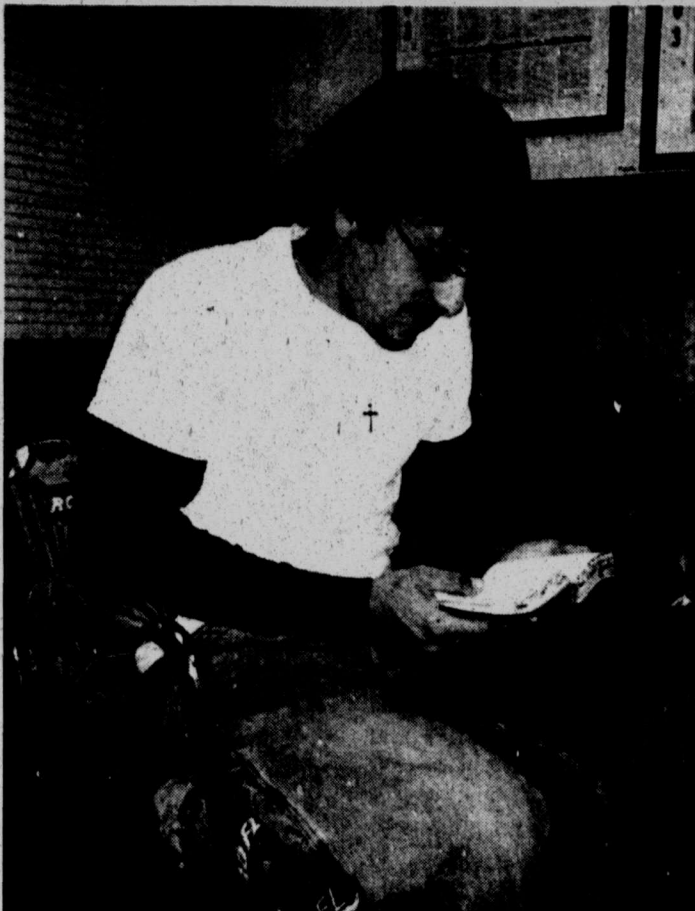


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BOBBY BENAVIDEZ has a much-thumbed Bible in his back-pocket, which he takes out often to read. His faith is leading him on a journey which he never expected.

Adventure In Faith Leads Tahoka's Bobby Benavidez To Egyptian Orphanage

by JUANELL JONES

It takes a heart of faith, an adventurous soul, and a commitment to serving God to step outside the comfort zone and onto a plane bound for places unknown — and that's just what 22-year-old Bobby Benavidez of Tahoka has done today.

This morning (Thursday), the Tahoka graduate who says he had barely seen the world outside Tahoka before he joined an organization of youth involved in mission work worldwide, began his journey to Cairo, Egypt where he and other members of his team will serve for six weeks at a children's orphanage.

It is a pioneering trip in more ways than one. Not only is it Bobby's first experience to travel outside the United States — and what he believes will be the first of many mission opportunities for him — but for the organization itself it is their first mission trip to Egypt.

Youth With A Mission (YWAM) is an international movement of Christians from many denominations dedicated to presenting the person of Jesus Christ to this generation: YWAM, founded in 1960, is worldwide in scope, and has many training centers. In 1978 YWAM founded the Pacific & Asia Christian University in Kona, Hawaii with the premise that students could be educated so as to extend the gospel into the foundational areas of society worldwide. Seven colleges and several multi-disciplinary centers were formed to educate and train students in these areas, and in 1988 the name was changed to the University of the Nations. Today, the U of N is unique in its international, missionary training scope with school locations in over 100 nations on all continents.

Bobby first heard about YWAM two years ago from some friends he met through church youth activities.

A longtime active member of the First United Methodist Church of Tahoka's youth group, Bobby began considering a life in active service to God, but felt he was not ready for YWAM at that time. He is the son of Robert Benavidez of San Angelo and Aurora Cruz of Tahoka, and graduated from Tahoka High School in 2000. After graduation, he took some Bible courses at South Plains College in Levelland, and worked as an automotive mechanic.

"Some friends of mine went to YWAM two years ago and asked me if I wanted to go, but I said no — I didn't think I was ready for that," says Bobby with a quiet smile. "Then last year, Josh Kirkland, another friend, asked me again to join. He was going to Thailand, and again I said no. But when he came back and told me about his experiences, I decided to check it out," he explained.

Last September, Kurt Hurst,

grandson of the late Macky Turner of Tahoka, presented a program at First United Methodist Church of Tahoka about YWAM, of which he is an active member. He spoke of his experiences in urban mission trips to inner city areas in the northern United States. By that time, Bobby was very interested in joining YWAM, and hearing of Kurt's experiences motivated him even more.

He applied for acceptance, and after background checks and references was accepted into the program. He recently completed his first three months of training at the YWAM training center in Orlando, Florida and is now beginning the required two months of outreach, traveling to Egypt with a team of 16 youth and two adult leaders.

YWAM is geared towards youth ages 17 and above (you must have a high school diploma), but Bobby says (See *Adventure In Faith*, page 3)



THE Lynn County News



VOLUME 101, NUMBER 2 • TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS • THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2004 • 6 PAGES PLUS INSERT

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Lynn Voters To Have Choices For Sheriff, Commissioner, DA

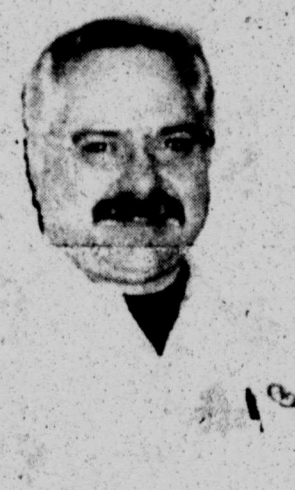
One last candidate has added his name to the list of local candidates for the March 9 Primaries, adding interest to the Lynn County Sheriff's race. Jerry D. Franklin, Chief Deputy for Lynn County Sheriff's Department, filed last Wednesday as a Democratic candidate for Sheriff, running against incumbent Bob Wilson for the four-year term.

As the filing period closed Jan. 3, Lynn County voters will see two contested races for county positions, and a contested race for District Attorney of the 106th Judicial District, which includes Lynn, Garza, Dawson and Gaines counties. However, the only locally contested race to be decided in the Primaries will be the Sheriff's seat, as both candidates in that race have filed as Democrats. Voters will have to wait until the

November 2 General Election to see who wins the Precinct 1 Commissioner seat and the District Attorney race, as there is one candidate each on the Republican and Democratic Primary ballots who will face off in the General Election.

Republican Brian Kingston has challenged incumbent Ricky B. Smith, Democrat, for the DA seat; and in the Lynn County Precinct 1 Commissioner race, incumbent Don Morton, a Democrat, will face Republican candidate Glenn Heinrich in the Nov. 2 election.

Other local candidates, all incumbents, will be unchallenged in their bid for re-election, including Lynn County Attorney Jay Napper, Lynn County Tax Assessor/Collector Sherry Pearce, and Precinct 3 Commissioner Don Blair.



JERRY D. FRANKLIN
Jerry D. Franklin Announces For Lynn Co. Sheriff

Jerry D. Franklin announces his candidacy for the office of Sheriff of Lynn County. He will be running on the Democratic Party ticket in the March 9, 2004 Primary.

Franklin has just begun his twelfth year at the Lynn County Sheriff's Office. He has worked as a Jailer, Jail Administrator, Lieutenant, Investigator, and has been the Chief Deputy for the past five years. He also continues to serve as Lynn County Emergency Management Coordinator, working with local and state law enforcement, county fire departments and EMS services since 1997, when he was appointed to the position by county officials.

Franklin holds an Advanced Peace Officer Certificate and is also certified as an Instructor and Firearms Instructor by the State of Texas. He has served on the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) Law Enforcement Training Committee for the past five years, and he teaches firearms classes for the SPAG Law Enforcement Academy. He has served six years in the Texas National Guard. He attended Angelo State University and was a farmer in the Wells Community in Lynn County for 19 years prior to his career in law enforcement. He has been married to his wife, Nancy, for 30 years and they raised four children in Lynn County.

"I have a close working relationship with all area law enforcement agencies," said Franklin. "I am a lifelong resident of Lynn County and want to serve the people of Lynn County as Sheriff. I have enjoyed working with the people of Lynn County for the past 11 years, and I would consider it a privilege and honor to serve as your Sheriff. I will devote my full attention to the Sheriff's Office with integrity and honesty," he added.

(PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT)



KENT SHARP
Kent Sharp Announces For State Representative

Kent Sharp of Big Spring announced today that he will seek the Republican nomination for State Representative in District 85. District 85 encompasses 16 counties in West Texas that include Borden, Crosby, Fisher, Floyd, Garza, Glascock, Hale, Howard, Irion, Jones, Kent, Lynn, Reagan, Sterling, Stonewall, and Terry.

Kent Sharp has practiced economic development for twelve years in West Texas and the Panhandle. He is currently the executive director of the development corporation in Big Spring where he has held that position for the last six years.

In 2001 Sharp was elected to the Big Spring ISD Board of Trustees and currently serves as treasurer for the board. In that same year, he was one of nine people appointed to the governing board of the newly created Texas Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA). Sharp graduated from Perryton High School and received his Bachelor of Science degree in economics from Texas Christian University. He has completed several hours of graduate study in public administration at Texas Tech University.

Mr. Sharp has been married to his wife, Kendra, for eleven years and they have two children, Austin and Bailey, who both attend public school in Big Spring.

"This has truly been one of the most soul searching processes I have been through in a long time," Sharp says. "I have visited with many individuals across District 85. I feel that my background, education, and experience provide a unique opportunity to understand the issues that are very important to the people living in these 16 counties."

Sharp notes education as one of his top priorities. "More and more (See *Kent Sharp*, page 3)



DON MORTON
Morton Seeks Re-Election As Commissioner

Don Morton, Commissioner of Lynn County Precinct 1, announces he is seeking re-election to the seat for the next four-year term. He has filed on the Democratic ticket for the March 9 Primaries.

"I have served as your County Commissioner for seven years, and would like to continue to serve the people of Lynn County," Morton said. "I appreciate the support you have shown me in the past, and ask for your support in this election," he added.

Morton is a lifelong resident of Lynn County, residing in Wilson.

Volunteer and help others -- it will do your heart good!



GLENN HEINRICH
Heinrich Announces Bid For Precinct 1 Commissioner Seat

Glenn Heinrich has announced his candidacy for Lynn County Commissioner, Precinct 1. A resident of Lynn County for the past 15 years, Heinrich has filed on the Republican ticket for the March 9 Primaries.

"I would like to serve the people of Lynn County," Heinrich said in making his announcement. "As a taxpayer I am concerned about our counties and the shrinking tax base that supports county services and operations. Also as a property owner I realize the need for good road maintenance and facilities that serve our residents."

"I hope to meet everyone in my precinct before election day," Heinrich added. "Your cooperation will be appreciated."

(PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT)

Tahoka Man Loses Car, Freedom After Party

A 35-year-old Tahoka man celebrating New Year's Eve wound up with a short stay in jail and without a car he had rented.

After the man and some of his brothers got into a fight during the party, he was arrested. The next day he learned that a woman friend had driven off in the rental car. Neither the woman nor the car were immediately located, but the rental agency advised that the car, a 2002 Dodge Neon, had been wrecked near George West.

Police were called to a residence where a young woman apparently attempted suicide by taking some pills. She was taken by Tahoka EMS ambulance to Lynn County Hospital and later transferred to Lubbock. Her condition was not believed serious.

Five persons were jailed during the last week, on these charges: driving while intoxicated with a child under age 15 in the vehicle, a fugitive on a warrant for Fisher County for burglary of a habitation, possession of a controlled substance plus unlawfully carrying a weapon, DWI first offense and assault.

Total jail population as of Wednesday was 42, with 22 of these held for Lubbock.

The year-end report of calls processed by dispatchers at Lynn County Sheriff's Dept. showed 2,943 calls processed over the entire year. For the month of December, there were 237 calls, including 107 for the county, 88 for Tahoka Police, 49 for O'Donell Police, 14 ambulance calls and nine fire alarms.

WOODWORK by Dalton

I REALLY DON'T care much for iced tea, but the only New Year's resolution I made was to learn to drink tea. I don't particularly dislike tea, but to me it tastes like slightly dirty water, so generally I opt for clean water, if it can be obtained.

Sometimes, at dinners and banquets I attend, tea is simply the only drink available, so I sometimes drink it, usually without sweetener, because I never could tell that sweetener improved the taste.

I made the resolution to drink tea after reading an article in *USA Weekend* which claimed that tea is really good for you. Drinking about four cups of black tea a day reduces your bad cholesterol (the article said), improves heart function, and it may even fight cancer.

And if you drink green tea, there is no maybe about it, said the story. "Drinking green tea has been linked to less cancer of the lung, stomach, colon, rectum, breast, prostate, pancreas and esophagus...and may help burn calories and protect brain cells against damage leading to Alzheimer's and Parkinson's."

Well, hey, that sounds good to me. I don't need any of those problems. But there is one small hitch. I have been to Lubbock 5000 times and I even went to Dallas once, and I have never even seen a cup of green tea. Now I have discovered they sell it at Thriftway, and my wife knows how to prepare it.

I may just sit down at the table and demand loudly that my wife bring me some cold green tea. But that probably won't accomplish much, other than to lower the temperature in the whole house.

THE LAZY LOUOT on Ave. L defines consciousness as "that annoying time between naps."

City Officials Consider Siren System, Ordinances

Tahoka City Council met in routine session Monday night, with all council members attending the two-hour meeting. Ross Aten presented information regarding the advantages of changing the fire siren system to radio frequency, and he brought Post Sheriff Kenny Ratke to the meeting to corroborate information, as Post has changed their siren system, which like Tahoka is run through the Sheriff's Department. Council members took no action on the information, but City Administrator Jerry Webster told *The News* that city officials would keep the information on hand for future consideration.

A resolution was approved denying rate relief requested by Atmos Energy effective Jan. 14 unless Atmos extends its effective date for new gas rates, in which case the effective date of the resolution will match the extension announced by Atmos. City officials also began looking at creating an ordinance pro-

viding for the licensing and regulation of sexually oriented businesses in the incorporated areas of Tahoka, as a precautionary measure.

"We just want to have something in place should we ever need such an ordinance," City Administrator Jerry Webster told *The News*. "No one has brought this issue to the city, but we felt that it would be best to have an ordinance in place in case something came up," he added.

He did say that city officials had been questioned about ordinances regarding tattoo parlors, but tattoo parlors would be regulated by zoning ordinances, not city ordinances.

Council members took no action to change policy regarding paying unused 2003 vacation pay for police department personnel due to manpower shortage. The policy which says vacation time cannot be carried over remains unchanged.

Council members approved a routine investment policy required by the state, and scheduled the regular council meetings for February and March for the second Monday of the month. Monthly bills were approved as presented.

Present at the meeting led by Mayor Mike Mensch were council members Jay Dec House, Ray Box, Rudy Fuentes, Amy Preston and Clara Calvillo, as well as Webster and Philip Mack Furlow, city attorney.

Sign-up Monday For Little Dribblers

The Tahoka Little Dribblers will have a sign-up Monday, Jan. 12 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Life Enrichment Center, 1717 Main Street in Tahoka.

This sign-up is for all boys, grades 3rd-6th. Registration fee is \$30 per child. Please bring child's birth certificate.



STUDENTS COMPETE AT AREA FOR STATE - This Saturday at Lubbock Cooper High School at the ATSSB Area auditions for the ATSSB All-State Band, Tahoka High School band members Cristal Amador on flute, Kyndra Selmon on clarinet, and Ashley McNeely on bass clarinet, will be competing against the best students from four regions: Lubbock, Amarillo, El Paso, and Midland/Odessa. These auditions will determine who participates in the ATSSB All-State Bands which will perform at the TMEA Convention, February 11-14, in San Antonio. This is the second year for Cristal to qualify for Area and the third year for Kyndra and Ashley. Kyndra has made the ATSSB All-State Band the past two years. "These three young ladies are awesome players and it has been a blessing watching them mature as musicians. All three have an excellent opportunity to advance to the All-State Band," stated directors Carroll Rhodes and Lora Smith.

OBITUARIES

Katie B. Hawthorne

Services for Katie B. Hawthorne, 96, of Ozark, MO, were held Dec. 22, 2003 at Greenlawn Funeral Home North in Ozark with Charles Huff officiating. She died Dec. 17, 2003 at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, MO.

She was born March 12, 1907 to Roscoe Bosworth and Lucinda E. Horsley Bosworth. She married Rev. Edward L. Hawthorne on Oct. 27, 1928, in Tahoka, TX. She was a retiree of Camarillo State Hospital in California where she worked as a psychiatric technician. She was a member of Mac Donia Baptist Church. She was a resident of the Mission Baptist Home on Ozark for the past six years.

She was preceded in death by a son, James Dale Hawthorne.

Survivors include two daughters, Alta Leigh Briens of Visalia, CA and Laura Gwen Huff of Springfield, MO; one son, Marlin Edwin Hawthorne of Tahoka; eight grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Ernest "ET" Torres

Services for Ernest "ET" Torres of Slaton were held Monday, Jan. 5, at 2 p.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with Rev. Brendan Walsh officiating. Rosary was Saturday, Jan. 3, and Sunday, Jan. 4, at 7 p.m. at Guajardo Funeral Chapels. Burial was in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park.

He died Jan. 2, 2004, at Covenant Medical Center. He was born Nov. 20, 1957, in Tahoka. He married Oralia Guerrero on Oct. 20, 1984, in Lubbock. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for three years. He was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 25 years.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Nelly Torres.

Survivors include his wife, Oralia Torres of Slaton; four sons, Gabriel Rodriguez of Austin, Jason Torres of Lubbock; Ernie Torres Jr. and Aaron Torres, both of Slaton; a daughter, Francis Hernandez of Slaton; his parents, Paul and Consuelo Torres of Slaton; a brother John Torres of Lubbock; two sisters, Rosario De Leon of Tahoka and Berta Montez of Slaton; and eight grandchildren.

Fred Lee Grider

Services for Fred Lee Grider, 74, of Fountain Valley, CA were held Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2003 in Fountain Valley.

He died December 17, 2003. He was born in Lynn County to Mr. and Mrs. G.C. Grider and graduated from Tahoka High School. He attended college at West Texas State. He was a businessman.

He was preceded in death by eight brothers.

Survivors include his wife, Jane, of Fountain Valley, CA; two daughters, Shelly Bulker of Valley, CA, and Sharon Williams of Scottsdale, AZ; three sisters, Ruth Pelton of Tahoka; Alma Dunn of Brownwood, and Irene Brown of Minneapolis; and four grandchildren.

Donna L. Autry

Private graveside service for Donna L. Autry, 82, of O'Donnell, were scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7 in the O'Donnell Cemetery with Reverend Jim Stephens officiating, under the direction of White Funeral Home in Tahoka.

She died January 4, 2004 in Tahoka.

She was born on November 14, 1921 in Whitesboro to the late Mr. and Mrs. Augusta Lorenzo and Mary Casandra Bridges Shook. She married Bill Autry on April 5, 1945 in Lamesa. He preceded her in death on January 26, 2002. Before retiring, Mrs. Autry worked as a bookkeeper for Baldwin's Department Store in Lamesa and served as the City Judge in O'Donnell for 12 years. She was a longtime resident of O'Donnell and a member of the First Baptist Church in O'Donnell.

She is survived by: one daughter, Donna Jo Jordan of Odessa; four brothers, Anson Shook and Fred Shook, both of Wichita Falls, Lloyd Shook of Arlington and Johnny Richardson of Florida; and three sisters, Doris Bruhn of Houston, Gayle Shook and Shirley Shook, both of Wichita Falls.

Foiest Carroll Jones

Services for Foiest Carroll Jones, 74, of Grand Prairie, were held Saturday, Jan. 3, at West Fork Presbyterian Church in Grand Prairie. Interment followed on Sunday at O'Donnell Cemetery in O'Donnell. He died Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2003, in Dallas.

He was born Aug. 30, 1929, in Tahoka. A graduate of O'Donnell High School in O'Donnell, he had attended Texas Tech and served in the U.S. Air Force 1948-1949. Jones was a member and elder at West Fork Presbyterian Church in Grand Prairie.

He is survived by a son, Larry A. Jones, a daughter, Caryn Jones Spradlin; six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren; a sister, Helen Jones Davis and seven nieces.

You are invited to a
100th Birthday Party
honoring
Mable Morgan
January 17, 2004
from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at
the Tahoka Housing Authority
1400 Ave. K
No gifts, please.

Happy 30th
Birthday
Rachel
Love -- Your Family!

"Purpose-Driven Life" Study Offered Here

"Purpose-Driven Life," a spiritual study, will be offered at First United Methodist Church of Tahoka beginning in mid-January. The six-week study is open to anyone in the community.

Two classes will be offered, one on Sunday nights and one on Wednesday nights, both at 7 p.m. The first session for the Wednesday class begins Jan. 14 and the first session for Sunday classes begins Jan. 18. Call the church office at 561-4503 to register, or e-mail to func.tahoka@juno.com.

Purpose-Driven Life study books are \$10.77 each and may be purchased at the first meeting. The classes will be taught by Rev. Marvin Gregory.

Senior Citizens MENU

Jan. 12-16

Monday- Chicken spaghetti, green beans, cauliflower, garlic bread, peach cobbler or pie
Tuesday- Meatloaf, potato O'Brien, green beans, tossed salad/French, wheat roll, carrot cake
Wednesday- Hamburger steak, brown gravy, broccoli rice casserole, wheat roll, apple or applesauce
Thursday- Pork chop, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, home made rolls, apricots
Friday- Baked ham, potatoes, zucchini, tossed salad/ranch, biscuit or roll, plum cobbler

STORK REPORT

Logan Todd McNeely was born to Dustin and Courtney McNeely of Tahoka on Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at UMC in Lubbock. He weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20.5 inches long.

Grandparents are Todd and Rhonda McNeely of Tahoka, and Darrell and Teresa Edwards of Artesia, N.M. Great-grandparents are Morris Bingham of Buchanan Dam, Terry and Juanelle Deutsch of Odessa, and Wayne Pickett of Lubbock. Great-great-grandparents are Lois Roberts of Tahoka, Flora Delle Nowlin and Estelle Pickett, both of Lubbock.

Wilson School Menu

January 12-16
Breakfast

Monday- French toast
Tuesday- Egg, sausage, toast
Wednesday- Biscuit & Gravy
Thursday- Egg Sausage Burrito
Friday- Staff Development Day

Lunch

Monday- Cheese Burger, fries, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, fruit
Tuesday- Sausage Wrap, beans, salad, fruit
Wednesday- (PK-6) Corn Dog, Tator tots, carrot sticks, fruit, (grade 7-12) Same as above or salad bar, fruit
Thursday- Slew, grilled cheese, fruit
Friday- Staff Development Day

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Tahoka, Texas 79373

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FEDERAL TAX NUMBER 75-1775229

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Lynn County Address \$20.00 year
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Juanelle Jones News Editor
Vondell Elliott Managing Editor

Adventures In Faith...

(continued from page 1)

there are people of all ages involved in the ministry. All volunteers and most of the staff members are unpaid, relying on funding from support groups and churches, and in some cases, paying their own expenses out-of-pocket.

"This five-month course - the first three months in training and the second two months in outreach, is costing me about \$5,000," Bobby said. "I immediately began seeking sponsors and contacting churches for funding, but I paid some of the expenses myself. The Methodist Church here has been very generous," he added.

A week before he was to leave for Egypt, Bobby still needed \$1600 in funding. "I'm just going on faith - but I'm going even if I have to sell my truck to pay my way. This is what I want to do," he said with quiet determination.

During his three-month coursework at Orlando, Bobby lived with seven other youth and a school leader in a home in Orlando.

"These are college classes which I'll get credit for, but we lived in homes instead of dormitories," Bobby explained. "It was very hard for me to get used to all these guys - nine of us in one house - but learning to live together is also part of YWAM's training. We are applying the Biblical lessons that we have learned. At first it was very tough, always having somebody next to me, and it wasn't really what I was expecting," he said.

He said that YWAM owns homes in residential areas throughout Orlando, with males sharing homes on one side of town and females sharing homes in another area. Their classes are taught at a small church in Orlando. The students, share in meal preparation, cleaning and maintenance of the home, office work and other tasks that fall under the heading of "community responsibilities." Because they are allowed to meet for classes in a church building, the YWAM youth also have the responsibility of cleaning the church on a weekly basis.

"Some of our chores were based on our abilities - since I am a mechanic if there were cars that needed work, I would work on that. If not, I helped with other chores," said Bobby, adding that their daily schedule consisted of class work from 8:30 until noon, lunch at 12:30, and community responsibility tasks from 1:30-5:30 p.m.

"What makes it great is that there are people from all over the world. In my home, I was the only guy from Texas and there were guys from Bogota, Columbia, Iowa, Tennessee - just everywhere," he said.

In the evenings, some of the youth on their own initiative would form teams for urban missions in Orlando, with groups going to downtown Orlando's homeless shelters, witnessing and handing out Bibles. Bobby was a member of such a team.

"I felt really uneasy before we went," Bobby recalls, adding that the group consisted of young men and women, and that he was worried about protecting the women in these areas of the city. "I just kept praying for God's protection upon us, and when we got there we saw a lot of policemen because of some incident happening at the shelter - it was really a blessing because there were cops on every corner," he said with a smile. "There were literally hundreds of people there, and we passed people sleeping in cardboard boxes. You just have to be wise in these situations and you need to stay in a group. At one point we just happened to be separated with a couple of girls on their own a little ways away, and we quickly found out we need to stay together," he added.

He is excited, and again a little uneasy, about his trip to Cairo.

"My Mom is a little nervous about me going, and I'm nervous about the plane trip - I've never flown before," Bobby said. "There are 16 of us flying out of Orlando together, and 27 YWAM people in all going to Cairo. Four are from Texas, including a girl from Levelland, a girl from Austin, and a guy from Petersburg. We will spend six weeks in Cairo, and our contacts there are helping us to know what to expect, telling us it will be quite a culture shock. We must wear nice clothes and the girls should not wear much makeup. The girls should not look at any males - including our YWAM team members - directly in the eye in public, so that will be hard to get used to. The food will probably be something that takes getting used to," he added, noting that while Christianity is not illegal in Egypt, it is not looked upon very highly.

They will be living in a Catholic school dormitory, and presenting dramas, puppet skits, music and other activities at the orphanage. They will have translators, and some of the YWAM youth may have an opportunity to preach at some of the churches there, and will probably visit some of the homeless districts. Bobby doesn't know if he will feel led to preach, and says he will just trust in God's direction.

He has collected Bibles for the trip, and coloring books and toys for the children in the orphanage. He credits his Christian friends in Tahoka Methodist and Baptist churches for providing Bibles and supplies, and in fact said that the chil-



URBAN MISSIONARIES - Bobby Benavidez of Tahoka (second from left) and his teammates in Youth With A Mission (YWAM) witnessed and prayed with people at homeless shelters in Orlando, Florida. Shown here are two of his YWAM teammates, including Chris Mooney from Paris, Tennessee (left) and Mike Lenardsen of Minnesota (far right), with Dennis and Chad from the shelter, who allowed the young men to pray for them.

dren of Tahoka are also participating in this mission trip to Cairo. Tahoka fifth-sixth graders who attend Kids For Christ (KC's) at the home of Madeline Hegi have written letters to include in the Bibles which will be handed out.

The YWAM group will have some opportunity for sightseeing, and hope to see the Pyramids and possibly go snorkeling in the Red Sea.

The group will return to Alabama for a week after the mission trip, and then Bobby will return to Orlando.

"When I get back, I need to come

home and work to pay off my debts. Eventually, though, I really feel I want to do this fulltime. I want to attend the school of missions and evangelism, which is another five months course, and then I think I would like to be involved in urban missions work," Bobby said.

"I'm just excited about all the possibilities. I never thought, when I graduated from high school, that I would go so far from home or do something like this," he said. It's an adventure for the 22-year-old who was reared in a small West Texas town. With his Bible in his back pocket, his faith is carrying him to Cairo, and other places unknown.

Kent Sharp...

(continued from page 1)

students in our public schools are being classified as socio-economically disadvantaged. In over half of our counties the attrition rate, or the amount of students entering the ninth grade and not completing the twelfth grade, was above 20% in the 2000-2001 period." He said a large percentage of those students who do graduate would not immediately attend college. "These students desperately need job skills training programs that will allow them to compete for those jobs which are available in our communities. At the same time we must continue to strengthen our community college and university system in West Texas."

Sharp also says that rural healthcare needs additional attention as hospitals, clinics, and healthcare providers in District 85 see more and more patients that are neither indigent nor have insurance. "Our rural healthcare community is to be commended for the job they have done given the mandates placed on them and the limited amount of funds they receive to achieve those mandates."

Kent Sharp has a great passion for community and economic development in District 85. "Our communities and counties in this district are struggling against tight budgets and greater citizen demands. Our state receives over \$80 million in the form of community development block grants that only small cities can compete for. I will fight to have a greater share of that money come to West Texas by challenging the funding formula which is used to allocate those dollars," he said.

Mr. Sharp says the greatest resource District 85 has is the people who live here. "I know this may sound trite, but the people who live in this district are the most intelligent, hard working, and dedicated people I have ever met. They are driven by passion and they place a high value on community and independence. That is why I want to represent them in Austin," he noted. "I know the voters in this district will ask tough questions and my desire is to give them the answers they deserve."

(PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT)

Water District Will Begin Annual Depth to Water Measurements Soon

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District staff will begin making annual depth-to-water measurements in observation wells the first week of January. Measurements will indicate the effect of pumping on ground water levels in the Ogallala aquifer during 2003.

Water District personnel will take measurements in a network of more than 1,200 privately owned wells within the District's 15-county service area. Water level observation wells are spaced throughout the Water District at a density of about one well per nine square miles. Arnold Husky, Clint Kaufman, Don McReynolds, Judy Reeves, Dan Seale, Gary Self, and Keith Whitworth will take measurements from early January until completion of this task.

"This is a very important program for residents within the High Plains Water District. These measurements will determine how much the water levels in the Ogallala aquifer have changed during the past water pumping season," said Don McReynolds, High Plains Water District geologist/technical division director.

Measurements are made by lowering a steel tape to a pre-determined depth in the well. The first few feet of the tape lowered into each well are coated with blue carpenter's chalk, which turns a darker shade of blue when it comes in contact with water. The distance from land surface to the

static water level is determined by subtracting the amount of tape with the darker blue chalk from the total feet of tape extended into the well.

After the measurement is made, a blue vinyl sticker with the observation well number, the depth-to-water measurement, and the date of measurement is affixed to the well equipment or other appropriate surface near the well site.

"We ask everyone to be aware of our staff in the field. They will be in appropriately marked vehicles and will be making frequent stops to gather these important data," McReynolds said.

As long as wells are accessible and provide satisfactory data, staff will continue to measure the same wells each year. The current depth-to-water measurement in individual wells will be compared to last year's data to determine the annual change in water levels in the Ogallala aquifer within the District.

These data are used to construct maps showing water level changes and the saturated thickness of the Ogallala aquifer within the Water District.

More information is available by contacting McReynolds at the High Plains Water District office at 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, TX 79411-2499, or by telephone, (806) 762-0181.

Weather			
Date	High	Low	Precip.
Dec. 31	64	27	
Jan. 1	71	31	
Jan. 2	74	40	
Jan. 3	76	40	
Jan. 4	57	26	
Jan. 5	42	19	
Jan. 6	29	12	
Total Precipitation to date: 0.00"			
Total Precipitation in 2003: 12.02"			

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A MESSAGE FROM ...
Tahoka Bulldog Booster Club and TISD Athletic Coaches



TOURING THE COURTHOUSE - Lynn County Judge H.G. Franklin (background) conducted tours of the courthouse during their Open House before Christmas, taking visitors to areas not normally seen, including this third floor jail. Shown here, J.A. Pebsworth, Doloris Short and Marquita Scott are enjoying the tour. The public is invited to tour the courthouse at anytime by making an appointment with Judge Franklin, as county officials have begun the process of seeking grant funding to restore the courthouse back to its original beauty. (LCN PHOTO)

VALOR Expands Customer Service Hours

In response to customer feedback, Valor Telecom announces that it has expanded its customer service hours from 50 hours per week to 75 hours per week. Effective immediately, the Valor Call Center will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. CST, Monday through Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST on Saturdays.

The new customer service hours apply to all Valor residential small business telephone customers, as well as Internet customers who want to inquire about Internet-related products and service or have billing questions. The new customer service schedule reflects findings from a recent study conducted by Valor that showed that 15 percent of its customer call volume was being received after 6 p.m. CST on weekdays

and on Saturdays. In addition to expanding customer service hours, Valor also recently completed the installation of a new, state-of-the-art Interactive Voice Response system, which allows customers to check their current billing balances, confirm last payment amounts and the dates payments were posted, and access other important information. This automated information is available to customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Valor's too-free customer service number is 1-877-520-5220. Customers can also dial 811 locally from their land-line phones to reach the Valor Call Center.

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HAMBURGER Quarter Lb. \$1.50

A Gift to the AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY MEMORIAL PROGRAM
strikes a blow against cancer

TISD Trustees Honored At January Meeting

Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed January as School Board Recognition Month and Tahoka Independent School District is joining other districts across the state to gratefully acknowledge their commitment to our communities and schools.

"Texans benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by a group of more than 7,000 men and women across the state. These public servants are elected to serve by local citizens and receive no compensation for their tireless efforts. These men and women are the local school board members of Texas," said TISD superintendent, Jimmy Parker.

Recognized at the Board Meeting on Jan. 8th were Math Bartley, President of the Board who has served for five years; Joe Calvillo, Vice-President, nine years; Carmen Chapa, Secretary, nine years; and members Leighton Knox Jr., six years; Frank McLelland, two years; Jimmy Dorman, one year; and Valton Stephens, one year.

"These people unselfishly contribute their time and talents toward the advancement of public education," Parker said. "They represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education. Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their contributions reflect a year-round commitment on their part," he added.

"We proudly salute these education advocates as they provide leadership for student achievement, academic programs, district funding, and school facilities. Their service ensures that decisions about local public schools are made by those most familiar with the needs of the community's children and families," said Parker. "These individuals deserve recognition and thanks for their dedication to the continuing success of our students and schools," he said.

Tahoka School News
by Tahoka High School Journalism Students

Tuesday Night Scores:
Tahoka vs. Crsolyton
VG: 46-31
VB: 43-49
JVG: 39-21
JVB: 48-46

8th Grade Girls Basketball
by Mandi Benavidez

The Tahoka eighth grade Lady Bulldogs played against the Shallowater Lady Mustangs on December 15. The Lady Dogs lost 49-19.

Top scorers were Lauren Botkin and Jessica McLelland, with 5 points each. On Monday, January 5, the Lady Dogs played a close one against the Idalou Lady Wildcats. The girls lost 34-25.

Top scorers were McLelland with 8, Botkin with 7, and Bailey Hall with 5 points.

JV Basketball
By Brandi Raindl

During the Christmas holidays, the Lady Bulldogs placed second in the West Texas Girls Invitational in Slaton.

The Bulldogs defeated the Lubbock High Westers sophomore team, 53-14. Porscha Mitchell led the Dogs with 16. Jeni Hammonds was next with 9. Jaquez Justice had 8, and not far behind was Stacie Green with 7.

The Slaton Lady Tigers were just too much for the girls to handle, and they were defeated 25-21. Mitchell was high point with 9. Justice added 5, and Green and Jessica Chancy put in three each.

The Bulldogs then faced the Roosevelt Eagles, to see who would bring home the second place hardware. Mitchell again, for the 14th game in a row, was high point with 14. Green, Hammonds and Hall also added six points to the Bulldogs' victory.

Varsity Girls Basketball
By Meghan Saldana

The Lady Dogs played in the Slaton Tournament, Dec. 29-31. They played Childress in the first round and won 68-34. Top scorers were Meghan Saldana and Brandi Raindl, 15; Damesha Harris, 14; and Ashdon Hancock, 13. They defeated Floydada in their second game, 66-38. High scorers were Saldana and Hood, 20; Harris had 14. The Lady Bulldogs pulled out a close win in the championship against the Slaton Tigerettes, 46-44. Harris was high point with 16, and Hood finished with 11.

The girls were beaten by Lubbock Coronado 74-54, leading scorer was Saldana 16; Hancock and Harris, 16.

Varsity Boys Basketball
by Ashdon Hancock

The Bulldogs played in the Roughneck Holiday Tournament over the break in Sundown. The Bulldogs went 1-2 in the tournament, beating Roby 50-41, but

dealt about water in Mars' past." The rovers carry instruments that will allow them to be used as remote-controlled field geologists.

Every Martian day, known as a "sol," the rovers will use cameras to scout out the terrain. In addition, the rovers have an instrument for remotely measuring the composition of nearby rocks and soil, and also instruments that will be used to reach out and touch rocks.

These "contact" instruments include a microscopic imager, comparable to a geologist's hand magnifying lens; a rock abrasion tool for grinding fresh surfaces on the rocks; and two instruments for measuring the chemical and mineral properties of the rocks and soil.

Lemmon is on the team that will operate the panoramic cameras, and he will primarily use the rovers' cameras to study dust and ice clouds in Mars' atmosphere.

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Lynn County Area Cotton Bale Count

Bale Count as reported by the following area gins on Tuesday this week:

New Home Coop-Lakeview	50,550
Farmers Coop Gin-O'Donnell	23,944
Farmers Coop Assn. #1-Tahoka	22,255
Woolam Gin-O'Donnell	22,215
Wilson Coop Gin-Wilson	18,165
Wells Coop Gin	18,800
Grassland Coop Gin	4,507
Dempsey Gin	3,551
TOTAL	163,987

*Final Bale Count

TEXAS A&M RESEARCHER HAS KEY ROLE IN NASA MARTIAN PROBE

On Jan. 3 and 24, two robotic NASA rovers are scheduled to land on Mars. On the safe confines of Earth, Texas A&M's Mark Lemmon, a researcher in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences, will use scientific instruments on the rovers to study the Martian atmosphere.

The two rovers, named Spirit and Opportunity, will study the history of Mars' climate and try to determine if Mars ever had water on its surface for long periods of time.

"We know Mars has had some running water on its surface at times," Lemmon says. "We do not know if Mars, which is currently cold and very dry, could ever have been warm and wet or if it was ever suitable for life. The two rovers will land at places where we could learn a great

Seagraves defeated the Dogs 38-33 and the 50-43 loss with Floydada put the Dogs at a 7-9 record at this point in the season. Top scorers for the tournament were Michael Nance with a total of 29 points, Casey Hall with a total of 23 points, and Zach Tillman not very far behind with 20 points. The Bulldogs traveled to Plainview to battle the Boys Ranch team. The Dogs came way over with a 69-43 victory. Top scorers were Hall with 20 points, Tillman with 15, and Nance with 13.

THS Yearbook Orders Being Taken; Senior Ads Still Accepted

Tahoka High School and Middle School students may order 2003-04 Kennel yearbooks through Jan. 31, 2004.

Yearbooks cost \$25 and may also be ordered by placing a deposit of \$5. Yearbooks should arrive in late August 2004. There is no guarantee that there will be extra yearbooks to buy later, so pre-orders are encouraged.

The yearbook also offers a space for parents to recognize their graduating senior. Each ad features the student's photo (usually a baby or young child) and a special message from parents, grandparents, or other family. This once in a lifetime opportunity is available at a cost of \$25 for 45 words or \$35 for 60 words.

Orders may be mailed to THS c/o Rachel Lehman, PO Box 1500, Tahoka, TX 79373. For further information, contact Mrs. Lehman at the high school 561-4538.

The NEW HOME News
by Karon Durham
924-7448

January 8, an A&M Recruiter will be at New Home High School at 1:45. Elementary Awards Assembly will be at 10:45 on January 9. Also, the Leopards will travel to Motley Co. for the district opener on January 9. January 10 is the FFA Auction. January 12 the Jr. High travels to Ropes and January 13, grades 7-12 will have an honor roll pizza party and New Home will host Spur.

New Home Students, Parents, and Friends... It's time to order your yearbook. The 2003-2004 New Home School Leopard Yearbook will be sold for \$26.00 through Friday, January 30, 2004. The price increases to \$31.00 on January 31. Thank you.

The Yearbook Staff includes Angelica Rodriguez, Desiree Garza, Drew Coggins, Jacqueline Kahlich, Terrel McReynolds, Kyle Comey and Josh Schoppa.

New Home School Menu

- January 12-16 Breakfast**
- Monday-Donut
 - Tuesday-Cinnamon Pastry
 - Wednesday-Biscuit/Sausage
 - Thursday-Breakfast Taco
 - Friday-Pancake Pup
- Lunch**
- Monday- Chicken Fry sandwich, lettuce/tomato, pickles, fries, strawberry cup
 - Tuesday- Chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes, green beans, fruit cup, hot rolls
 - Wednesday-Sandwich bar, pickle spears, baby carrots, cucumbers, orange wedges, apples
 - Thursday-Frito pie, lettuce/tomato, pinto beans, orange half, cornbread
 - Friday-Chili cheese dog, tator tots, Ranch style beans, Peach cobbler

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THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ADS IS NOON TUESDAY

Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE - 1309 N. 6th. 3 Bed-rooms, newly remodeled. 998-5024. 52-4tc

FOR SALE - small town living in Wilson, House with 3-2-2 big fenced yard. Asking \$45,000. 806-628-6202. 51-4tc

FOR SALE - Over 2,000sq. ft. of living area plus 2 car garage. Newly remodeled. Fireplace, built-in sauna, 3 BR Stucco, 2 bath. In-ground swimming pool. Call First National Bank, 561-4511. 2-2tc

HOUSE FOR SALE - 2412 N. 3rd. 3 BR, 2 bath, underground sprinkler system, large fenced backyard, newly remodeled kitchen. Call 777-2802 or 327-5333. 28-4tc

HOUSE FOR SALE!
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COMPLETELY REFURBISHED house for sale. 2 BR, 1 bath, stucco. Totally remodeled inside and out - new paint, electrical, plumbing, fixtures, carpet, etc. Call 998-4863. 28-4tc

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POLITICAL CALENDAR

Democratic Primary
March 9, 2004
(Political advertising paid by the candidates listed)

District Attorney
106th Judicial District
RICKY B. SMITH
(INCUMBENT)

Lynn County Tax Assessor/Collector
SHERRY PEARCE
(INCUMBENT)

Lynn County Pct. 1 Commissioner
DON MORTON
(INCUMBENT)

Lynn County Pct. 3 Commissioner
DON BLAIR
(INCUMBENT)

Lynn County Sheriff
BOB WILSON
(INCUMBENT)

JERRY D. FRANKLIN
(CANDIDATE)

POLITICAL CALENDAR

Republican Primary
March 9, 2004
(Political advertising paid by the candidates listed)

State Representative
District 85
KENT SHARP
(CANDIDATE)

District Attorney
106th Judicial District
BRIAN KINGSTON
(CANDIDATE)

Lynn County Pct. 1 Commissioner
GLENN HEINRICH
(CANDIDATE)

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FOR SALE - Six foot Christmas tree with stand \$10. Call 561-4252. 2-1tc

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Card of Thanks

We are so blessed and grateful for the many acts of love and sympathy shown us after the loss of our "Nanny" - Clea Sappington. The visits, prayers, food, flowers and cards meant more than words can say. A special thanks to Jimmy Howard and his entire staff at White Funeral Home - you all are extraordinary! To Marvin Gregory and the family of First United Methodist Church - thanks for all you did for us! A special thanks to the Texas DPS Highway Patrol for their escort all the way to Post - what an honor! Last, but not least, Mary & BamHam - what would we have done without you? We love you for all you have done for us and especially for Nanny!
May God bless each of you!

Mike Paige, Meghan & Dan Rivas, Shirley & Kylee McInroe & Family, Roy Sappington & Family, Macky Sappington, Lynn Sappington. 2-1tp

Card of Thanks

Our family has been blessed by the outpouring of love and sympathy. The cards, visits, calls and food have been greatly appreciated. White Funeral Home, Lynn County EMS, Lynn County Hospital staff, Ron Fann and Tahoka Church of Christ. God bless you.

The family of Marguerite Sherrod. 2-1tp

My deepest thanks go out to each of you who showed your love and concern during my surgery. Your calls and visits were really appreciated. Lee, thank you for running errands and Judy and Sandra thank you for the food brought in. You are all in my prayers. God bless you.

Janet Porterfield. 2-1tc

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<p>THE NEW FLAG PROGRAM We will put a flag up at your home or business - every flag holiday. If interested call Bradley Paschal 548-1014 or 548-3180</p>	<p>City-County Library 561-4050 • 1717 Main • Tahoka, TX (in the Life Enrichment Center) Mon. & Wed. - 9am-5:30 pm (Closed Jan. 21 & 22) Tues. & Thurs. - 2pm-7pm; Saturdays 10am-1pm INTERNET ACCESS AVAILABLE Tahoka Pioneer Museum 561-5339 • 1600 Lockwood • Tahoka, TX Open Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</p>	<p>Public Fax! Public fax service available at The Lynn County News office 1617 Main in Tahoka. Cost is \$1 for the first page and 50c each additional page. Fax: 561-6308.</p>
<p>Calvillo Funeral Home "Setting The Future South Plans" RICHARD A. CALVILLO 609 18th Street Funeral Director (18th & I-27) 806-765-5555 Lubbock, Texas 79401 Professional people with traditional values, dedicated to personal attention.</p>	<p>BOZEMAN MACHINERY New & Used Rims and Tires for your Tractor and Harvesting Equipment MICHAEL DELEON MOBILE 806/790-0072 • HOME 806/561-1426 OFFICE 1-800-766-2076</p>	<p>Childers Brothers House, Floor & Foundation Stabilizing and Leveling • House or Foundation Settling? • Cracks in brick or walls? • Doors won't close? CALL 1-800-299-9563 or 806-796-0063 LUBBOCK, TX</p>
<p>JEWEL BOX MINI STORAGE 16 New Units • 10x10 and 5x10 Units 24 Hour Access • Affordable, low monthly leases • Personal and commercial storage • Your lock - your key CALL 561-4517</p>	<p>Edwards Realtors 780-8473 2304 6th Street • Lubbock, TX 79412 JEANEL EDWARDS Broker MELVIN EDWARDS Sales</p>	<p>LAWN BOY • BRIGGS & STRATTON • ECHO • HONDA ENGINES EQUIPMENT RENTALS • Mower Repair • Chainsaw Repair Home Owner & Contractor Outdoor Power Equipment SALES • SERVICE • PARTS North Cedar Outlet (806) 637-8466 • Brownfield (2 Blocks North of Red Light at Walmart Shopping Center)</p>
<p>L&R Construction FREE ESTIMATES • Roofing • New Construction • Remodeling Add-On (Carports, ext.) • Painting Cabinets (Kitchen & Bath) All Kinds of Carpentry Work - Call & Inquire Ricky Hall Lifetime Residents 561-5016 Larry Owen 561-5079</p>	<p>PAPPY CAN Odd Jobs - Inside & Out • YARD WORK • FENCE REPAIR • CLEAN-UPS • PAINTING • FREE ESTIMATES • Give me a call for whatever odd job you need done. Keep my number handy for the next thing that comes up. I'll be glad to help you out! KENNETH L. WILLIAMS, Owner Contact Numbers: 998-5249 or 561-5246</p>	<p>Silk Impressions WEDDING CONSULTING Affordable Silk Arrangements and Wedding Decor • Will Work with Any Budget • Custom Silk Floral Arrangements • Will Work with Florists (or not) • Fresh Floral Needs • WEDDINGS • RECEPTIONS • BASKETS • SPECIAL EVENTS • Charlie Tekell 1505 Ave. J • Tahoka, TX 79373 • SilkImpressions@aol.com 806 / 998-5336 or 806 / 789-5953 Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 4:30-7, Sat. 1-5 or by appointment</p>

Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the dates shown below and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div. Lubbock
Contract 6108-34-001 for SEAL COAT in GARZA County, etc will be opened on February 11, 2004 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$392,217.88.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 11887

State Office
Constr/Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
Lubbock District
District Engineer
135 Slaton
Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771
Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. 2-2tc

Locals Attend Flight Centennial

(Editor's note: Joe Craig of Tahoka submitted the following information about attending events celebrating the first successful airplane flight)

Historians worldwide recognize Wilbur and Orville Wright as the inventors of the powered airplane. Their first successful flight was December 17, 1903 at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina. This invention by two sons of a preacher profoundly changed the world.

Joe Craig and Kellie Paris attended the First Flight Centennial celebration beginning December 13 and climaxing on December 17, 2003 at the historic location on the outer banks of North Carolina. The celebration will be remembered for a lifetime. The prime event during the celebration was an attempted recreation of the historic flight with a very accurate replica of the original 1903 Wright flyer. The flight was scheduled to take place December 17th. The weather did not cooperate as it was very rainy and the wind speed was too low. The president of the First Flight organization remarked that the weather was very respectfully in God's hands and that He had a reason unknown to all present for bringing the rain. A flight with the replica was attempted that afternoon but did not result in a successful flight. Nevertheless the celebration was an amazing commemoration to a very significant historical event.

President Bush made an appearance on December 17 and was intro-



FIRST FLIGHT CELEBRATION - Joe Craig and Kellie Paris, of Tahoka, attended the First Flight Centennial celebration Dec. 13-17 at the historic location on the outer banks of North Carolina.

duced by John Travolta, an actor who is avid general aviation pilot. President Bush made a very nice speech. In his remarks he noted that the Wrights had to wait for favorable weather conditions and that they did not fly on Sunday no matter what the weather. The president departed the scene with a salute by making an impressive low fly-over in Air Force One. On the day of the original historic flight the weather was not so good but the Wright brothers wanted to get the flight in and go home for Christmas to family in Dayton, Ohio.

The flight was successful (actually four successful flights) and what a Christmas gift they received. The Wrights recognized what most people forget: that God revealed through these two preachers' kids the secret of an age-old human dream. The secret of flight.

DA Ricky Smith Invited To Teach At National Center

Local District Attorney Ricky B. Smith, a member of the faculty of the National College of District Attorneys, has been invited to serve as a faculty member at the National Advocacy Center, teaching state and federal prosecutors from across the nation in the art of trial advocacy during the week of January 5, 2004.

Smith, who holds basic, intermediate, advance and master peace officer certifications and is board certified in criminal law, will work with student prosecutors to develop their skills in trying felony jury cases, particularly in the areas of case preparation, jury selection, opening and closing statements and direct and cross-examination of witnesses.

The National Advocacy Center is located on the campus of the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina, and is the national training center for federal and state law enforcement agencies and prosecutors.

Outreach Courses Offered At TTU

Make a New Year's resolution this year that's easy to keep-resolve to learn something new, with the help of the Professional Development and Community Outreach (PDCO) programs from Texas Tech University's Extended Studies. Enrollments for spring semester courses are now being accepted.

With personal enrichment courses, professional development courses, certificate programs, online programs and more, PDCO offers diverse learning experiences for people of all ages and backgrounds. Personal enrichment courses include:

Art courses-oil painting, advanced drawing and the art of crochet

Creative writing courses-poetry, journaling and short fiction

Theater and dance classes-acting for adults, ballroom dancing, belly dancing and a refresher dance course

Leisure activities - planting trees, discovering astronomy and a special course on the Grateful Dead

Food, beverage and cooking courses

Conversational Spanish courses

Music courses - guitar, piano and singing

Photography - location photography and digital photography

Relationships - enriching your love life

Lifelong Learning Community courses for spring will once again include the Dinner and Drama series and the Lunch and Learning series, as well as an exploration of local sites called Hidden Lubbock, along with courses such as computers, current events, history and more.

The Adults Connecting with Kids series will include Mother and Daughter Belly Dance, Developing Healthy Self-Esteem, American Sign Language for the Family, Social Dining Etiquette, and a very special course, *May the Force Be With You: The Star Wars Phenomena*.

Gift certificates are available for any amount and for any course. Course fees and schedules are available by calling (806) 742-7200, ext. 270 or online at www.dce.ttu.edu/profdev.

Letters To The Editor

The Christmas For Kids Board would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped us provide Christmas in 2003. You donated \$5,131.00 to help us provide Christmas for 213 children.

To the businesses and organizations who contributed so generously, the jury donations and the memorial donations, the individual donors of money, toys, clothing and paper; the church groups from Tahoka, O'Donnell and Wilson; the school classes and organizations from Tahoka, O'Donnell and Wilson; the ones who adopted children for Christmas and the ladies who helped wrap and bag. We are deeply grateful to each of you. I wish you could all have seen the joy in the little faces who came to help pick up bags of presents. Just know you are responsible for that joy. God bless each one of you.

Janet Porterfield
Lynn County-Christmas For Kids

Dear Editor,

Attached is an obituary from The Washington Post for Julius W. Walker. Old timers in Tahoka and Lynn County will have an interest in this news, as Ambassador Walker's wife, Savannah Lou Tunnell Walker, is the daughter of Hansford Tunnell and Lenore M. Tunnell, of Tahoka. The Tunnell family came to Lynn County by covered wagon in 1903; Hansford grew up here in Tahoka, serving in World War I and being elected Lynn County Tax Assessor/Collector upon his return, when he married Lenore M. Tunnell, who came to Tahoka by train from Gonzales. She taught in the public schools for many years and was elected Lynn County School Superintendent in 1936, serving 16 years in this capacity before joining the faculty of the Department of English at Texas Tech, where she taught until her death in 1967 in Chad, Africa.

As Savannah's sister, I felt I should send this obit on to Tahoka/Lynn County, as people there would like to know about Julius, Savannah and their family.

Best wishes to you and The Lynn County News. As a high school editor of *The Growl*, a journalism major at Tech, I once "put the paper to bed" when Frank Hill went fishing.

Sincerely,
Mary Margaret Tunnell Stewart
(often known as "Boggie")
Waco, Texas

(The following is reprinted from the Dec. 8, 2003 issue of *The Washington Post*.)

Julius W. Walker, Jr.

Julius W. Walker, Jr., 76, a retired Foreign Service officer who served as

may be eligible, up to the cost of attendance, Gates explained.

Approximately 575 freshmen would have been eligible for such scholarships if they had been available last year, he noted.

For other students, Gates added, Texas A&M will continue to disburse some \$260 million annually in financial assistance.

"And we will be looking specifically at new initiatives to try to alleviate the burden on families in the \$40,000-\$80,000 income range," he said. "Some 70 percent of our students receive financial assistance and, on average, it reduces their cost of attendance by 40 percent."

Gates cited Texas A&M's land-grant history and tradition in underscoring the need to address the cost of a college education today.

Shop In Tahoka!

Notice

NOTICE

The City of Tahoka has enacted a Fair Housing Complaint Procedure which designates the City Administrator, as the City's Fair Housing Administrator. As Fair Housing Administrator, the City Administrator will be the person with in the city government to handle administration and enforcement of Title VIII, Fair Housing Act of 1968, Public Law 90-284.

If citizens have any questions regarding the complaint procedures or handling of fair housing violations, please contact Jerry Webster, City Administrator at (806) 561-4211. 2-11c

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF TAHOKA TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The City of Tahoka has recently completed Office of Rural Community Affairs Program activities under its 2002 TCDDP Contract #722759. One public hearing will be held to allow citizens an opportunity to comment on the completed project activities, amount of funds spent and the amount of funds spent on activities that benefited low/moderate income persons. Specific information on the TCDDP program will be available.

The public hearing will be held at the City Hall, 1612 Lockwood at 5:00 p.m., January 13, 2004 to review the City's program performance including the actual use of the TCDDP funds. The City encourages individual citizens and citizen's groups to make their views known at this public hearing and welcomes the full participation of its citizens in the close-out and completion of this TCDDP contract. Written complaints and grievances regarding this TCDDP Contract and project activities will be received until January 13, 2004 and will be responded to in writing within fifteen (15) working days. Citizen comments may be delivered to the City Hall at any time. Groups representative of persons of low and moderate income may request technical assistance in developing comments by contacting the person listed below.

A copy of the City's Project Completion Report and Certificate of Expenditures will be available for inspection at the City Hall after the hearing. Handicapped individuals who may have difficulty in attending this meeting should contact Jerry Webster at the City Hall to arrange for assistance. Para residentes necesitados de interpretés, favor de comunicarse con la municipalidad antes de las audiencias publicas.

For further information, contact Jerry Webster, City Administrator at 806-561-4211. 2-11c

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-- FOR 2004 --

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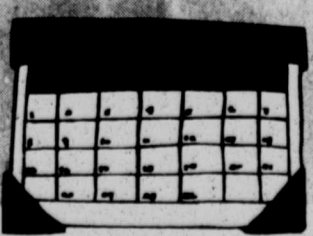
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THE Lynn County News

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Lynn have mo seasons- but one

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