## SHEPHERD COMMUNITY NEWS



(936) 628-6921

Call to pre-register August 3 — August 7

Please call and leave your name, phone number and children's ages 5 — 12

Shepherd, TX 77371

## Media Release for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Shepherd Independent School District announced its policy today for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the attached current income eligibility guidelines. Each school/site or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by anyone on request.

Starting on August 24, 2015, Shepherd Independent School District will begin distributing letters to the households of the children in the district Shepherd about eligibility benefits and any actions households need to take to apply for these benefits. Applications also are available at Shepherd Independent School District Child Nutrition Office at 1401 South Byrd Avenue, Shepherd Texas 77371.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits: The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

#### **Income:**

- 1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels Categorical or Automatic Eligibility
- **2.** Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

  Program Participant
- **3.** Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster
- **4.** Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

Income Eligibility: For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out free and reduced-price meal application and return it to Oleta Rushing, Child Nutrition Coordinator, (936) 628-2923. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

1. Names of all household members

"No Social Security number"

- **2.** Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household
- **3.** Last 4 digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a social security number, check the box for
- **4.** Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

Categorical or Program Eligibility: Shepherd Independent School District is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. Shepherd Independent School District will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have should contact Oleta Rushing, Child Nutrition Coordinator, (936) 628-2923. Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Oleta Rushing, Child Nutrition Coordinator, (936) 628-2923.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

**Determining Eligibility:** Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, Oleta Rushing, Child Nutrition will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Steve Pierce, Superintendent, 1401 South Byrd Avenue Shepherd, Texas 77371, (936) 628-2900

**Unexpected Circumstances:** If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines.

The U.S Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at <a href="http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust">http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust</a>. html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at *program.intake@usda.gov*. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

#### 2015 SISD PROPOSED TAX RATE

Debt	\$0.28	\$0.15	(0.13)
Maintenance	\$1.04	\$1.17	0.13
Tax Rate	Current	TRE	+/-

Total

\$1.32 \$1.32 NO CHANGE

The Shepherd Independent School District is trying to educate the community about the proposed tax rate which could result in a tax ratification election (TRE). This action could bring over \$800,000 state dollars into the Shepherd district that would otherwise be spent somewhere else in Texas. A public hearing to discuss the proposed tax rate, TRE, and proposed 15-16 school year budget will take place on August 24, 2015, at 7 P.M. Only if approved by the board would the TRE go before the voters of the district. The district would dub this as the "Penny Swap Election" because the voters could approve to take thirteen pennies from the debt services tax to put toward the maintenance and operations tax.

"Moving these thirteen pennies, without affecting the tax rate, would equate to an additional \$817,000 in state and local funding," said Steve Pierce, the Superintendent for SISD.

The total tax rate for the district is \$1.32 per \$100 valuation and will remain that number under the new proposal.

"We are not changing the tax rate. The tax rate will remain the same as last year's, but just the request swapping thirteen pennies will give us that additional funding," Pierce said.

#### Here is how the change would look:

Tax Rate: C	urrent Rate:	Proposed Rate:	Change
Maintenance & Operation	n \$1.04	\$1.17	+0.13
Debt Services:	\$0.28	\$0.15	- 0.13
TOTAL:	\$1.32	\$1.32	0.00

Pierce said the move will also not affect the way that the district pays down its debt. That's because the district has been able to restructure and stabilize the debt over the past couple of years.

How the money will be spent throughout the district will ultimately be up to the board to decide. Pierce said the district would like to spend at least part of the money on roof replacement at the primary campus.

We understand that the language of any type of tax can be difficult to understand. We are trying to get as much of the word out as possible to all parts of the district to let them know that there are opportunities to generate additional state funding to SISD with no local tax increase.

The bottom line is that this penny swap will create over \$800,000 of additional funds to enrich the educational experience of Shepherd I.S.D. students.

The Public Hearing to discuss the 15-16 Property Tax Budget will be held on Monday, August 24th, at 7:00 p.m. at Shepherd ISD. <u>T:\FINANCE\4200 - TAXES\9 TAX ROLLBACK\COPY EPISD TAX RATE.DOCX</u>

#### City of Shepherd is Accepting Applications for the November 2015 Election.

The City of Shepherd is accepting applications for a place on the ballot for the November 2015 Election.

The City has three aldermen positions that will be on the ballot. Applications may be picked up at City Hall at the following time:

July 25,2015 - August 24, 2015

Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
City Hall is located at 11020 Hwy 150 Shepherd, Texas 77371

You must be registered to vote by October 5th to vote in the November 2015 Election

Early voting hours will be:

October 19-20 7:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m.
October 21-30 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
City Hall is closed on Friday-Saturday —Sunday.
November 3-Election Day

Vote at the Community Center 7:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m.

Qualification for Aldermen:

\*Residence: One year in state prior to filing deadline - Six months in the City prior to filing deadline

\*Age: 18 and be a registered voter at the time of the election.

### SISD Student Registration Schedule Registration for students new to Shepherd ISD will be:

Registration for students new to Shepherd ISD will be: August 10th - 13th at 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m Parent or legal guardian must be present with the student.

- Students enrolling need to bring the following:Official Birth Certificate (Not a hospital copy)
- Official Birth Certificate (Not a hospital copy)
  Social Security Card. If it has been lost, a copy of the letter from the Social Security Administration Office showing that it has been applied for.
- It must show the child's name and social security number.

   Updated Shot Records (Must meet the State of Texas guidelines)
- Accepted Proof of Residence. (1.) Utility Bill, which includes lights or water. (2.) NOTARIZED Shepherd ISD Residence Statement for minor student showing that the student(s) and parent(s) live in someone else's
- home. This form may be obtained from the campuses.Enrollment Packet completed, front and back, signed by parent.
- Copy of enrolling parent's Driver's License or State ID.
- Custody/Guardianship Papers, if applicable.Withdrawal form from the last school your child attended, if applicable.

Withdrawal form from theFinal report if applicable.

**No registration will be held August 18th.**Registration will also be available on August 17 - 21 by appointment only.

Call to arrange appointment or with any questions. Primary Campus: (936) 628-3302

Intermediate Campus: (936) 628-6764 Middle School Campus: (936) 628-3377

High School Campus: (936) 628-3371

Freshman Fish Camp & Schedule Pick up: August 18 from 6:00 -7:00

Meet the Teacher: August 20th Primary Campus: 5:00-6:30 Intermediate Campus: 5:00-6:30 Middle School Campus: 5:00-6:30 6th Grade Orientation: 5:00



Everyone Welcome!

Join the SHS Youth for Christ for a night of Worship, Encouragement and Challenge as we gear up for a new school year.

Thursday night, **AUGUST 13TH** at the football field, immediately following

Meet the Pirates

Amazing Music from the

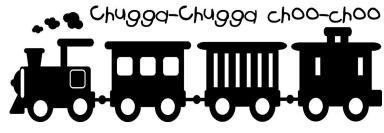
Under-Over Fellowship Band and a great word from a dynamic speaker Caleb Choate.

This is an event you'll not want to miss!

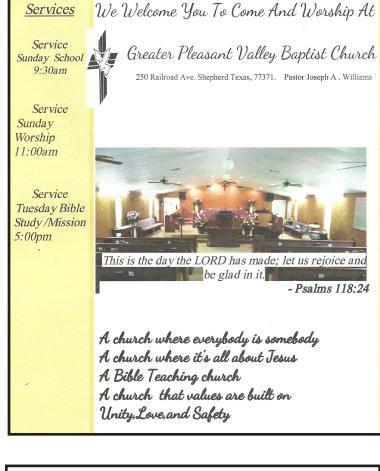
# Joseph WEEK

What is the difference between a school teacher and a train?





A: The teacher says "spit your gum out!" and the train says "chew chew chew!".



# Love sharing your opinion? Share it with us!



We want to know what you think of Shepherd Community News! Please send us an e-mail telling us what you like, don't like, or think we could improve upon, because we think feedback is awesome, and we want everyone to love our paper just as much as we do! <a href="mailto:mcclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com">mcclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com</a>

By Yvonne Ryba It is so hot, I expect most of us are looking forward to the end of summer! I do not expect it to be cold by the end of August but we will be able to 'Celebrate Labor Day and The End of Summer' in Coldspring on August 29th. This event is arranged and organized by Coldspring Merchants Association and area businesses. Coldspring Courthouse Square is a good place to have such events. If you would like to be a vendor on this day. call Barbara at (936) 653-2332 or Cora at (936) 653-4177. The cost is very

is always a lot to see, so make a date to pay a visit. Shepherd JC's Pharmacy has changed hands. After 17 years in Shepherd, Juan Cantu has sold his business and the new owners moved in this week. You may have read the whole story in last weeks edition.

reasonable, \$20 for a vendor space or \$30 if you are a food vendor. There

Shepherd Library had two commercial coffee machines donated by The Friends of Shepherd Library, who in turn, received them from a generous donor. Once Director Helenmarie Johnson arranges for them to be installed, patrons will be able to buy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate while they visit the Library. All money from the sale of beverages will go toward buying new equipment and other necessities.

Plans are also moving toward having a mural painted showing scenes of the history of Shepherd on the outside wall of the Library, where the Wall of Memories used to be. Art teacher Nathan Vogt of Shepherd Intermediate School will plan and organize this artistic endeavor over the next few months and hopefully will start working on it early in 2016 with his team of young artists. This project also will be funded by The Friends of the Library and will be a showcase for our young students' talents.

> Coldspring- San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce, 31. N. Butler St, Coldspring, 73371 (936) 653-2184 www.coldspringtexas.org Shepherd Chamber of Commerce, 11231 Hwy 150, Shepherd, 77371 Mail to: PO Box 520, Shepherd

(936) 628-3890 www.greatershepherdchamberofcommerce.org For a FREE business consultation with Director Bob Barragan of Sam Houston State SBDC. Call your nearest Chamber.

#### Senior Menu

Mon 8/10: Chicken Spaghetti, Beets, Green Beans, Tossed Salad & Dressing, Garlic Bread, Fruit

Tue 8/11: Pork Loin, Brown Gravy Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Cornbread,

Wed 8/12: Baked Turkey, Broccoli, Rice & Cheese Casserole, Black Eye Peas, Salad, Cornbread, Pudding

Thurs 8/13: Chicken Quesadillas, Mixed Veggies, Tossed Salad & Dressing, Fruit

Fri 8/14: Grilled Ham Slice, With Cheese, French Fries, Tomato-Cucumber Salad, Wheat Bread, Cookie

Mon 8/17: Meatloaf, Cheesy Potatoes, Fried Okra, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit Tue 8/18: Ground Beef Stroganoff, Buttered Pasta, Peas & Carrots,

Cornbread, Salad, Fruit Wed 8/19: Fried Fish, Hush Puppies, Macaroni & Cheese, Coleslaw,

Banana Pudding Thurs 8/20: Sausage & Cheese Quiche, Sautéed Potatoes & Onions,

Wheat Toast, Tossed Salad, Fruit Salad Fri 8/21: Chicken Nuggets, Cream Gravy, Buttered Rice, Okra & Crowder Peas, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

Mon 8/24: Hamburger Patty, With Onions, Brown Gravy, Mashed

Potatoes, Greens, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit Tue 8/25: King Ranch Chicken, Pinto Beans, Fried Okra, Cornbread,

Salad, Fruit Wed 8/26: Fried Chicken, Scalloped Potato Casserole, Purple Hull Peas, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit

Thurs 8/27: Egg Rolls & Sauce, Fried Rice, Oriental Veggies, Salad, Fruit Fri 8/28: BBQ Chicken, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Wheat Bread, Salad, Fruit Mon 8/31: Beef Stew With Meatballs, Macaroni & Cheese, Cornbread,

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

Victory for the Conroe 200

#### 8/11: SISD new student registration 830AM-11AM/1PM-3PM

FREE: Maytag washing machine; has problems, but still works.

GARAGE SALE: August 14 and 15th FM 222 first drive way on the right

FOR SALE: REDUCED PRICE! Two bedroom mobile home: 14x72,

two full baths, central air and heat, shingle roof built over M.H., concrete,

two car carport, fenced in backyard with 8x10 storage building, 30 foot by

15 foot 'tin' shed in back, 2-1/2 acres, not in city limits, on Highway 222.

WANTED: Non-working AC units, washers, dryers, stoves, ice boxes,

riding mowers, motorcycles and RVs. Will pick up for free. Please call

WANTED: Affordable housing for senior widow with dogs in desperate

FOR SALE: 16' Aluminum boat, 8' wide tunnel hull with 7.5 horsepower

FOR SALE: ¼ acre on FM 223 in Shepherd. No utilities. Asking \$3,400

Community Calendar

Asking \$59,000. Viewing by appointment only, call (281) 659-6485

after you pass Troha Rd. 8 to 5 Friday and 1/2 day Saturday.

8/10: City Council Meeting, 7pm/Community Center

need of affordable housing. Please help. 281-709-8893

evinrude on galvanized trailer. Call 713-254-3106

8/10: SISD new student registration 830AM-11AM/1PM-3PM

**8/11:** First station auxiliary meeting at 7PM

**8/12:** SISD new student registration 830AM-11AM/1PM-3PM 8/13: SISD new student registration 830AM-11AM/1PM-3PM

8/17: Student registration by appt. only

David at (936) 252-9043.

cash. (936) 483-8022

936-628-3007.

8/18: Student registration by appt. only

**8/19:** Student registration by appt. only **8/20:** Student registration by appt. only

8/20: Meet the Teacher (see article for times)

**8/21:** Student registration by appt. only 8/21: Senior Resale Shop Bag Day

8/24: Shepherd Chamber of Commerce meeting, 6pm/EDC

8/24: Property Tax Budget public hearing 7PM at Shepherd ISD.

#### Buy \$mart, Eat Well

#### **Crispy Yogurt Chicken**

Prep Time: 20 Minutes Cook Time: 1 Hour 15 Minutes Servings: 6

**Ingredients** 

2 cups Plain, Unflavored Yogurt 2 cloves (to 3 Cloves) Garlic Parsley, To Taste 1 whole (juice Of) Lemon

Chicken Legs (or Thighs, Etc.) Salt To Taste 2 cups Panko Bread Crumbs

Butter (1 Pat For Each Piece Of Chicken)

#### **Preparation Instructions**

\*Pour yogurt into a mixing bowl. Peel and mince garlic; add garlic to the yogurt. Chop up a small amount of fresh parsley and add it to the yogurt. Add lemon juice. Mix together to combine.

\*Rinse chicken and pat it dry. Sprinkle with (kosher) salt.

\*In another bowl, place the bread crumbs. Sprinkle with salt and stir lightly.

\*Butter a baking dish. With a pair of tongs, place the chicken, one piece at a time into the yogurt mixture. Turn it over thoroughly to coat. Then roll the chicken in the Panko bread crumbs. Cover each piece thoroughly with bread crumbs and place in the baking dish.

\*Place a slice of butter over the large part of each chicken piece. Cover with foil and bake in a 350° oven for 1 to 1 ¼ hours, removing the foil for the last 15 minutes of cooking. When the chicken is nice and golden, remove from the oven and enjoy!

\*Make it a meal with some fresh mashed potatoes and frozen/canned vegetables Recipe from the Pioneer Woman <u>www.thepioneerwoman.com</u>



Have any good family receipes? Share them with us!

You can send them to us through Facebook or email us! mcclains.shepherdnews@gmail.com

#### **Obituary**

Mrs. Murlene Williams June 2, 1939 - July 7, 2015



Murlene Williams was born June 2, 1939 to Sam Evans and Mattie B Greeley-Evans in Scottsville, Texas. She passed away on July 7, 2015. Mrs. Williams attended school at Lincoln High School in Texas City, Texas and was a member of Temple Faith Baptist Church in Shepherd, Texas.

Mrs. Williams is preceded in death by her Husband, Waid Lee Williams, Sr. She is survived by her eight siblings: Bruce, Larry, Eddie, Mary, Vida, Wilma, Michael, and Tikeela and her 9 children: Melba, vernon, Harvy, Kimberly, Luther, Mildred, Walter, Waid Jr. and Clinnan and 18 grandchildren.

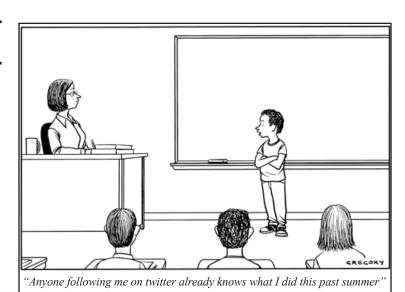
Her Celebration of life was held on July 18, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the New Bethel Baptist Church in Cleveland, Texas. Pastor Daryl Richardson officiated and Pastor Byron Williams was the Eulogist.



Yesterday District Judge Michael Seiler awarded the Houston SPCA permanent custody of the 207 horses that were rescued June 25 from unthinkable conditions at the Calico Dairy on League Line Road in Conroe, TX.

Houston SPCA President, Patricia Mercer said, "We are pleased that the judge has reached the same decision in the appeal that was reached in the civil hearing on June 30 when Montgomery County Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Wayne Mack found the horses had been cruelly treated. We are thrilled to be able to continue our tireless rehabilitation efforts. We will nurse them back to health, physically and mentally. And, we will find them new families, where they will be loved."

Thanks to people like you, we scored one for the good guys! But, their road to recovery will be long and we need your help. Nearly all of them suffered from a wide range of health problems, including emaciation, abscesses, open wounds, and deformed hooves. The cost of caring for the Conroe 200 has surpassed \$400,000.00 and continues to grow each day. Please give as generously as you can to help us buy food, provide veterinary care and medicine, and give hope to animals in need, like the Conroe 200, by donating online to The Cinderella Fund.



# <u>McClain's Food Market'</u>



#### Church News

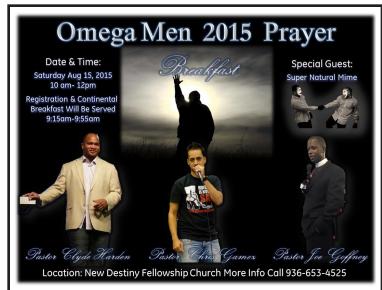
CALL TO CALVARY MINISTRIES: A church that preaches the Message of the Cross. 793 Thomas Castleberry Rd. Shepherd (off of FM 1127) Sunday 9:30 a.m. SS Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening 6:30 p.m. Thursday 7:30 p.m. All Welcome!

DREW'S LANDING BAPTIST CHURCH: Are you looking for a church filled with love that preaches straight from the Bible? Look no further! This is the church for you! Pastor Chip Keel—(936) 628-1676. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. Wednesday night Bible Study 6:30 p.m. All welcome! Come as you are! Children's church available. 161 Thomas Castleberry off FM 1127. Just look for the big blue House of God. We would love to have you - GOD BLESS YOU

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

SPRING HILL BAPTIST CHURCH: REVIVAL TIME! August 17-19, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Theme: "The instructions of the Lord are perfect, reviving the soul." Psalm 19:7 Rev. Charles Furr & Pleasant Rose Holiness Church. Sister Rosie Reed (936) 653-4531.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD: Gospel singing at First Assembly of God, Shepherd, Texas. Several singers will be there along with some local. August 15, 2015 at 7pm. Come out and hear some good old Southern Gospel Music and visit with everyone. Everyone is welcome.



#### **Business News**

#### **ATTENTION**

Due to the increasing number of business ad submissions there will now be a fee implemented for submitting a business advertisement into the Shepherd News newspaper as of May 28, 2015. The fee will be \$20 per business advertisement per week, or \$75 for four weeks. Ad cannot exceed the size of a regular business card. Payments will need to be given to McClain's Courtesy Booth at time of submission. If you are emailing your ad directly to Shepherd News, a payment will still need to be dropped by the Courtesy Booth. We will only be able to take cash for advertisements at this time. All advertisements subject to available space. If allotted space is not available, ad will be pushed back to a later week at editor's discretion.



6730 Highway 59 Shepherd, TX 77371 Inside Valero Gas Station on Highway 59 2 Free Cookies with this ad!

For news or special events to be published in Shepherd Community News: Drop off your information/picture at McClain's, e-mail to 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.