

LOCAL

**Smith County Commissioners  
Court meetings now available  
for MP3 audio download**

Starting this month Smith County Commissioners Court meetings can be heard from your home computer. Commissioners Court meetings are now available online in MP3 format and can be listened to at the citizens' convenience.

"Smith County Commissioners have always made every effort to make their actions transparent and easily available to the public by posting agendas and minutes online. Audio recordings are one more tool for providing the people with an easy-to-access record of county government at work," County Judge Joel Baker said.

Entire meetings may be

accessed through a built in MP3 player.

"You do not have to come downtown anymore to see what the Commissioners Court is doing, and you do not have to attend an entire meeting to listen to one issue," Smith County IT Director Harvy Tanner said. "This is a service that is costing the county very little and provides countless people with convenient access to information."

To hear the latest Commissioners Court meetings, visit [www.smith-county.com](http://www.smith-county.com) and click on "Commissioners" under the "Government" tab. Agendas and audio files are listed under the "Administration" tab.

**F.Y.I.**

From page 1

notes, toilet paper and paper towels, stationary, pens, pencils and other office supplies. The Friends of Bullard Public Library hope that raising supplies will off set expenses for these items, thus stretching purse strings for the library building fund and expediting the new library facility that has been planned for so long.

+++

The Mission House is in need of volunteer staff. If you have the time please give it to those in need.

The Mission House Health Clinic is open 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month.

The Food and Clothes Closet is open 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month and 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Fourth Tuesday of the month.

+++

Moms In Touch meets 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Tuesdays at Bullard Properties, on the corner of Main and Phillips Streets.

+++

Smith County Commissioners' Court meets 9 a.m. each Monday at the Smith County Courthouse Annex.

+++

Cherokee County Commissioners' Court meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Monday of the month at Cherokee County Courthouse.

+++

Bullard City Council meets 6:30 p.m., the second Tuesday of each month. Come out and see what is happening in the city and where your tax dollars are headed.

+++

Bullard ISD Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of the month.

+++

Bullard Area Kiwanis Club meets Noon Tuesdays at the First United Methodist Church Family Life Center. So far this month the Kiwanis Club has inducted five new members and heard from a multitude of speakers.

+++

Bullard Area Rotary Club meets 6:30 a.m. at Keipersol. The rotary Club this month has heard from speakers on topic such as economic development and the future of local sports programs.

+++

Bullard Elementary and Primary Parent Teacher Organization will hold Bingo night from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday Feb. 27 at the Primary School Cafeteria.

+++

Please call or stop by the paper with calendar events, news, or story ideas.

No new is too big -- or too small, so we want to hear from anyone who knows anything.

**Austin Bank Names 2008  
Community Involvement  
Award Recipients in J'ville**



Austin Bank employees Kent Bryson, Austin Vass and Michael Simpson were recognized for their volunteer work and contributions to three East Texas civic and non-profit organizations.

Austin Bank annually recognizes its employees and officers for their volunteer service to civic and non-profit organizations within East Texas by giving Community Involvement Awards. The Community Involvement recipients each receive \$500 and another \$500 is donated to an organization they serve.

"Through the volunteer work of our employees and Austin Bank's donations, we can contribute to the community's well-being and development," said Jeff Austin III, Vice Chairman of the Board. "Our employees' service to local civic organizations gives us an opportunity to promote education, health, afford-

able housing, employment and growth within the locations that Austin Bank serves."

"We are proud to honor these three people for their contributions within their community and to the organizations they devote time to," said Austin Bank President John P. Williams. "These employees are noteworthy volunteers who work whole-heartedly giving their time and expertise. They exemplify the Austin Bank values that make us what we are."

Austin Bank is a community bank headquartered in Jacksonville, Texas with more than \$1 billion in assets. Bank offices are located in 28 East Texas locations within 18 cities and nine counties. Austin Bank is locally owned and operated by the Austin Family who is celebrating 100 years of serving the banking industry.



**Weight-loss surgery at ETMC  
could be the help you're looking for.**

If you're severely overweight and neither dieting, exercise nor smaller portions have been effective, don't despair. Weight-loss surgery by Dr. Hugh Babineau and the experts at ETMC could help you gain an advantage in your struggle with obesity.

We offer two forms of weight-loss surgery: gastric bypass and the LAP-BAND® System. Gastric bypass surgery reduces the size of the stomach by 90 percent. The LAP-BAND® System involves placing a band around the top part of the stomach to reduce food intake. Neither procedure guarantees weight loss, but both serve as tools to help you manage your weight in the long term.

Whichever surgery is called for, Dr. Babineau makes decisions on a patient-by-patient basis. What's more, the Surgical Review Corporation of the American Society for Bariatric Surgery has designated ETMC Tyler and Dr. Babineau's surgical practice an ASBS Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

To learn more about weight-loss surgery at ETMC Tyler, call 903-594-2407 or 1-866-886-3835.

The ASBS has designated ETMC Tyler and Dr. Babineau's surgical practice as a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence



East Texas Medical Center  
Regional Healthcare System

Hear Dr. Hugh Babineau discuss the details of weight-loss surgery on the ETMC KnowledgeFirst podcast at [www.etmc.org/1podcast](http://www.etmc.org/1podcast) or by power searching for "ETMC" at the iTunes Store.

**Bullard  
Banner  
News**

**STAFF**  
**BILL WOODALL...PUBLISHER**  
**KATHRYN PENROSE...EDITOR**  
**M.D. 'DOC' SMITH...SPORTS**  
**DOT WEST...RECEPTIONIST**  
**KYLA WEIS...AD DESIGN**

**Contact Us**  
**Address**  
 114 N. Houston  
 Bullard, TX 75757

**Telephone**  
 (903) 894-9306

**Fax**  
 (903) 894-9308

**On the Web**  
[www.BullardNews.com](http://www.BullardNews.com)

**Email**  
**News Room**  
[editor@bullardnews.com](mailto:editor@bullardnews.com)  
[news@bullardnews.com](mailto:news@bullardnews.com)

**Advertising**  
[advertising@bullardnews.com](mailto:advertising@bullardnews.com)

**Billing and circulation**  
[circ@kilgorennewsheald.com](mailto:circ@kilgorennewsheald.com)

**Hours**  
 Monday through Friday,  
 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Deadlines**  
**Advertising**  
 Deadlines are noon Friday for publication the following week. During holidays, deadlines are noon Thursday.

**News and Sports**  
 Community news announcements must be submitted by noon Friday. Sports Announcement deadline is noon Friday. Letter to the editor must be submitted by noon Friday.

**Circulation**  
 For problems with paper delivery or subscriptions call, (903) 894-9306 To ask about your account or to refill news racks, call (903) 984-2593. Subscriptions for Smith, Cherokee, Rusk counties are \$26 a year. All other places in U.S.A. are \$30. Over 65 is \$24

**Postmaster**  
 Send address changes to Bullard Banner News 114 N Houston, Bullard, TX 75757. Bullard Banner News (USPS 015622) is published every Wednesday by Bluebonnet Publishing LLC at 114 N Houston, Bullard, TX, 75757. Periodical postage paid at Bullard, Texas. Copy right 2008 Bullard Banner News.