

BULLARD BANNER NEWS

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BULLARD'S OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER

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The Guard Boys winning in District

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Lady Panthers

80-38 win over Athens
65-35 win over Gilmer

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Fire department maps out businesses, prepares for fire



Photo by Jim Epperson

Cory Thatcher, a volunteer firefighter in Flint, looks at a faucet at Brook Hill Upper School. Firefighters are mapping out businesses and school campuses to better respond if there is an emergency. Bullard fire chief Keith Newburn says that if firefighters can map out the area, the insurance premiums could go down.

The Bullard Volunteer Fire Department is mapping where exits, windows and hazardous materials are at businesses and schools in an effort to lower insurance premiums in the area.

The goal is to map out every business that is willing so the department can get a better ISO rating. If the fire department reaches its goal, then Bullard residents could see up to a 30

percent decrease in their insurance premiums.

So fire fighters took to the streets last week and asked businesses and school to open their doors so they could do a walk through.

Bullard Volunteer Firefighter Justin Walker said the fire department wants to be able to respond to fires without asking questions.

"If you are not running calls then

you get ready for them," he said.

Fire Chief Keith Newburn said that it is good to know specific information, like where are cleaning agents that could convert to dangerous chemicals. And for Brook Hill, it is good to know where laundry rooms are and where special needs kids are housed.

"Basically, it gives us an opportunity to prepare," Newburn said. "Prepares if there is a fire at night."

O.L. FERRELL PARK UPDATE

In 2005 the City of Bullard was successful in acquiring a grant from the state of Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. The amount of the grant was \$100,000 and was a 50/50 match situation on every dollar spent by the city \$.50 would return for work performed.

The driving force behind the grant and resulting park face lift was Councilwoman Pam Frederick. Pam knew there was little to no money from the city budget so she formed a parks renovation committee and set about to raise matching funds. The monies came in slowly at first because people were somewhat skeptical. The park had the look of an area that had been abandoned, which actually was the case, the city had virtually no money for maintenance and upkeep. And replacing worn equipment was way down on the priority list. However, Mrs. Frederick was not deterred.

The fund raising efforts began to work and several hundred dollars accumulated. It was

about that time that the council hired Larry Morgan as City Manager. Mr. Morgan had park and recreation experience and committed himself to working with Mrs. Frederick.

The park project began to take shape with a new playscape and a total renovation to the existing tennis courts. Fast forward to today. The park is very near completion. That is, the items proposed to Parks & Wildlife have been completed and barring only some minor touch ups, is ready for final inspection from Parks & Wildlife and a ribbon cutting.

Pam Frederick often drives by the park and can not help but smile when she sees families enjoying the various pieces of play equipment. The renovated tennis court and pavilion are often in use, the picnic tables and cookers are very popular with families. In Mrs. Fredericks words "Seeing the families and individuals enjoying themselves in the park makes it all worth while."

Downtown store sells Diesel, invests in property

Surprise. Surprise.

You can now fill up your truck with diesel in downtown Bullard at EZ-Way, which was formally Nu-Way. This is a luxury Bullard has been without for quite some time.

After a \$250,000 investment that upgraded the exterior and interior of the only downtown gas station and convenience store, EZ-Way is officially ready to tell the public that the renovation is complete.

They are encouraging customers and area residents to try their new pat at the pumps and explore the renovations done inside the building. Customers can find new restrooms, a better fountain soda counter, renovated cabinets with a wider selection of snack and an atmosphere that the owners was to match that of Bullard.

"We are just trying to grow just like Bullard is growing," store manager Brenda Conner said.

The \$250,000 renovation took several months. The store now has more pumps, diesel and it looks prettier in downtown Bullard.

Customer Richard Williams of Bullard said he loved the new look of the store.

"There's a lot more room and it's a lot brighter," Williams said.

It's brighter because the store even renovated the light fixtures.

New American flag



Ryan Hamilton and Justin Watkins fold an old torn flag while Blain Faulk raises a new flag.

One day David Russ was sitting in class and he noticed the American Flag was old and worn.

It was fraying at the end and the colors were faded.

Russ' friend, Judson Watkins began writing state and U.S. officials asking for a new flag. You

could say Russ and Watkins are patriotic, or at least they like the American Flag.

But an East Texas businessman stepped up and gave the high school a new flag. Chris Green, of Woodmen of the World based in Jacksonville, donated a new

American flag to the high school.

Editor's Note: This story is being republished because there were several errors in the original story. The Bullard Banner News apologizes to readers who were misinformed and to all involved in the story.

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