

Good-bye 2007 ... It has become a tradition for The Lynn County News to provide a glimpse of the year past with photos taken from past issues of The News. If your picture was in the paper during 2007, you may find it again here, or inside where a full page of photos gives a glimpse of 2007. Thanks to the Tahoka High School yearbook class for putting these photo montages together.

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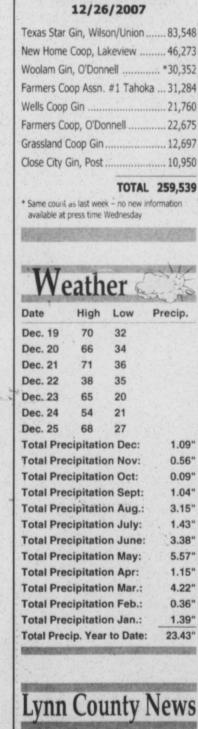
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office hours 1617 Main Street in Tahoka Open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Open During Lunch Hour) CLOSED FRIDAYS (Drop Box available by front door) Kitchen renovation project continues to draw support of community at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church



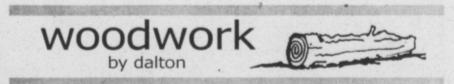
Something new for the new kitchen ... The Downtown Bible Study Class, that meets at First National Bank of Tahoka on Sunday mornings, donated new cookware and utensils to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church for their newly renovated kitchen. Class representatives Virginia Griffing (left) and Barbara Jaquess (right), presented the items to JoJo Lawson. Other members of the Downtown Bible Study Class are Bobby and Nancy Guilliams, Arlys and Christine Askew, Roy Riddle, Sam and Betsy Pridmore, Jerry Slover, Lenda Wood, Susan Teague, Bill and Rubeth Griffing, Milt and Dorothy Draper, Nancy Monk, Donnie Adams, Quaydene Caswell, and Jean Bell. The Pleasant Grove project is nearing completion, with the major appliances remaining to be placed in the kitchen. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

Sheriff Files For Re-Election

Lynn County Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin has filed for re-election for another four-year term. Franklin filed on Dec. 20, joining other local incumbents who had filed previously for other offices. Sherry Pearce, Lynn County Tax Assessor/Collector, and Don Blair, Lynn County Commissioner, Precinct 3, both filed for reelection on the Democratic ticket.

Two candidates have filed for District Attorney in the 106th Judicial District, which includes Lynn, Dawson, Gaines and Garza counties. Brian Kingston, an O'Donnell resident, and Sammy McCrary, a Lamesa resident, both filed on the Republican ticket.

Other local positions that will be on the ballot include Lyn County Attorney, and Pct. I Commissioner. Deadline to file is Jan. 2. Democratic and Republican Primary Elections will be held March 4, with the General Election set for Nov. 4, 2008.



THIS YEAR is winding down fast, and I'm not sure I have done everything I intended to in 2007. However, I can't remember exactly what all those things were. In October I lost my list of Things To Do, and so I haven't done anything since then.

I can hear some of the voices around the office saying things like "Since October? You haven't done anything since 1979!"

I remember trying to convince a few people years ago that when I appeared to be sitting around doing nothing in the office, I was thinking hard about all the things I needed to do, organizing in my mind how I would write a story or column, and considering all the details of publishing a newspaper. I never could sell that idea very well, although it actually was true most of the time.

I no longer have to worry about all those details, having turned most of it over to others, and it's a good thing, because my thinker, like some of my other parts, doesn't work as well as it once did.

Anyway, the year is about gone, and it's time to look forward to new and better days. I am optimistic that things will be better in 2008, although I do have a ruler on my desk which says that "CONFIDENCE is the feeling you have before you understand the situation."

TWO CAJUN hunters get a pilot to fly them to Canada to hunt 'moose.' They bagged six.

As Boudreaux and Thibodeaux start loading the plane for the return trip, the Pilot says, "The plane can only take four of those." The two Cajuns object strongly. "Last year we shot six and the pilot let us put them all on board; he had the same plane as yours."

Reluctantly, the pilot gives in and all six are loaded.

However, even with full power, the little plane can't handle the load and down it goes and crashes in the middle of nowhere.

A few moments later, climbing out of the wreckage, Boudreaux asks Thibodeaux, "Any idea where we are?"

"I think we're pretty close to where we crashed last year," says Thibodeaux. PAGE 2, LYNN COUNTY NEWS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2007



Relay For Life Chairmen ... Committee Chairmen for the Tahoka Relay For Life include Billy Saldana (Logistics Chair), Sarah Calvillo (Luminaria Chair), Amy Barrera (Event & Entertainment Chair), Anissa Alvarado and Raquel Pesina (Sponsorship Chairs), Rebecca Pando (Advocacy Chair), and Kristin Box (Event Co-Chair, Team Coordinator, and Marketing Chair). Not pictured is Ryan Rios (Survivorship Chair). All are Tahoka High School students, who are working hard to prepare for the April 18 Relay For Life, to be held at the Tahoka football field. All proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society.

Obituaries

Coughran Ketner

Graveside services for Coughran Ketner, 96, of Midland, were held Saturday, Dec. 22, at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland.

He died Thursday, December 20, 2007. He was born November 1, 1912 in Tahoka, Texas to Joseph Edward Ketner and Ida Mae Coughran. Raised and educated in Tahoka, Coughran proudly served his country in WWII. He served through all European campaigns as Staff Sgt. of the Army Medical Corps. He was a member of The American Legion, VFW and a 32nd degree Mason with fifty years recognition. Coughran owned and operated Speedway



Food for twenty- one years. On December 28, 1942 he married the love of his life Merla Horton Ketner, in Clovis, New Mexico.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Merla. Coughran is survived by his

daughters, Retha Ketner Peterson, of Midland, and Patti Ketner Braue, of Irving; grandchildren, Shannon Foley and

husband Brian, of Cypress, Robyn LaForge and husband Justin, of Midland, and Ryan Peterson and wife Kelsie, of Boerne; great-grandchildren, James, Raleigh and Kaleigh LaForge, of Midland.

Honorary pallbearers were Brian Foley, Ryan Peterson, Justin LaForge, Tony Qutob, Bob Smith, Hyle Doss, Bill Roberts, Gary Rhea and Byron Jones.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorials, in memory of Coughran, be directed to Children's Miracle Network re: James LaForge or Hospice of Midland, 911 W. Texas, Midland, Texas 79701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home. To place on-line condolences please visit www.mem.com.

(PAID)





JIMMY A. BILLMAN

Jimmy Billman

Funeral services for Jimmy A. Billman, 59, of Gaylord, Michigan were held at the Evangelical Free Church in Gaylord, MI on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 11. a.m.

He died Dec. 17, 2007 after a long battle with diabetes. He was born in Tahoka, Texas on Feb. 5, 1948. He was predeceased by his parents, Jim Bob and Anita Billman. He earned his degree in chemical engineering from the University of Houston and, in 1978, moved to Gaylord where he was the regional sales manager with Unichem International.

Survivors include his wife, Karen; his daughter, Rhiannon; and his son, Brady

The family requests memorials to the American Diabetes Association, Gift of Life or the charity of donor's choice, through the Nelson Funeral Home, P.O. Box 1548, Gaylord MI 49734.

Condolences may be made online at the following website: www.nelsonsfuneralhome.com.

Pray for our Nation



Services for Gladys Jean Shaw, 84, of Wilson, were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, in Englunds Chapel in Slaton, with burial in Wilson's Green Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Shaw died Dec. 19, 2007. She was born Feb. 14, 1923 in Crosby County and graduated from Morton High School in 1940. She married Charles Shaw, Jr. on Feb. 17, 1943 in Maple. He preceded her in death on March 4, 2007.

Survivors include her daughters, Patsy Schneider of Wilson, Barbara Hutcheson, and Betty Hunt, both of New Braunfels; brothers, Robert Flaniken and Raymond Flaniken, both of Round Rock, Mike Flaniken, of Bryan, Bill Flaniken of Calvert, Tex Flaniken, of Austin, and Joy Mentzel, of Franklin; eight grandchildren; and nine greatgrandchildren.

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The Lynn County News Tahoka, Texas 79373

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Vynomma Clark

Services for Vynomma Clark, 89, of Hale Center were held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, at Wilson's Restlawn in Wolfforth, with Silas Short officiating.

She died Dec. 22, 2007, at Grace House in Lubbock. She was born March 16, 1918, in Richland Springs. She married Thomas Charles Clark on Dec. 20, 1940, in Post. He died March 24, 2004. She taught school for 23 years, and was a member of Church of Christ and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Survivors include a son, Tom and Miyong Clark of Leavenworth, Kan.; a daughter, Julie and Kenny Heathington of O'Donnell; four grandchildren; and a brother, James Parks of Lubbock.

The family suggests memorial be sent to Camp Blue Haven or the Hale Center Public Library

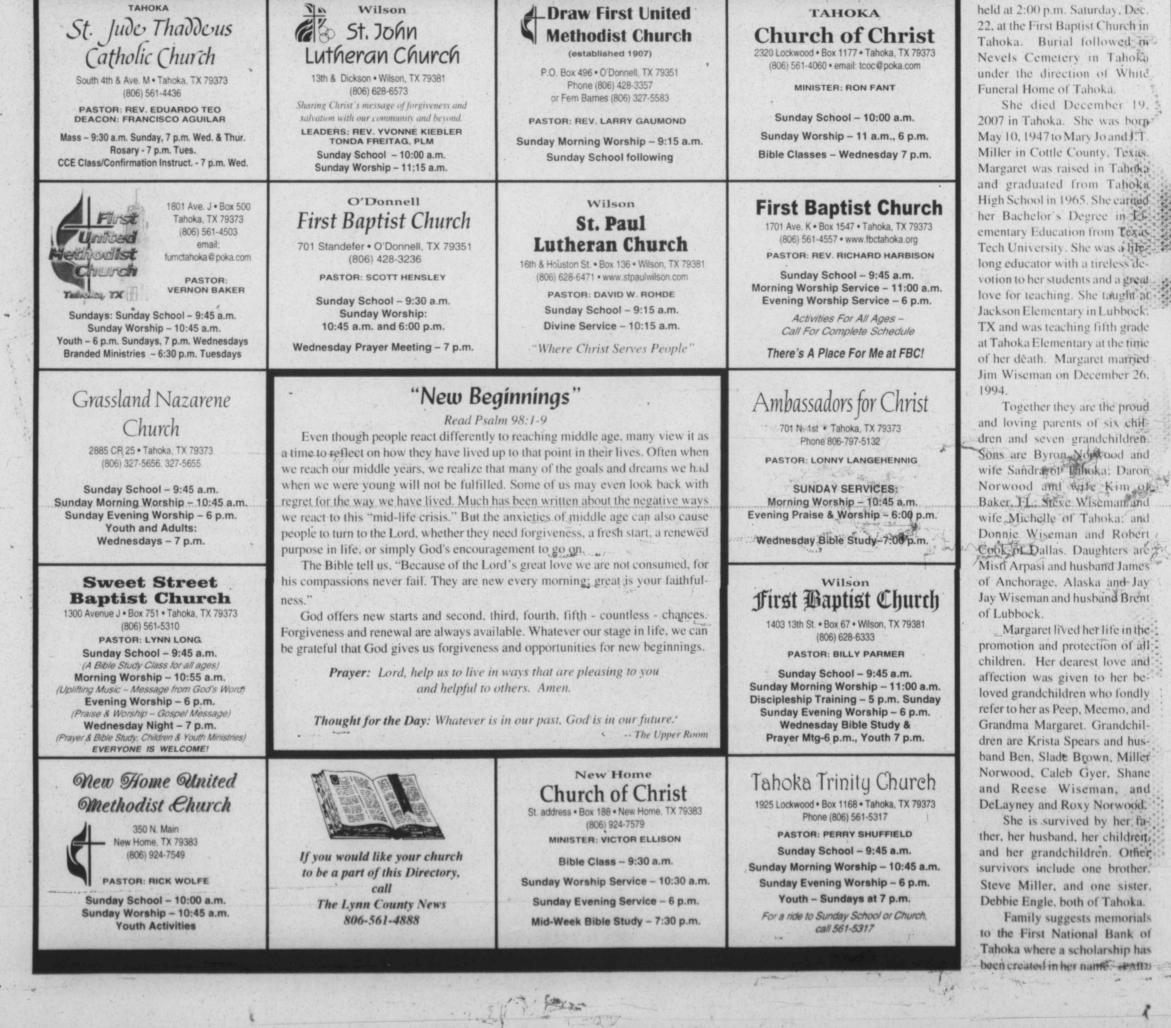


Margaret Sue Wiseman

Services for Margaret Suc Wiseman, 60, of Tahoka, were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec.

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MMA CLARK

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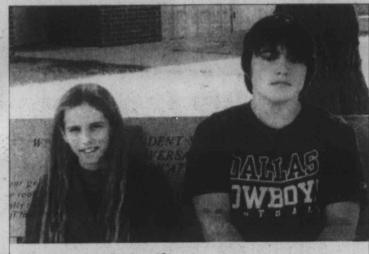
they are the proud irents of six chilen grandchildren. on Norwood and d wife Kim of of Tahoka; and man and Robert (as. Daughters are nd husband James , Alaska and Jay and husband Brent

lived her life in the : protection of all: dearest love and given to her beildren who fondly Peep, Meemo, and garet. Grandchila Spears and husde Brown, Miller leb Gyer, Shane Wiseman, and Roxy Norwood. rvived by her faand, her children. dchildren. Other ude one brother." and one sister. both of Tahoka. ggests memorials National Bank of a scholarship has her name. ePAILD

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PAGE 4, LYNN COUNTY NEWS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2007



Students of Month ... December Students of the Month at Wilson ISD are Megan Lehmann, Elementary, and Ray Parmer, Junior High. The High School Student of the Month is Mareli Olveda, who was not available for the picture.

Make a difference in your world. VOLUNTEER ... it will do your heart good!





A song in the air ... Wilson Junior High and Elementary students are shown Christmas caroling before school let out for the holidays.





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(letter or legal)

Raisins Can Be Very Unfriendly To Man's Best Friend, Vet Same

Raisins may seem like and innocent afternoon snack for people, but underneath their dried skin lies a potentially lethal toxin-one that can kill man's best friend.

"Not all dogs are affected," explains Mark Stickney, a veterinarian at Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

"Some dogs will respond negatively to raisin consumption, while others will not."

According to Stickney, not much is known about the specific agents in raisins that cause their toxic effects. What is known is that many dogs are experiencing renal failure after the ingestion of raisins.

"The dog need not ingest many raisins to experience the bad effects, usually a half ounce to an ounce," said Stickney.

What signs should a dog owner look for?

Stickney says a dog that has ingested raisins will have immediate reactions of vomiting and diarrhea. If the dog goes untreated, it will become more and more lethargic.

The pet will also drink more water than usual, and urinate less. These are all signs of renal failure, a condition that Stickney says can be lethal if not treated quickly. If a dog is displaying any of these signs, pet owners should immediately take it to a local veterinarian.

Just a reminder ...

Save the Date! —

We thought you might want to keep

the Auction on your gift list during

your after-holiday sales shopping.

· Tommy Botkin, Rotary President

Lynn County Hospital District's

Annual Fun & Food Festival and Auction

sponsored by the Tahoka Rotary Club is set for April 12, 2008.

"The sooner the animal-is, examined, the higher the likelihood that the animal will live," he notes.

Pet owners should keep a close eye on their dog whenever raisins are present, especially when younger children are involved. Young children have the tendency to share their food with their pets. In the case of raisins, this may prove to be deadly.

Stickney says only dogs seem to be affected by the toxic agent inside of raisins, and not all dogs experience the severe affects of renal failure after ingesting them.

There are other items that should be kept away from animals in order to prevent potential sickness.

Antifreeze has been known to cause renal failure in dogs and cats. Antifreeze has a sweet taste which dogs and cats fancy, but if either animal ingests it, the results can be tragic.

Another study has found that Easter lilies can cause renal failure in cats. And one candy that all animals need to be kept away from is chocolate. Dogs and cats cannot digest the caffeine and other stimulants found in chocolate. If an animal ingests chocolate, it can cause excitability, seizures and irregular heart beats that can be deadly.

The bottom line: many common household items and foods can be very unfriendly to man's best friend.

the holiday of some Lynn

38-year-old woman who admit-

ted stealing \$40 from the purse

Tahoka Police talked with a

Sheriff's officers took re-

ports of two thefts, both occur-

ring on Dec. 18. Hand tools were

stolen from a cotton stripper

parked on FM 1313 west of U.S.

87 and owned by Fred Martin.

On the same day, parts from a

stripper and plow parts were

taken from a trailer parked near a

barn on County Rd. BB north

and east of Tahoka. Owner

Thursday, Dec. 27

9:30 am-1:00 pm

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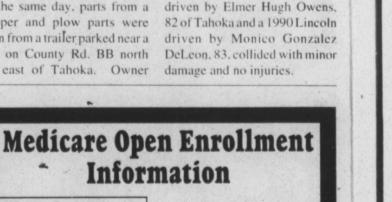
promised.

Thefts, a forgery incident Edwin Pebsworth valued the and two wrecks without injury in missing items at \$1,000. Tahoka put a slight blemish on Deputiés also are investi-

gating a report of a forged check County residents during the last on a Lubbock account, passed at Allsup's in O'Donnell in the amount of \$96.25.

On Friday on Country Club Rd. in Tahoka a 1999 Mercury of an older woman. No charges driven by Ridd James Solomon. were filed after restitution was 87 and a 2002 Dodge driven by Francis Coor Jeter, 64, of Brownfield were involved in a minor collision.

> On Sunday afternoon at a parking lot on Lockwood St. in Tahoka, a 1996 Dodge van driven by Elmer Hugh Owens. 82 of Tahoka and a 1990 Lincoln driven by Monico Gonzalez DeLeon, 83, collided with minor damage and no injuries.



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PAGE 6, LYNN COUNTY NEWS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2007



Toy Drive ... Wilson FFA students have generous hearts, collecting toys for a Christmas Toy Drive.

Lynn County FSA Begins **Making Disaster Payments**

Lynn County Farm Service counties for livestock deaths Agency (FSA) County Executive Director Rodney Schoppa said Thursday, Dec. 20 that FSA has been authorized to immediately begin making disaster payments.

"These payments are for approved Crop Disaster, Livestock Compensation, and Livestock Indemnity Program applications," said Schoppa, Lynn County Executive Director. "Payments made in Texas represent a portion of nearly \$1 billion dollars in disaster assistance to be issued through FSA nationwide, to date."

The Livestock Compensation Program 2005-2007 (LCP) provides benefits to livestock producers in designated disaster counties who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, including losses resulting from blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007

Indemnity Livestock Program 2005-2007 (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers in designated disaster caused by natural disasters that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, including losses because of blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007.

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered losses to the 2005-2007 crops from natural disasters and related conditions so long as the actual crop lost was planted or prevented from being planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year for which to receive benefits and may receive benefits for multiple crop losses if all were in the same crop year.

Sign-up for LIP and LCP began on Sept, 10, 2007 and sign-up for CDP began on Oct. 15, 2007; no sign-up deadlines for these disaster assistance programs have been set.

For more information about disaster payments, contact the Lynn County FSA at 806-998-4501 or visit the national FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov.



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Disasters: Is Your Business Prepared?

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At one time or another, every community will be touched by an emergency or disaster. According to the Institute for Business and Home Safety, when a major disaster strikes, 25 percent of all affected businesses will not reopen. Therefore, as business owners and operators, it is important to understand how to prepare and manage your business through difficult times.

By preparing for emergencies and disasters in advance, businesses enhance the ability to recover, and save time and money in extreme situations

Several steps should be taken to properly prepare your business for a disaster. The three most important steps are.

PLAN to Stay in Business -

You should plan in advance to manage any emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation, use common sense and available resources to take care of yourself, your co-workers, and your business's recovery

Specific tasks include developing an understanding of what types of emergencies might affect your business. It also doesn't hurt to give your business the upper hand in responding to medical emergencies, such as offering basic first aid and CPR training. A business also can be hurt indirectly when disaster

Jim Morris' Leadership Praised

Lynn County Hospital Board members told Administrator Jim Morris last Thursday night that his leadership in hospital supervision during the last year is very much appreciated.

Board President Jerry Ford made the statement to Morris following an annual evaluation of job performance, which board members had discussed in closed session Thursday and also in previous meetings. The board also voted to increase Morris' annual salary by \$2,500. Otherwise, the December

meeting was mostly routine, with attention given to several items related to the operations of the hospital.

Other board members present were Jannis Horwood, Virginia Griffing and Dalton Wood. Absent were Cal Huffaker, Regina Crutcher and Billy Tomlinson.

strikes customers or another busi-

ness, such as a supplier or distribu-TALK with Your Peopter-

One of the best methods of assuring your company*s recovery is to provide for you co-workers* well being. This can include communicating regularly with employees before, during, and after an incident; involving people from all levels in the emergency planning process; conducting drills and exercises; and encouraging employees to prepare at work and home. Coupling preparedness with communication within a company also enhances credibility with employees, customers, suppliers, and the community. PROTECT Your Investment -

Take steps to safeguard your company and secure your physical assets. These can include reviewing coverage in current insurance policies, as well as protecting data and information technology systems.

Overall, preparedness enhances a company's ability to recover from business disruption, financial losses, and damages to capital as-



MATT PRUNER Matt Pruner Joins Local NRCS

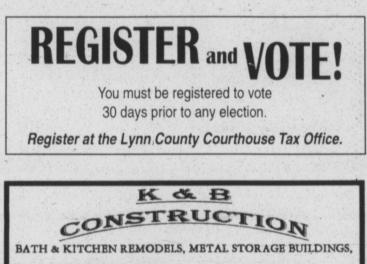
Mario Avila, Resource sistance to producers in Lynn Team Leader for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for Garza, Lynn, and Terry Counties, has announced the transfer of Matt Pruner as GS-9 Range Management Specialist to the Brownfield Field Office.

As a Range Management Specialist, Pruner will provide technical assistance to farmers and ranchers with conservation programs and in the planning and application of conservation practices. Pruner will also assist in keeping the public informed of opportunities to participate in cost-share programs, as well as providing the latest technology and research information available

As a member of the Tahoka Resource Team staff, Matt will also be providing technical asand Garza Counties.

Pruner is a native of Henrietta, Texas where he completed high school. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management from Texas Tech University in 2004. Following graduation, Pruner briefly worked as the Harvest Biologist on the Callaghan Ranch in Encinal. Texas, and as a Meat Inspector for the Texas Meat Safety Assurance Unit before joining the NRCS. Matt's previous assignment was in Andrews County where he served as a Rangeland Management Specialist at the Andrews Field Office as part of the Midland Resource Team staff.

Pruner can be reached at the Brownfield Field Office (637-8092, ext. 3), 8-4:30 Monday-Friday or by calling the Tahoka Field Office (998-4507, ext. 3).



Farmers Co-op Association No. 1

Lynn County Farm Bureau

sets, equipment, or inventory For more information on business preparedness, visit the Extension Disaster Education Network's (EDEN) Web site at

www.EDEN.lsu.edu/npm.

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Shiny new cookware ... The Downtown Bible Class in Tahoka donated new cookware and utensils to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church for their newly renovated kitchen. (LCN PHOTO)

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