

## LOCAL

# Bullard Banner News

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### Deadlines

### Advertising

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### News and Sports

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## Bullard Banner News

We want you



to submit your  
story ideas.

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## Rã-K's has official ribbon cutting



Rã-K's held its grand opening last Friday with an official Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting.

Photo by Jim Epperson

## New Program Brings Over 1.2 Million Pounds of Food to Hungry East Texans

Brookshire Grocery Company and Kraft Foods will announce their support of a new program of the East Texas Food Bank.

The Store Donation Program sends trucks directly to area grocery stores to pick up meat, dairy products, bread and other perishables that are nearing their sell-by date. These types of foods are some of the hardest to get donated and have high nutritional value. It is estimated that Brookshire Grocery Company will donate over 1.2 million pounds of food through this program every year.

During the pilot phase, the Store Donation Program has rescued over 23,000 pounds of food from Brookshire Grocery Company that otherwise would have been discarded but instead was used to feed hungry people. Kraft Foods is investing \$45,000 in the Store Donation Program.

## TXDOT

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"Under ideal conditions in warmer weather, we can plan our work locations and have lots of signs and flaggers to help draw attention to our work zones," Krantz said. "But once we're dealing with widespread icing, downed trees, and high water, things we have no control over, our job is to get the roadway open and traffic flowing."

"And it seems like most of the time, we're doing those things at night." Krantz added that, in particular, work on Interstate 20 is the most difficult and dangerous both for its high speeds and numerous bridge and overpass structures that require de-icing treatments.

"For some reason, some people don't slow down when the weather starts affecting driving conditions," he said. "Wet pavement conditions with reduced visibility and freezing temperatures can be a deadly combination without adding TxDOT personnel and equipment to the equation."

While the Tyler District hasn't had a worker killed in

the line of duty in its recent history, three TxDOT workers around the state were killed in just a few months before, during, and immediately after hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

"Obviously that's three too many," Krantz said. "These men dedicated their life's work to keeping traffic moving on Texas highways. It's more than a little ironic that it's that same traffic that killed them."

Krantz offered a few tips for staying safe on the highways this holiday season:

\* Don't drink and drive. Designate a sober driver, call a cab or spend the night;

\* Wear your seatbelt, and make sure your passengers do, too;

\* Avoid driving at night if possible, especially in bad weather;

\* Be aware that bridges and overpasses will be the first to freeze and possibly ice over in cold weather.

\* Drive defensively and according to the conditions on the road — wrecks happen quickly, and sometimes more quickly than you can

react if one happens in front of you.

\* Finally, be on the lookout for TxDOT treating the roadways, and keep a safe distance behind de-icing convoys.

TxDOT plans resurfacing work on FM 317 east of Athens

ATHENS - Texas Department of Transportation maintenance crews are scheduled to begin resurfacing parts of FM 317 east of Athens this week, weather permitting. The resurfacing effort will take place over the coming weeks in various locations between Athens and FM 314 south of Brownsboro. Daytime lane closures will be in effect while the work is in progress. Motorists should seek alternate routes if possible to avoid delays.

TxDOT plans edge repairs on Spur 364

SMITH COUNTY — Weather permitting, Texas Department of Transportation maintenance crews are scheduled this week to perform edge

repairs along Spur 364 between SSW Loop 323 in Tyler and SH 31 west of Tyler. Daytime lane closures will be in effect while the work is in progress. Traffic will be controlled by flaggers. Also in Smith County, TxDOT maintenance forces are scheduled to remove tree debris remaining from Hurricane Ike from various locations along the FM 2767 right of way. Daytime lane closures are possible for that work as well.

TxDOT continues edge repairs in Anderson County

ANDERSON COUNTY - Weather permitting, Texas Department of Transportation maintenance crews are scheduled to perform pavement-edge repairs this week in various locations along SH 19 north of Palestine, FM 1817 east of Elkhart, and SH 294. Daytime lane closures will be in effect while the work is in progress.

TxDOT continues work on FM 1255

VAN ZANDT COUNTY - Weather permitting, Texas Department of Transportation maintenance crews are scheduled to continue work this week on FM 1255 between FM 1652 and FM 773. Daytime lane closures will be in effect while the work is in progress, and flaggers will control traffic in two-lane areas.

TxDOT continues overlay work on SH 37

WOOD COUNTY - Weather permitting, Texas Department of Transportation maintenance crews are scheduled to continue overlay work on SH 37 south of Winnsboro this week, as well as repairing pavement edges and shoulders in various locations along FM 14 and FM 778. Daytime lane closures will be in effect while the work is in progress, and flaggers will control traffic in two-lane areas. Motorists are encouraged to seek alternate routes if possible to avoid delays.

## CITIZENSHIP

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"We had to send in a bunch of paper work and a recent passport picture of me to Washington D.C. and they took care of the rest," Russell said.

Then about one year later Wichya and her family traveled to Dallas where she took the oath of allegiance and received her certificate. There are many benefits to Wichya becoming a citizen.

"Paper work for applying to college will be much more convenient,"

Russell said. "I can renew my passport conveniently and of course I can vote. I just applied for my first job and I got to say I was a citizen."

After Wichya received her citizenship, government and economics teacher Jan Berry had a celebration for Wichya in her classroom during school. As with all great teachers, there was a learning experience attached.

"We just wanted to help Wichya celebrate," Berry

said. "It also let the other students realize the importance so they don't take for granted their own citizenship."

Berry said that Wichya has participated as a citizen in student government and as a class officer but now she has the "title" to go with these positions.

Wichya feels that nothing has really changed because she has already been here for so long.

"To me, this is my home," Russell said.

## Correction

The Bullard Chamber of Commerce has had a record year both in membership and the money raised throughout the calendar year. According to treasurer Sherri Glover, the Chamber raised more the \$50,000, compared to last years \$32,000. On top of that, chamber officials

estimate that they had a membership increase of more than 30 percent.

The Festival this year raised over \$23,600.00. The Fun Run (Armforces Day Event) raised the \$11,000.00. This event was headed by John Alexander and Darline McKay and this was

sponsored by ETMC.

The Board of Directors (not the Treasurer) are the ones that have been talking about a part time employee. The Building Committee along with the Board of Directors (not the Treasurer) are checking into a Building



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John Alexander, DVM

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