

# The Duncan Banner

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## Commissioners begin search for E-911 location

BY DAVID LAUGHLIN  
THE DUNCAN BANNER

The same commissioners who govern the affairs of Stephens County will expand their duties with the newly-minted Enhanced-911 board.

Such wasn't the initial plan, however.

Todd Churchman, chairman of the board of county commissioners, had

hoped to establish a panel comprised of representatives from across Stephens County to operate the E-911 board. After hearing an opinion from District Attorney Jason Hicks, Churchman's plans have changed.

"As per the DA, since the E-911 was a countywide election, the board of commissioners should serve as the board," said Churchman.

"We are able to set up an advisory board, though."

Stephens County Sheriff Wayne McKinney was one of a number of representatives in attendance during the board's regular meeting. An advisory board, McKinney expressed, is important to ensure an efficient E-911 system throughout Stephens County.

"To me, it is important to set up an

advisory board," said McKinney.

"Setting up an advisory board will be super as far as I am concerned," Commissioner Dee Bowen added.

Though the board agreed on the importance of an advisory board, it didn't hash out the specifics of who would serve on the proposed board.

Additionally, the commissioners

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## First to earn Chisholm Trail medal

REYNOLDS, MCGOUGH SPEND  
SPRING BREAK SATURDAY CLEANING

BY TONI HOPPER  
THE DUNCAN BANNER

Sam McGough and Jarrett Reynolds began their spring break with a history lesson and some volunteer work on the Oklahoma prairie.

For their efforts, they are the first two area residents to earn the Boy Scout Association Trails "Historic Chisholm Trail" medal.

They are both Webelo Scouts, with Troop 417 of the Last Frontier Council.

One might think 10-year-old boys would balk at the idea of spending a nice Saturday weed eating and painting an old marker, yet these two actually admitted to having fun.

Reynolds said he had so much fun he would love to time travel back to the 1880s. He loved learning about Jesse Chisholm and was amazed someone could speak 14 languages. McGough said he didn't mind the work but loved the bike riding portion of the requirements to earn the medal. Even though they only saw a small portion of the trail, McGough said he was surprised at how long it really is.

They are the sons of Cindy and Mark Reynolds, and Stacy and James McGough, respectively.

"I must say, the boys had tons of fun and

learned a lot," Mark shared. "It's amazing how much both Sam and Jarrett remembered about Jesse Chisholm and the history of The Trail."

Gova Williams, Museum Coordinator for the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, announced in late February the new medal's availability. Soon after, she said there was a race on the CTHC Facebook page to see who could be the first to earn the medal. She said one woman actually rode her horse the required 10 miles on the trail, but hasn't visited the CTHC or filled the questionnaire.

The boys' efforts began Thursday when they came and toured the Heritage Center. Then on Saturday, sunshine and nice weather combined for their outdoor volunteer project where they biked the Chisholm Trail and cleaned up the marker that symbolizes the historic route on Chestnut, just east of N Street.

"Mark told me that after they weed-eated it, the boys (Sam and Jarrett) decided (the marker) needed a new paint job, so Mark purchased the primer and paint," Williams said.

Both boys worked



Jarrett Reynolds, left, and Sam McGough, grin Monday at being the first to earn the Boy Scouts Association Trails "Historic Chisholm Trail" medal, which also happens to be their first medal.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED  
At left, Jarrett Reynolds, and Sam McGough, put the final touches on the Chisholm Trail historic marker which sits east of N Street on Chestnut Road, on the north side. Above, Jarrett weed eats the overgrown grass. "We're pretty pleased. You couldn't see it, it was so covered up," said Mark Reynolds.

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*See MEDAL, Page 2*



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*OVER*

## MEDAL

FROM PAGE 1:  
MOTHERS  
CREDITED  
FOR INTEREST

together to prime the marker, then returned two hours later to paint it.

"They certainly went the extra mile on this and I am so proud," Williams said.

"Since Duncan has

tagged itself as the 'Heart of the Chisholm Trail' I think it is important our youth take ownership for the future, and that is what these boys did," she said.

Sam and Jarrett gave their mothers credit for getting them interested in the project and earning the medal, and Williams said that Sam's mom, Stacy, heard her speak at Kiwanis just the day before. That prompted Stacy to push the boys

into the project quicker so they could earn the medal.

Monday the boys and their fathers returned to the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center to accept their medals, which they quickly had pinned to their Scout uniform shirt. The moment was just another milestone in the life of best friends who plan to stay interested in their local history and active in their community.