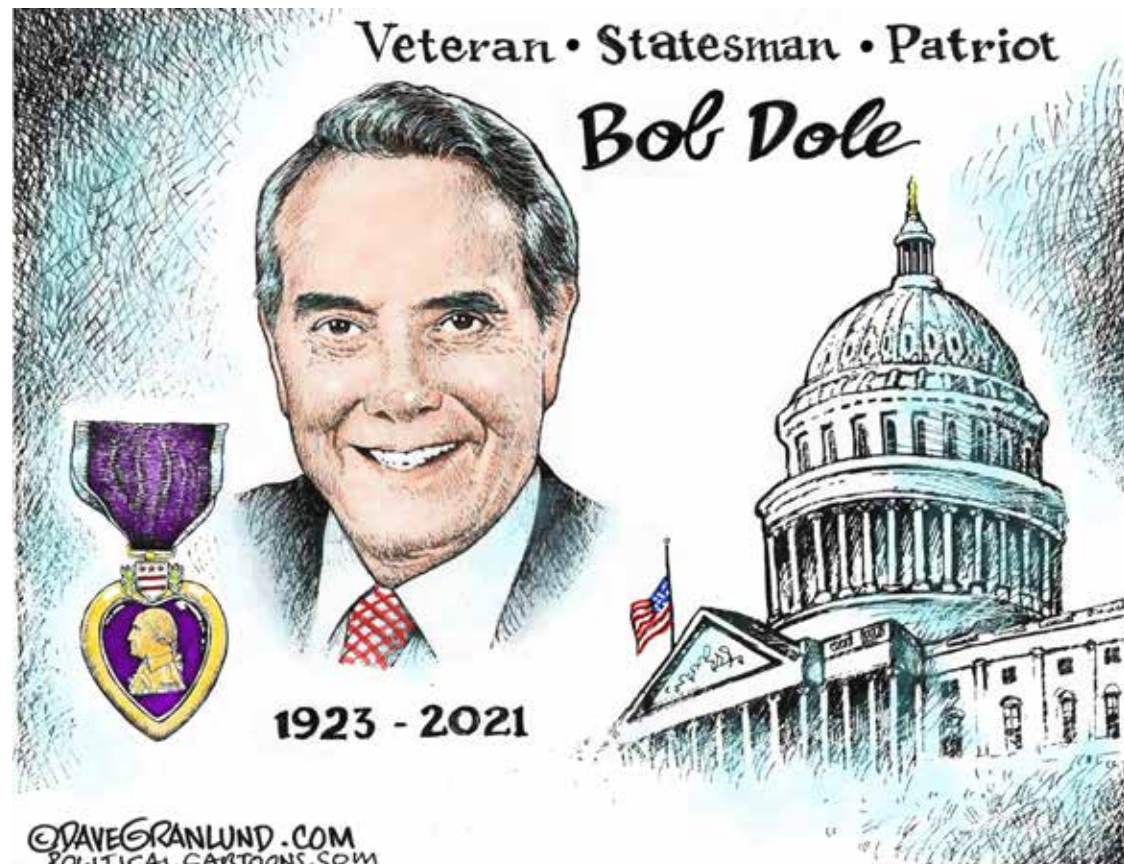
#### Judge blocks social media censorship law

A federal judge in Austin last week blocked the state's social media censorship law before it took effect, the *Houston Chronicle* reported. House Bill 20, signed by Gov. Greg Abbott on Sept. 9, prohibited social media sites like Facebook and Twitter from censoring users "based on their political viewpoints."

U.S. District Judge Robert Pitman wrote in his ruling that the bill violates the sites' First Amendment right to moderate content disseminated on their platforms. Abbott had pushed for the bill, saying in a Twitter video, "Freedom of speech is under attack in Texas. There is a dangerous movement by some social media companies to silence conservative ideas and values."

The state is expected to appeal Pitman's ruling.

*Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.*



## Slings&Arrows

### Sing out! It makes a difference



**Randy Keck**  
rkeck@community-news.com

By the time you read this I will have heard a lot of music this week. I commend the Aledo ISD for placing more focus on fine arts education — it is, in my view, as important as mastering math, English, and other disciplines.

The hat I have worn for much of the past week has been event photographer. On Monday the Aledo Middle School and McAnally Intermediate School bands had their concerts.

On Tuesday, the combined choirs from McAnally, AMS, and Aledo High School performed; Thursday is/was (depending on when you read this) the Aledo High School band concert.

Aledo ISD has had an exceptionally strong band program for many years. On Tuesday I feel like I saw the choir program coming into full bloom — the combined concert was spectacular.

Travel with me to those thrilling days of yesteryear (you probably would need to be as old as I am to recognize that reference) and I'll explain the importance of a strong choir and band program.

Whatever degree of success I have achieved in this life I attribute mainly to my experience in my high school choir.

When I was a freshman at Iowa Park High School, my next door neighbor, who was one year ahead of me, encouraged me to try out for the choir.

I signed up for choir at the beginning of my sophomore year and was promptly assigned to the tenor section of the mixed choir. (There were three choirs: the girls' choir, the mixed choir, and the acappella Choir).

I sat in the back row of the tenor section and, being somewhat shy and unsure of myself, probably didn't really support my singing voice with my diaphragm like good singers do.

One day the choir director walked around to the back side of the risers where we sat. He put his hand on my shoulder and said, "sing out!"

And he stood there and wouldn't go away until I sang out.

The lesson in that short episode was, if you have a voice, use it. If you have a talent, use it.

To paraphrase Jesus, "don't hide your light under a bushel."

So I sang out, and I tried out for the acappella choir at the end of the year, and made it! I never would have if a caring teacher hadn't said, "sing out!"

By senior year I was a section leader, and, as important as it is to let your light shine, it is also important not to flaunt your talent.

Our choir members had sweaters, and our choir director was very clear about the expectations of choir members, whether at school or not,

about the standard of behavior that was expected when any of us wore our sweater.

I never received that kind of instruction when I got my letter jacket.

In addition to what you might think of as the usual suspects, our choir had athletes, ag students, and others from all over the school.

During our performances we all held hands — a big deal for guys in the 1970s. But the practice gave us a sense of cohesion and unity that I have never experienced to that level since.

There was certainly comfort among the majority of the choir in knowing that the person standing next to you was singing the same notes as you were.

Our director took us out of our comfort zone one day by mixing us up. As a tenor I might have had a soprano on one side of me and an alto on the other — and each of them was singing different notes that I was.

But that removed uncertainty about my part — I gained confidence that I was singing my part correctly even without the "crutch" of my fellow section members.

But it also taught me another, far more valuable lesson.

We don't all have to sing the same notes. We don't all have to think the same way, or have the same beliefs, to come together in mutual respect and create something beautiful when we combine our voices.

## The Community News

**Mail:**  
P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008

**Physical:**  
1015 Champions Drive, Aledo, TX

**Phone:**  
817-441-7661 • (Fax) 817-441-5419

**Web:**  
[www.community-news.com](http://www.community-news.com)

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**PUBLISHER/EDITOR**  
**Randy Keck** - [rkeck@community-news.com](mailto:rkeck@community-news.com)

**DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**  
**Loydale Schmid** - [lschmid@community-news.com](mailto:lschmid@community-news.com)

**OFFICE ASSISTANT**  
**Emma Davis**

**CIRCULATION**  
**Barbara Russell** - [business@community-news.com](mailto:business@community-news.com)

**BILLING**  
[billing@community-news.com](mailto:billing@community-news.com)

#### CONTRIBUTORS

**News**  
Brandi Addison

**Photography**  
Christopher Amos  
Kirsten Gallon

**Sports**  
Nolan Ruth

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We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-441-7661, ext. 207 or email [news@community-news.com](mailto:news@community-news.com). Please provide the basic story information as well as contact information in case we have questions.

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 necessarily 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. Send submissions to [news@community-news.com](mailto:news@community-news.com).

Photos submitted should include names of the people in the photograph. For ease in submitting photographs electronically, visit our contact form at [community-news.com/contacts](http://community-news.com/contacts).

The *Community News* does not charge for timely wedding, engagement and birth announcements provided they are of reasonable length. Lengthy announcements will either be edited to a reasonable length or, at the discretion of the person submitting the announcement, be charged a fee. The deadline for submitting announcements is noon Friday for the following week's paper.

# Events

DECEMBER 10, 2021  
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More events can be found at [www.community-news.com/events](http://www.community-news.com/events)



**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/>

**Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club**

The Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club meets at 9:30 a.m. on the second Friday of every month at First United Methodist Family Life Center, 301 S. Main in Weatherford. The social hour, including Club Shop, begins at 9:30 a.m. The business meeting, including program, is at 10:30 a.m. Lunch is \$11. Please make lunch reser-

vations by calling Shirley at 817-757-7379. For more information on the organization, visit [pcwnc.org](http://pcwnc.org).

**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/>

**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/>



**Holiday in the Garden**

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden | Botanical Research Institute of Texas invites everyone to celebrate the season at this year's "Holiday in the Garden" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd. in Fort Worth.

The festive indoor-outdoor event takes place rain or shine and will feature a Sip-n-Shop, festive décor, free afternoon admissions to the Garden (2 - 4 p.m.) and even a special visit from Santa Claus. The Fort Worth Opera continues a favorite tradition of live, holiday performances and this year, Wandering Roots Markets has organized a larger number of food trucks, live music and an artisan market featuring handmade goods for sale.

For more information, visit <https://brit.org/events/holiday-in-the-garden/>.

**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/>

**December 13**

**Hope for the Holidays**

The Weatherford College Jazz Orchestra performs their "Hope for the Holidays" concert Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Alkek Fine Arts Center.

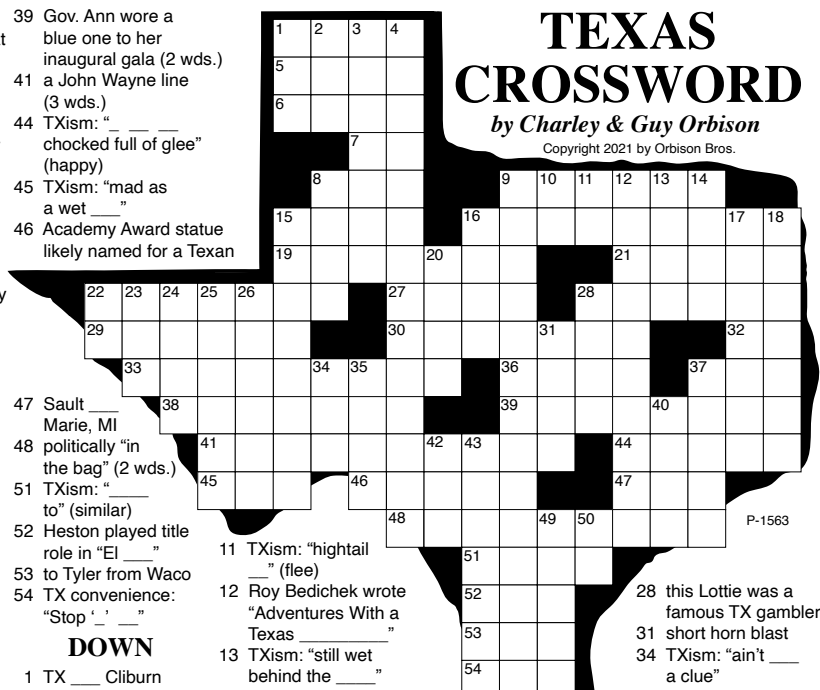
Directed by Fredrick Sanders, the concert is built on the idea of it being the night before Christmas. To that end, Sanders and the orchestra will perform in Christmas pajamas.

"We would like to welcome the Parker County commu-

**ACROSS**

- 1 Oldham County seat
- 5 Fort Worth's "Carter Museum of Western Art"
- 6 TXism: "never sign anything in the glow of a \_\_\_ light"
- 7 TXism: "I'll \_\_\_ a monkey's uncle"
- 8 Yuki was LBJ's favorite \_\_\_ dog
- 9 the "B" of LBJ
- 15 in McLennan County on highway 164
- 16 Mexican general who lost at San Jacinto (2 wds.)
- 19 "the man" south of the border
- 21 group of Boy or Girl Scouts
- 22 TXism: "\_\_\_ any better, the sheriff wouldn't allow it"
- 27 Slavic person
- 28 "\_\_\_ dust, ashes to ashes"
- 29 TXism: "so green he could \_\_\_ a lettuce patch" (rookie)
- 30 speaker to produce high-pitched sounds
- 32 TX Tanya (init.)
- 33 TXism: "parental plagues"
- 36 actress Drake in "Son of Belle Starr"
- 37 fed. mortgage ins.
- 38 TXism: "numerous as \_\_\_ dead worm"
- 39 Gov. Ann wore a blue one to her inaugural gala (2 wds.)
- 41 a John Wayne line (3 wds.)
- 44 TXism: "\_\_\_ choked full of glee" (happy)
- 45 TXism: "mad as a wet \_\_\_"
- 46 Academy Award statue likely named for a Texan

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**DOWN**

- 11 TXism: "hightail \_\_\_ (flee)"
- 12 Roy Bedichek wrote "Adventures With a Texas \_\_\_"
- 13 TXism: "still wet behind the \_\_\_"
- 14 TXism: "\_\_\_ slinging drunk"
- 15 TXism: "\_\_\_ old range cow"
- 16 TXism: "sticks out like a \_\_\_ thumb"
- 17 "\_\_\_ time" (won't fool me again)
- 18 TXism: "later" (2 wds.)
- 20 newspaper Abilene Reporter-\_\_\_
- 22 Gov. Hogg's daughter (init.)
- 23 TXism: "hissey \_\_\_"
- 24 TXism: "neon light \_\_\_" (inspiration)
- 25 Scarborough Faire recreates six \_\_\_ century England
- 26 few TX lotto players \_\_\_ jackpot
- 28 this Lottie was a famous TX gambler
- 31 short horn blast
- 34 TXism: "ain't \_\_\_ a clue"
- 35 a name before ExxonMobil
- 37 toxic vapors, e.g.
- 40 satisfy fully
- 42 Fort Worth univer.
- 43 Sam Houston's horse
- 49 moving pictures taken with your smart phone
- 50 TXism: "cash \_\_\_ the barrel head"

nity and other surrounding communities to the holiday special," Sanders said. Admission is free. Doors open at 7 p.m.

**DECEMBER 14**

**Aledo Community Lions Club**

The Aledo Community Lions Club meets from 5-6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Aledo Community Center. The public is invited. For more information call Bob Carlson at 817-718-4902.

**Cancer Support Group**  
A support group to create

a space for those who have battled or are battling cancer meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Aledo United Methodist Church, 100 Pecan Dr. in Aledo.

For more information, email Joan Ward at [cjkat1959@gmail.com](mailto:cjkat1959@gmail.com).

**DECEMBER 20**

**Rotary Club of Aledo**

The Rotary Club of Aledo meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Sunny Street Cafe, 229 Shops Blvd. Suite 103 in Willow Park. For more infor-



mation, visit [aledorotary.org](http://aledorotary.org).

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# Christmas Tyme in Aledo

Annual festival and accompanying craft fair had record attendance. Photos by Randy Keck



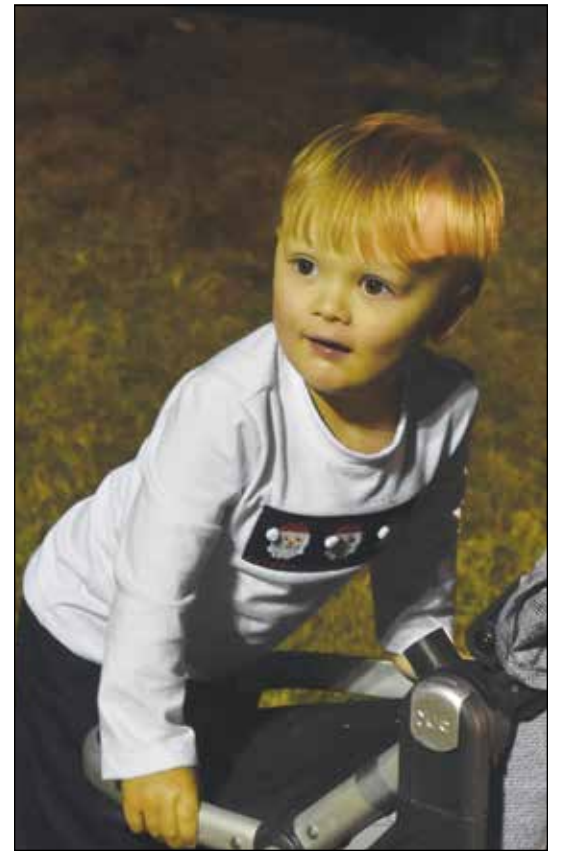
Julia Greer takes a trip down the slide.



Tegan Rivas visited a face painting booth.



Jack Hart learns to lasso.



Tagg Thompson enjoyed the activities.



Matt Bennett played guitar at Church at the Crossing.



Aledo Mayor Kit Marshall greeted Fireman Santa when he arrived.



Sawyer, Griffin, and Amelia Coutts visited with Fireman Santa.



Janelle Lyng and Ann Massengale sold products from Ellen M Bakery at the craft fair.



Debbie Opyt and Joyce Hartman displayed their wares from Tudor House Candle Co.



Rocio Aguilar had Art by the Andes from Peru.



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BASKETBALL

## Bearcats make run for W'ford championship

**Staff Reports**  
The Community News

The Aledo Bearcats made short work of Maypearl, defeating them 68-47, in their opening game of the Weatherford basketball tournament last week. After the Thursday defeat of Maypearl, the 'Cats again advanced on Friday by defeating YMLA (Young Men's Leadership Academy of Fort Worth) 38-34.

The next step was 6A Weatherford on Friday night, and Aledo outpaced the Kangaroos 47-41 to make it to the Saturday championship game against another 6A team, Richardson Berkner.

Tied at 52 at the end of regulation play, the Bearcats lost a close championship game, 57-59.

On Tuesday at Eaton the Bearcats fell 23-47.

**Varsity vs. Maypearl 12/2**

Aledo	16	18	18	16	68
Maypearl	12	9	9	17	47

Daniel Sohn 24, Brandon Fields 16, Ethan Pierce 10, Jack Conner 6, Xavier Anderson 4, Trevor Darton 4, Peyton Wiggins 2, Camden Yielding 2

**Varsity vs. YMLA 12/3**

Aledo	6	8	10	14	38
YMLA	9	5	8	12	34

Exavier Anderson 18, Daniel Sohn 10, Ethan Pierce 3, Brandon Fields 3, Peyton Wiggins 2, Camden Yielding 2

**Varsity vs. Weatherford 12/3**

Aledo	11	13	13	10	47
W'ford	9	12	8	12	41

Daniel Sohn 22, Ethan Pierce 7, Camden Yielding 6, Brandon Fields 6, Xavier Anderson 5, Jack Conner 1

**Varsity vs. Berkner 12/4**

Aledo	17	10	13	12	57
Berkner	10	11	13	12	759

Daniel Sohn 32, Camden Yielding 10, Brandon Fields 8, Exavier Anderson 4, Trevor Darton 3

**Varsity vs. Eaton 12/7**

Aledo	7	2	6	8	23
Eaton	12	17	9	9	47

Daniel Sohn 13, Camden Yielding 4, Dylan Kieth 2, Trevor Darton 2, Ethan Pierce 2

**Ladycats fall to Kennedale, Nolan**

The Aledo Ladycats had a quiet week, falling to Kennedale and Nolan.

**Freshmen vs Kennedale 12/3**

Aledo	18	20	14	8	60
Kennedale	2	6	2	0	10

Addie Smith 16, Ella Isbell 14, Rebekah Jarrell 8, Peyton Flores 4, Jaley Hockaday 4, Ely Roach 4, August Carlone 2, Maddox Lucas 2, Morgan Gomez 2, Savannah Salas 2, Zion Kennedy 2

**Freshmen vs. Nolan 12/7**

Aledo	23	14	9	5	51
Nolan	7	0	0	6	13

Ella Isbell 13, Addie Smith 10, August Carlone 5, Maddox Lucas 4, Peyton Flores 4, Jaley Hockaday 3, Morgan Gomez 4, Savannah Salas 4, Rebekah Jarrell 2, Kinley Evans 2

**JV vs. Kennedale 12/3**

Aledo	18	10	16	13	57
Kennedale	8	11	9	11	38

Haley Lowe 31, Julianna Caggiano 5, Taylor Paetzold 4, Presley Bergen 4, Haley Farmer 4, Addi Durrand 4, Caroline Browning 2, Kinley Elms 3

**JV vs. Nolan 12/7**

Aledo	14	10	13	16	53
Nolan	5	12	13	3	33

Haley Lowe 19, Caroline Browning 14, Daniella Tregellas 6, Presley Bergen 6, Haley Farmer 4, Kennis Marx 2, Addi Durrand 2

**Varsity vs. Kennedale 12/3**

Aledo	8	6	8	14	36
Kennedale	13	13	13	14	53

Claire Byars 17, Presley Hill 7, Sophie Smith 4, Addy Hebel 4, Reagan Davis 3, Kandle Boggus 1

**Varsity vs. Nolan 12/7**

Aledo	13	18	7	12	50
Nolan	12	12	16	17	57

Claire Byars 17, Abby Morrison 10, Reagan Davis 9, Kandle Boggus 7, Sophie Smith 3, Presley Hill 2, Addy Hebel 2

**AMS victorious at Joshua**

The Ladycat Basketball team traveled to Joshua Nichols on Dec. 2 with victories for all six teams:

7th Grade:

A: 40-24

B: 43-5

C: 23-13

8th Grade:

A: 35-17

B: 41-10

C: 42-7



Exavier Anderson grabs an offensive rebound against Maypearl in the opening game of the Weatherford Tournament on Dec. 2.

RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

WRESTLING

## Aledo wrestlers stand out

**By Nolan Ruth**  
The Community News

It has been a big inaugural season for the Aledo wrestling program so far. After a strong first month in November, both varsity boys and girls went to Colleyville Heritage High School on Dec. 4 for the Mike McCreedy Invitational.

It was the first full tournament the newest Aledo program has competed in and head coach Austin Stockton was proud of the showing.

"I thought the kids performed well," Stockton said. "It was a tough tournament, 5A and 6A schools, Arlington Martin was there and they are one of the top programs in the state."

The tournament got off to a slow start, but both the Bearcats and Ladycats bounced back. Senior Cole Bohnen lost his first match of the tournament but then reeled off six straight wins, including one over the Saginaw wrestler that had beaten him earlier. Bohnen finished third in the boys tournament with a 6-1 tournament record, four of his wins coming by pins.

For the girls, it was junior Texas Ray who stole the show. Ray lost an early match but finished 4-1 for the tournament, three of those wins coming by pins within the first minute of each match.

"It was awesome," Stockton said, reveling in the early success of the program. "Both of them are good leaders and they're both captains. That result is what I expect from them, and they both competed their butts off."

Turn to **WRESTLING**, page 8



### Matt Morris

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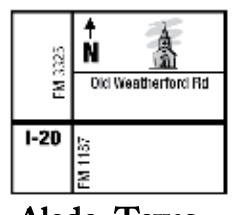
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# WRESTLING

from page seven

Another highlight of note is the two freshman girls Avery Kernan and Kyra Wright who both got big wins to start the tournament. Kernan claimed her first two matches by pins, both within the first minute. Wright got her first win by major decision but unfortunately left the tournament with a broken nose.

Both boys and girls varsity teams will compete in more tournaments before the district tournament on Feb. 4-5, including one at home on Wednesday, Dec. 15 at the AHS Main Gym. The preliminary start time is 5 p.m. but that is subject to change.

"We're going against Benbrook and Carter-Riverside," Stockton previewed the home match. "Our best lineup against their best lineup. I encourage everyone to come see it. These parents that come watch are having a blast. You get hooked into it, it's really fast paced. I'd love to fill the stands for our first one."

## Highlights from McCready Invitational Varsity Boys

**132:** Jacob Ellerbusch (JR) lost his first match but battled back winning his next two matches both by pins

**145:** Cole Bohnen(SR) placed third in the tournament. Cole lost his first match but would battle back up the backside of the bracket to eventually beat the wrestler he lost to. Cole was 6-1 for the tournament with four wins by pins.

**160:** Ty Hand (JR) lost his first match but overcame and was able to win his second match 9-4.

**170:** Colonel Douglas (JR) started his season off with a 43 second pin.

**195:** Daniel Bunting lost his first match but was able to bounce back to win his second match by a pin.

## Varsity Girls

**102:** Avery Kernan (FR) started her season off with two big pins, both within the first minute of the match.

**119:** Kyra Wright (FR) started the tournament off with a major decision (12-4) but would later leave the tournament with a broken nose.

**138:** Kaylynn Fisher (SR) started off the tournament with a pin.

Madison Mares (SR) finished the tournament (3-2) with two of her three wins coming via pins.

Lilly Grigsby (SR) went 2-2 in the tournament, both wins via pins.

**185:** Texas Ray (JR) placed third in the tournament. Texas was 4-1, winning three by pins and one by points (4-1). All of Texas's pins came within the first minute of her matches. (36 sec, 51 sec, and 29 sec)

## JV Results:

**120:** Jayden Escalera (FR) fourth place with 2 wins by points

Grady Saunders (FR) fourth with one win by pin and one in overtime

**126:** James Fisher (FR) started his season off with a pin

**138:** Carson Bobbitt (FR) started off his season with a pin

**145:** Jackson Lively (FR) lost his first match but came back to win the consolation side of his bracket, both wins by pin

**152:** Cory Tilly (FR) ended up losing his first round but battled back to make the consolation finals, winning both matches by pins.

Michael Parks(JR) lost his first match but battled back to win the consolation side of his bracket with an overtime victory

Zachary Attaway(JR) got fourth place with both wins by pin

**160:** Cade Preston (FR) won his first match by pin

Sawyer Salling (SR) placed fifth with one win by points and two by pin; both less than one minute.

**170:** Ernest Kirkpatrick (SO) won his first match by points.

Jayden McDonald (FR) placed sixth by winning his first match by points and final match by pin in 33seconds.

**182:** Tyler Navarro (FR) received his first victory of the season in his second match.

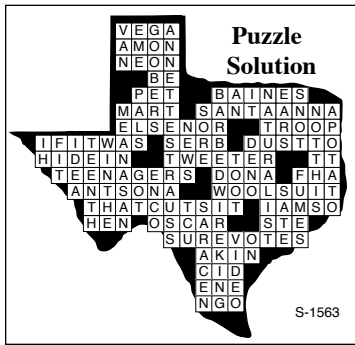
Britton Collins (JR) placed second with all three of his wins by pin.

Lincoln Thompson (SR) won the consolation side of his bracket after losing his first match; all three of his wins were by pin.

**195:** Logan Mitchell (JR) was competing for third when the tournament was called to an end; both of his wins were by pin.

Jack Green (SR) was competing for first when the tournament was called to an end; both of his wins were by pin, the first in 13 seconds and the second in 40 seconds.

**220:** Jaxon Richter placed fourth winning two matches by pin, both in less than a minute.



Team members (from left) Zeke Miller, Wyatt Soule, Wes Roddie, Kate Roddie, and McKenna Sims display their awards.

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

## CLAY SHOOTING

# TCA places at Waco meet

The Trinity Christian Academy clay target competed in the Christmas Spectacular Shoot at the Waco Gun Club over the Dec. 4 weekend. TCA competed in both Skeet and Trap among 10 Teams and 156 athletes, placing second overall, ahead of Keller, Southlake, Aledo, and other teams.

## Varsity Men

Wes Roddy - First place overall in skeet with a perfect score 75/75

Lukas Sitz - Fourth place overall in skeet hitting 72/75

Zeke Miller - 10th place overall in skeet hitting 70/75

## Junior Varsity Men

Wyatt Soule - Fourth place



McKenna Sims shoots.

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

## Varsity Ladies

McKenna Sims, Third place overall in Trap hitting 91/100, fourth place overall in Skeet

## Junior Varsity Ladies

Kate Roddie - First Place in skeet hitting 64/75.

## TENNIS

# Three teams dominate all-district selections

## Staff Reports

The Community News

Two Wichita Falls schools and Aledo dominated 2021 District 5-5A tennis all-district selections.

Wichita Falls High School had 21 players on the list, and Rider and Aledo High Schools had 19 each.

Granbury had four players, and Brewer and Azle each had three.

## Girls Singles:

First team: Georgia Posey, Payton Bierle, Paige Federman

Honorable Mention: Katie Siddons, Cambell Charrier, Bryanna Orr

## Girls Doubles

Second Team: Cambell Charrier/Bryanna Orr

Honorable Mention: Katie Siddons/Georgia Posey, Payton Bierle/Paige Federman

## Boys Singles

First Team: Hogan Posey

Second Team: Jax Joiner, Ian Leslie, Scott Mason, Craig Mason

Honorable Mention: Ben Farmer


## Boys Doubles

First Team: Scott Mason/Ian Leslie

Second Team: Jax Joiner/Hogan Posey, Craig Mason/Ben Farmer

## Freshman of the Year

Girl - Bryanna Orr



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**Bob's Baseball Tours** - Field of Dreams Tour Aug. 15-21, 2022. Home games for Chicago (Cubs/White Sox), Brewers and Twins. Also a visit to the Field of Dreams movie site. Tour begins/ends in Minnesota. New York/New England Fall Foliage Tour Sept. 26-Oct. 2, 2022. Home games for New York (Yankees/Mets) and Red Sox. Guided Tour of NYC, free time in Boston, Trolley Tour in Maine, travel through White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire & scenic train ride in Vermont. Tour begins/ends in Newark, NJ. Tours include deluxe motor coach transportation, additional sightseeing opportunities and quality game tickets/hotels. Call for a FREE brochure: 507-217-1326.

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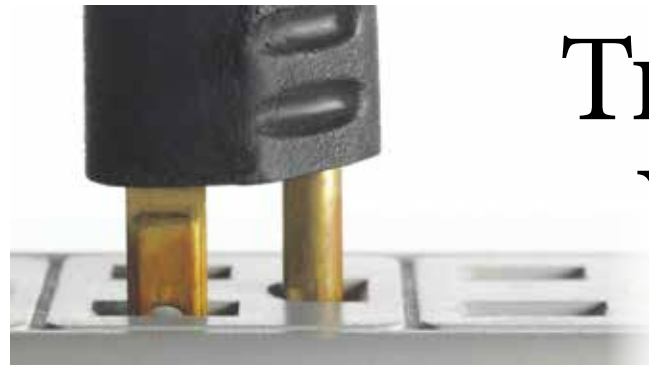
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RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS  
**Ethan Pierce nails a three-pointer in Aledo High School varsity basketball action in Weatherford last week.**

GOLF

# AHS completes successful fall season

Aledo High School Golf completed their fall season with a win on Nov. 15.

After several tournaments for each of the teams, these players, many of whom play individual tournaments outside of school, will continue prepping for the spring season.

**Fall Results:**

**Bearcat Varsity** — four tournaments, 162 holes played, a first place finish and three individual medals

**Bearcat JV** — five tournaments, 87 holes played, three first place finishes, a second place finish, and six individual medals

**Ladycat Varsity Black** — four tournaments, 144 holes played, four top-10 finishes, and four individual medals

**Ladycat Varsity Orange** — four tournaments, 72 holes played, four top-three finishes, and two individual medals

**Ladycat JV** — four tournaments, 72 holes played, three top-three finishes

A Ladycat (Aly Saunders) participated in the Pure Insurance Championship held at Pebble Beach.

The teams also put together a successful fundraiser to provide for the needs of the team over the course of the year. This was the most successful fundraiser in the program's history.

For more information about the golf program, look for Aledo High School Golf on Facebook or @aledogolf on Twitter.



Combined Aledo High School golf teams

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS



**Bearcat varsity individual medalists 1st Braylon Mahanay, 2nd Jake Phillips, and 5th Dylan Kiser**

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**We are Proud of The Bearcats!**




Photo by Kristin Morales

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