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RECORD TURNOUT

Chamber votes in new board members, officers

By Lori Mellinger
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In what proved to be a record turnout, the Bullard Chamber of Commerce elected officers and new board members last week.

More than 50 people attended, with ballots totaling about 42. This is out of a membership of about 115.

Newly elected president Mike Alexander said he was pleased with both the turnout and the direction the chamber

is headed.

"Danny Ray (former president) did a great job, and I hope to continue to be able to do what he's done for the chamber," Alexander said. "A

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Both new and current board members and new officers are shown after last week's chamber meeting. From left, board members Larry Morgan, Darline McKay, John Alexander and Teresa Adams-Wilks; vice president Brian Capps; President Mike Alexander; board member Chad Davis; secretary Sue Hornbuckle and board members Joe Gentry and Craig Gardner were present at the meeting.

LETTERS TO SANTA



The Bullard Banner News is soliciting your children's letters to Santa for publication. Please drop them off or mail to our office, 114 N. Houston St., Bullard, 75757, or e-mail to editor@bullardnews.com. We will then forward the letters to the North Pole.

BULLETIN BOARD

■ Bullard RE/MAX is collecting coats and canned food at its office at Bullard Crossing to benefit Mission House. Contributors get a chance to win dinner for two and a limousine ride. For more information on the coat and food drive, call Reagan at 903-894-5003 or 903-316-4730. The drawing will be held in December.

■ Bullard High School is holding a book fair from 7:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. Dec. 17-20 and 7:30 to noon Dec. 21 in the high school library. Extended hours on Dec. 20 are 5 to 7:30 p.m. Money raised goes to a UIL trip. For more information call Carol Martin, 903-894-3272, ext. 2116.

■ The 716 Student Ministry of Bullard Southern Baptist Church will host a drive-in movie night at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec 15. Cost is \$25. Hot drinks and snacks will be on sale as well. All proceeds from the event will benefit the "Operation Africa" Contact John Davison at 903-894-9267 for more information.

CHRISTMAS WISHES



-- Courtesy photos



Students got an early visit from Santa Claus on Friday at Bullard Elementary School -- as part of a day filled with other activities including parental involvement day. The Bullard Banner News will publish students and all children's letters to Santa in the Dec. 19 edition of the newspaper.

Bullard EDC sets meeting; corrects last

By Lori Mellinger
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While Bullard Economic Development Corporation held its first meeting last week, it will now have to reschedule it -- in Bullard City Manager Larry Morgan's opinion -- to "err on the side of caution."

The newly formed group voted on a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer at last week's meeting, as well as approving by-laws -- with a few changes, but that will all have to be redone now because the meeting was not posted to the public 72 hours in advance as dictated by the Texas Open Meetings Act.

"It was my opinion that since the organization had not officially formed, it would not fall under the act," Morgan said.

The next day, on the advice of City Attorney

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High school roundtable talks testing

By Lori Mellinger
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Bullard High School continued its series of roundtable discussions on Monday addressing a matter that seems to be on everyone's mind - testing.

District Testing Coordinator and middle school counselor Carla Case spoke to the seven parents, four students, principal Scott Franks and counselor Ronnie Suggs on the latest developments for TAKS testing.

TAKS - the standardized test introduced by then-Gov. George W. Bush - has gone through many incarnations, and it's not finished yet, Case said.

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BULLARD'S BEST

High school listed recognized in 'Texas Monthly'

Bullard Independent School District joins a handful of other Smith County school districts with a campus on the list of "Best Public Schools in Texas," a feature of the December 2007 issue of "Texas Monthly" magazine.

Bullard High School was cited in the Higher Performing Subjects category for Texas

Assessment of Knowledge and Skills results in the area of science.

"Obviously, we are very pleased about this honor," said Superintendent Jim Wright. "But we still know we have room for improvement.

Other Smith County campuses on the list include Troup High School, Brownsboro

Elementary, Chapel Hill Middle School and, from the Tyler school system, Caldwell Arts Academy Elementary, Woods Elementary and Hubbard Middle School.

"The success at the high school a team effort among the staff - from the principal

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ACTS OF SERVICE



From left Yasma Smith, Nathan Wong, Logan Kirkpatrick and Edwin Link take part in Brook Hill's annual service project. See Page 10.

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