

Sales

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"The residents of Bullard are smart," Hines said. "And they realize the importance of this sales tax."

Official voting totals were canvassed and approved at the meeting: 192 for and 72 against the measure.

City Manager Larry Morgan is ready to get to work now that voters have spoken.

"We're very pleased the voters had faith in this," Morgan said. "The money will be used - at least initially - to enhance and in some cases restore our infrastructure."

The process of setting up an economic development corporation will take place immediately, Morgan said.

"Even though the money won't be collected until about March, the council has given me the authority to form a committee to create a board for the new EDC.

Morgan said once the committee winnowed the list, it will be presented to council for approval

In some cases, the mayor is allowed two appointees and the rest of the council each appoint one to the EDC board. A president oversees the meetings, creating a budget and answering to

the board -- who in turn -- answers to the council

Morgan said that until more volume comes in, he will, most likely, serve in that position -- in addition to his manager duties.

Bullard - until the election - was the only area city not using the half-cent tax.

Tyler, Whitehouse, Troup and Jacksonville charge the state maximum of 8.25 percent. Bullard's rate is 7.75 percent.

Hines and other council members were glad to see it change.

"Every city around us can compete, but without any incentives or proper infrastructure, where does that leave Bullard?" Hines said.

But he hates the word tax.

"It's completely consumption based," Hines said. "Most of us have - unwittingly funded a lot of infrastructure and improvements in other cities - it's about time they reciprocated.

"Every time we shop in Tyler, we're funding their parks and streets, but we're not doing anything about ours," he said.

"The sales tax in Bullard is the lowest in the area - which means every other surrounding city is taking advantage of taxable consumer goods and serv-

ices to aid growth."

One the EDC is created, it follows the same regulations as council meetings, as far as compliance with Open Meeting Laws.

"We usually have the directors and a media representative there," Morgan said. "We plan to be very open about this -- just as we try to do with everything else the city does."

Council member Stacey Thompson expressed her approval.

"That's exactly how it should be," she said.

In other business, the council granted the Tyler Bicycle Club an endorsement on its annual East Texas Hills Classic Road Race. David Starett, club representative, spoke to the council - who in turn agreed the event would be good for Bullard.

The race is widely known as the "Beast" of the "Beauty and the Beast: tour. It will begin at Kiepersol Estates this year on July 15. The race offers more than \$3,000 in prize money and is a TXBRA Texas Cup Division I event.

For points/rules information visit [www.txbra.org](http://www.txbra.org). Additional race details are available at [www.tylerbicycleclub.com](http://www.tylerbicycleclub.com) or [www.bikereg.com](http://www.bikereg.com).

# 'Nutcracker' performances set for December at TJC

Performances of Tyler Junior College Academy of Dance's 18th annual production of Tchaikovsky's classic ballet, "The Nutcracker," are scheduled for Friday-Sunday, Dec. 1-3, in TJC's Wise Auditorium.

Full-length performances will be held 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1 and 2, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3. A special, storytelling version for young children -- narrated by TJC history instructor Dr. Jeffrey Owens -- is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.

Tickets are on sale in the TJC cashier's office located in the White Administrative Services building. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$8 for TJC students (with valid ID), senior citizens and children under age 6.

For more information, call the cashier's office at 903-510-2672.

The production is under the guidance of director/first choreographer Jennifer Bailey and second choreographer Ashlie M. Contos.

Guest artists Arina Kolotova and Konstantin Kolotov of Corpus Christi will be in the leading roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier.

A native of St. Petersburg, Russia, Arina Kolotova studied at the Vaganova Academia of Dance and graduated with a diploma from Perm Academy of Ballet. She danced with the Classical Ballet of St. Petersburg and has performed in many major classical ballets such as Aurora the sleeping princess, Song Bird the yellow fairy, and Diamond in "Sleeping Beauty," and Clara and the Sugar Plum Fairy in the holiday classic, "The Nutcracker."

As a principal dancer, she has toured throughout New Zealand,

Australia and many European countries.

Konstantin Kolotov, also from St. Petersburg, Russia, received his training from the State College of Choreography in Novosibirsk, Russia, where he graduated with honors.

He then danced at the Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Sverdlovsk, Russia, the Theatre of Contemporary Ballet and the Theatre of Classical Ballet in St. Petersburg.

His repertoire includes Siegfried from "Swan Lake," Albrecht in "Giselle," the Cavalier in "The Nutcracker," and the pas de deux from "Paquita," "Don Quixote" and "Le Corsaire." Kolotov has toured extensively in Ecuador, Bolivia and throughout Europe, and is in demand as a guest artist and master instructor throughout the U.S.

# Tri-County holds cattle meeting

A cattle market meeting was held on Nov. 9, at Tri-County Livestock Market, in New Summerfield.

There were about 190 in attendance.

The speaker was Bryce Myrick of Texas Farm Bureau Agriculture Marketing Education Director, and Kris Holman, order buyer.

They talked to ranchers about what order buyers are looking for and when the best time to sell their animal.

A big Thanks to Michael, Wesley and Casey Davis for all of the help and the delicious hamburgers that were served.

Sponsors of the event were Rusk County Farm Bureau,

Cherokee County Farm Bureau, Tri-County Livestock Auction, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas

Cooperative Extension, Southland Feed and Lone Star Feed.

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 Youth Night . . . . .6:00 PM  
 Sunday Evening . . . . .6:30 PM  
 Wednesday Evening . . . . .7:00 PM

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# Heritage Land Bank names new Chief Executive Officer

Heritage Land Bank, ACA named Stephen R. Ogletree chief executive officer of the rural financing cooperative, effective mid-October.

He reports to the Board of Directors and is responsible for the corporate administration, planning and overall management of the Tyler-based lending institution.

A 31-year veteran of the Farm Credit System, Ogletree is a native of Garland, Texas. A football scholarship took him to Rice University where he graduated in 1973.

Ogletree began his Farm Credit career as a loan officer for Tyler Production Credit Association in 1973. In 1980, he went to the Farm Credit Bank of Texas as a credit reviewer and on to Valley Production Credit Association as President in 1982.

In 1984, he went back the Farm Credit Bank of Texas as Regional Vice President, but later decided East Texas was the place he wanted to be.

He became CEO and President for Tyler Production Credit Association in 1985. In 1999, he became CEO of the merged association forming AgriLand, FCS.

"Heritage is so fortunate to have such a skilled CEO come on board. The Heritage Board of Directors and employees look forward to working with him to make Heritage the premier lender in East Texas," stated Chief Financial Officer Jenny Sloan.

Ogletree and his wife, Cynthia, live in Flint just out of Tyler.

They have three grown

sons and one granddaughter.

Heritage Land Bank, ACA is a member-owned lending cooperative, which provides long-term, intermediate, short-term, and commercial financing for farms, ranches, rural residences, timber tracts, agri-businesses, equipment, livestock purchases, and operating capital.

The association services 16 counties with loan volume in excess of \$360 million. Offices are located in Athens, Greenville, McKinney, Nacogdoches, Palestine, Rockwall, and Tyler.



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**New Location**

**Cherokee Civic Theatre**  
 Presents  
**A Little Princess Christmas**

Adapted & Directed by  
 Castanya George Elledge & Jessica Breen-Ford  
 From the Frances Hodgson Burnett Children's Classic

**Friday & Saturday, December 1&2 at 7:30pm**  
**Sunday, December 3 at 2pm**

**Reserve Seats: \$8 Adults; \$5 Students**  
**At The Door: \$10**  
**Group Rates Available**

Season Patron Tickets Available Starting November 20 at 9:30am  
 General Admission Tickets Available Starting November 27 at 9:30am  
**Cherokee Civic Theatre Box Office, 118 W. 5th St, Rusk**  
**903-683-2131**

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