

## FINAL SATURDAY

3-DAY OUTLOOK | Weather, 2A

What's next for Denton, Denton County in 2021 / Local news, 2A



**SUNDAY:** Partly cloudy, cool. Low 34, high 53.



**MONDAY:** Sunny, mild. Low 34, high 58.



**TUESDAY:** Mostly sunny, mild. Low 36, high 62.



**Ryan vanquishes Highland Park to win region final / Sports, 14A**



**Books readers waited on from libraries in 2020 / Local news, 3A**

# Denton Record-Chronicle

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## 5 education stories to look for in the new year

Most promising articles-to-come will feature co-ops, growth and more

**By Marshall Reid**  
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Unlike 2020's retrospectives, this new year at least has the possibility of less pandemic news.

The one constant expectation around many Denton County schools is growth.

Additionally, there are several lawsuits and investigations that might

come to term in the new year.

Below are five of the most promising *Denton Record-Chronicle* education articles-to-come for 2021:

### What happens to the special education cooperative?

Argyle and Krum ISDs took steps toward creating their own special education programs in the near future.

Argyle school board members recently approved \$1.2 million for their new program, which would likely start up in earnest for the 2021-22 school year.

Krum ISD hadn't made the same drastic moves, but its own board members and interim superintendent expressed interest in eventually severing ties with the cooperative that serves KISD students.

### 2021: A look ahead

Education

Both school districts had been part of the Denton County Special Education Cooperative, which serves several smaller districts in the county.

It wasn't clear what their departures might mean for the co-op and the remaining districts that depend on it.

### How will districts position themselves for expected, but not guaranteed, growth?

Krum ISD could possibly quadruple enrollment over the next decade or so,

See EDUCATION on 10A



AI and Derek Key/DRC file photo

Construction on the new Nette Shultz Elementary School can be seen in this aerial image taken in November in tree-covered northeast Denton. The campus will replace Woodrow Wilson Elementary School.

## Commissioners Court, with a new face, starts on first business of new year



Jeff Woo/DRC

Backed by family members, Ryan Williams, left, is sworn in as commissioner for Denton County's Precinct 1 by Roanoke Police Department Chief Jeriahme Miller, center, on New Year's Day at the Courthouse on the Square.

### 2021: A look ahead

Crime and justice

## What's on the docket in 2021?

**By Zaira Perez**  
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Among the many court cases filed this year, a few in Denton County stood out because of their impact.

The *Denton Record-Chronicle* compiled five crime stories of 2020 and where the cases stand as we head into 2021.

### New Year's Eve homicide

Steven Daniels, 22, was shot and killed over New Year's Eve 2019 and died in the early hours of 2020, marking the first homicide of the year.

Four people have since been arrested and charged in connection to his death, with one suspect also facing charges in a double homicide reported at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Daniels was shot outside his apartment at Midtown 905 in the 900 block of Cleveland Street on New Year's Eve. Daniels has a 1-year-old son and his cousin Keaira Daniels told the *Record-Chronicle* in January that Daniels moved to Denton to put himself in a

See CRIME on 10A

## Vaccine system approved

**By Marshall Reid**  
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Denton County commissioners unanimously approved the purchase of a vaccine disbursement

management system during their meeting Friday afternoon.

It will cost \$271,000 for the first year of operation and \$186,000 each subsequent year, according to the agenda item for county commis-

sioners.

The item was one of the first approved by the new Commissioners Court, which included newcomer Ryan Williams.

Williams defeated incumbent

Hugh Coleman in the March primary for the Republican nomination to represent Precinct 1, which includes Denton and northern Denton

See COUNTY on 9A

## Additional affordable housing needed in Denton, officials say

**By Paul Bryant**  
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In Denton, 67 properties — or about 2,411 units — are classified as affordable housing, but some city officials say more is needed.

"We have a housing affordability crisis in Texas, and Denton is not unique to that in a state where cities are prohibited from raising a minimum wage and rents keep rising," at-large Place 6 Denton City Council member Deb Armintor said. "I hear from constitu-

ents who are on waiting lists for federal vouchers. The city, in my opinion, needs to stop seeing affordable housing as a federal issue."

According to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, affordable housing is considered that which is where the tenant is paying no more than 30% of gross income for housing costs, including utilities.

The federal housing choice voucher program is designed to help low-income families, the elderly and people with disabilities obtain housing in the



**Deb Armintor**

private market.

"We can tackle this problem using our general fund dollars as well as federal housing dollars," Armintor said.

According to the Texas A&M Real Estate Center, the median price of a home in Denton is \$280,000. The median household

See HOUSING on 9A



Jeff Woo/DRC

"We have a housing affordability crisis in Texas, and Denton is not unique to that in a state where cities are prohibited from raising a minimum wage and rents keep rising," said Denton City Council member Deb Armintor.



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