

Jefferson Jimplecute

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Friday, February 19, 2021

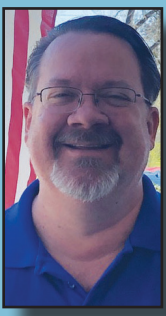
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Volume 174, Number 8, 1 Section, 6 Pages

OUR TOWN JEFFERSON

Mayor weighs in on weather

The extremely cold weather that the State of Texas is currently experiencing is a widespread event that we haven't seen in over 100 years.



Rob Baker

Mayor of Jefferson

We have had citizens asking great weather-related questions so I thought I could weigh in on them:

1) Water pressure - obviously in cold conditions, we all worry about burst pipes. We often see that occur when it is getting colder or when it is getting warmer after a cold spell. If there is too much water pressure in the system, it could inadvertently cause pipes to burst. We have purposely turned the town's water pressure down a few notches to prevent this. In times like this, Low water pressure is better than no water pressure and burst pipes

2) Electricity - SWEP-CO is performing rotating "brownouts" in an effort to minimize problems during this week's weather event. Note: Power is never cut off from water-sewer plants, nursing homes, and hospitals. Please minimize your electrical use this week so we can all do our part

3) Heat - nighttime temps have gone below zero recently so mornings will start out quite chilly. Your heating units will certainly struggle to keep up but give it time. As the day goes on and outside temps rise a bit, the units will gain a little momentum and get warmer. Please do not put your thermostat at 80+ degrees expecting that to solve the problem. There isn't a heating system in the state able to keep up with these prolonged temps so we should plan on bundling up a bit even while inside

4) Jefferson Transportation Center - I have been in constant contact with Judge LaFleur, Sheriff Capps (who is also the Marion County Emergency Coordinator), and Chief Perez. This facility has NOT been activated for

See BAKER page 6

CITY OF JEFFERSON

Council meeting reset due bad weather

V. Hugh Lewis II
Jefferson Jimplecute

Winter weather postponed the regular Jefferson City Council meeting for a week, according to a statement issued by Jefferson Mayor Rob Baker.

"We're not going to get any thawing time before the meeting," said Baker. "There are a number of people who were planning to come in for this meeting, and for everyone's

safety, I'm moving the meeting back a week.

"Everyone needs to stay home right now if they can," said Baker. "There's a lot of snow on the ground and forecasters say more snow and ice are coming in tonight and Tuesday. Everyone needs to stay safe and warm right now - that's the priority."

The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the Jefferson Transportation Center. The Herald/Jimplecute will be live streaming the

meeting.

Tuesday's meeting will start off with the Commemoration of Black History Month with Dr. Henry Armstrong speaking to Council.

Agenda items include two presentations to Council - one by Gene Keenon to the Jefferson Volunteer Fire Department, and the other by Marcia Thomas on the Opera House Theatre Players upcoming event.

Baker will continue his "Mayor's Comments" portion of the meeting

and provide updates on the Non-licensed vehicle waiver topic, hiring of a City Administrator, a Citizens Action Committee, a Former Mayors Committee, and a TxDOT rail project.

Consent Agenda items include the May Elections requirements - calling for the election, appointing Election Judges, and establishing the early voting period and extended hours

See CITY page 4

Winter weather wreaks havoc...



Courtesy photo

Two rounds of winter precipitation, coupled with a week's worth of sub-freezing temperatures, left its mark on Marion County this week. The weight of the snow and frozen floats are to blame for this boat dock and Bullfrog Marina, on Lake O' The Pines, sinking into the water.

JEDCO

Online talks abound about proposed JEDCO project

Staff Report

Jefferson Jimplecute

The winter weather caused Jefferson Mayor Rob Baker to postpone Tuesday's regular City Council meeting to next week, but that didn't stop the online discussions about a proposed water line to Moon Lake Estates and a study for establishing a Quiet Zone in town.

The proposed water line would extend to a new housing development, Moon Lake Estates (MLE).

It was presented to JEDCO on Feb. 2.

They tabled any action at their Feb. 9 meeting, saying they would like the City Council to weigh in on the matter.

"As current JEDCO board member, I have a problem with non-job related projects suddenly appearing

See JEDCO page 4

BUSINESS

West Fraser completes acquisition of Norbord

Staff Report

Jefferson Jimplecute

West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. and Norbord Inc., on Feb. 1, jointly announce they have completed the previously announced transaction whereby West Fraser has acquired all of the issued and outstanding common shares of Norbord. Under the terms of the Transaction, holders of Norbord Shares received 0.675 of a common share of West Fraser for each Norbord Share held.

"Today marks a new era for all West Fraser employees and shareholders with the completion of the Norbord transaction. The combination of two top-calibre employee teams manufacturing sustainable products that are essential for a low-carbon economy positions West Fraser well going forward," said Raymond Ferris, President and Chief Executive Officer of West Fraser.

Ferris will continue as the President and Chief Executive Officer and Chris Virostek will continue as the Vice-President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer. Peter Wijnbergen, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Norbord, has been appointed President, Engineered Wood and Sean McLaren, Vice-President, U.S. Lumber, has been appointed



President, Solid Wood. Marian Lawson and Colleen McMorro, directors of Norbord, have also been appointed to West Fraser's Board of Directors.

As previously announced, West Fraser has received the approval of the New York Stock Exchange to list the West Fraser Shares on the NYSE.

The West Fraser Shares will commence trading today on the NYSE under the stock symbol "WFG". Concurrent with the commencement of trading on the NYSE, West Fraser's stock symbol on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") will be changed to "WFG".

The Norbord Shares were delisted from the NYSE prior to commencement of trading on Feb. 2, 2021.

Registered holders of Norbord Shares are reminded that they must properly complete, sign and return the letter of transmittal to AST Trust Company (Canada), as depository, in order to receive

the West Fraser Shares they are entitled to in connection with the Transaction.

Holders of Norbord Shares who hold their shares through a broker, investment dealer or other intermediary should carefully follow the instructions provided by such broker, investment dealer or other intermediary in order to receive the West Fraser Shares they are entitled to in connection with the Transaction.

Norbord Shareholders who have questions or require assistance with submitting their Norbord Shares may direct their questions to AST Trust Company (Canada), by telephone at (416) 682-3860 or (toll free in North America) at 1 (800) 387-0825, or by email at inquiries@astfinancial.com.

West Fraser is a diversified wood products company producing lumber, LVL, MDF, plywood, pulp, newsprint, wood chips, other residuals, and energy with facilities in western Canada and the southern United States. West Fraser Shares currently trade on the TSX and NYSE under the symbol: "WFG".

Following completion of the Transaction, Norbord became a wholly-owned subsidiary of West

See NORBORD page 4

Editorial/Opinion

CAPITOL HIGHLIGHTS

Snow, ice, single-digit temps blanket the state

Texans from Lubbock to Longview shivered under single-digit temperatures as their week began, with snow and ice creating dangerous road conditions throughout the state. Gov. Greg Abbott issued a disaster declaration for all 254 Texas counties and urged residents to stay alert to changing weather conditions. The Texas Division of Emergency Management deployed resources from various state agencies to prepare roadways, assist motorists, remove downed trees and perform search-and-rescue operations if necessary.

State officials with both the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and the Public Utility Commission

asked residents to conserve as much power as possible due to the record demand for electricity caused by the record low temperatures.

“The lowest temperatures Texas has seen in decades necessitate a shared response across the state, from households to factories,” said PUC chairman DeAnn Walker. “Along with the tools ERCOT uses to maintain the reliability of the grid, common-sense conservation also plays a critical role in our state’s endurance of this challenge.”

Take precautions when using space heaters

The harsh weather, which in much of the state could continue until the weekend, means more Texans are relying on space heaters. “But be cautious,” said Orlan-



do Hernandez, the state fire marshal. “In the past few years, several fatal Texas fires were started by space heaters.”

Hernandez offered four tips for space heater safety:

- Inspect a heater before you use it. Make sure there are no cracked or broken plugs or loose connections.

- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet.

- Keep your space heater at least three feet from anything that can burn.

- Turn off your space heaters before you leave the room or go to bed. Look for models that shut off automatically when tipped over.

About 80% of home heating fire fatalities nationally involve space heaters, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

More than 1 million Texans fully vaccinated

The state passed the one million mark of Texans who have received

both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. More than 2.8 million have received the first dose.

The state, as it did last week, is receiving more than 400,000 doses. The vaccine is being shipped from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to 302 providers in 158 counties. In addition, the federal government has shipped 80,000 doses across the state to 376 pharmacies, including CVS, H-E-B, Walmart and a group of independent pharmacies. Details of the allocations are available on the DSHS vaccine allocations page (<https://tinyurl.com/1klvcfip>).

The number of new cases of COVID-19 continues to drop, with 73,888 reported statewide last week, down more than 50% from the record high of nearly 159,000 recorded Jan. 10-16. However, weekly fatalities continue to hover just below 2,000, not far below the record high of 2,311 set the week of Jan. 17.

COVID-19 rental relief program unveiled

Renters hard hit by the pandemic with job losses now can seek relief through the Texas Rent Relief Program, which was rolled out on Monday, Feb. 15. More than \$1 billion has been allocated to Texas through the latest COVID-19 federal stimulus bill to assist tenants in paying rent and utilities. It will be administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

To qualify, households must be

See HIGHLIGHTS page 6

FROM THE RIGHT

Grass roots involvement

A grassroots activist is someone whom the government finally made mad enough that they decide to get involved in politics.

I watched South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem tell the story of her entry into politics at a young age. When she was a young woman, her father died, and she had to take over the family farm.

As if that wasn’t hard enough, the government came in to extract death taxes from her father’s business, which made keeping things afloat much harder. As she said, “Dad taught me not to complain, but to solve the problem.” And so she set about doing just that.

Today, many people who have never been involved in politics are getting involved. Why? Because the government is too big and tries to do too much. Some think that the government can be a force for good.

Others, having been bit by a do-good government, agree with Ronald Reagan, who said that the most terrifying words in the English language are these: “I’m from the government, and I’m here to help.”

If you and another person do business together, your voluntary exchange is between the two of you. Any time that the government gets involved, your transaction will be more expensive because the person overseeing the transaction has to get paid for their time.

This is why anything the government touches, it makes more expensive. Any time government spends money, it has to tax you to pay for it - because government has no income of its own. There is no such thing as “public funds.” There is only “taxpayer money,” and too few politicians recognize and respect how hard we work just to put food on the table and keep the lights on.

Over 65% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. This past year, COVID reminded many how perilously close to homeless they were. We were told that our work was either essential or non-essential by the government - while those in government continued to collect their every paycheck.

Today, many are becoming grassroots activists. They probably don’t think of themselves that way. They just recognize correctly that there is a problem that isn’t going away - it’s getting worse. They’ve determined that whoever their representative is isn’t listening to them well enough, and so they’re getting involved.

They look for some way to help change the path of this ship on which we all sail.

Politics might seem to have the word “polite” in it, but politics is anything but polite.

It is the daily struggle over who has control of your life and liberty and property. We constitute a government and elect representatives in the hopes that, in our absence, these institutions and people will protect our lives and liberty and property just as we would. But too often dealings happen behind closed doors out of the view of the public that view us as too dumb to think for ourselves and see our savings and property as “public funds.”

Government is best when government is small. There is no bureaucrat who can make decisions for your life better than you can. No “public servant” should serve themselves first and use government to enrich themselves.

To those of you beginning to get involved, I say “Welcome!” I’ve been involved for 30 years. I got involved long ago to save my children from a government that spends their future income without thought or care. Whatever your reason, “Welcome!”

We all have an oar to pull to set this ship on the right course, and there’s not a moment to waste. The only request I have from you is this: don’t give up. Forty years ago and even twenty years ago, grassroots groups didn’t exist. Today, they flourish and gain more members by the day. You’re not alone, and together, we can right the size and scope of this misdirected government.

Brett Rogers is a well-known political activist throughout Texas and resides in Marion County by Lake O The Pines. He publishes NETX. News and believes that smaller government is better government. He can be reached at brett@rightrally.com. His opinions are his own and do not reflect those of the Jefferson Jimplecute.



Brett Rogers

Contributing writer

FROM THE LEFT

Hotter summers, colder winters

Weather is what is happening around you at the moment. I guess you noticed the weather is cold. Record cold. Get used to it.

Climate refers to the large consistent patterns. The earth’s climate is changing.

That is a fact. Since 1900, the earth temperature has risen more than two degrees Fahrenheit.

Even Exxon Mobile, a previous skeptic, has now admitted, “climate change risks warrant action and it’s going to take all of us — business, governments and consumers — to make meaningful progress.”

For continental regions like North Texas, that means our summers will be hotter and our winters will be colder.

Not only have Texas conservatives refused to acknowledge this fact, they have also refused to protect our communities.

Energy companies in Texas have been allowed to roam free on the range.

ERCOT, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, should be providing “reliable” energy. It failed in the record cold.

What is ERCOT? Here is the description from its website:

“ERCOT is a membership-based 501(c) (4) nonprofit corporation, governed by a board of directors and subject to oversight by the Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Texas Legislature. Its members include consumers, cooperatives, generators, power marketers, retail electric providers, investor-owned electric utilities, transmission and distribution providers and municipally owned electric utilities.”

The ERCOT board is made up of industry leaders. Texas Republicans have made it clear that they don’t believe in regulation or oversight.

Contrary to much smirking, the failure started with poor planning. It puts profits over people. Republicans have looked away for years, and today we are paying the price.

Gas and coal plants failed and collapsed the power supply. Their

machinery is frozen like the rest of us. This didn’t have to happen.

Dave Tuttle studies the industry at the Energy Institute at the University of Texas at Austin. He recognizes a pattern in the outages.

Tuttle knows that failure of gas and coal plants freezing was predictable. It happens often.

The companies simply don’t want to spend the money on winterization. ERCOT and Texas Republicans have accepted failure as part of the system.

What does that mean for you and me? Expect more winters like this.

Climate change means hotter summers and colder winters.

We could do better, but that would require government planning and action.

Glenn Melancon is a professor of history at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He can be reached at glenn@glenmmelancon.com. His opinions are his own and do not reflect those of the Jefferson Jimplecute.



Glenn Melancon

Contributing writer

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Letters should be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed by the author and include a telephone number and address to confirm identity and clarify details. The Jimplecute reserves the right to reject any and all letters, edit letters for style, grammar, spelling and content, and limit the number of letters from authors (generally once a month) or on a given subject. Letters to the editor are a free service. We believe a healthy dialogue on issues that concern you is necessary in a democracy whether we agree with the positions taken by the writers or not. We encourage your participation. You may mail letters to 115 N. Polk St., or email jeffersonjimplecute@gmail.com

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Shalom Chaverim, a redeemed heart

Many people will be celebrating Valentine's Day, and the symbol the world sees is a heart for love. Movies and other entertainment fascinate the mind by psychological techniques such as Disney fantasy, Cinderella, and Prince Charming. It is easy to think one day I will grow up, fall in love, and marry a child's fantasy hero living happily ever after.

Some adults still believe in fairy tales. I am not saying this will not happen, but to be fair, on a scale from 1-10 how true is it? There could be a time when a man and woman meet, their heart skips a beat and they think, "wow I think I'm in love." Emotions and imaginations go crazy, and it is exciting and interesting. However, it is based on infatuation and the superficial.

Many people love movies, fables, and fantasies and many put their faith in these popularized fantasies. We must face reality regarding the truth of love. Why is love symbolized by the human heart?

The dictionary defines heart: "muscular organ pumping blood through arteries and veins; intellect, emotion, innermost character."



Linda Gutierrez
Bethel Temple Fellowship

The Hebrew word for heart is "leb", which means the inner part, seat of emotion, soul, mind, knowledge, thinking, reflection, memory, will, conscience, moral character, self-determining, self-directing.

"The heart is evil above all things and desperately sick, who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds." Jeremiah 17:9-10

God created man he knows the heart and how it must be new to flow in love. It is sick from the fall of man. It needs redemption and you can be forgiven. - Acts 8:21:22 "Create in me a clean heart." Psalms 51:10

"Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." Proverbs 4:23 What is in your heart determines your eternal path. The heart must be re-

newed because of the fall of man.

Adonai said "I will give you a new heart, a new spirit and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh (heart of stone is spiritually dead) and give you a heart of flesh (heart of flesh spiritually life)" Ezekiel 36:26

I believe the symbol of the heart for love should represent a renewed heart in Yeshua flowing springs of life.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind soul, spirit." What is love? "God is love." (1 John 8:4-10) "For God so loved the world that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have every lasting life." John 3:16

Many religious people will celebrate Purim together with Jewish people, February 27, celebrating life from death marked by the Persian rulers. Commemorating the Love story of God, Esther, King Ahasuerus, Mordecai. Evil Haman hated the Jews, because they would not worship him. Haman devised a plot to wipe out the entire lineage of Gods people. The very people Yeshua (salvation) would come through.

"Love conquers evil. Love

is patient, kind, longsuffering, forgiving, endures all things, rejoices in truth, lasting for eternity. Faith, hope, love, the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:2-13.

Yeshua laid down His life for you because He loves you. "Many waters cannot quench love neither can floods drown it. If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house, he would be utterly despised." Song of Solomon 8:7

"Finding myself alone I could not rely on fantasy love. Never leaving me I entered his love. Lifting me up. I saw two sets of footprints. He was carrying me in his arms, I kissed the son of God and he armed me with his love. He handed me His cup to share. He said will you marry me (spiritually covenant) I said yes, He rejoiced and showered me with gifts from above. His scepter held out to me your desire my love ask of me your wisdom my love to committee to you now I know I'm my beloved and my beloved is mine."

Word for today -Ani L' Dodi, V' Li : "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine. Song of Solomon 6:3"

-Rabbi Linda

DAVE SAYS

Planning for future purchases

Dear Dave,

How far in advance do you recommend figuring future purchases into your budget?

Robbie

Dear Robbie,

I recommend starting to put money aside, and including it in your budget as soon as you know the need for an item is a real possibility. Waiting until things go wrong or something breaks down will leave you in a real mess, more times than not.



Dave Ramsey
Bestselling author

For example, if you're pretty sure you'll need another vehicle in a year or two, the smart thing is to start putting money aside now. Do some research on prices, then

do the math to see how much you'll need to set aside each month.

And remember, it's a whole lot easier to save money when you don't have things like credit card payments and other debt hanging around your neck. That's one of the big reasons I want to help people learn to live debt-free!

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more.

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ACROSS

- 1) Recipe abbreviation
- 5) Loose, as a gem
- 10) "Catholic" and "cynic" endings
- 14) Geometry solution, sometimes
- 15) Baker's tool
- 16) Dinner or lunch, e.g.
- 17) Arrange in stacks
- 18) Type of wrench
- 19) Olympic skater Kulik
- 20) Where to find couch potatoes
- 22) Tiny apple fancier
- 24) Kind of skates
- 27) Onetime tadpole
- 28) "Kapow!"
- 30) MasterCard alternative, familiarly
- 31) Frolicking aquatic animals
- 34) Bark sharply
- 35) Command for Capt. Kirk
- 36) Fabled moralist
- 37) Baltimore's McHenry
- 39) Burrowing creatures
- 42) Eyelid inflammation
- 43) Ingredients in lotions
- 45) Seed's outer covering
- 47) Entered a race
- 48) Adversaries
- 50) Ship of Columbus
- 51) Consultants, at heart?
- 52) Sweeping, as a story
- 53) In need of iron, perhaps
- 55) Military supplies
- 58) Fur capitalist of note
- 61) Attendee
- 62) Hands-up times?
- 65) Missile "house"
- 66) Go on the warpath, verbally
- 67) Ark contents
- 68) One-Adam-12, for one
- 69) Pretending interest in a Picasso, e.g.
- 70) Internet communications company
- 71) This puzzle's theme

DOWN

- 1) Dancing-shoe attachments
- 2) Con ___ (vigorously)
- 3) Feature of much therapy
- 4) Song of joyful praise
- 5) Springsteen's birthplace, in song
- 6) Lowest score
- 7) Incredibly easy to understand
- 8) "... happily ___ after"
- 9) Held to its full time, in music
- 10) Copies
- 11) Like spy tapes?
- 12) Post office supply
- 13) Kill, as a dragon
- 21) Cole ___ (side dish)
- 23) Smidgen
- 25) Priest at a mosque
- 26) Detective Wolfe
- 28) Overwhelmingly
- 29) Garlicy mayonnaise
- 32) Flush preceder
- 33) All in
- 38) Social event in a Carroll novel
- 40) "___ go brag"
- 41) Coscant's opposite
- 44) Not needing to diet
- 46) Himalayan holy man
- 49) Perfumer's expertise
- 54) Magazine monthly
- 55) Indian tourist locale
- 56) Jet engine noise
- 57) Sheltered and secluded place
- 59) Varied mixture
- 60) Deteriorates
- 63) Fuzzy side of leather
- 64) Memorable shell seller

Find the solution to this week's puzzle on page 5.

EGOMANIAC By Kenneth Holt

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Hall Baptist Church
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Hickory Hill Baptist Church
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Msgr. Zacharias (Zach) Kunmakattuthara.
Saturday Mass 5:30 pm • Sunday Mass 8 am

Jefferson Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church
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Tuesday: Prayer Meeting & Children's Program 6:30 pm • Sabbath School 9:30 am • Worship Services 11:00 am
jeffersoncentral.com

Jefferson Academy Seventh-Day Adventist Church
Colony Rd. - FM 728 • 903-665-2670

Saturday: Sabbath School 9:30 am • Church Services 11 am

Lake O' the Pines Baptist Church
9046 FM 729 • 903-755-2793
Rev. Tim Shirley

Sunday School 9:45 am • Worship Service 11 am • Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 pm • Sun. Night 6 pm • King's Kids Youth • Wed. 6:30-7:30 pm

Mims Chapel Church of Christ
13458 FM Hwy. 729
3 mi. NW of Alley Creek
Grandol Forehand,
Sunday - Bible Study 10 am • Worship Service 11 am • Evening Service 6 pm • Wednesday 6 pm

Mims Chapel United Methodist Church
Pastor Jill Krone
Hwy. 729 - North Shore, Lake O' Pines • 903-755-2513
Sunday School 9:30 am • Worship Services 11 am

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
FM 2208 • 903-665-8291
Worship Sunday 11 am

Starlight Church of God in Christ
Rev. Desmond Williams
307 Black Cypress St • 903-665-7534
Sunday School 10 am • Worship Sunday 11 am

SouthSide Chapel
Pastor John Montana
1949 Pops Landing Road • 903.256.0031
Ore City (south side of Lake O' Pines)
Sunday: 10am Revelations Study • 10:40 Coffee Fellowship • 11 Worship & Word • Tuesday: 6pm Dinner • 7pm "Under the Influence" Recovery Group & Ladies Bible Study • Clothes Closet and Food Pantry

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Local

JEDCO

From page 1

for funding that have been in the works behind closed doors for months by a specific group of people and without community knowledge and input," JEDCO Secretary Robin Moore posted to Facebook on Feb. 17. "(I fully understand how bringing JOBS to the area may need a bit of secrecy in order to accomplish because we're in competition with other municipalities. But if the only reason for keeping a project quiet is to avoid public scrutiny, then a red flag should be raised by all who have been left out of the 'conversation'.")

Moore stated her opposition to the project publicly at the JEDCO meeting on Feb. 9 and took to Facebook to continue the discussions citing water pressure problems with

existing city residents.

"I believe JEDCO could help the city each year with funds for a designated water line project until ALL CITY HOUSEHOLDS have proper water pressure instead of funding these endeavors borne out of secret meetings behind closed doors!," Moore posted on Feb. 14.

According to information provided to Council members as part of their meeting packet, City Engineering Firm SPI worked with MLE developers to propose a cost when the existing line was deemed to be inadequate to support the housing development.

Total project costs are estimated to be about \$1.2 million.

The developer indicated they are prepared

to pay what they had budgeted in the project, and would like some help for the remainder.

The City currently has a water line which runs out Tx49 to the City Limits at Moon Lake Road.

The cost to upgrade that line is estimated to be around \$434,375.

The City has current customers on the existing line.

If the line is constructed, the City would supply water to the development and receive water revenue from the houses being built there.

Council is set to hear the MLE project proposal and request for assistance in funding the project at Tuesday's meeting.

Norbord

From page 1

Fraser.

Norbord is a leading global manufacturer of wood-based panels and the world's largest producer of oriented strand board (OSB).

In addition to OSB, Norbord manufactures particleboard, medium density fibreboard and related value-added products.

Norbord has assets of approximately \$2.1 billion and employs approximately 2,400 people at 17 plant locations (15 operating) in the United States, Canada and Europe.

Norbord employees more than 80 people at its location in Jefferson.

City

From page 1

days. Council will also consider a resolution denying SWEPCO's proposed rate increase, maintaining its current rates, and directing SWEPCO to reimburse the City's rate case expenses.

Last month Council heard from the two area Tax Attorney Firms on a possible change in which firm represents the City. Tuesday Council will consider/approve a possible change.

Building permits are also on the agenda for 305 N Polk, 495 W Camp, and a setback variance for 807 Watson.

The Marion County Chamber of Commerce requested the free use of the old Police Department building last month and Council will decide the fate of that request. MCCC has proposed to use the building as their main offices, and offered to build a deck and porch over the parking spaces to make a more attractive area for visitors. MCCC wishes to use the building at no cost for

one year.

Baker proposed to JEDCO earlier this month that JEDCO fund a Quiet Zone Project Study by Alfred Benesch & Company to the tune of \$45,860. The study would include all the necessary meeting and documents to begin establishing a Quiet Zone in the City. Baker originally said the QZ would start at the private crossing just before the downtown railroad bridge, and continue along the route up to the Alley Street crossings. Baker later expanded the initial QZ through the Tx49 and Broadway crossing at a subsequent JEDCO meeting. A similar study is required to establish the costs for the project and to get railroad, TxDOT, and NTSB approvals. JEDCO tabled the decision until after Council had heard the proposal and decided if the City wished to pursue a QZ.

Council will also hear a proposal from housing de-

veloper Kyle Mayden on the creation of Moon Lake Estates, just outside the Eastern City limits. The project would build 95, \$500,000 homes, according to the material. Mayden has asked JEDCO and the City to help fund the waterline for the development.

The City currently has a water line which runs out to Moon Lake Road and Tx49, however, testing determined the line is not adequate to support a development of this size. City Water Department Director Allan Whatley worked with SPI, the City's engineering firm, to test and develop the costs to upgrade the existing line.

Mayden indicated in the JEDCO meeting that they budgeted for the first part of the line, but not the additional upgrades to the city line and would like some help in funding that portion of the project. Mayden said he has approximately 10 houses ready

to build as soon as water is available.

The City would sell the water to each home, just like inside the City. Baker indicated to JEDCO that the City would also be considering annexation of the development

in the future.

Project costs for the line from Titus Street out to Moon Lake Road is approximately \$434,000. The extension of the line out to the development is an additional \$800,000.

Lastly Councilman Vic-

tor Perot will be appointing a JEDCO member to serve until May elections after his appointee Bob Avery resigned earlier this month due to health concerns.

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COVID-19 has affected Texans across the state. We have emergency funds available to help Texas renters pay current and past due rent and utility bills – even if the landlord has already sued for eviction in their local court.

Households must have incomes at or below 80% of the Area Median Income and meet other eligibility requirements. For full details, visit TexasRentRelief.com.

For Information and to Apply

833-9TX-RENT Toll Free 833-989-7368

TexasRentRelief.com

Assistance is available in multiple languages.



Texas Coronavirus Relief Bill Rental Assistance Program administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Providing false, incomplete, or inaccurate information on application forms or seeking assistance for months in which assistance has been or will be provided, may result in up to 5 years of imprisonment and for each occurrence a fine of up to \$10,000. | Other program limitations and eligibility requirements apply, not all households may be eligible. See TexasRentRelief.com for details. | Funds may no longer be available by the time a household applies.



Weekly Police Blotter

From the Desk of Marion County Sheriff David Capps Dispatch Report February 8-15, 2021

911.....	35
Sheriff's Office.....	48
Jefferson PD.....	18
Fire Department.....	2
Ambulance.....	22
Miscellaneous.....	0
TxDPS.....	3
Total:.....	131

Call Type Report, February 8-15, 2021

No Nature Specified.....	0
Abandoned Veh/Prop.....	1
Accident/Motor Vehicle.....	4
Accident/Vehicle/Fleet.....	0
Alarm/Burglar.....	8
Alarm/Fire-Smoke.....	0
Ambulance Request.....	26
Ambulance Request/Lift.....	0
Animal Carcass At.....	0
Animal Cruelty.....	0
Animal Ordinance.....	4
Animal/Dog Bite.....	0
Assault.....	0

Assist Motorist.....	0
Burglary.....	1
Burglary in Progress.....	0
Caution.....	0
Chase In Progress.....	0
Civil Matter.....	0
Civil Standby.....	1
Civil/Warrant Process.....	1
Criminal Mischief.....	1
Criminal Trespass.....	2
Deceased Person.....	0
Deliver Message.....	0
Discharge Firearm.....	0
Disorderly Person.....	0
Dispute.....	1
Disturbance.....	9
Emergency at Jail.....	0
Escort (Funeral).....	0
Fight In Progress.....	0
Fire.....	2
Fire/Controlled.....	0
Fire/Vehicle.....	0
Hang Up (911).....	0
Harassment.....	0
Hazard.....	0
Hit and Run Accident.....	0
House Check.....	0
Intoxicated Driver.....	0
Intoxicated Pedestrian.....	1

Juvenile Complaint.....	2
Livestock on Highway.....	0
Lost/Missing Child.....	0
Lost Adult.....	0
Loud Music.....	1
Mental Subject.....	2
Miscellaneous.....	10
Missing Person/Adult.....	0
Narcotics/Drugs.....	1
New Year Rollover.....	6
Need Assistance.....	0
Patrol Request.....	2
Person With Weapon.....	0
Prowler Report.....	1
Report of Shooting.....	0
Repossession.....	0
Runaway.....	0
Sexual Assault.....	0
Suicide Attempt.....	1
Suspicious Person.....	1
Suspicious Vehicle.....	0
Terroristic Threat.....	0
Theft.....	4
Theft of Bank Card.....	0
Theft Vehicle.....	0
Traffic Hazzard.....	1
Traffic Violator.....	1
Trash Dumping.....	0
Trespassing.....	1

Trouble Unknown.....	0
Wanted Stolen Indicated.....	0
Water Fatality.....	0
Welfare Check.....	2
Total:.....	96

Jail Activity Report February 8-15, 2021

Carr, Terry Dandre, Jefferson, 40, Assault Public Servant, Escape-Cause SBI/Threat of Deadly Weap, No Bond Specified, Not In Custody	
Castro, Harry III, Pittsburg, 30, Theft Prop >=\$2,500<\$30k, No Bond Specified, Not In Custody	
Harris, Johnithan Wayne, Jefferson, 34, Fail to Comply Sex Off Duty to Reg w/Prev I, In Custody	
Holmes, Matthew Lee, Jefferson, 17, Criminal Mischief >=\$750<\$2,500, Terroristic Threat of Family/Household, Bond \$9,000, Not in Custody	
Jones, Antone Craig, Lone Star, 34, Agg Asslt w/Deadly Weapon, Nonreportable Offense/Mtr	

Assault, In Custody. Morrison, Corey Brandon, Cooper TX, 31, Agg Asslt w/Deadly Weapon, Fail to ID Fugitive Frm Justice Refuse to G, Bond \$36,500, Not in Custody.

Picon, Tylor Chase, Jefferson, 31, Agg Asslt w/Deadly Weapon, Bond \$50,000, Not in Custody

Ray, Michael Leon, Ore City, 35, Assault Fam/House Mem Impede Breat/Circula, Theft Prop >=\$100<\$750/MTR, Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family member, Interfer w/Emergency Req for Assistance, Bond \$50,000, Not in Custody

Walton, Raymond Wayne Jr, Avinger, 53, Agg Assault Against Public Servant, Nonreportable Offense/DWL, Nonreportable Offense/Expired Reg.MV, Nonreportable Offense/FMFR, Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or More lat, bond \$120,000, Not in Custody.

The listing of individuals here does not convey guilt or inno-

cense. This is the Jail Activity Report only.

From the Desk of JPD Chief Florentino Perez February 16, 2021

The Jefferson Police Department is responding to a higher call volume for welfare checks, givin road conditions, expect longer response times.

Please check on loved ones and prepare for additional snow and sleet. Stay up to date on local news and weather conditions. If you don't need to be on the road, please avoid traveling.

We're monitoring the weather and making arrangements to maintain 24/7 law enforcement coverage for the city. The Police Department is working closely with area law enforcement agency's to accomplish this mission.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

2 experienced grill cooks. Monday thru Sunday 6:30am-2:30pm. (Grill hours are 7am-2pm). Previous restaurant experience cooking breakfast/preparing variety of sandwich offerings. Positions require Saturday and Sunday with

two rotating weekdays off. Dependability and professionalism required. Port Jefferson Outpost, 220 N. Polk St, Jefferson. (903) 665-8881. Ask for Margaret

The Jimplecute is seeking an Advertising Sales Rep. Commission Based. Must be dependable and have reliable auto. 903-665-2462

The Jimplecute is seeking a Sports Writer as a stringer position. Must be dependable and have reliable auto 903-665-2462

Need Employees?

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CALL 817-293-1980

LAKE LOT

50x100 Vacant Lot near Lake O'the Pines in Jefferson. \$1,900. Call or Text Kenny 702-900-1625.

FOR RENT

Looking for a retired couple or working couple to rent a 3 bedroom - 2 bath brick home sitting on 1 acre. A nice peaceful country setting 3 miles from Jefferson on FM-728. References Required. No pets. One year contract \$1,000 Deposit \$1,000 per month By Appointment only 903-665-7416

RENTAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Jefferson Housing Authority is accepting applications for one through four bedroom apartments equipped with stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer hook-ups, and community laundry rooms for low-income family, elderly, disabled, and single persons.

Section 8 rental applications available for low-income family, elderly, disabled and single persons. Applications are accepted 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Monday-Friday at 505 State Highway 49 W., Jefferson, Texas. JHA does business in accordance with the Fair Housing Act.

BID NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS CITY OF JEFFERSON

2021 Street Improvements Program

SEALED PROPOSALS addressed to City of Jefferson, 102 N. Polk Street, Jefferson, Texas 75657, will be received until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 16, 2021 for furnishing all labor, equipment, materials, supplies, and supervision necessary for the construction and completion of the 2021 Street Improvement Program in accordance with the plans and specifications on file at the City Secretary office. At the date and time stated, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Hall Conference Room. Any questions regarding the bid package can be sent to Mayor Rob Baker, via email at rbaker@cityhallofjefferson.com or via telephone at (903) 665-3922.

charge at the City Secretary's office located at 102 N Polk Street, Jefferson, Texas 75657 between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm.

ALL BID PROPOSALS submitted should be marked clearly on the outside of the sealed envelope with the project name, and bid opening time and date.

A CERTIFIED OR CASHIER'S CHECK, or an acceptable Bid Bond in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid shall accompany each bid as a guaranty that, if awarded the contract, the bidder will promptly enter into contract with the City of Jefferson and furnish all required bonds and certificates of insurance on the forms provided.

List of Streets may be examined and/or obtained without

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER OR BIDDERS will be required to furnish Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bonds, each in the amount of the contract, written by a responsible surety company authorized to do business in the State of Texas, and satisfactory to the Owner as required by Article 5160 V.A.T.C.S.

BIDDERS SHALL INSPECT the site of the work and inform themselves of all local conditions. Time of completion shall be sixty (60) calendar days, including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

NO BID may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least sixty (60) calendar days after opening of bids, to allow review of bids and investigation

of bidder's qualifications prior to award.

IN CASE of ambiguity or lack of clearness stating the price in the bids, the City of Jefferson reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject the bid. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any or all informalities, and to award the contract to the bidder or bidders who, in the opinion of the City of Jefferson, offers the proposal to the best interest of same.

ALL CONTRACTORS/SUBCONTRACTORS, which are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on Federal Assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

BID NOTICE

Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Jefferson will receive bids for GLO #19-076-053-B844 DR Drainage Improvements until 2:30 pm on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 102 N. Polk Street, Jefferson, TX 75657. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:30 pm on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 102 N. Polk Street, Jefferson, TX 75657.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows: The improvements include culvert upgrades, approximately 3900 lf of concrete lining of existing earthen channel, upgrades to the culvert headwalls, 318 LF of 48" RCP storm sewer piping reconstruction of a pump station building, and other miscellaneous items of construction.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Jefferson or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact

that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Department of Labor and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual identity, gender identity or national origin. Adherence to the grant recipient's Section 3 Policy is required for contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$100,000.00.

The City of Jefferson reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by City of Jefferson for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

City Of Jefferson, Rob Baker, Mayor

Advertised on February 5, 2021 and February 19, 2021.

PERMIT

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Private Club Registration Permit and Private Club Late Hours Permit for Legends O' The Pines Inc DBA Legends O' The Pines Inc to be located at 8939 FM 729, Avinger, Marion County, TX. Officer/Directors of said entity are: Donya Holler, President/Dir; Charles Holler, Jr, Secretary/Dir and Hunter Holler, Director.

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BID NOTICE

BID NOTICE

The City of Jefferson is now accepting sealed bids for the following surplus equipment.

- 1994 Ford Pickup Fire Truck
- 2006 Volvo Front End Loader
- 2018 EX Mark Mower
- 2018 EX Mark Mower
- 2014 EX Mark Mower

Sealed bids must be marked for the equipment being bid on. All equipment is sold on an "as is" basis with no warranty expressed or implied. Deadline for receiving bids is March 5, 2021 at 10:00 AM at City Hall. Bids will be opened at 3:00 PM on Friday, March 5, 2021 at City Hall and will be granted at the regular council meeting on March 16, 2021. The city has the right to accept or reject any or all bids. You can call (903) 665-3922 to make arrangement to inspect the equipment that will be located at the Sewer Plant.

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EGOMANIAC By Kenneth Holt

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A	R	E	A	S	I	E	V	E	M	E	A	L
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AUCTIONS
Guns of Estate Auction - Feb. 27, 10 a.m., Wheeler County Show Barns. 50+ Guns: rifles, shotguns, handguns, ammo, 80 gun safe. See www.loydsauktion.com for info & pictures. See Lyndon Loyd Auctioneers on Facebook. Lyndon Loyd Auctioneers (806) 334-0407 (Lic. 7119). Cole Wilson Auctioneers (806) 662-5796 (Lic. 17319).

Special Female Sale, Sat. Feb. 27, noon, Hallettsville Livestock Commission Co., Hallettsville, TX. Available to buy & bid online: LiveAuctions TV 2.0, Margo Paeltz (937) 515-1194, Kim Hagan: (361) 293-4720, Mark Hagan: (361) 293-8116, Mike Heller: (361) 293-4949, David Heller: (979) 743-0436.

EVENTS
Southeast Texas Boat, Sport & RV Show, March 5-7, Ford Park, Beaumont, TX. See over 50 brands in 1 location! SETXBOATRVSHOW.COM.

Golden Triangle Home & Garden Show, March 5-6-7, Ford Park, Beaumont, TX. See a multitude of Home Improvement Professionals in 1 location! GoldenTriangleHomeAndGardenShow.com.

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Courtesy photo

Wintertime fun...

Marion County Judge Leward LaFleur and his son Tripp take to the snow in a makeshift sled earlier this week.

Highlights

From page 2

at or below 80% of the area median income. Preference will be given to households with income below 50% of the area median income, and households where one or more members have been unemployed for at least 90 days. Applications can be submitted online at TexasRent-Relief.com, or by calling 1-833-9TX-RENT (1-833-989-7368) from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Deadline nears for Texas Tuition Promise Fund

Texas parents have until the end of February to enroll their children in the state's

prepaid college tuition fund. Enrollment for children under 1 year continues through July 31. The Texas Tuition Promise Fund allows parents to lock in current undergraduate tuition rates and fees at the state's public colleges and universities.

Earnings from money placed in the fund are tax free. The next enrollment period begins on Sept. 1. For more information, go to <https://www.texastuitionpromise-fund.com/>.

Texas ranked top exporting state for 19th straight year

Once again, the Lone Star State leads the nation in ex-

ports. Its \$279.3 billion in exports outpaced California and New York combined. The state also led the United States in tech exports for the eighth straight year.

"Texas' exporting prowess is a testament to our business-friendly climate, strong trade partnerships, and most of all, the millions of hardworking Texans in communities across our state," Gov. Abbott said in a press release.

Petroleum-related products dominated the top 10 list of exports, occupying six of those spots, according to the Census Bureau.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Baker

From page 1

this week's weather event at this time. I will let you know if that changes. There is a concern about getting people there during poor road conditions. All surrounding counties are warning citizens not to get out on the streets. This is a Stay at Home weather event, and the worst thing we can do is have hundreds of people on the treacherous roads trying to get to town. We also have the threat of COVID-19 spreading if we put several hundred people in one building at the same time. The Jefferson Police Department and Marion County Sheriff's Department are doing welfare checks throughout the day each day.

I would like to thank all of the first responders for the dedication and support that they provide to us, especially during tough times like we are currently experiencing. Please make sure to thank your local police, sheriff and fire departments, doctors, nurses, TxDOT, linemen, etc. Plus, a huge thanks to Allen Whatley and his team at the city water department for doing what they do each day and keeping our water and sewer systems running at all hours of the day and night. In these conditions, it's a real challenge for each of these groups to keep up with hundreds of calls and requests. Keep it up, Folks. We appreciate what you do to provide our safety and well-being.

The next few days will be a challenge as more snow and ice is expected thru Friday, with thawing temps not getting to us until the weekend.

Please check on friends and neighbors to make sure people are doing ok during this weather event.

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Fish fry pick-up set at Mims

Mims VFD ladies auxiliary is sponsoring a drive thru, carry-out only Fish Fry. Friday Feb. 26, 2021, from 4 - 7 p.m. or until sold out.

Cost-by donation to support the Mims VFD.

They event will be located in the Mims Community Center, 12727 F M 729, Avinger, Texas, on the north side of Lake o the Pines.

Call in orders will be accepted. Please leave a message.

Fish, potato casserole, coleslaw, mini corn muffins, a bar cookie and a bottle of water will be provided.

This event was rescheduled from Feb. 19.

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