

PROTECTING THEIR HOUSE

The Tarleton basketball teams hosted Texas A&M-Kingsville Saturday night in Wisdom Gym... **page B1**

TODAY	HIGH: 74°	LOW: 45°
Mild with clouds breaking for some sun RealFeel: 72° / 47°		
MONDAY	HIGH: 71°	LOW: 45°
Sunny to partly cloudy RealFeel: 71° / 46°		
TUESDAY	HIGH: 74°	LOW: 42°
Sunny RealFeel: 74° / 45°		



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Sunday, February 14, 2016

STEPHENVILLE, TEXAS ★ CITY OF CHAMPIONS

\$1.50 SUNDAY

Baskett to serve as branch president of Citizens National Bank

By J. MICHAEL ROSS
JRoss@EmpireTribune.com

David Baskett has been named president of the new local branch of Citizens National Bank that will occupy the old Citi Bank building on W. Washington Street across from HEB Supermarket.

Baskett is from a fifth-generation area family, and is familiar name in Stephenville and Erath County banking circles, having worked at Lone Star Ag Credit, Texas Bank and Bank of America.

He grew up in the Stephenville area and attended Tarleton State University for five years, then moved to Las Vegas and graduated from mortgage school there. In fact, it was while working in the mortgage business in Las Vegas that he met the woman he would marry, Mailyn, who

owns a Farmer's Insurance Agency in Stephenville.

They are also parents of two kids, daughter, Piper, who's seven, and son, Gavin, who's three..

Citizens National Bank is based out of Waxahachie and has strong community ties via its local branch offices. It's been around awhile, as explained in information provided by the company: "Citizens National Bank was founded in 1868 as Ferris and Getzendaner, Attorneys at Law and Bankers. The bank came into existence before Waxahachie was incorporated in 1871 and for many years was the only banking operation in North Texas.

"In June, 1884, the name of the financial institution became Citizens National Bank when it was capitalized as a national bank for \$100,000.

The bank has grown dynamically since the beginning of the millennium and now has 10 branches and more than \$600 million in total assets."

About Baskett and the new Citizens National Bank branch, President and CEO of the bank, Mark Singleton said, "We are excited about David joining our team and coming to Stephenville. We look forward to bringing our high service community banking model to this area.

"Stephenville seems like a natural fit for CNB," Singleton said. "We believe in giving back to the community, being involved and supporting local businesses. We have many Tarleton graduates, including myself and my son currently is a student there, so we are already familiar with what makes Stephenville unique and a special place to



FACEBOOK PHOTO

The Baskett family [l-r]: Daughter, Piper, 7, Mailyn, son, Gavin, 3, and David.

call home."

At the time of our interview with Baskett, no opening date for the Stephenville branch had been set, but he emphasized that he and Citizen's National are eager to get the ball rolling in Stephen-

ville as soon as possible.

"We'll be hiring locally and I want to let people know that community involvement will be among our top priorities," Baskett said. "We very much want to be an integral part of Stephenville

and Erath County. We'll be providing both commercial and residential lending, as well sponsoring local clubs and teams, anything we can do to become involved and supportive members of the local community."

National fundraiser spotlights Hook student

By Autumn Owens
aowens@empiretribune.com
Twitter @aowensETnews

The Muscular Dystrophy Association has a new face for its 2016 Shamrock fundraiser materials and its one of Stephenville's own.

Seth Gilley, a student at Hook Elementary, can be seen on the website's the MDA Shamrock page—Buy an MDA Shamrock. Save Lives.—which teams up with thousands of retail locations in an effort to raise funds for muscular dystrophy, ALS and other related life-threatening diseases all through the months of February and March.

"We are super excited that he was chosen. It is an honor that Seth can have a

small part in helping raise money for MDA," Lacy Gilley, Seth's mother, wrote in an email. "We have seen first-hand the amazing support that MDA provides for children and their families affected by various muscular diseases including SMA (Spinal Muscular Atrophy)."

Seth lives with SMA, a disease that robs him of physical strength by affecting the motor nerve cells in the spinal cord. It affects approximately one in 10,000 babies and currently does not have an approved treatment, according to the Cure SMA website.

"Despite physical challenges that Seth has to

SEE MDA, A2

The heart of our mission



Buy an MDA Shamrock. Save Lives.

COURTESY WWW.MDA.ORG

Seth Gilley, Hook Elementary student, has been selected as the face of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Shamrock fundraiser.

ROTC cadets to attend prestigious leadership conferences

By J. MICHAEL ROSS
JRoss@EmpireTribune.com

According to Lt. Col. Marty Deckard, professor of Military Studies, two Tarleton State University ROTC Cadets will be attending leadership conferences this month.

"Cadet Kelby Wiley (Criminal Justice) was just selected to attend the United States Military Academy Mission Command Conference from 24-25 February," Deckard said. "He was one of only 88 cadets selected to represent United States Army Cadet Command."

The 19th USMA Mission Command Conference (MCC) is held Feb. 24-25 at the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

"The conference serves as the USMA Cadets' capstone experience, facilitating their development of a professional self-concept of officership," Deckard said. "Officer/NCO command teams from Battalion, Company and Platoon-level, and other leaders from across the Army will be present to share their experiences and address expectations of junior officers and combat leaders through a series of facilitated discussions and seminars.

"The conference will afford Cadets the opportunity to discuss the enduring truths of Mission Command and the Professional



COURTESY TSU ROTC

Cadet Kelby Wiley (Criminal Justice) was one of only 88 Cadets selected to represent United States Army Cadet Command in the United States Military Academy Mission Command Conference this month.



COURTESY TSU ROTC

ROTC Cadet, Kody Cissna, will represent Tarleton State University's Texan Battalion at the 2016 George C. Marshall Leadership and Award Seminar at Fort Leavenworth Kansas this month.

SEE ROTC, A2

Voters eager to take part in primary get their chance Tuesday

By Sara Vanden Berge
svandenberge@empiretribune.com
Twitter @ETeditor

Erath County residents will finally get their chance to cast a ballot in the March 1 primary when early voting gets underway at the Erath County Courthouse Tuesday.

Polls will be open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays through Feb. 26 and from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21.

Polls will be open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Feb. 22-26 at the Dublin County Annex.

Voters are expected to flock to the polls to vote for a presidential nominee, commissioner, constable, state representative and a hotly-contested sheriff's race.

"Both of the parties have a referenda/proposition at the bottom of the ballot," Erath County

Clerk Gwinda Jones wrote in an email. "Each party's questions are different. It is only a poll to find out where voters stand on the stated issues. The outcome will not change any current laws."

Jones is also reminding voters that the Photo ID Law is in the appeals process, so voters will be required to show a photo ID.

"This is a primary so

voters must pick a party," Jones said. "If you vote in a run-off election you have to vote in the same party as you did the first time. If you did not vote in the primary you may pick either ballot for the run-off election."

Also, no guns, cameras or other recording devices will be allowed inside the courthouse and voters cannot use cell phones while waiting in line.

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Good morning, Subscriber
Dianne Swanson, Stephenville, TX

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