

Character Counts



Bullard Elementary School is proud of its "January Kids of Character!" These students display the character trait of "loyalty," according to teachers and staff. They were selected for displaying loyalty to their country as in the classroom when student pledge the flag and sing the "National Anthem" each morning. These students were seen showing loyalty to their school by concern for the care of their classroom, the cafeteria, and the general appearance of the school. Most of all, though, these outstanding students were recognized for their display of loyalty to their friends, school officials said. They are known for treating other students consistently in a kind and caring manner. Students pictured are: Kindergarten: David Brantley, Shelbee Walker, Payton Hancock, Kaycee Griffith, Leighann Langston, Quinton Trahan and Abby Grissom. First grade: Parker Bradshaw, Whitney Buckley, Jeremiah Arredondo, Trenton Dublin, Katie Gilbert, Minarda Rowan and Tori Parham. Second grade: Carley Hamby, Jarrett Whatley, Dexter Jenkins, Emma French, Thomas Heyder, Drew Lewis and Ethan Medley. Third grade: Joey Padrucco, Hunter Dickens, Emman Khan, Cody Phillips, Isaiah Parkers, Amanda Sisco and Kevin Jones.

Local chosen 'outstanding musician' by music school

Psalist School of Music, Tyler, presented its annual awards at a recent Winter Youth Recital held in Tyler.

Named as "outstanding young male and female musicians" for 2007 were Daniel Armstrong and Rebekah Wolven.

Armstrong, 13, is the son of David and Dijona Armstrong of Flint and is an eighth-grade student at Bullard Middle School.

In addition to his piano studies with Rebecca Baker, he also plays in the middle school band.

Wolven, 16, is the daughter of Dan and Lisa Wolven of Lindale, and a junior at King's Academy in Tyler.

She also plays on the school volleyball team.

Other awards presented included: "most industrious students," Jillian Pagaduan,

Whitehouse, and Nicholas Volberding, Tyler; "most improved instrumentalists,"

Christie Orr, Palestine, and Emily Putman, Tyler; "most improved sightreader," Channah Clayton, Tyler; "instructor's awards,"

Grant Heimbaugh, Whitehouse, and Hunter Regian, Tyler; and

"outstanding vocalist," Meagan Orr, Palestine.

Military News

Navy Seaman Apprentice Rodney J. Fuller, son of Carolyn Johnson, Bullard, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Fuller completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet.

"Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork

and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment.

Fuller is a 2004 graduate of Bullard High School.

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Brookshire's rates in Top 25

Brookshire Grocery Co., parent company of Brookshire's and Super 1 Foods stores, was distinguished as one of the 75 Best Companies to Work for in Texas in the February issue of "Texas Monthly" magazine, ranking 23rd in the large companies category.

"We are excited to receive this distinguished honor for the third year in a row," said Rick Rayford, president and CEO at BGC. "We will continue our commitment to making Brookshire Grocery Company a great place to work and a great place to shop."

The Best Companies to Work for in Texas program is organized by Best Companies Group, the Texas Association of Business, the Texas State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management, and ModernThink LLC, a research and consulting firm specializing in workplace excellence.

Companies choosing to participate in the program complete a two-part survey, with the companies surveyed about operational information and a random group of anonymous employees polled about topics such as benefits and working conditions.

Participating companies received an assessment findings

Report with an anonymous summary of employee responses and a phone consultation with ModernThink consultants to review results.

"Identifying outstanding employers is a very effective way to recognize the importance of

creating cultures where employees love to come to work," said Peter Burke, president of Best Companies Group, noting that the employee survey results help companies become even better places to work."

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