

# SHEPHERD COMMUNITY NEWS

# HAPPY ☆ NEW YEAR

# 2016

## Shepherd Senior Citizen's Ugly Sweater Contest



The Shepherd Senior Citizen's ugly sweater contest was lots of fun! Janice Youngblood, pictured in center, won the prize!

## Top Ten Race at SPS

Congratulations to the students who qualified to run in the Top Ten Mile Race at Shepherd Primary on December 11th.

### Kindergarten



Top left to right: Edgar pena-Saenz, Wyatt Allen, Wesley Barr, Teagan Schubert, Pedro Navarette, Sergio Gonzalez, and Martin Lopez.  
Middle left to right: Haylee Harris, Mallorie Wallace, Isabella Rushing, Latika Hadnot, Brylei Roberts, and Whitney Millage.  
Bottom left to right: Shon Lewis, Jeremy Cutaia, Trace Green, Samantha Garcia, Sarah Garcia, and Johnnie Mosley.

### First Grade



Top left to right: Franchesco Gallegos, Pablo Santiago, Kyler Syracuse, Merced Gallegos, Alan Infante, and David Neal.  
Middle left to right: Kaylee Kangas, Jayla Fisher, Estefany Martinez, Emily Espinoza, Melany Rangel, Presli Molica and Helen Chavez.  
Bottom left to right: Trenton Prater, Nathan Morales, Diego Orozco, Karla Rangel, Lacey Papp, and Gisele Benitez-Lopez.

### Second Grade



Back left to right: Kaden Bright, Marshall Reeves, Jacob Elrod, Pedro Aguillon, Nicholas Singletary, Eduardo Jaime and Colton Champion.  
Middle left to right: Trinity Lowrance, Cali Crowder, Jazilyn Richardson, Abigail Mosley, Gema Pena and Ariel Uriegas.  
Bottom left to right: Francisco Silva, Lonel Flores, Bryson Goodman, Julissa Mayorga, Victoria Gonzalez and Michelle Zamora.

## "Big Red" The Father of Santa's Reindeer



Shepherd ISD has exciting news to share. Adriann Cennamo, 3rd grade teacher at Shepherd Intermediate, co-wrote a book with her husband Danny Cennamo titled "Big Red" The Father of Santa's Reindeer. The book has been published and available on *Amazon.com*.

We are so proud of their accomplishment and wish them the best in future writing adventures. *Pictured: Adriann Cennamo and "Santa" Danny Cennamo*



"Santa" Cennamo reading to the 3rd graders at Shepherd Intermediate.

## Hwy 59 Shut Down for Several Hours Due to Wreck

by Amberlea Duke

On Monday, December 21 at approximately 7:00 pm the San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office received a report of a one vehicle roll over accident on Hwy 59 South in Shepherd.

State Trooper Barnes was dispatched to investigate. Upon arrival, it was discovered the vehicle was a Loomis armored car. The driver tried to miss debris on the highway and in doing so, left the roadway to the right into the grassy area between Shepherd and the old truck stop. The driver tried to bring the vehicle back onto the roadway but overcompensated, resulting in the vehicle slamming into the concrete barrier. The vehicle was badly damaged and disabled by this time.

San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office deputies and Shepherd VFD were on scene assisting with traffic control.

Although traffic was stopped North bound on 59 for only a short period of time, those waiting in the South bound lanes were not so lucky and had almost 2+ hours of wait time. Hence the lack of pictures. The vehicle was recovered by East Texas Towing.

# Joke of the WEEK

On New Year's Eve, Daniel was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly walked home. As he was wobbling along, he was stopped by a policeman.



'What are you doing out here at four o'clock in the morning?' asked the police officer.  
'I'm on my way to a lecture,' answered Roger.  
'And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?' enquired the constable sarcastically... 'My wife,' slurred Daniel grimly.



## It's Scholarship Time Again!

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholarship applications are now available! The Area Go Texan Scholarship applications are only available online. San Jacinto County High School Senior students wishing to apply should go to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo website, [www.rodeohouston.com](http://www.rodeohouston.com), under the Scholarships tab at the top. The online applications must be submitted by midnight Monday, **February 08, 2016!** Other required documentation must be postmarked by Thursday, **February 18, 2016.** Final approval and notification of each scholarship recipient will be made by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Office of Educational Programs.

If needed students should see their school counselor, County Extension office, or Ag Science teachers for additional information.

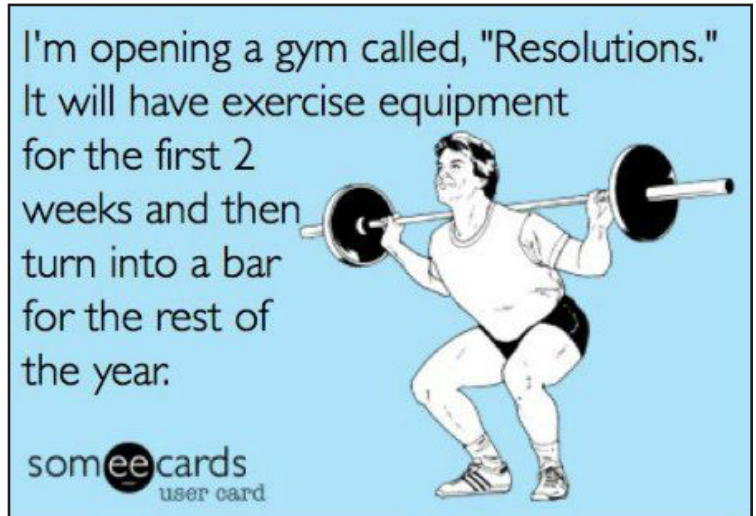
The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will provide an \$18,000, four-year scholarship to an eligible, outstanding student from OUR County. So parents get your senior to working on completion of this application. They just might be the lucky recipient of the \$18,000 four-year scholarship for our county.

For more information on the Show, its scholarship program and other educational commitments, visit [www.rodeohouston.com](http://www.rodeohouston.com).

The 2016 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will run March 1 - March 20, 2016.

## Mark your Calendars for "Denim & Diamonds"

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for Saturday, February 13, 2016 when the San Jacinto County Area Go-Texan Committee will host their annual local scholarship fund-raiser dinner and auction event. "Denim & Diamonds" will begin at 6:00 p.m. This year the event is being moved to the Polk County Commerce Center building in Livingston. This is located behind the Angelina College building at the entrance of Pedigo Park. Folks are already asking for tickets which go on sale soon! So mark your calendar to join us!



## New Releases Coming to McClain's DVD Kiosk This Week



**A Walk in the Woods (R) comedy/drama:** After spending two decades in England, Bill Bryson returns to the U.S., where he decides the best way to connect with his homeland is to hike the Appalachian Trail with one of his oldest friends. **Starring: Robert Redford, Nick Nolte, Emma Thompson**



**Hitman: Agent 47 (R) action/crime:** An assassin teams up with a woman to help her find her father and uncover the mysteries of her ancestry. **Starring: Rupert Friend, Hannah Ware, Zachary Quinto**



**The Perfect Guy (PG-13) drama/thriller:** After breaking up with her boyfriend, a professional woman gets involved with a man who seems almost too good to be true. **Starring: Sanaa Lathan, Michael Ealy, Morris Chestnut**

McClain's does not maintain Cajun DVD movie kiosk and therefore cannot guarantee all movie releases.

"McClain's Food Market"



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Did you know...

By Yvonne Ryba



Coldspring-San Jacinto County Chamber of Commerce hosted their annual Christmas on the Square on Saturday, December 12. Unfortunately the weather prevented us from having the Lighted Parade and the entertainment at that time. This was a great pity because the floats which had been decorated were really something to see, but the rain and strong winds made it too difficult to carry on. A lot of hard work went into the planning and creation for this day, which started out well. There were lots of vendors with exceptional goods for sale. The musicians performed and kept everyone feeling happy and the Chamber offered hot coffee, cocoa and cookies from the Hospitality Room. We thank attorney Kerry Hagan for being so generous in letting us use his office for this purpose. Thank you every one who helped, especially the Chair for Christmas On The Square, Gayle Erwin, who is also the editor for the San Jacinto News Times.

Shepherd is now looking forward to regular visits each month from food trucks from S.N.A.P. This organization is out of Food Bank of Houston and the full name is Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program. The initial enquiry about bringing the truck to Shepherd came from Michael Coker when he was Mayor of Shepherd. He followed up with them and with Commissioner Donny Marrs continues to help organize this very worthwhile venture for those people in need of such assistance. The Truck will be in Shepherd on the following dates below, distributing perishable foods to anyone who comes to Shepherd Community Center from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. So many people showed up last time, (over 350!) that the food ran out before then! There are many volunteers helping in this event, and as is usually the case, these helpful people are also either members of such groups as Shepherd Chamber of Commerce, Shepherd Public Library and of course our great City workers. Patricia Marrs, Janice Chamblee and Helenmarie Johnson are some of these very helpful people from our community.

Michael Coker told me that because we are having such a great turnout for the SNAP Food Truck, they are now willing to allow the City to become partners with them. This means we can ask for particular items such as canned goods, meat items and cookies as well as staples such as rice and beans. To become a partner, those volunteers who help organize the events must take classes so they understand the process and see what can and can't be done, but once we do become partners with SNAP, we can look forward to a greater variety as well as two trucks coming to give away food. It may take until May for this to happen. Anyone can collect the food, you do not have to show ID or live in the City of Shepherd. The next food truck will be on December 28 and will have fruit and vegetables. Thereafter the truck will come to Shepherd on January 29, 2016; February 26; March 25; April 22; May 27. I will remind readers of these dates as we approach them.

Please remember to fill out the ballots for Best of San Jacinto County! You can go online to the Chamber web site and look in restaurants and Coldspring Chamber Office if you can't do that. You have till December 30 to turn them in. The Banquet will be on February 20 in Jones Auditorium, when the winners will be announced.

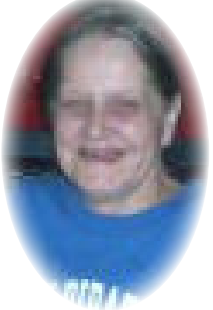
Both Chambers of Commerce wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Coldspring-San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce**  
31 N. Butler, Coldspring 77331  
Call (936) 653-2184  
[www.coldspringtexas.org](http://www.coldspringtexas.org)  
**Shepherd Chamber of Commerce**  
Mail to PO Box 520 Shepherd, 77371  
Call (936) 628-3515  
[www.greatershepherdchamberofcommerce.or](http://www.greatershepherdchamberofcommerce.or)

For a free business consultation with Director Bob Barragan, call the Chamber nearest you. Mr Barragan has been the Director for many years o f the Small Business Development Agency at Sam Houston State Univrsity.  
*You must make an appointment first but the consultation is free.*

Obituaries

Nancy Ann Scott



May 14, 1952 - December 12, 2015

Nancy Ann Scott, 63, of Shepherd, Texas passed away on Saturday, December 12, 2015. She was born on Wednesday, May 14, 1952 to Alvin Melvin and Jean Evelyn (Parrot) Payne, both of whom have preceded her in death. Nancy was also preceded in death by her spouse, Tim Morgan; brothers, Larry Melvin Payne and Donald Douglas Brown. Left to cherish her memory is her beloved sons, Roy Melvin Yarbrough and wife Rachell; Jefferey Keith Yarbrough; brother, Jackie Leroy Brown; sister, Debbie Falls and husband Gary; 6 grandchildren, Tyler, Hunter, Makayla, Trace and Heather Yarbrough and Meagon Overstreet; I great-grandchild, Aubrie Yarbrough and numerous other loving family and treasured friends. Visitation for Nancy was held at Neal Funeral Home on December 17, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Funeral Services began at 2:00 p.m. Interment for Nancy immediately followed at Farley Chapel Cemetery in Shepherd, TX, Officiating Services; Reverend Preston Baker.  
*All services were handled under the trusted care of Neal Funeral Home.*

Thomas “Tommy” Jefferson Graham



July 22, 1953 - November 27, 2015

Thomas “Tommy” Jefferson Graham was born on July 22, 1953 and passed away on November 27, 2015. He is preceded in death by his loving mother, Ethel Irene Dillaha Morrow and younger brother Newt Alexander Graham. He is survived by his brother, Carroll B. Greene; sisters, Patricia Kay Sallas, Shirley A. Graham, Ruby L. McMahon, Linda S. Knight and Edna Graham. Tommy had numerous nieces, nephews and countless friends that are very saddened by his departing. Tommy was a long time resident of Shepherd, Texas and worked in the carpet flooring business most of his adult life. He was a hard worker with a strong work ethic as anyone will tell you. Being ill the last months of his life he was lovingly cared for by his oldersister, Kay Sallas, his best friend, John Reid, and long time caregiver, Sheryl Wiggins. A memorial/celebration of his life was given at the home of Jesse and Kay Sallas. We will miss him so much and are blessed with wonderful memories of him.

Senior Menu

**MON 12/28:** King Ranch Chicken, Pinto Beans, Beets, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit  
**TUE 12/29:** Vegetable and Meatball Stew, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, Fruit  
**WED 12/30:** Hamburger Steak and Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Greens, Cornbread Muffins, Salad, Fruit  
**THUR 12/31:** Pulled BBQ Pork In A Baked Potato, Coleslaw, Salad, Fruit  
*Second Tuesday Of Each Month Dessert Includes Birthday Cake/ Menu's Are Subject To Change Due To Availability Call (936) 628-3733 By 9:30 a.m. To Reserve A Meal*

Senior December Birthdays!



Birthday Wishes To: Kaye Sallas, Joe Tadlock, Joyce Sims  
Pictured: Janice Youngblood, Mary Crowder, J. Millam

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Bobbie Faye (Pierce) Blanks



September 7, 1934 – November 26, 2015

Bobbie Faye (Pierce) Blanks was born in Rye, Texas, on September 7, 1934, to Willie V. Pierce and Jessie Boatman Pierce. She passed from this life on November 26, 2015, at her home in Shepherd, Texas, surrounded by her family. She was a lifetime resident of Shepherd. She is loved and will be missed by her husband, James Milton Blanks; son, James Michael Blanks and wife, Deborah "Debbie" Blanks of Macon, MO; son, Steven Eugene Blanks and wife, Brenda Blanks of Shepherd, TX; son, Timothy Ray Blanks of Webb City, MO; grandson, James Matthew Blanks and wife, Tiffany; granddaughter, Shauna Lene' Whitfield and husband, Joel; grandson, David Eric Bolenbaucher and wife, Darla; grandson, Bradley Steven Blanks and wife, Jennifer; granddaughter, Natalie Renee Blanks; great-grandchildren, Morgan Blanks, Samantha Comer, and Reese Pauley; Bethany, Alexander and Ezra Whitfield; Grace and Emma Bolenbaucher; Megan Forson and Lucas Blanks; sister, Juanita Mouser and husband, Paul; sister, Patsy Casper; sister, Edna Crabtree; sister, Jessie Linseisen, and husband, John; and numerous nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by father, Willie V. Pierce; mother, Jessie Boatman Pierce; brothers, Nathan Pierce, Willie "Buddy" Pierce, Lester Pierce, and Vester Pierce; and sister, Ruby Hoot. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, November 30, 2015, at Paul Horton United Methodist Church, Point Blank, TX . Interment immediately followed the service at Mount Zion Cemetery.  
*Arrangements entrusted to the care of Claire Brothers Funeral Home. 7901 Hillcroft Street, Houston, Texas 77081.*

Kindra Lynn Davis



December 25, 1957 - December 11, 2015

Kindra Lynn Davis, 57, of Shepherd, Texas passed away on Friday, December 11, 2015. She was born on Wednesday, December 25, 1957 in Denver, Colorado. Kindra is preceded in death by her father, Barney Joe Sloan and her father-in-law, Waynon A. Davis. Left to cherish her memory is her loving spouse of 41 years, Thomas Davis; two daughters, Brandy Brawner and husband Archie, Rachell Yarbrough and husband Roy; mother, Ola Mae Collins; mother-in-law, Dorothea Davis; grandchildren, Victoria Mize, Emily and Shelby Brawner, Trace, Makayla, Hunter and Tyler Yarbrough; along with numerous other loving family and treasured friends. The Davis family received family and friends beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at Neal Funeral Home Chapel with a Celebration Of Life Service at 7:00 p.m.  
*All services were handled under the trusted care of Neal Funeral Home.*

December 30, 2015

Community Classifieds

**FOR RENT:** 2BR/1BA mobile home, all bills paid! \$650 per month plus \$200 deposit. Please call (832) 250-6154 or (979) 316-0299.  
**FOR SALE:** “Deer Camp Special” ’95 Ford F-150 6cyl. auto AC, new rubber, license & inspection, drives good, some body damage. Only \$850 cash! Please call (936) 653-5231.  
**FOR SALE:** 14’ flat bottom aluminum boat with trailer and motor. 9 1/2 hp Johnson motor, runs great. Boat equipped wth headlights for night fishing. Full indoor/outdoor carpet. Must see. \$1500.00 OBO. Please call (936) 628-6684, leave number if no answer.

Community Calendar

**12/28:** Shepherd Chamber of Commerce meeting, 6pm/EDC  
**12/30:** Bridge of hope community church “Community Fellowship Dinner”, Shepherd Middle School, 7PM.  
**1/4:** EDC Meeting, 7pm/EDC Building  
**1/11:** City Council Meeting, 7pm/Community Center  
**1/11:** Pirates Reading Program 9-10am;Shepherd Primary Parent Center  
**1/12:** First Station Auxiliary Meeting; 7PM  
**1/15:** Senior Resale Shop Bag Day  
**1/25:** Pirates Reading Program 9-10am;Shepherd Primary Parent Center

Church News

**DREW’S LANDING BAPTIST CHURCH:** Looking for a Bible based church? Here we are! Come join us at Drew’s Landing Baptist Church with Pastor R. Withers. Come get your praise on with us! Sunday school at 10 a.m. & Praise & Worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday night Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. Located at 161 Thomas Castleberry off FM 1127 in Shepherd, Texas. We are the big blue church!  
**HARMONY CHURCH:** An independent spirit filled church with life message services—Sunday Bible class 10:00 a.m.—morning worship 11:00 a.m.—Sunday evening 6:00 p.m.—Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. Third Sunday pot luck, men and women’s groups. Come worship with us! Rev. Ben Cartwright, Pastor  
**TO CALVARY MINISTRIES:** A church that preaches the Message of the Cross. 793 Thomas Castleberry Rd. Shepherd (off of FM 1127) Sunday 9:30 a.m. SS Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening 6:30 p.m. Thursday 7:30 p.m. All Welcome!

Business News

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Drop off your information/picture at McClain’s, e-mail to [mcclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com](mailto:mcclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com), or fax to (936) 628-2866.  
*Information may not be taken over the telephone. Include contact information on your request to have something published. Our deadline is 6 p.m. Tuesday for the following week.*