

# BULLARD BANNER NEWS

BULLARD'S OFFICIAL



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**BBA hosting 12U softball this week**

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**Ex-Panther star returns as coach**

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## F.Y.I.

**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 Fourth Tuesday of the month.**

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

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

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**Bullard City Council meets 6 p.m., the second Tuesday of each month.**

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**Bullard Area Kiwanis Club meets Noon Tuesdays at the First United Methodist Church Family Life Center.**

**Bullard Area Rotary Club meets 6:30 a.m. at Keipersol.**

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**General Joseph L. Hogg Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, meet the second Saturday every month in the Bullard and Jacksonville area. For more information call J.D@ Campbell at 903-894-6727.**

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**Call or stop by the paper with story ideas.**



## "Blast in the Sky" a blast for all of Bullard

By KATHRYN PENROSE  
editor@bullardnews.com

"Blast in the Sky" was just that. Approximately 3,000 families, friends and Bullard residents attended the city's "Blast in the Sky" event Friday night and a good time -- or a blast -- was had by all.

The fireworks display, by Wilkinson's Fireworks, lasted 20

minutes and wowed all in attendance with its bright colors and pyrotechnic combinations.

Music was another highlight of the evening, with Lauren Alexander and Wayne Duke each performing, plus a gospel quartet, with Nancy Covington.

The fire department was an enourmous part of the evening's success. Not only did the depart-

ment oversee the fireworks display, they also pulled one of their firetrucks up so children -- and adults -- could explore the truck.

"This was an exciting addition to our event and we thank the fire department for being so generous," Stacey Thompson, mayor pro tem and event chairman said.

Raffle sales were a big part of the event. According to

Thompson, prizes were being carted out of panther territory by the arm load Friday Night as ticket holders won them in drawings throughout the night.

Once again Snow Coney Island was the food vendor. Chris and Marybeth Thompson are slated to share proceeds from the event with the city for use toward city park improvements.



Above, Jesse Duplechin, Bullard freshman to be, was the lucky winner of a Nintendo Wii game system, raffled off courtesy of Adams Insurance, at the city's "Blast in the Sky" on Friday night.

At left, just a few of the blasts that Bullard area residents, families and friends enjoyed during the event benefiting Bullard's city park.

## Bullard man arraigned in shooting death of brother

HENDERSON -- Justin Gregory Raner, 22, of Bullard, was arraigned on first degree murder charges Monday and remains jailed on a \$1 million bond in Rusk County after he admitted to shooting his younger brother to death after an argument Saturday.

Rusk County Sheriff's Sgt. Amber Rogers, public information officer, said

deputies responded to the report of a deceased person on County Road 364 about 8:45 a.m. Saturday.

When deputies arrived, they found the body of 19-year-old Jeremy Neal Raner, which was found near a wooded area in a hayfield by his stepfather.

Rogers said investigators from the Rusk County Sheriff's Office, Rusk County District Attorney's

Office, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rangers responded to investigate the scene.

Rusk County Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 Judge Seth Stein was summoned and held the inquest. The judge then ordered the body sent to Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences in Dallas for an autopsy.

According to court documents, Raner told deputies during an interview Sunday night that he shot his brother multiple times and attempted to hide the body.

A probable cause affidavit states the elder brother took Rusk County Attorney Investigator William Brown, a Texas Ranger and sheriff's deputies, to a rural area

where the weapon believed to have been used in the crime and extra ammunition were located.

Brown said, during the interview, the Raner stated he committed the homicide because his brother made him angry.

The court records indicate Raner provided detectives with both a videotaped interview and a signed confession.

## Summit Bullard 2009 mission a good time, success

**Church mission helps Bullard residents make home repairs, youth gain experience**

By KATHRYN PENROSE  
editor@bullardnews.com

Just a few weeks back, when 150 youth and 68 youth leaders from Chaplewood United Methodist Church of Housot, landed in Bullard, it was evident the teams were here to do God's work.

Hazle Mason, director of Bullard Mission House,, reports that the group spent more than \$40,000 on supplies While in town and completed tasks at 45 different

residences. Tasks completed include: wheelchair ramps, 8; porches, 11; steps, 3; handrails, 4; windows, 6; sheetrock repair, 13; exterior painting, 70; roof repair, 3; floor repair, 3; screen windows and doors, 8; yard work, 12; cleaning, 7; trash haul, 7; and, 18 other tasks.

"This mission was such a blessing to Bullard," Mason said. "For two years in a row this church has chosen to help in Bullard and we hope to work with them again."

## Bullard bids farewell to Jane Purtle, long-time resident, friend of Bullard Community Library, friend to all

By KATHRYN PENROSE  
editor@bullardnews.com

It was not an easy decision for Jane Purtle to up and leave Bullard, but it is something as a grandmother she felt it was time to do. She is headed to Fayetteville, ARK to be closer to her children and grandchildren.

Purtle has been active in Bullard for 20 years and is a charter/founding member of Friends of Bullard Community Library.

Even as Purtle said her goodbyes Monday, she made the library and its patrons her top priority, scooting about the aisles, helping children find books and showing patrons the friend's sale racks.

Purtle said she hopes Bullard residents will stand behind the library and support its efforts to grow.

"We have raised \$400,000 and we need that much more to break ground," Purtle said.

Purtle will miss her friends. "It has been great working with the friends, they are all fine people," Purtle said. "I look forward to a visit as soon as the new library is complete."



Members of the community and Friends of Bullard Community Library said goodbye to Jane Purtle "who gave so much, to so many, for so long." She was honored with a plaque stating this.

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