

CITY OF DIBOLL

Diboll nominates Georgia-Pacific for state, federal tax breaks

By JESS HUFF  
The Lufkin Daily News

The Diboll City Council nominated Georgia-Pacific Wood Products LLC for a designation as a qualified business and enterprise project under the Texas Enterprise Zone Program for improvements the company plans to make at the facility.

The nomination is sent to the offices of the governor, economic development and tourism through the Economic Development Bank. It would give the company a five-year state and potentially federal tax break as they expand and make

improvements to the facility, city manager Gerry Boren said. This is under the condition the company maintains at least the same number of employees it has currently.

“This is a five-year commitment they’re making to the Diboll community,” Boren said.

It secures many much-needed jobs in the city, he said, and the city is happy to help the company grow and improve.

The council also made adjustments to the 2020 operating budget to preserve costs and make sure the city has a clear idea of its financial situation, Boren said. They’ve been

lucky because they haven’t had to lay anyone off, he said.

“We caught our expenditures in time for a minimal impact,” he said.

They asked each department to make cuts to operating costs in early March and April and in doing so, they’ll only face a \$25,000 shortfall and not have to lay off any employees or raise taxes. They also began absorbing positions that weren’t filled, he said.

For example, Boren keeps road maintenance equipment on hand to help the street department. Both Diboll police chief Steve Baker and assistant chief Norman Williams have

taken on extra work to cover for employees as needed, in an attempt to keep the community covered.

They have some money that is still “out” Boren said, but both expenditures are to be reimbursed by the state.

The council also called for the Nov. 3 election. The only position up for grabs is for mayor. Lewis Ivey, Sam Glass and Trey Wilkerson all have filed for the position. Ivey is the interim mayor after former Mayor John McClain left due to health concerns.

Finally, the council agreed to keep city hall closed. This has kept city employees safe and has not impacted customer service whatsoever, Boren

and the council have said in previous meetings. They’re considering adding a walk-up window at the front of the building to provide more options for city residents.

Residents can handle almost everything through the drive-thru currently. Anything they can’t, they can schedule with a city official and meet in person on a more limited basis.

Jess Huff’s email address is [jess.huff@lufkindailynews.com](mailto:jess.huff@lufkindailynews.com).



BOREN

Kids Scoop

Continued from Page 1A

scavenger hunt to guide young readers ages 7-12 to other parts of their hometown newspaper.

“We are now in about 300 newspapers nationwide,” she said. “I have worked with tens of thousands of teachers and been reaching millions of children each week. And, we now have five books available from ‘Happy Fox Books.’”

The materials are informed by educational standards for each subject area including STEM, fact and opinion, history and geography activities.

Whiting’s mother also was a teacher, and her late father was a chief scientist at NASA.

“I’m a curious kid at heart,” she said. “I love doing new and unusual things. My greatest joy is writing. I love it when adults tell me they learned some ‘factoid’ from the page, and when teachers tell me ‘this was written by a teacher’ — because I always imbed ‘teachable moments’ in the fun activities.”

Jay Gillispie, development director of circulation, sales and business at The Lufkin Daily News, said Kid Scoop is an attempt to reconnect with a younger audience many newspapers have lost touch with.

“This is our future audience,” Gillispie said. “In the last 10-15 years, newspapers have lost focus on this younger age group.”

Gillispie said many of the younger generations are more in touch with social media than they are with print products, which is a loss because many times the print products are more in depth and informative than online content focused on delivering breaking news.

“This is the opportunity for us to go back and make these things right,” he said. “It’s an opportunity to reconnect with a young audience utilizing a resource that teaches them engagement with print newspapers.”

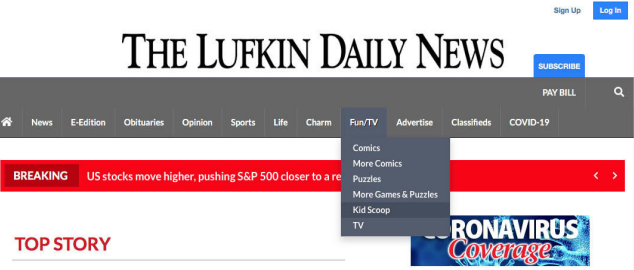
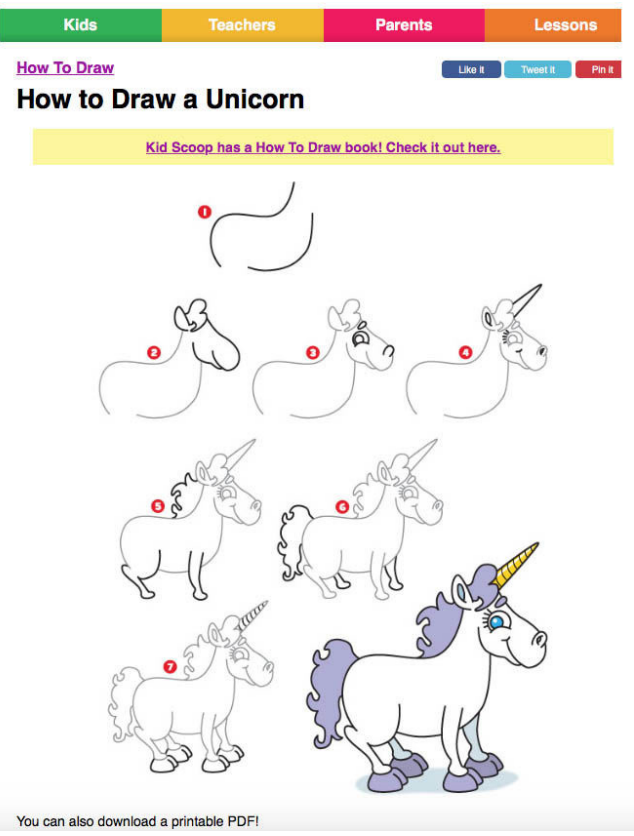
Additionally, families can access an unlimited amount of resources of teaching tools and activities on The Lufkin Daily News website, Gillispie said.

The Kid Scoop resources are great for kids who haven’t yet entered school, students who will be homeschooling this year and for students to use as a reinforcement to what they learn at school, he said.

The Lufkin Daily News also offers a resource to teachers called Newspapers in Education where teachers can sign up to receive free newspapers to utilize in their classrooms thanks to individual and business sponsors.

“We have a living textbook of what’s happening in our community and around us,” Gillispie said. “Kids are learning educationally, it’s enhancing literacy programs, but what they’re learning is not only educational skills — they’re learning about where they live. It’s a great connection, and I see it as a valuable tool.”

Whiting said research shows that when students read the newspaper once



To access Kid Scoop on the Lufkin Daily News website, visit [lufkindailynews.com](http://lufkindailynews.com), click Fun/TV and click Kid Scoop.

a week or more, reading achievement goes up by an average of 10%. In low-income families, achievement can jump as much as 30%.

Additionally, research shows they are likely to be more civically engaged as they grow up.

“As a parent, when my sons’ teachers used the newspaper in their classrooms, we had more interesting family discussions at dinner,” she said. “Especially when the newspaper is the local paper, children get truly excited. My students used to sit up straighter in their

desks when we read the newspaper. They were completely engaged. They didn’t regard the newspaper as school work, they thought it was fun. Yet, they were reading higher level vocabulary and sentence structure than our third-grade level — so while it didn’t seem like school work, it was one of the most effective learning tools I ever used.”

Whiting said she would love for every child in the U.S. to be reading Kid Scoop in their lo-

“We have a living textbook of what’s happening in our community and around us. Kids are learning educationally, it’s enhancing literacy programs, but what they’re learning is not only educational skills — they’re learning about where they live. It’s a great connection, and I see it as a valuable tool.”

JAY GILLISPIE

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR OF CIRCULATION, SALES AND BUSINESS

“I’m a curious kid at heart. I love doing new and unusual things. My greatest joy is writing. I love it when adults tell me they learned some ‘factoid’ from the page, and when teachers tell me ‘this was written by a teacher’ — because I always imbed ‘teachable moments’ in the fun activities.”

VICKI WHITING

CREATOR OF KID SCOOP

cal newspaper, to see families subscribing again and to see them sharing the newspaper and discussing what is going on in their communities.

“It is a great way to foster family bonding and to also provide children with a parent’s values and perspectives on the world around them. It can launch conversations that might not otherwise come up, but are topics children are wondering about. I hope learning new things on Kid Scoop will launch curiosity and discussions in a way that is in print. I know families are looking for ways to give children a break from digital devices,” she said.

To access Kid Scoop on The Lufkin Daily News website, visit [lufkindailynews.com](http://lufkindailynews.com), click the Fun/TV tab and click on the Kid Scoop button. Kid

Scoop is also featured in every Wednesday print edition.

To learn more about the Newspapers in Education pro-

gram, contact the circulation department at 631-2629.

Grace Juarez’s email address is [grace.juarez@lufkindailynews.com](mailto:grace.juarez@lufkindailynews.com).

Stringer's

LUFKIN BAR-B-QUE

EST. 1950

Life Is Good And So Is BBQ!

203 S. Chestnut Dr. • 936-634-4744  
Mon-Sat. 10 AM-9 PM • Closed Sunday  
Paul & Robin Stringer, Owners • [www.lufkinbbq.com](http://www.lufkinbbq.com)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Wells ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, August 27, 2020 in Wells ISD Board Room. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.0547/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.2250/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	-7.26% decrease
Debt Service	1.23% increase
Total expenditures	-6.91% decrease

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$224,963,281	\$232,417,968
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$837,740	\$1,720,690
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$99,719,873	\$99,700,301
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$643,486	\$1,696,960

\*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.  
\*\*“New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.  
\*\*\*“Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$2,730,000

\*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.0683	\$0.2150*	\$1.2833	\$4,819	\$10,170
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.0802	\$0.2141*	\$1.2943	\$3,599	\$11,341
Proposed Rate	\$1.0547	\$0.2250*	\$1.2797	\$4,821	\$10,110

\*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$66,252	\$79,593
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$43,345	\$50,356
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.2833	\$1.2797
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$556.25	\$644.41
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$88.16

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.2797. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.2797.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$1,291,231
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$30,020

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

For Your Health



Buford  
Abeldt  
of ...

ABELDT'S  
PHARMACY

200 Gaslight • 639-2346  
Mon-Fri. 8:00am-6:30pm  
Sat. 9:00am-1:00pm

Treatment Options for Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is a common bone condition that develops when a person loses too much bone mass and density. As a result, bones become thin and weak to the point that they become fragile and may break easily. Bone fractures are more likely to occur in the hip, spine and wrist, but other bones can break too. People who break a hip sometimes lose the ability to walk on their own.

Calcium and vitamin D are important nutrients for bone health as they help keep bones strong and prevent them from breaking easily. People with low levels of these nutrients can take oral supplements. There are a few medications that are prescribed to treat osteoporosis. These medicines when properly taken can reduce the chance of breaking a bone. Bisphosphonates is a class of medications for osteoporosis treatment. Alendronate and risedronate are two choices in the bisphosphonate class. Side effects of these medications may include upset stomach, headache, constipation, or diarrhea. If those medications do not help enough or if they cause side effects that a person cannot stand, raloxifene is sometimes prescribed.

• Medicare Supplement Plans •

Making Medicare Simple

Melisha Stafford  
Your LOCAL Representative

1101 S. Chestnut • Lufkin  
936-634-3378

Securities offered through Woodlands Securities Corp.  
Member FINRA/SIPC