ALEDO

Council approves new water and sewer rate

By Brandi Addison The Community News

The Aledo City Council had a brief agenda for its final meeting this year.

Council discussed and approved three items, including changes to the water and sewage schedule, a contract for the Bailey Ranch Road reconstruction, and a pre-development and professional services agreement for Dean Ranch.

New water rates

Council approved a new water and wastewater schedule, increasing monthly rates, effective Jan. 15.

Residents who utilize about 3,000 gallons of water each month will see about a \$20 difference in monthly bills. The rates will gradually increase each year, and by fiscal year 2027, the total difference from the current schedule is about \$108.

Residents who use more will see slightly greater cost differences in their monthly bill.

As part of a city ordinance, Aledo reviews its water and sewer rates each year based on the most recently adopted budget "to determine whether such water and sewer rates are sufficient to produce revenues" after operating and maintenance expenses.

'If the city's then-current water and sewer rates would not produce revenues sufficient to cover the debt, the city shall establish and maintain water and sewer rates sufficient to cover such debts," the ordinance states.

Other items

Earlier in the year, Aledo conducted a thorough investigation of pavement failures on Bailey Ranch Road, according to the city website.

Council approved a paving contract of approximately \$320,900 Thursday for section 2 of the road repair project.

The entire project should be completed by early 2023.

Additionally, council approved a pre-development and professional services agreement for Dean Ranch - the next step before the city can work with a developer for the developers agreement.



WILLOW PARK

City issues debt for street improvements

By Brandi Addison The Community News

During its last meeting of the year, Willow Park City Council issued debt for its major street improvement plan.

A project of interest for nearly half a decade, the street improvement plan has been divided into several phases — divided by loca-

viously told The Community News the city's first priority is the concrete arterial work at Crown Road, Kings Gate Road, Ranch House Road and Sam Bass Road because materials costs are steadily increasing and "will only get more expensive" later.

The initial phase also includes reconstruction at Old Ford Road, tion, types of street, or project types. Crested Butte Court, Pleasant Construction of the first phase Court, Sam Bass Court, Trinity is expected to begin in the summer. Court, Trinity Drive, Fox Hunt Trail,

City Manager Bryan Grimes pre- Woodbridge Road, Sam Bass Road, and Aspenwood Drive.

> Grimes previously said these streets were prioritized as part of phase one, based on their convenience to residents.

The city unanimously approved to enter the project with funding from a certificate of obligation during a summer meeting. City officials confirmed this was the most cost-effective financial funding,

because of the city's projected population growth.

In 2037, when the debt is expected to be fully paid, Willow Park is expected to see a substantial growth. The increase in local revenue would cover the city's debt for the project.

Overall, the plan's estimated total is \$23 million and 23 miles of improvements and reconstruction,

Turn to STREETS, page A2

Sounds of the Season



Brennan Holbrook performed as part of the Aledo Middle School concert on Dec. 6. More photos can be found on page 3.



Amy Gunter and Yellowstone star Jefferson White AKA Jimmy take home the Champion buckle and trophy from the 2021 Careity Celebrity Cutting.

POLITICS

Candidate lineup settled for now

By Randy Keck

The filing deadline has passed, solidifying the lineup for the March Republican primary.

Maybe.

The U.S. Department of Justice challenged the new district boundaries approved by the Texas Legislature with a lawsuit claiming the new districts unfairly limit the voting power of minority groups.

Should the suit prevail, all bets would be off as to what geographical areas candidates will contest. For now, all parties are moving forward with the current plan.

The Community News reached out to some area candidates for reactions to the federal lawsuits, but only one responded.

"The redistricting has become an issue with the DOJ because Texas is governed by Republicans," said Aledo Mayor Kit Marshall, who is running for Texas House District 60. "This lawsuit is about the White House trying to control Texas, in spite of the fact that our legislators spent months and months redistricting in what they thought was a fair manner. The DOJ needs to focus more on the lawlessness that we see across our nation and take care of our border crisis."

At least a portion of Parker County could be affected by the outcomes of either the DOJ lawsuit or a lawsuit filed by State Senator Beverly Powell (D-Burleson). Powell represents State Senate District 10, which now includes a swath of Parker County. Powell's lawsuit was filed in the Federal Court in the Western District of Texas.

State Rep. Phil King has filed to run for the seat on the Republican ticket.

Turn to **ELECTION**, page A2



Obituaries

Richard Davis

Richard Henry Davis passed away at his home in Willow Park on December 15, 2021.

Richard was born to Vern E. Davis and Floe Williams Davis in San Angelo, on January 12,1941. He graduated from Big Lake



Richard Davis

High School and was a graduate of Texas Christian University and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Richard married Fort Worth native Kay Ward on December 19, 1963, and they were married for 57 years. They have lived in Willow Park for more than 40 years, although both worked in Fort Worth most of their lives.

He served on the Willow Park Planning and Zoning as well as Willow Park City Council on two separate periods ten years apart.

Richard was a past employee of State Farm Insurance and his knowledge was broadened by first being a claims adjuster for five years before becoming an agent for 30 more years. He was in the U.S. Army during the Viet Nam War era and served in Germany as an intelligence and security officer. He was discharged as a Captain and always felt fortunate to have served in Europe.

Richard enjoyed hunting until he was 50 when he picked up golf,. He was an avid player and proud of his two holes-in-one. He was a past member of Ridglea Country Club, the Steeplechase Men's Club, and was a Methodist and a Mason. He was proud of his Texas heritage of five generations.

He is survived by his wife Kay; daughter Deborah Bailey and husband, Clint; two granddaughters, Hailey Bailey of California and Madison Bailey of Dallas; his brother, Bill Davis and wife Charlene of San Angelo; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A memorial service will be planned after the New Year.

he Community News

ELECTION

from page one

"Republican leaders literally ripped Tarrant County-based Senate District 10 in half, splitting apart a proven coalition of minority voters and overwhelming their political voices by stranding them in districts dominated by both rural voters over a hundred miles away and exurban voters hostile to the concerns of voters in Fort Worth and Arlington," said Matt Angle, Lone Star Project Director.

Other wrinkles thrown into the Republican Primary in Texas is the inclusion of a Rick Perry running for governor.

This is not the same Rick Perry who served as Texas governor in the not-so-distant past. The inclusion of the Rick Perry name is sure to confuse voters who do not stay abreast of politics.

One other development of note is that only one Democrat filed for office in Parker County.

Kay Parr, Parker County Judge County Democratic Chair, filed to run again for that position.

"While I am disappointed not to be joined by other Democratic candidates, I understand the difficulties facing those who consider running on the Democratic ticket for local office," Parr said in a statement. "I am hopeful that the lawsuit filed against Texas by the Department of Justice will find that our Texas Legislature's Redistricting unlawful, and that the Fair Voting Act will be passed by our federal government to protect democracy and voting rights. Those will be significant steps to provide a more level playing field for Democrats in Texas and in Parker County."

Based on current districts, here are the contested seats Republicans have filed to run for in Parker County.

Information on all candidate filings in Texas can be found at https://candidate.texas-election.com/ Elections/getQualified-Candidates Info.do

Pat Deen **Thomas Moorman**

County Court at Law No. 1 Kirk D. Martin Zachary Pettigrew Kitty Wise

Sheriff (Unexpired Term) Russ Authier

Commissioner Pct. 2 Johnny L. Cannon Joe W. Harris Jacob Holt

Marc Povero

Commissioner Pct. 4 Michael Chandler **Eric Contreras** Mike Hale

Fred Hammons

Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3 Randall Grissom **Dusty Vinson**

Justice of the Peace, Pct 4 Allison Bedore Tim Mendolia Michael K. Morris Bernard R. Suchocki

Member, State Board of **Education** Patricia "Pat" Hardy

Joshua Tarbay **State Senator, District 10**

Phil King Warren Norred

State Representative District 60 Kit Marshall

Mike Olcott Glenn Rogers Lucas Turner



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Pro golfer Tom Watson, shown with co-organizer Beverly Branch, won the high score at the 2021 **Careity Celebrity Cutting.**

STREETS

from page one

although the certificate of obligation for phase one is about \$1.725 million less than the amount Grimes initially planned to request.

Other agenda items

City staff briefed council on the status of several new commercial

construction projects, including an ambulatory surgery center, office buildings, endoscopic center, storage units and RV storage and townhomes, which are all in pre-construction phases of the building process.

Trinity Christian Academy's Athletic Complex is awaiting street connections and completion of a driveway.

Extra Space Storage is currently at the dry-in stage of the exterior walls of construction.

Forney Fence is at the framing stage of construction.

The Preserves - an active senior living community — is at the final stage of construction. The final inspection has not yet been completed, and certificate of occupancy has not been issued.

MK Office Building is undergoing HVAC completion.

First Texas Bank has been issued its official certificates of occupancy.

Additionally, after discussions during executive session, Council unanimously approved an amendment to Grimes' contract as city manager, allocating a four percent raise in his salary.

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NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS Superior Court of New Jersey Law Division Middlesex County Docket No.: MID-L-008372-20

STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: LUCKY'S REDI-MIX CO., LLC and MARC MAHONEY

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon the Law Offices of Charles A. Gruen, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 381 Broadway, Suite 300, Westwooced, New Jersey 07675, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a civil action in which SIEMENS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. is the Plaintiff and LUCKY'S REDI-MIX CO., LLC and MARC MAHONEY are the Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Middlesex County and bearing Docket No.: MID-L-008372-20, within thirty five (35) days after the date of publication of this notice, exclusive of the date of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex County, 56 Paterson St, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure governing the Courts, and a \$175.00 filing fee payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey, and a completed Case Information Statement must accompany your Answer or Motion. The action has been instituted for damages resulting from breach of an Equipment Loan and Security Agreement, and corresponding Guaranty with the Plaintiff, SIEMENS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. YOU, LUCKY'S REDI-MIX CO., LLC and MARC MAHONEY are named as Defendants because of your breach of the Equipment Loan and Security Agreement and Guaranty for failure to make the monthly payments to SIEMENS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., and for the costs and expenses incurred by SIEMENS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., in enforcing its rights under the aforementioned applicable contracts.

You are further advised that an individual who is unable to obtain an attorney may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling toll free 800-792-8315 (within New Jersey) or 609-394-1101 (from out of the state). You may also communicate with a Lawyer Referral Service, or if you cannot afford to pay an attorney you may call the Legal Services Office. The number for the county in which this action is pending is: Legal Services and Lawyer Referral (732) 828-3433. The New Jersey Legal Services statewide toll-free hotline is 1-888-576-5529.

Michael A. Sullivan, Clerk of Court



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THE COMMUNITY NEWS DECEMBER 24, 2021 **A3**

A WINTER RHAPSODY

Aledo Middle School Concert Band and Symphonic Winds Perrformed Dec 6.



Kaden Jordan



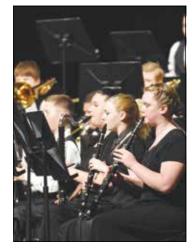
Aubrey Golden and Noah Graham



Thomas Craddock



Caleb Sowers



Olivia Lauderdale, Tori **Bruton, Kennedy Hodges**



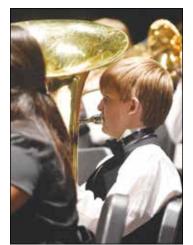
Aubrey Golden



Adam Frias



Nathaniel Kirkpatrick



Mac Kovacs



Gavin Swanson



Vicki Menard



Aspen Gardner



Adrian Webber



Anna Lochner, Clara Albin, **Rachel Schwarz**



Kendall Gasper, Rebecca Tschoepe, Emily Nickell PHOTOS BY RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY News



Noah Chasteen



Joel Eastburn



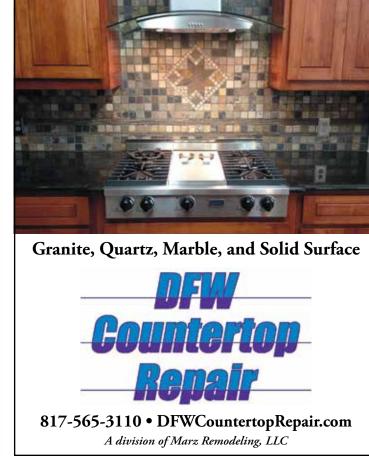
Micah Billingsley

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A4 DECEMBER 24, 2021 THE COMMUNITY NEWS



Boy Scout Troop 75 (boys and girls) posted the colors at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Greenwood **Cemetery in** Weatherford on Dec. 18. Parker County **Judge Pat Deen** was guest speaker, and the ceremony was led by Harriet Helm, Regent of the **Weatherford Chapter** of Daughters of the American **Revolution. Wreaths Across America is** a nationwide program at Arlington **National Cemetery** and across the country when wreaths are laid to honor veterans.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HARRIET HELM

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City of Willow Park Notice of Public Hearing

The City of Willow Park City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission will hold public hearings on the matters listed below;

- 1. PUBLIC HEARING to consider amending Zoning Ordinance Chapter 14; Article 14.17 Board Of Adjustment; Sections 14.17.002(b)(1) and 14.17.002(b)(2) Organization and Procedure of the City Of Willow Park Zoning Ordinance to provide for designating places on the Board Of Adjustment; amending wording of meeting frequency; specifying chairman appointment and membership terms.
- 2. PUBLIC HEARING to consider amending Zoning Ordinance Chapter 14; Article 14.16 Commissions; Sections 14.16.003(A)(2); 14.16.003(A)(4); 14.16.003(B)(1), 14.16.003(B)(1)(A), (B) And (C); 14.16.004(A) and (C) Planning & Zoning Board Membership Terms, and Procedure of the City Of Willow Park Zoning Ordinance.
- PUBLIC HEARING to consider amending Chapter 10, Subdivision Regulations; Division 7, Public Space Dedications, Sections 10.02.181(B); 10.02.182; 10.02.182(2), (3) and (4); 10.02.183; 10.02.185; 10.02.186; 10.02.187 (A) and (B) of the City Of Willow Park Code Of Ordinances to provide for amending the Parkland Dedication terms.
- 4. PUBLIC HEARING to consider a request to rezone 8.768 acres from TP (Treatment Plant), 13.747 acres from EC (Event Center), and 5.539 acres from Green Belt to PD Single Family, part of Lot 2R, Block 11, The Reserves at Trinity, City of Willow Park, Parker County, Texas, located adjacent to Meadows Place
- 5. PUBLIC HEARING to consider a request for rezoning from R-1 to PD R-3 Planned Development District to allow for development of single and two-family detached housing for lease or rent with common ownership of all structures 19.16 acres John H. Phelps Survey, Abstract No. 1046, City of Willow Park, Parker County, Texas, located west of Bayhill Drive.
- 6. PUBLIC HEARING to receive input regarding text amendments to the City of Willow Park Zoning Ordinance.
 - a. Sec.14.06.14 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT USE REGULATIONS Commercial Amusement – Indoor (Special Use Permit SUP Required) Commercial Amusement – Outdoor (Special Use Permit SUP Required)
 - b. Sec.14.06.015 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT USE REGULATIONS Commercial Amusement – Indoor (Special Use Permit SUP Required)

Commercial Amusement - Outdoor (Special Use Permit SUP Required) Planning & Zoning Commission: Tuesday, January 18, 2022

6:00 PM Time:

City Council: Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Willow Park City Hall, 516 Ranch House Rd Location:

Willow Park, TX 76087

Any member of the public has the right to appear at the Public Hearing. Please contact the Development Department at 817-441-7108 x104 or tfisher@willowpark.org with any questions.

Posted: December 22, 2021

MEET OUR



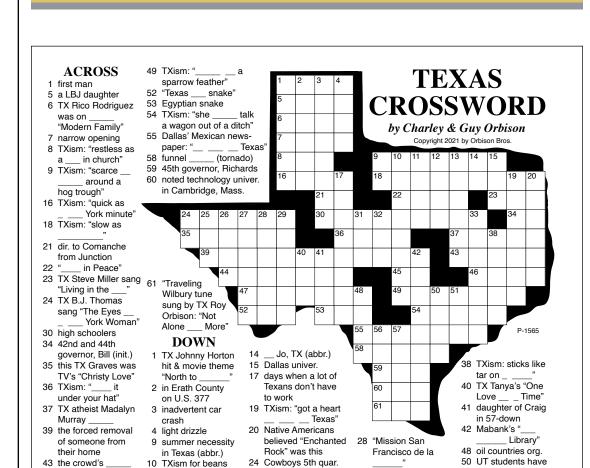




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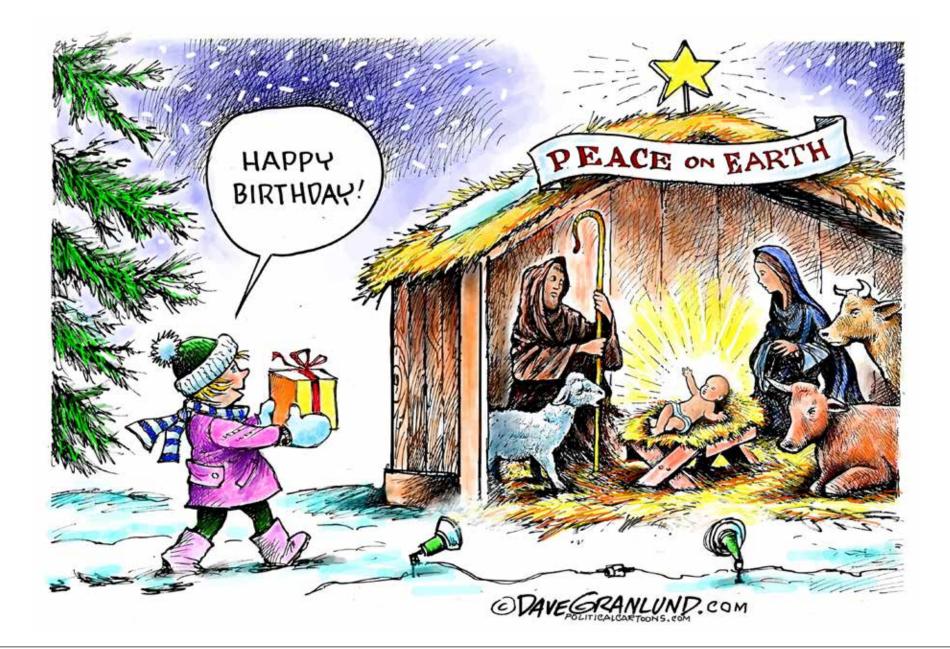
13 Houston's pro

baseball team

Houston Texans

and shine

DECEMBER 24, 2021 THE COMMUNITY NEWS WWW.COMMUNITY-NEWS.COM



Capital Highlights

Texas workforce surpasses pre-pandemic high

The Texas labor market exceeded the previous pre-pandemic high in February 2020 by hitting just under 13 million nonagricultural jobs in November, the Texas Workforce Commission reported last Friday. The adjusted jobless rate was 5.2% last month, down slightly from the previous month.

"Reaching this milestone for job creation in Texas shows the strength of our economy," TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel said.

The Amarillo area had the lowest unemployment rate among Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas at 3.1%, followed by the Austin-Round Rock MSA at 3.2% and College Station-Bryan at 3.5%.

"Texas continues to reach unprecedented milestones thanks to our unwavering commitment to economic freedom and our young, skilled, growing, and diverse workforce," Gov. Greg Abbott said.

PUC approves electric grid reliability measures

The state Public Utility Commission last week voted unanimously to enhance both short-term and long-term reliability of the state's electric grid through what it termed "major reforms" to the state's wholesale electricity market.

"In prior years, any single one of these changes would have been considered significant. Taken together, they are a generational shift in the Texas electricity market," said Peter Lake, PUC chairman. "This (is) a move away from the crisis-based

business model we have operated under for the past two decades. This new model centers on reliability."

Some of the major changes:

- · Changes in the mathematical formula used to price electricity when reserves become scarce. The change will provide earlier price signals to add additional generation of power and for large consumers to reduce demand.
- Increasing incentives for large consumers to cut usage when the grid needs additional power.
- New or revamped ancillary services that increase the capacity for generators to react to sudden swings in electricity supply and demand.

Phase two of the process will provide "long-term incentives for investment in reliable power generation infrastructure to ensure Texas will have the power the state's needs for decades," according to the news

Count of fatal job injuries for 2020 released

A total of 469 people working in Texas died in work-related incidents in 2020, according to the Texas Department of Insurance. That is a 23% decrease from 2019. The state's incident rate for fatalities was 3.9 per 100,000 full-time employees in 2020, while the national incident rate stood at 3.4.

The construction industry accounted for 27% of the fatalities, with 127 incidents, according to TDI. Fatalities in the transportation



Gary Borders

and warehousing industries had the second highest, accounting for 20.4% with 96 people killed. Natural resources and mining recorded the third-highest number with 54 fatalities, or 11.5%.

Raising the bar for higher education

The Commissioner of Higher Education said last week the state is raising the bar for higher education. In an address before nearly 200 higher education leaders, Harrison Keller released "an ambitious vision for higher education," according to a news release from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The updated strategic plan for the state's higher education system

- Adding a new goal for 35- to 64-year-olds who need new skills to compete in today's economy.
- · A broader range of postsecondary credentials of value to fit workforce needs.
- The goal of students having no college debt or at least a low, manageable debt.

- A greater focus on research and development to drive innovation.
- Renewing the state's commitment to advancing equity for all Texans to complete post secondary degrees and certificates.

Keller called the present time "the greatest opportunity since the end of World War II to make an impact in higher education."

"As we emerge from the global pandemic, we arrive at another defining moment in history," he said. "In Texas, the window of opportunity is open for us to work together to advance and enhance this vision for higher education and enrich the lives of generations to come."

Vaccine mandate battle likely headed to **Supreme Court**

The fight over a federal COVID-19 mandate for companies with more than 100 employees is likely headed to the U.S. Supreme Court after the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overruled a lower-court decision that had paused the mandate nationwide. The mandate from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration is now scheduled to take effect Jan. 4.

Republican state attorneys general in 27 states, including Texas, are suing OSHA over the mandate, joined by conservative groups, business associations and individual businesses, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The Biden administration issued a statement after the appeals court ruling: "Especially as the U.S. faces the highly transmissible Omicron variant, it's critical we move forward with vaccination requirements and protections for workers with the urgency needed in this moment."

Meanwhile, Abbott announced last week that he had sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin reaffirming the state would not enforce the mandate on members of the Texas National Guard.

"The state of Texas will not enforce this latest COVID-19 vaccine mandate against its guardsmen," Abbott said. "If the federal government keeps threatening to defund the Texas National Guard, I will deploy every legal tool available to me as governor in defense of these American heroes."

The number of new cases of COVID-19 reported last week stood at 36,508, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, down slightly from the previous week, while deaths rose to 478.

The number of law-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations totaled 3,117 on Sunday, virtually unchanged from the previous week, according to the Texas State Department of Health Services.

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.

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SUBMIT STORIES, **PHOTOS OR IDEAS**

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. 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.

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.

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.

DECEMBER 24, 2021 THE COMMUNITY NEWS WWW.COMMUNITY-NEWS.COM

BASKETBALL

AHS teams have mixed success leading up to holidays

Middle school teams dominate opponents

Staff Reports

The Aledo boys varsity basketball team entered the Moritz Tournament in Aledo Dec. 9-11 coming off a second-place finish at the Weatherford Tournament a week earlier.

In the opening game the 'Cats defeated Burleson 59-53, but lost a close game against Colleyville the next day, 44-41.

The following week Aledo hosted Burleson Centennial, and fell 70-45.

The team is scheduled to play in the Kennedale Tournament on Dec. 27-29 and the Caprock Classic on Dec. 29-31. The Bearcats return home Jan 4 for a game against Fort Worth Christian.

The varsity Ladycats began the Moritz Tournament earlier than they expected, filling in for a team that dropped out at the last minute on Dec. 9. They fell to Byron Nelson in that game 40-30, but bounced back to defeat Abilene Cooper 38-30 later in the day.

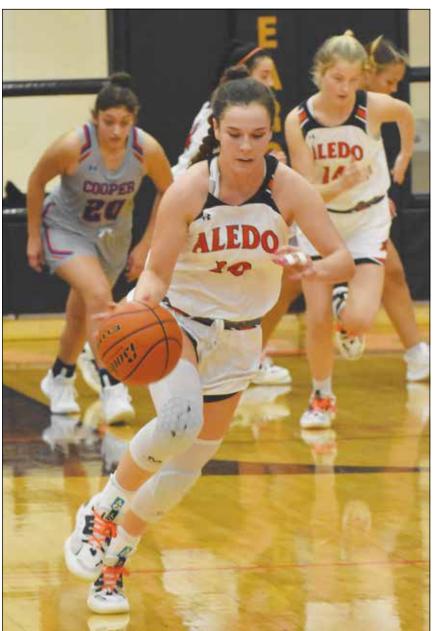
In their third game of the tournament on Dec. 10, the Ladycats fell to Legacy Christian 77-45 and closed out the tournament losing to Midland Legacy 57-50.

The team traveled to Krum for a game on Dec. 17 and fell 53-45.

They are scheduled to play in the Disney World Tournament Dec. 26-31.

Aledo Middle School girls enjoy winning weeks

The Aledo Middle School girls basketball teams had a good night against Burleson Hughes on Dec.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Junior Claire Byars leads a fast break against Abilene Cooper during the Moritz Tournament in Aledo on Dec. 9. Byars had 7 points ion the game.

9. The 7A team lost 25-29, but all other teams were victorious: 7B won 36-15; 7C won 40-3; 8A won 33-19; 8B won 40-16; and 8C won

On Saturday, Dec. 11, the teams played in tournaments at Joshua Loflin and Joshua Nichols.

The 7th Grade A team had a win against Godley, loss to Cleburne

Smith, and took third place in the tournament with a win over Joshua Nichols. The 7th grade Ladycats also received third place in their Dec. 4 tournament in Acton.

The 8th Grade A team won first place in the Dec 4 Acton tournament beating Brewer 36-4, Cleburne Smith 39-35, and GMS 35-11. The Ladycats also won the consolation bracket in the Joshua tournament on Dec. 11, beating Loflin 5-5, Glen Rose 24-13, and losing to Godley 32-28.

Dec. 13 was another good night for the girls against Acton. 7A won 50-9; 7B won 30-9; 7C won 26-23; 8A won 22-7; 7B lost 25-31; and 8C won 20-9.

Aledo Middle School basketball returns on Jan. 6.

Box Scores Varsity Girls vs. Byron Nelson

Dec. 9							
Aledo	11	8	11	0	30		_
Byron Ne	elson	9	8	7	16	40	
Kenzie Grau 6, Natalie Anderson 2, Claire Byars 7, Reagan Davis 5, Abby Morrison 4, Addy Hebel 6							

Varsity Girls vs. Abilene Cooper

Dec. 9							
Aledo	8	12	6	12	38		
Cooper	8	8	4	10	30		
Claire Byars Addy Hebel 5		enzie	Grau	3, R	eagan	Davis	6

Varsity Girls vs. Liberty Christian

Dec. 10

Aleuo	0	10	TT	10	45		
Liberty	25	19	22	11	77		
Claire Byars							
Abby Morriso					resley	/ Hull	i
Kandle Boggi	ıs 2, R	eagan	Davis	s 1			

Varsity Girls vs Midland Legacy

Dec. 11 9 15 8 16 50 Aledo

Legacy 13 16 9 19 57 Claire Byars 17, Addy Hebel 15, Presley Hull 4, Abby Morrison 4, Reagan Davis 10

Turn to **HOOPS**, page A8

In My Eyes What will **Division I** look like?



Nolan Ruth

Every two years the University Interscholastic League realigns. The governing body over all Texas public schools will redraft classifications based on school enrollments. The general goal of this is to keep school athletics playing other schools with a relatively similar size.

For the past eight years, Aledo has been in class 5A and for the past two years the football team has been placed in Division II. Before 2018, class 5A was not split into divisions.

Because of that split, the Bearcats have been put in a district away from the opponents that the town has come to recognize. Schools like Granbury, Brewer and Azle have been playing in 5A Division I for the past two years, while Aledo has dominated in 5A Division II. Recently there was action that shakes up the scene for the Bearcats.

In late October, the UIL had its biennial "Snapshot Day" where schools send in their projected enrollment number for the upcoming school year. That day was the first indicator of a big change coming. Aledo, who had never turned in a number more than 1,900 students, reported a number of 2,090.

Turn to D1, page A7

Matt Morris

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from page A6

For reference, the number from two years ago was 1,859. The school enrollment grew by 231 in two years, making it almost certain that Aledo would be moving up to 5A Division I.

It was also revealed that the school had surpassed familiar foes Azle (2,026), Burleson Centennial (2,063), and Cleburne (2,016) in enrollment. Then on Wednesday, Dec. 8, the UIL officially released the cutoff numbers for each classification and division. The cutoff between 5A and 6A was 2,225, while the cutoff between 5A Division I and 5A Division II was 1,925. This all but locked in that Aledo will be moving up a division come Realignment Day in February.

So what does this mean? This means the Bearcats will be seeing some new competition in the upcoming football season.

Looking at the schools that will be classified as 5A DI, Aledo will most likely end up in a district with Azle, Brewer, Burleson Centennial, Cleburne, Granbury, and Saginaw. Fort Worth South Hills could also be thrown into the mix as the lone Fort Worth ISD school to be in Division I.

Those schools are not strangers to Aledo. Out west though, another school to look at potentially in the district is Abilene High School. With an enrollment of 2,163 the Eagles will drop from 6A this year. Two years ago, Abilene was placed in a district with Weatherford and a number of other DFW schools. So the UIL will not be shy about putting them there again. Also with the next closest

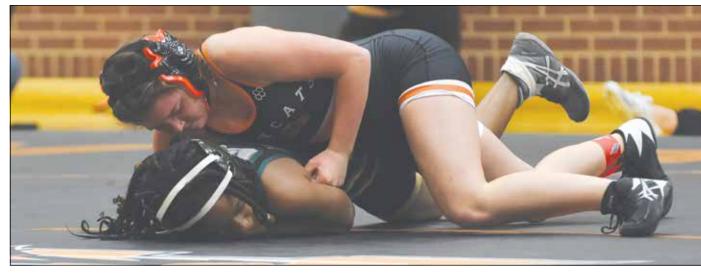
school more than 30 miles further from Abilene than Aledo, it iust makes the most sense.

Beyond district, the playoffs will likely see more opponents from far west Texas. The Bearcats will likely be put in Region 1 after a four year run of being Region 2 in Division II. This means that teams from El Paso, Amarillo, and Lubbock will likely be common playoff opponents.

The big game changer is Denton Ryan. The defending Division I state champions are a wildcard in the sense that they could either be placed in Region 1 or Region 2. If the latter comes to be true, Aledo would not see Ryan until the semifinals. But if Ryan was placed in Region 1, it is likely that the Bearcats would face the Raiders in the regional final round.

Other top football schools familiar opponents of note that will be in Division I include Lubbock Cooper, Birdville, Justin Northwest, and Richland who will likely be Region 1. Frisco High, Frisco Liberty, Frisco Lone Star, Frisco Reedy, Midlothian, Mansfield Timberview, Red Oak, Longview, Tyler and College Station will likely be in Region 2. In Region 3, Crosby and Manvel will both be teams to keep eyes on as well as Cedar Park, all of whom have made state championship appearances in the past five years.

None of this is official until realignment day in early February, when we will provide another update of the ongoing situation and potentially the non-district schedule. But until then, it is always fun to speculate.



RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Avery Kernan defeated her opponent from Benbrook.

The A-B-Cs of Wrestling

Aledo hosts tri-meet with Benbrook and Carter-Riverside

Aledo hosted a wrestling match for the first time on Wednesday, Dec. 15, and came away with a clean sweep over Benbrook and Fort Worth Carter-Riverside in a Try meet.

"It was an exciting evening for all involved," Aledo coach Austin Stockon said. "We go back to work this week to prepare for a Quad meet at Azle High School on Dec. 30 and we will return home again on Jan. 26 for Senior Night."

Final Scores:

Varsity Boys

Aledo 45, Benbrook 24 Aledo 61, Carter-Riverside 3

Varsity Girls Aledo 36, Benbrook 18

Aledo 42, Carter-Riverside 6

Individual Results

A - Aledo

B - Benbrook C - Carter-Riverside Fall - Pin

TF - Technical Fall

Dec - Decision * Coach's Comment

Aledo vs. Benbrook

Jackson Lively (A) over Dominic Nunez (B) (Fall 0:40) Sawyer Salling (A) over Roman Rabago (B) (TF 15-0

Britton Collins (A) over John

Watson (B) (Fall 0:36) Lincoln Thompson (A) over Carson Jackson (B) (Fall 1:00)

Varsity Boys

Jackson Rudnick (A) over Eli Guzman (B) (Fall 0:38)

Jacob Ellerbusch (A) over Curtis Slemmons (B) (Fall 1:56) Landry Wilkinson (B) over Carson Bobbitt (A) (Fall 2:42)

* "Freshman Carson Bobbitt

stepped up and filled a weight we did not have filled. He wrestled well and lost to a seasoned

Cole Bohnen (A) over Jacob

Sturm (B) (Dec 4-3) Tyler Reeves (B) over Zachary Attaway (A) (Fall 4:24)

* "This was Zach's first match back from a broken arm and he wrestled really well. I look forward to watching him further into the season.'

Cameron Mcguire (B) over Ty Hand (A) (Fall 1:30)

Jason 'Colonel' Douglas (A)

over Dylan Sides (B) (Fall 3:12) Sean (Jr) Clark (B) over Bryce Vonasek (A) (Fall 3:01)

Jack Green (A) over Carson Wayman (B) (Fall 2:31) Daniel Bunting (A) over Noah

Burns (B) (Fall 0:52) Ansel Din-Mbuh (A) over

Matthew Ary (B) (Fall 0:52)

Varsity Girls *"The girls competed great; the only points that were given

up came off of forfeits." Avery Kernan (A) over Tatiana Spencer (B) (Fall 1:19)

Kaylynn Fisher (A) over Kailey Stevens (B) (Fall 1:02)

Caroline Gartner (A) over Neriah Goulding (B) (Fall 0:38)

Aledo vs. Carter-Riverside **Varsity Boys**

Jacob Ellerbusch (A) over Dalyn Stewart (C) (Fall 1:46) Ty Hand (A) over Camilo Martinez (C) (MD 17-4)

Jason 'Colonel' Douglas (A) over Jordy Castro (C) (Fall 0:21) Bryce Vonasek (A) over Alex Ramirez (C) (Dec 4-0)

Daniel Bunting (A) over Diego Corpus (C) (Fall 0:15)

Bryon Moreno-Wheeler (A) over Manuel Verduzco (C) (Fall 1:15)

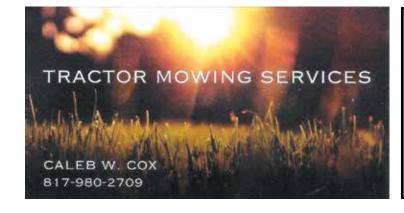
Varsity Girls

Elizabeth McCarley (A) over Nathalie Avila (C) (Fall 2:27)

Texas Ray (A) over Joannely Ledezma (C) (Fall 1:23)

Extra Match: Kaylynn Fisher (A) over Cynthia Munoz (C) (Fall 0:19)

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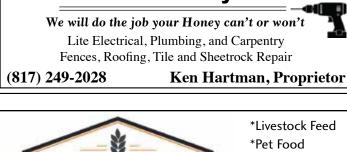
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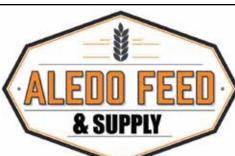
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HOOPS

from page six

Varsity Girls vs. Krum

Dec. 17

 Aledo
 16
 7
 14
 8
 45

 Krum
 14
 10
 12
 17
 53

 Claire Byars
 12, Presley
 Hull
 11, Kandle

 Boggus
 9, Addy Hebel
 6, Sophie
 Smith
 4,

 Reagan Davis
 3

JV Girls vs Krum

Dec. 17

Aledo	7	11	8	10	36
Krum	7	6	8	1	22
Caroline Brown	_			_	
Milley Lills 4	i, iayi	UI Fa	etzoiu	1, 11	CSIC

Bergen 2, Haley Farmer 7, Juliana Caggiano 1

Freshman Girls vs Krum

Dec. 17

Aledo	14	10	17	4	45
Krum	10	6	9	5	30
Ella Isbell Carlone 6, Lucas 2, Mo 2	Rebek	ah J	arrell	4, Ma	addox

Varsity Boys vs. Burleson

Dec. 9

Aledo	9	10	23	17	59
Burleson	9	13	17	14	53
Daniel Sohn 2 Fields 8, Xav Yielding 3, Etha	ier	Ander	son 4	,	

Varsity Boys vs Colleyville

Dec. 10

Aledo	9	10	9	13	41			
Colleyville	11	7	17	9	44			
Daniel Sohn 19, Drew Clock 11, Camden								
Yielding 7, Xa	vier	Ander	son 2	2, Bra	ndon			
Fields 2								

Varsity Boys vs Burleson Centennial

Dec. 14

Aledo	1	0	10	11	14	45
B Cent	: 1	4	15	19	21	70
Brandon	Fields	12,	Cam	den	Yielding	11

Brandon Fields 12, Camden Yielding 11, Drew Clock 10, Isaac Soon 6, Ethan Pierce 3, Peyton Wiggins 2, Terry Lewis 1



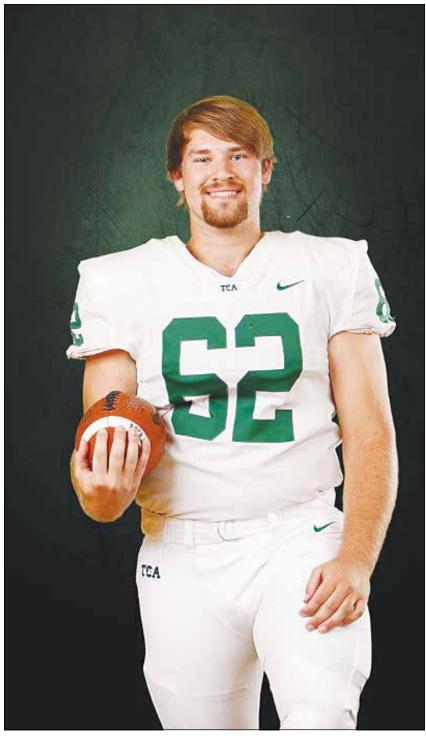
ALICIA LLIEFE

The seventh grade A basketball team won the Kennedale tournament held Dec. 10-11. The team defeated Crandall 36-17, Brock 33-16, and Worley 28-21 in the championship game. Shown are coach: Lance Miles (pictured) and Hayden Dibble (not pictured); front row (from left) Nolan Luffey; Caden Cunningham; Landon Drummond; and Adam Jones; and (back row) Omari din-Mbuh, Cash Bergen, Holt Frazier, Hudson Harbuck, Cooper Hull, and Max Forman.



ROBB MCKINNON

The seventh grade B basketball team won their division in the Kennedale Tournament on Dec. 10-11. They defeated Crandall 31-18, Jobe 27-16, and Worley 19-14 in the championship game. Shown are coaches Hayden Dibble and Lance Miles and (front row, from left) Tripp McKinnon, Knox Moore, Colt Brinkman, and Eli Rushing; (second row) Anthony Caggiano, Ayden Hendrickson, Nick Robles, Tyler Connelly, James Gebhardt, Bayne Martin, and Harloh Hafner; and (back row) Cole Cox, Dax Hill, Dean Timmerman.



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Brayden Smalley of Trinity Christian Academy was named to the second team All-State football team as an offensive lineman and honorable mention for defensive lineman This marks the third year in a row that Brayden has been recognized on the All-State list.



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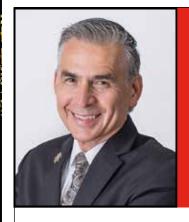
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B2 DECEMBER 24, 2021 THE COMMUNITY NEWS







RANDY KECK/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

TOP LEFT: Shaynne pins a parent pin for her dad, Howard. |BOTTOM LEFT: Shaynne reacts to the gift of a triple-layer macaroon with the Eagle logo from her mother, Lorri. | RIGHT: Shaynne recites the Eagle Scout Promise for the first time, led by Scoutmaster Bobby Kehrman.

A new Eagle takes flight

Shaynne Story becomes first female Eagle Scout in Parker County

By Randy Keck The Community News

December 12 will always be a special day in the future for Aledo

That's the day she received her Eagle BSA, opened its doors of member-Scout badge at a Court of Honor at the Parker County Sheriff's Posse in Weatherford.

County and city officials, candidates, family, and friends joined in to honor her accomplishments.

It started with Shaynne's older brother, who attained the Eagle Scout rank a few years ago.

Then, in October 2017, the Boy

ship to girls.

Shaynne was among the first to jump aboard in Parker County. Shyanne's family ran into scout leader John Park at a Whataburger. Park was forming a girls' BSA troop in Weatherford.

Shaynne quickly mastered the skills and requirements that are the road to Eagle Scout. She attended the camps and took part in the

activities of her troop. Troop 75 is divided into a boys' troop and a girls'

At the Dec. 12 ceremony, the speakers shared in welcoming Shaynne as an Eagle.

After the Color Guard posted the American and Texas Flags, and pledges to each, scout Drew Woodliffe opened the ceremony welcoming the guests.

"This is indeed a special day in the life of this scout, this troop, and this community," Woodliffe said. "Shaynne's the first female Eagle Scout for Parker County and BSA Brazos Valley District."

Park then spoke about the benefits of scouting.

Of 100 [scouts] only rarely will one ever appear before a juvenile court judge. Twelve of the hundred will be from families who



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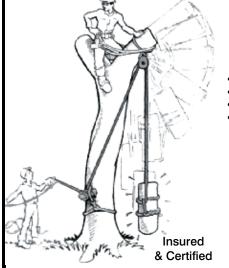
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The Annetta Town Council recognized Shaynne Story's accomplishments at its Dec. 16 meeting. Shown are (from left) Jim Causey, Council Member; Bruce Pinckard, Council Member; Jamee Long, City Secretary; Danny Coffman, Council Member; Shyanne Story, Eagle Scout; Sandy Roberts, Mayor; Kent Stasey, Mayor Pro Tem; Cintie Ortiz, Parker County Relations Officer.

have no religious affiliation. Through scouting, these 12 and many others' families will be brought into contact with a church, a synagogue, a mosque, and will continue to be active all their lives. Six of the 100 will enter the ministry," Park said.

"It is interesting to note that of the leaders of this nation in business, religion, and politics, three out of four were scouts," Park added.

Scoutmaster Bobby Kehrman presented the Eagle Neckerchief and rank.

Kehrman said Shavnne's Eagle project was the construction of picnic tables at Couts United Methodist Church in Weatherford.

"Your parents have stood by you over the years and offered their encouragement, assistance, and love," Kehrman said. "They have walked beside vou on vour trail to Eagle and devoted themselves to providing your needs and sharing in their wisdom."

"When I joined scouts BSA in February of 2019 I honestly just jumped right in," Shaynne told the crowd. "After all, I've been connected with scouts since my brother was in scouts. I've always gone on campouts with him."

celebrated in every home."

"I wanted to join. It seemed a lot of fun, and when girls were allowed to join, I was excited. I wanted to join. I saw it as having fun and going adventuring, seeing places I haven't seen before outside my house or Aledo," she added.

Shaynne said one of her favorite memories was going to Sea Base in Florida, her first trip without her parents. She said scouting helped her overcome her intense shyness when she was younger.

"Shaynne has really grown in scouting itself - she has just blossomed. I can't be more proud of her than I am now," said her mother Lorri.

Her father, Howard, said it normally takes a scout five to seven years to achieve the Eagle Rank, adding that Shaynne accomplished it in twoand-a-half years.

"That requires a lot of commitment." he said. "It's been a really good experience for us and her."

Kehrman closed the ceremony by having Shaynne and other Eagle Scouts in the room recite the Eagle

TEETH



Aaron Wade



Tripp Cast



Aiden Affleck Mackenzie Burton



Kenzie Primera



Jonah Williams



Kennedy Sullivan



Samantha Phelps

Rosalie Lawler



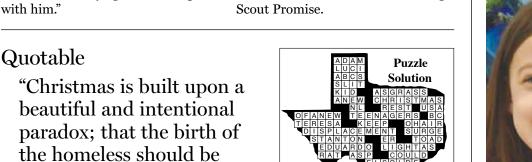
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Gentry Page



Emily Grote





Claire Hurst



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Naybely Montoya



Jack Grant

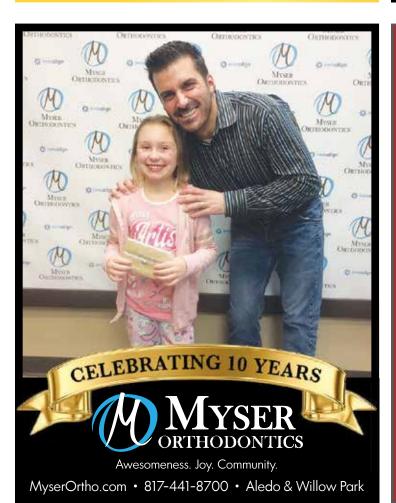


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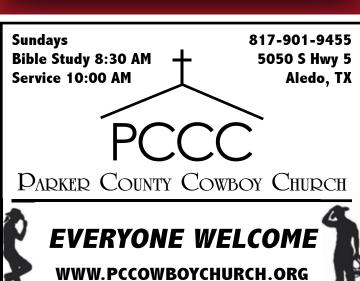
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B4 DECEMBER 24, 2021 THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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Ralynn Westhoff



Charlotte Beville



Hector Palacios



Liam Garner



Quincy Alcorn



Ainsley Abraham



Jim Gorman



Max Ortiz



Ashynn Stoub



Graham Gladden



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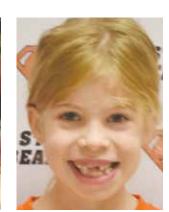
Heidi Hollinger



Presley Devlin



Georgia Culberson



Madison Aldrige



Ellis Zuniga



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