

Last Week's Meeting

Gregg County Judge Bill Stoudt

State of the County

Gregg County's financial fitness is strong — which is good news on the threshold of a potentially difficult economic year, County Judge Bill Stoudt said in his annual State of the County speech.

"This year could be one of the first times in the last 10 or 11 years that we've had to take out of reserves to balance the budget," Stoudt told members and guests last week. "It's going to be a tough year."

He blamed sales tax revenue that has been falling in recent years along with local oil and gas activity and the broader area economy.

Sales taxes, which peaked at \$17 million in 2012-13, are budgeted to reach \$14.5 million by the end of the fiscal year Sept. 30. October's payment from the state arrived last month and at \$1.1 million it was more than 10 percent less than its October 2014 level. That left the county 8.94 percent below its budgeted target for the first month of the current fiscal year.

Stoudt said the rest of the fiscal year would tell him whether to dip into the county's \$38 million in unrestricted reserve funds. That news came at the end of a speech largely given to reasons why a dip into reserves wouldn't be a shameful budget move for a county with zero debt, one of the lowest tax rates in Texas and a healthy reserve account.

"That courthouse is hitting on all eight cylinders right now," Stoudt said. "We couldn't do it without good people. And we're getting some things done in Gregg County."

Among the accomplishments made without increasing taxes or dipping into reserves, he mentioned recent completion of a \$5.5 million renovation of the terminal at East Texas Regional Airport, a \$3.2 million revamp of courthouse infrastructure, continuing work on George Richey Road under a state-county-city partnership, more than \$1 million in improvements on Tryon Road/Hawkins Parkway and on Alpine Road/Loop 281.

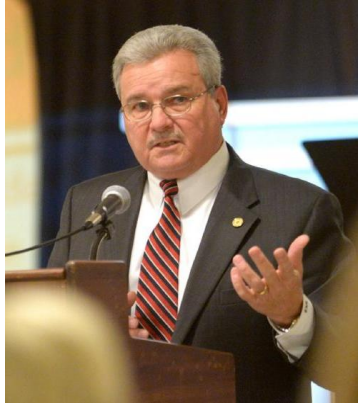
Stoudt also highlighted the county's effort to increase cybersecurity after hackers in 2010 got away with \$200,000.

And he discussed the county's receipt this past year of a Platinum ranking, the highest possible, for financial transparency. The award is made annually by the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle, and put it at the top among counties making available financial information to all constituents.

"I think we've got better days ahead of us than we've got behind us," Stoudt said.

Last week's visitors and guests

Visitors: Jay Dean, Longview Greggton. J.P. Steelman, Longview Greggton. Eric Burger, Longview Greggton. Page Brewer, Kilgore. **Guests:** Sheriff Maxey Cerliano, guest of Bill Stoudt. Evan Dolive, guest of Wayne Dolive. Glenn Evans and Kevin Green, guests of Ric Brack. Kristen Hildebrand and Brian Roper, guests of Gordon Northcutt.



Rotaview News

January birthdays and anniversaries

Please join us in wishing a very happy January birthday to these Rotarians:

- Philip Smith – Jan. 3
- Doug Cox – Jan. 7
- Angie Herrington – Jan. 12
- Lindsay Loy – Jan. 12

And let's wish a happy anniversary to these Rotarians celebrating wedding anniversaries this month:

- Kellyn Drayer (Jerry) – Jan. 4
- Darryl Primo (Leasa) – Jan. 10
- Eric Ruff (Lori) – Jan. 25
- Don Scoggins (Linda) – Jan. 27

Congratulations to Longview Greggton Rotary

The Longview Greggton Rotary Club last week presented \$37,500 checks to both Highway 80 Rescue Mission and Newgate Mission, proceeds from the club's "Behold the Lamb of God" musical fundraiser last month.

The \$75,000 effort was the largest fund-raiser in the history of the club, said Keith Bailey, chairman of the committee that presented the program last month at LeTourneau University's Belcher Center.

Great work, fellow Rotarians!

Next week's program

Donna Sharp – The executive director of Greater Longview United Way will update us on the organization's fund drive and other progress. In 2015, the United Way funded 36 programs that are part of 21 Longview agencies. The United Way's total partner agency funding in 2015 was \$917,356. The current campaign's goal is \$1.4 million.

For a look at more upcoming programs, visit rotarylongview.org and find the "Speakers" section.

Calendar of events

Jan. 16: Longview Symphony orchestral concert, Belcher Center. 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 20: Board meeting, Gerald's. 11:30 a.m.

Jan. 29: "A Jubilant Song," choral music program by UT Tyler Patriot Singers, UT Tyler Longview Campus. 7 p.m.

Feb. 4: Paris Rotary Club 100th Anniversary Celebration, Paris Country Club. 6 p.m.

Feb. 12: Presidents Day flag duty, flags out.

Feb. 16: Presidents Day flag duty, flags in.

Feb. 17: Board meeting, Gerald's. 11:30 a.m.

Feb. 25-28: Lone Star PETS, DFW Airport.

March 16: Board meeting, Gerald's. 11:30 a.m.

March 19: Rotary Foundation Dinner, TBD.

Lunch menu: Today – Baked chicken, roasted potatoes, peas. Jan. 19 – Spaghetti and meatballs, green beans. Jan. 26 – Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, broccoli. (All served with salad, coffee, tea and dessert)

The Rotary Club of Longview, Texas

P.O. Box 2244 - Longview Texas, 75606

Club website: www.rotarylongview.org

District 5830 website: www.rotary5830.org

Meets at noon Tuesday at
First Baptist Church, Longview - (903) 758-0681
Enrollment as of Dec. 8: 100



Be a gift to the world

Ash, Kandi 0 YPA Attorney - Registered Nurse
Barkman, Donald FS, PH+1, 30 YPA Pecan Grower
Bartleman, William FS, PH+1, 3 YPA Self Storage
Bell, Deborah PH+2, 0 YPA Medicine - Humanitarian
Bennett, Gai PH, 2 YPA Business Manager - Construction
Bentley, Bob PH, 0 YPA Scout Executive - Retired
Best, Shane FS, PH+2, PP, 25 YPA Banking - Commercial Loans
Bigony, Jayne FS, PH+7, 19 YPA Insurance - Fire
Boon, Mark FS, PH+3, PP, 33 YPA Law Estate - Planning
Brack, Richard 2 YPA Newspaper Editor
Butler, Stephen 0 YPA Chemical Plant R&D
Cammack, Casey PH+1, PP, 33 YPA Insurance - Estate Planning
Chaikin, Craig 3 YPA Banking - Personal Trusts
Chaney, Frank FS, PH+2, 8 YPA Real Estate - Commercial
Chaney, Jill FS, PH, 3 YPA Banking - Loans
Cox, Doug FS, PH+2, 25 YPA Pub. Education - Dir. of Athletics
Cromer, Jon 0 YPA Banking - Commercial Loans
Deike, Terri PH, 2 YPA University Athletics
Dial, Richard PH, PP, 35 YPA Income Tax Service
Dolive, Wayne PH+1, 30 YPA Civil Engineering
Drayer, Kellyn FS, PH+1, 10 YPA Investments - Vice President
Florence, Patricia FS, PP, PH+5, 22 YPA Law - Title
Florio, Charles PH+1, PP, 38 YPA College Administration
Forester, Sam FS, PH+2, 1 YPA Investments - Financial Services
Greenwaldt, C. PDG, FS, PH+7, PHS, PP, 25 YPA Chem. Plant - Admin.
Greenwaldt, Mary FS, PH, PHS, 1 YPA Higher Education
Griffin, Keith 0 YPA Accounting Services - Taxes
Griffin, Shirley FS, MD, PHS, PP, PDG, 19 YPA Travel Agency
Hall, Kevin 0 YPA Insurance - Specialty
Hargett, Gordon FS, PH+2, 51 YPA Cleaning/Chemical Distribution
Harrison, John W., Jr. FS, PH+2, PP, 49 YPA Electr. App. Retail
Harrison, Patti PH, 1 YPA Concrete Manufacturing
Hays, Tom FS, PH, 0 YPA Real Estate - Appraiser
Herrington, Angie 0 YPA Investment Advisor
Henry, David 0 YPA Attorney - Oil and Gas
Hollis, LaJuan PH, 0 YPA Non-profit Administration
Horaney, Betty FS, PH+3, 14 YPA Feed Supply
Hubbard, Griff FS, PH+1, 5 YPA Railway Management
Hugman, James FS, PH+5, PP, 3 YPA Architect
Jameson, B.H. 35 YPA Justice of the Peace
Johnson, Dietrich PH, 2 YPA Municipal Gov't - Administration
Johnson, Joel FS, PH+2, 16 YPA Consultant - Business
Jordan, Gene 0 YPA Business Development
Key, Carl 0 YPA School Administration
Khoury, Dorothy FS, PH+1, 9 YPA Consultant - Political
Knollenberg, Steve 0 YPA Boy Scouting
Lanier, Jack, Jr. PH, 0 YPA Police Chaplaincy
Lewis, Cindi-Marie FS, PH, 4 YPA Primary Education
Liu, Jeannie 0 YPA Neurosurgery
Loy, Lindsay 0 YPA Non-Profit Administration

Maly, Robert FS, PH+2, PP, 0 YPA Civil Engineering
Manley, Richard FS, PH, 3 YPA Real Estate - Development
Mann, Jack FS, PH+4, 1 YPA Distribution - Soft Drinks
Mann, Nat 0 YPA Distribution - Soft Drinks
Martinez-Berrios, Pedro 0 YPA Public Accounting
Mason-Durrant, Dawne 0 YPA Hospitality Management
Matlock, Paul 0 YPA Building Construction and Electrical
McClellan, Joe 1 YPA Music Education
McFaul, Justin PP, 3 YPA Banking - Trust Services
McGaughey, Robert 0 YPA Ministry - Business Office
McKinney, Ronnie PH+1, 3 YPA Construction Consulting
McLemore, Reagan FS, PH+3, 21 YPA Business Broker
McReynolds, Allen 0 YPA Real Estate Investments
McWhorter, Gene FS, PH+1, 33 YPA Advertising - Industrial
Mwakikoti, Alex 0 YPA Higher Education
Neal, Billy PH, 0 YPA Vehicle Collision Repair
Neill, Jeremy 0 YPA Banking
Northcutt, Gordon FS, PH, 0 YPA Financial Advisor
Northcutt, LeGrande FS, PH+2, 51 YPA Insurance - Fire
Novy, Scott 25 YPA Law - Taxes
Overman, Rodney FS, PH+2, 14 YPA Income Tax Service
Parrott, Deborah FS, PH, 16 YPA Banking - Mortgage
Pigeon, Lee PH+2, 32 YPA Chemical Plant - Engineering
Pistone, Joseph PH, 0 YPA Emergency Medicine
Poland, Rick PP, PH+1 19 YPA Beer Distributor - Market
Primo, Darryl PH, 0 YPA Oil and Gas Leases
Rice, Bill PH, PP, 19 YPA Financial Advisor
Risinger, Charles FS, PH+3, 27 YPA Chemical Plant Utilities
Roberts, James FS, B, PH+8, PHS, PP, 14 YPA Accounting Services
Ruff, Eric 6 YPA Real Estate - Commercial
Scoggins, Don FS, PH, SE, 12 YPA Chemical Plant - Admin.
Smith, R.H. Jr. "Hank" PH, 2 YPA Insurance - Casualty
Smith, Philip FS, PH+1, 25 YPA Insurance - Casualty
Smith, Shawn 0 YPA Auto Dealer - Comm. Prop. Mgmt.
Smith, Trey FS, MD, B, PHS, PP, 19 YPA Oil and Gas Properties
Stout, Bill FS, PH+2, 0 YPA Investments
Taylor, Gary PH+1, 0 YPA Bank Executive
Thomas, Linda FS, PH+6, PP, 20 YPA Plumbing and Heating Supply
Thomas, Wiley FS, PH, 5 YPA Information Systems Manager
Thompson, Chris FS, PH, 1 YPA Banking - Real Estate
Walker, John FS, PH+7, 30 YPA Gasoline Distributor
Welge, Ava FS, PH+3, 20 YPA Education - Testing
Welge, Jack Jr. PH+3, PP, 36 YPA Law Practice - Criminal
Wells, Wes 0 YPA Administrator- Long-term Care
Wilcox, James 0 YPA School Administration
Wilkinson, Dickens 2 YPA Sulfur Sales
Willett, Jim FS, PH+1, PP, 9 YPA Financial Advisor
Williams, Kasha PH, 3 YPA Home Health Care
Winn, Terry FS, PH, PP, 0 YPA Civil Engineering
Wiseman, Tim 0 YPA Ministry - Executive Director



Rotaview

The Rotary Club of Longview, Texas

The original service club of Gregg County, Texas

Chartered May 1, 1920

Jan. 12, 2016/Volume 70, Issue 22

The Four-Way Test

Is it the *truth*?

Is it *fair* to all concerned?

Will it build *goodwill* and better friendships?

Will it be *beneficial* to all concerned?

Today's Program

Robin Fruia – Longview Community Ministries

Officers and Directors

Tom DeWitt..... District Governor
Scott Novy..... President
Gordon Northcutt..... President-elect
James Roberts Vice President
Trey Smith..... Secretary
Griff Hubbard Treasurer
Justin McFaul..... Past President
Craig Chaikin Club Administration Director
Dietrich Johnson..... Service Projects Director
Richard Brack..... Membership Director
Joel Johnson Foundation Director
David Henry Fund Raising Director
Gai Bennett..... Public Relations Director
Steve Butler..... Endowment Fund Chairman

B: Benefactor. **DG:** District Governor. **FS:** Foundation Sustaining Member. **H:** Honorary Member. **MD:** Major Donor.
PDG: Past District Governor. **PH:** Paul Harris Fellow. **PHS:** Paul Harris Society. **PP:** Past President.
SE: Senior Exempt. **YPA:** Years of Perfect Attendance.

Area Club Meetings

Monday: Marshall Metro, Trinity Episcopal Church. **Also:** Big Sandy, Greater Paris, South Tyler.

Wednesday: Kilgore, Meadowbrook Country Club. **Also:** Jacksonville, Jefferson, Lake Fork, Pittsburg.

Thursday: Gladewater, Chamber of Commerce. **Also:** Atlanta, Marshall, Overton, Quitman, Texarkana, Tyler.

Friday: Longview Greggton, First Baptist Church. **Also:** Carthage, Henderson, Paris.

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