

weekly LIFT

Week of Feb. 21-26, 2017

LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE
for TEXARKANA

Good news and good ideas for everyone! Brought to you by Leadership Texarkana

Want to stay on top of **What's to Love** in our community?

The WeeklyLIFT isn't your average events calendar. It's a carefully crafted list of the people, places and events that make Texarkana a great place to be. We'll deliver it right to your inbox every Monday! **Sign up for the WeeklyLIFT e-newsletter at leadershiptexarkana.com today**—then forward it to your friends and neighbors to spread the good news.... because the more we all know, the more we all care!

Texarkana USA:

A thriving center for business, education and culture that attracts—and serves—us all.

Citizens committed to Working Smart for Excellence, Educational and Cultural Riches, Community Pride, Economic, Social and Personal Well-Being

Speaking of Second to None...
DID YOU KNOW...?



The Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC) has announced approval of **THE FIRST** S.T.A.R. Designated Site in the state of Texas, and it is our own TexAmericas Center! Texas' first STAR designation was achieved through a complex approval process that began in 2014, to verify sites which meet certain criteria and are fully-documented as "Sites That Are Ready" for construction to begin; this expedites the decision making process for site selectors and industry leaders considering a location for future development. "Being a S.T.A.R. site signifies that your community understands that speed-to-market means speed-to profit. The earlier a company can begin operations the faster it can begin selling or shipping goods," said Carlton Schwab, President/CEO, TEDC.

THEY'RE IN!



BRAVO to everyone at the office of CPA Andy McDonnell (LT Class of 1985) for looking out for our looks on Texarkana USA's iconic STATELINE corridor!

As we've said: LOOKS MATTER! and in particular, the looks of STATELINE MATTER! Visitors draw their conclusions about who we are as a community based on from what they see when they drive this iconic corridor — which IS our most unique "attraction"—so we offer our BIGGEST BRAVOS to every storefront on Stateline Avenue for their part in...

**Making Texarkana TWICE as Beautiful!
CLEAN NEAT GREEN PRETTY**

Email YOUR suggestions for places in the greater Texarkana USA area that deserve KUDOS for modeling the way and whose commitment to beauty are sources of community pride.



Welcome, Ledwell Office Solutions, newest partner for Leadership Texarkana's WeeklyLIFT!

Thanks to Robbins Toyota and BancorpSouth for your continued support of the WeeklyLIFT!

STEPPING UP TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Congratulations to **Yolanda Thomas**

LT Class of 2012

Yolanda Thomas was one of eight women honored at this year's Annual Tribute to African American Women on February 18, receiving the Helen Mitchell Service Award.

A T-TOWN TOP TEN Things to do in Texarkana February 6-12, 2017



1

Mardi Gras Texarkana! On Front Street Texarkana - Feb 25.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/230706587351720/>

Texarkana Mardi Gras parade at 3 p.m. Theme: "A Decade to Remember."

Mardi Gras Kid & Pet Parade at noon. Ages 0-12 and pets of all kinds.

Kids, dress yourself (and maybe your pet!) in your best Mardi Gras costume and create your very own mini float! Decorate a wagon, bicycle, stroller, (or..?) and participate in this fantastic one-of kind event. Parental help and participation is allowed. One prize will be given for Most Creative Entry.

Kid's costume contest immediately after the Kid & Pet parade. One lucky boy and girl will be crowned the Prince and Princess of Mardi Gras! Also a prize for Most Creative Pet Costume.

Line up at 11:30 a.m., register on-site. No horses, full-sized vehicles or ATVs. All kid and pet entries must be accompanied by an adult.

2

Texarkana Coin Show. Check it out. Family friendly event with hourly door prizes, BUY! SELL! TRADE! Texarkana Convention Center, Friday, Feb. 24, 12-7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



3

Barefoot in the Park. There's a reason it's a beloved comedy classic and that it's part of Montana Rep's fiftieth anniversary touring season: Playwright Neil Simon is a comedic genius. Timeless fun. Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. Perot Theatre.



4

MERCY ME Texas Takeover Tour. Award-winning Texas-based Contemporary Christian recording stars perform at the Perot Theatre on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. With Gold and platinum albums, Dove Awards, Grammy nominations and #1 songs on Christian music charts, not to be missed!

5

Murder Mystery Dinner. Enjoy a night of dinner, drinks and deducing at the P. J. Ahern home for a Sherlock Holmes themed murder mystery event! Can you solve the crime before dessert is served? Saturday, Feb. 25, 6-8 p.m. Reservations required; Email Curator@TexarkanaMuseums.org or call 903-793-4831 for info or for reservations.

6

Professional Bull Riders Four State SHOOT OUT - Touring Pro Division at the Four States Fairgrounds. February 25 at 7 p.m.

7

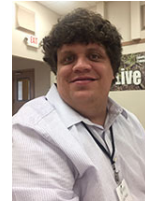
Texarkana College CASA presents Larry Jefferson, a.k.a. "Santa Larry," Black History Month Keynote Address. Best known as the Mall of America's first black Santa Claus. Thursday, Feb. 23, 12:30 p.m., in TC's Levi Hall Conference Room, located in BCT Bldg. Free.

8

Regional Celebration of African American Artists Exhibit from TRAHC. Feb 20-25. FREE. Regional Arts Center.

This Week's Totally T-Town Fave Foods

9



Field Walsh
Owner, TXK Today

recommends...
**Blackened Grouper
with Remoulade Sauce
from Ironwood Grill**

10

Aaron Nix
Vice President
H&N Landscaping/Nursery

loves
**Duck & Grits
at Pecan Point Brewery**



It's time to NOMINATE & CELEBRATE

Leadership Texarkana is now accepting nominations for their **2017 WILBUR AWARDS.**

Lift up individuals (adult and youth) and organizations who are exemplary models of community leadership and which can serve as inspiration for all of us to make a difference that matters in Texarkana USA.

Nomination forms and info at LeadershipTexarkana.com
Deadline for nominations MARCH 8.

Wilbur Honorees will be recognized on April 11 at LT's Annual Lunch with Leaders. Sponsored by Texarkana Emergency Center



**SIGN
ME UP**

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