



*The Official Newspaper for the City of White Settlement*

# White Settlement Bomber News

*Established 1940 • A Publication of Suburban Newspapers, Inc.*



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*From the Sports Desk with John English*

## Bears and Lady Bears Head into District Play

As of Dec. 15, the Brewer boys and girls basketball programs are both ranked among the top 20 in the state according to Max Preps.

The Brewer boys basketball team continued their winning ways last Friday with a 63-37 victory over Weatherford in the final game before the start of district competition.

The Bears had won 14 of their last 15 games heading into its district opener with Northwest on Tuesday night, and coach Jason Porostovsky said it was a strong effort from tip off.

"I really liked our intensity from the start," Porostovsky said. "We came out and got a few steals and transition buckets to set the tone for the game. We got up 14-2 and cruised to a 63-37 victory."

Julian Perez had 25 on limited minutes in the game, while Carron Gibson pitched in 16 and Jayvion Johnson had 8 points for the Bears. Nash Pena and Davion Martin had 6 points each in the game.

With the Christmas break, Porostovsky said he wants to focus on the objectives his team set out at the start of the season.

"We open the district play this Tuesday on the road at district favorite Justin Northwest," Porostovsky said on Saturday morning. "Our main two goals when we created the schedule this year were to play a multitude of styles and teams with size that could expose us."

Brewer has climbed to No. 11 in the state among 5A programs according to the Max Preps Dec. 15 rankings, and Porostovsky said he believes the non-district did a good job of getting his team ready for district play.

"I feel we accomplished that with our non-district schedule,"

Porostovsky said. "We are prepared for any defense that we could face. Part 2 of the season starts now and our kids are looking forward to it."

On the girls side, the Lady Bears have reached No. 18 in the state rankings among 5A programs and rebounded from a tough loss to Granbury in its district opener with an impressive 62-12 win over Wichita Falls Rider on Friday night.

Brewer improved to 12-3 with the win over the Lady Raiders and coach Teranie Lewis said she liked what she saw from her players in that game.

"The team performed well," Lewis said. "I applaud their defensive efforts. That was our main focus this game due to our lack in the previous game. They locked in and it showed. Now we just have to keep that going."

*From Suburban Newspapers, Inc.*

## Suburban Newspapers Holiday Closure

The offices of Suburban Newspapers, Inc. will be closed from Dec. 26 through Dec. 30. There will be no newspapers for the week of Dec. 29.

The deadline to appear in the Jan. 5 digital publications is Friday, Dec. 23 at noon.

Offices will reopen Monday, Jan. 2 at 10 a.m.

**Dear Friends,**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

**May you and your loved ones have good health, success and joy in 2023.**

**Thank you for letting us share your accomplishments, preserve your memories and promote your businesses in our newspapers. We truly could not do this without you and look forward to continuing our friendships in the new year.**

**Sincerely,**

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From the City of White Settlement

Upcoming Closures

The City will be closed in observance of Christmas on Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th. The City will also be closed on Friday, December 30th and Monday, January 2nd in observance of New Year's.

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

White Settlement ISD

Students and Teachers will not attend classes through Tuesday, Jan. 3 for winter break.

...

Students will not attend classes Wednesday, Jan. 4, Thursday, Jan. 5 or Friday, Jan. 6 as those days are scheduled for Staff Development Days.

merry christmas!



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### Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas

# Scholarship Applications Accepted Through April 1

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas (RMHCNTX) announced the opening of applications for its Scholarship Program, which grants more than \$60,000 to 30 local high school seniors each year. Funded by North Texas McDonald's owner/operators and donations from the community, the annual scholarships recognize students for their outstanding academic achievements and community involvement.

Applications are open online at [rmhcntx.org/scholarships](http://rmhcntx.org/scholarships) and must be submitted by April 1, 2023. All students can apply regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or national origin. To qualify for an RMHC Scholarship, students must:

- be a high school senior
- be younger than 21 years old
- be eligible to attend a two- or four-year college or university with a full course of study

- be a legal U.S. resident
- live in the geographic areas of the RMHC of Greater North Texas Chapter
- and submit a complete application and all required documentation by the deadline.

"Each year, we're proud to support high school seniors in our community as they pursue their education," said David Floyd, local McDonald's Owner/Operator and Board Treasurer of RMHCNTX. "We hope this scholarship allows students to focus on their academics without having to worry about finances."

Since the Scholarship Program was found-

ed in 1988, more than \$2.5 million has been awarded to more than 1,500 North Texas high school seniors. For more information and to apply, visit [rmhcntx.org/scholarships](http://rmhcntx.org/scholarships).

### About RMHC of Greater North Texas

*Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas (RMHC of Greater North Texas), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children and their families. Our programs are grassroots-driven to enable us to offer help where children and families need it most – right in their own communities. RMHC of Greater North Texas is part of a global network of Chapters making a positive impact on the lives of children and families in 65 countries and regions around the world.*



### White Settlement Historical Museum

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Tips to Assess Your Furnace and Save on Heating Costs

Now that cooler weather is here, homeowners are advised to evaluate their furnace to see if it needs to be serviced or replaced. By planning ahead, you can potentially save money on heating bills or dodge a breakdown in the middle of a cold snap.

According to the experts, here's what you need to know about your home's heat source:

Maintaining Your Furnace

Undue strain can shorten the lifespan of your furnace. Regularly replace the air filter as recommended by the manufacturer, as dirty, clogged filters can restrict airflow, making the furnace work harder and for longer hours.

An annual furnace tune-up from a heating and ventilation professional can also go a long way towards minimizing issues caused by dirt and debris buildup. What's more, inspections allow your contractor to monitor longer-term issues and take proactive steps to help prevent premature failure or inconvenient breakdowns during the heating season.

Keeping your home properly insulated and sealed can also help by preventing thermal loss and cold air infiltration and may reduce heating bills this winter. Finally, maintain thermostat settings at Department of Energy recommendations or try a degree or two lower.

Replacing Your Furnace

Regardless of how well the furnace is made and how well you maintain it, the day will come when it's reached the end of its usefulness. You'll know it's time to replace your furnace when you're making frequent service calls, dealing with expensive repair bills, or when your unit is blowing cold air, making unusual noises or not operating as efficiently as it once did.

In a challenging economy, it can be tempting to buy the cheapest model, however a furnace replacement is a decision

that can affect your family's comfort and energy bills for years. So how do you make a sound choice?

The first thing to know is that there are many types of heat sources for your house, including gas furnaces, electric heat pumps and newer variable refrigerant flow (VRF) systems. Your easiest, and probably least costly path, will be picking a furnace that uses the same fuel source as your current one.

If energy efficiency is a priority, you're in luck. Comparison shopping is easy today, as all furnaces sold domestically are required to display estimated annual operating costs on the EnergyGuide label. Beyond reduced energy bills, federal tax credits for high efficiency equipment have been extended into 2023. Check with your utility company or manufacturer to see if they offer a rebate. All combustion-type furnaces are rated according to annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE). The minimum allowed rating for any furnace in the United States is 80 percent, however, some of the most efficient models available go well beyond that.

Another factor to consider is heating capacity. Improperly sized furnaces can result in loss of comfort, loss of efficiency and even reduce the lifespan of the furnace. Be sure to have a qualified heating and ventilation professional assess your square footage, number and quality of windows, insulation and other factors to make a recommendation.

Beyond the basics, today's furnaces offer new comfort-enhancing, energy-saving features that could help you reduce your heating costs.

No one wants to be dealing with a furnace repair or replacement when demand is high and temperatures are low. Take steps now to ensure you're set for a cozy, comfortable winter season.

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# American Red Cross to Host Pop-Up Blood Drives

The American Red Cross of North Texas hosts more than 100 pop-up blood drives across DFW each month. Blood donations are needed as we head toward the holidays, where people historically donate at lower levels. The Red Cross also continues to look for new partners to host blood drives with. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and click on host for more information. Donors can schedule an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities through Dec. 31:

**Allen**

- 12/31/2022: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., LDS - Allen, 1404 E. Main St., Allen, TX 75002

**Dallas**

- 12/27/2022: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Portofino at Las Colinas, 11601 W. Lago Vista, Dallas, TX 75234

**Denton**

- 12/29/2022: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Willowwood Church of the Nazarene, 1513 Willowood, Denton, TX 76205

**Fort Worth**

- 12/27/2022: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Northwest YMCA Fort Worth, 5315 Boat Club Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76135

**Garland**

- 12/27/2022: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Bass Pro Shop, 5001 Bass Pro Rd., Garland, TX 75043

**Granbury**

- 12/24/2022: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Legion Post 491, 3409

Davis Rd., Granbury, TX 76049

**Keller**

- 12/28/2022: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Lowes, 600 N. Tarrant Pkwy., Keller, TX 76248

**McKinney**

- 12/28/2022: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Adriatica Village, 6633 Virginia Pkwy., McKinney, TX 75070

**Plano**

- 12/23/2022: 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Whisky Cake Kitchen & Bar, 3601 Dallas Pkwy., Plano, TX 75093
- 12/30/2022: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., City of Plano, 5801 W. Parker Rd., Plano, TX 75093
- 12/30/2022: 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Chick-fil-A, 6408 Plano Pkwy., Plano, TX 75093

**Weatherford**

- 12/29/2022: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., VFW Post 4746, 224 Zion Hill Rd., Weatherford, TX 76088
- 12/29/2022: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Lowes, 118 E. Interstate 20, Weatherford, TX 76087

**Blood Drive Safety**

The Red Cross follows a high standard of safety and infection control. The Red Cross will continue to socially distance wherever possible at blood drives, donation centers and facilities. While donors are no longer required to wear a face mask, individuals may choose to continue to wear a mask for any reason. The Red Cross will also adhere to more stringent face mask requirements per state and/or local guidance, or at the request of blood drive sponsors. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at a drive.

**How to Donate Blood**

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org), call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) or use the Blood Donor App.

**About the American Red Cross**

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org/northtexas](https://redcross.org/northtexas) or visit us on Twitter at @RedCrossNTX.*

# Christmas TREE ROUNDUP

In an effort to reduce landfill waste, the City of White Settlement will be coming by your house to pickup your unwanted Christmas tree after the holidays

Christmas trees will be picked up from  
8:00am to 12:00pm  
on the following scheduled dates:

Dec. 26th  
Dec. 28th  
Dec.30th  
Jan. 2nd  
Jan.4th  
Jan.6th

Christmas trees may also be dropped off by residents at the Recycle Drop off Station located at 8212 Albert Street in the designated drop off area. All trees collected and/or dropped off will be shredded and the mulch will be made available to the public for landscape use at no cost. For further information contact The Recreation Center at 817-246-5012.

Please note the following guidelines for Christmas tree curbside pickup:  
Curbside pickup only  
All decorations, lights, plastic, stands, etc. must be removed  
Flocked trees will be accepted (no bags)  
No artificial trees  
No trash, debris and/or plastic





## Christmas Around the World, Through the Years by Dr. Ken Bridges

For generations, Christmas has been a time of magic and wonder for millions. In the rush of modern America, that is sometimes forgotten in the maddening swarms of crowds at stores, mistaken orders from online retailers, and even near-riots over special discounts. Christmas is celebrated around the globe, and each corner of the Earth has its own special traditions that go along with the season. In the United States, Christmas traditions have changed steadily over the years; and millions still hold faithful to the original purpose of veneration of the birth of Christ and celebrating the message of peace and harmony.

Many American Christmas traditions are a mix of different cultures thrown in with stories and songs that have grown in adoration over the years. Some of the most famous Christmas carols are centuries old. As more immigrated from Europe to the United States, the different Christmas traditions so adored by these new families began filtering through the nation.

Early Christians celebrated Easter more with the death and resurrection of Jesus as the embodiment of Christian ideals. However, by the fourth century, the birth of Jesus also began to be noted with special church observances also. The Christmas Eve mass or communion service is still an important Christmas tradition for many American families.

By the 16th century, Christmas slowly became more than a church service. In Germany especially, the day became a celebration noted for singing, parties, feasts, and drinking. The Puritans who arrived in New England in the early 1600s were appalled by such displays, which they considered sinful. As a result, Puritan leaders banned observances of Christmas well into the 18th century.

It was knowledge of the differences by which New Englanders and Germans typically observed the day that inspired George Washington to cross the Delaware River on Christmas Night 1776 to stage a surprise attack on the Hessian outpost at Trenton, New Jersey. After a brutal series of losses that summer and fall, Washington knew he had to turn the war around. He knew the German mercenaries the British had hired to pursue them would be too distracted by their own Christmas parties to suspect an attack during winter. At dawn on Dec. 26, he surprised and overwhelmed the exhausted and hungover Hessian revelers to change the course of history.

The tradition of the Christmas tree originated in Germany in the 1500s when candles were attached to evergreen trees. It was not until the late 1700s that Christmas trees were introduced to the United States by German settlers.

But Christmas as a holiday emerged slowly. Louisiana was the first to declare Christmas a state holiday in 1837, and only a handful of states followed suit within the next few years. It did not become a federal holiday until 1870.

Even the tradition of exchanging gifts did not emerge quickly. However, the gift-giving tradition expanded rapidly in the 1820s

and 1830s, with merchants quickly looking to capitalize on the holiday.

Santa Claus went through many changes in the process. The original St. Nicholas was an early bishop from modern-day Turkey in the fourth century known for his generosity toward the poor and children.

The Catholic feast day celebrating St. Nicholas always fell on Dec. 6, but Protestants merged the holiday with Christmas over the years. Santa Claus emerged from the St. Nicholas stories in Holland before becoming part of American lore in the late 1700s.

Christmas trees began being sold in large numbers by the 1850s in the North, with decorations, almost all homemade, steadily becoming more elaborate. Though some families still used candles on trees, many opted not to do so for the obvious safety reasons of not exposing flame near a drying tree. The first electric lights were used on trees in 1882, not long after the invention of the light bulb. As electricity became more widely available in the early 20th century, colored electric lights became popular and safer alternatives. Still, most American families did not have Christmas trees in the early 1900s. In fact, the National Christmas Tree at the White House did not become an annual tradition until 1923.

Rudolph was added to the sleigh team as part of a poem written in 1939, but country singer Gene Autry popularized his story with his rendition of “*Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*” in 1949 and was followed by his equally-popular “*Frosty the Snowman*” in 1950.

Songs and stories surrounding Christmas became even more popular in the 1960s as new television specials introduced them to a new generation. A *Charlie Brown Christmas* became an instant classic in 1965 as Charlie Brown looked for the real meaning of Christmas, upset that Christmas had become way too commercialized, even in the mid-1960s. His dismissal of the aluminum trees popular at the time in favor of a real tree was connected with the collapse of the aluminum tree’s popularity by the end of the decade.

Christmas is celebrated today even in non-Christian households as the spirit of giving and peace has transcended its original religious meaning for some. Far from the shopping crowds, Christmas still has a magical place in the hearts of young and old alike. In a quiet moment, many remember that Christmas is still a time of generosity for others.

And Christmas is still a time of peace in our hearts and in the world, as we are reminded of the gift of one precious life, of brotherhood, and of the harmony for which the holiday was born.

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# The WARM Place, a Grief Support Center for Children

## How to Refer a Family to The WARM Place:

Children who are referred to The WARM Place may have experienced the death loss of: a parent, a sibling, a grandparent, an aunt, uncle, cousin, a close friend or a classmate.

## Steps to follow:

- The legal guardian of the child/children contacts The WARM Place. Call any time after the death loss to schedule an intake/interview appointment.

- Families can call any time during office hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) if they need to talk to someone. The family comes to The WARM Place for an in-take/interview. The intake/interview is during the day and lasts about 1-1/2 to 2 hours. All family members, including children and legal guardian(s), must be present at the intake.

## The Objective of the Interview:

The family can share their death loss experience. The tour of the facility alleviates possible fears of coming to The WARM Place. The intake/interview is conducted by a counselor and time is spent with adult(s) and children separately. The family is assigned a group night based on who has died in the child's life.

Support groups for children offered at The WARM Place are:

- Parent loss — includes step-parent
- Sibling loss — biological or step-sibling
- Grandparent loss — cousin, aunt, uncle, friend, or any other

significant death loss

Each night the support groups meet, the children are divided by age: children, ages 5 to 8; preteens, ages 9 to 12 and teenagers, ages 13 to 18. The guardian(s) must attend with the children.

## General Information:

Groups meet every other week. Families attend The WARM Place for as long as it is necessary to resolve death loss issues.

Additional groups are provided for Young Adults, ages 19 to 25. Groups are available for preschoolers, ages 3- 1/2 to 5.

Groups are led by facilitators who have had extensive training in the grief process and group dynamics.

There is never a fee for families to participate in The WARM Place program, located at 809 Lipscomb St. Call 817-870-2272, email to [info@thewarmplace.org](mailto:info@thewarmplace.org), or go to their website: [www.thewarmplace.org](http://www.thewarmplace.org) for more information.

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From National Crime Prevention Council

## Seniors Can Stop Scoundrels and Scams

Financial fraud can be difficult to recognize. This type of fraud can include identity theft, fake check and wire transfer scams, investment and credit card fraud, and bogus online charitable solicitations. Unfortunately, only one in five of these crimes are reported.

The National Crime Prevention Council offers the following tips:

- It's shrewd, not rude to hang up on a suspicious telemarketer.
- Don't give personal information to people you don't know unless you initiated the contact.
- Don't let yourself get pressured into a verbal agreement or signing a contract.
- Be skeptical of online charitable solicitations and other online offers. If interested, ask to receive the information in the mail and check to be sure the company is legitimate.
- Never agree to pay for products or services in advance.
- Get estimates and ask for references on home repair offers and other products or services.

If you suspect fraud, contact your local law enforcement agency immediately.

To learn more about protecting yourself from financial fraud, visit the National Crime Prevention website at: [www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org).

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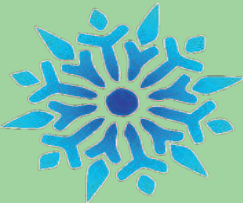


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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, Dec. 23:

AM - Mostly sunny and cold; high near 25. N/NW wind 10-15mph, with gusts as high as 20mph.  
PM - Mostly cloudy; low around 18. N/NW wind 5-10mph.



Saturday, Dec. 24:

AM - Mostly sunny; high near 34. N/NW wind around 5mph.  
PM - Partly cloudy; low around 22. Calm wind becoming W/SW around 5mph.



Sunday, Dec. 25:

AM - Sunny; high near 45.  
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 32.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)