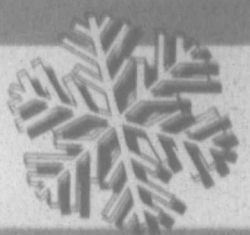




THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2009 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 49

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009

6 PAGES PLUS INSERT

What's Inside

- **Obituaries** - pg. 2
- Bryan Wright
- **Letter to Editor**
Counting our blessings - pg. 3
- **All-District football**
- pg. 4
- **Grants offered to young farmers** - pg. 6

December Events

- 5 Christmas Craft Show**
9 am-2 pm at the Life Enrichment Center
1717 Main, Tahoka
- 5-6 Drive-Thru Santa's Land**
6:30 pm-9 pm Saturday
6:30 pm-10 pm Sunday
S. 11th & Ave. O
- 7 Moonlight Madness**
6-8 pm Tahoka square
- 11 Open House**
First Bank & Trust
10 am-3 pm
Wilson & Tahoka offices
- 12 Drive-Thru Nativity**
6-8 pm at First Baptist Church parking lot (entrance on Lockwood)
- 12-13 Drive-Thru Santa's Land**
6:30 pm-9 pm Saturday
6:30 pm-10 pm Sunday
S. 11th & Ave. O
- 17 Open House**
First National Bank, Tahoka
10 am-3 pm, live music
FNB Community Room

Got an event open to the public?
Call The Lynn County News at 561-4888 or email us at LynnCoNews@poka.com

Lynn County Area BALE COUNT

(reported 12-01-09)

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union.....	39,570
New Home Coop, Lakeview.....	34,072
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell.....	24,082
Wells Coop Gin.....	21,877
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell.....	20,884
Farmers Coop #1, Tahoka.....	17,672
Grassland Coop Gin.....	3,876
Close City Gin, Post.....	2,931
TOTAL.....	164,964

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov. 24	54	30	
Nov. 25	61	29	
Nov. 26	67	28	
Nov. 27	69	30	
Nov. 28	74	38	
Nov. 29	40	39	0.01"
Nov. 30	51	28	
Dec. 1	38	28	0.11"
Dec. 2			0.45"
Precipitation for Dec:			0.56"
Precipitation for Nov:			0.01"
Precipitation for Oct:			1.14"
Precipitation for Sept:			1.07"
Precipitation for Aug:			1.00"
Precipitation for July:			3.46"
Precipitation for June:			2.03"
Precipitation for May:			1.39"
Total Precipitation Apr:			0.91"
Total Precipitation Mar:			0.35"
Total Precipitation Feb:			0.64"
Total Precipitation Jan:			0.03"
Total Precipitation To Date:			12.68"

Lynn County News

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Officers busy with drug raid, burglary, stolen vehicles

Officers with the Lynn County Sheriff's Office and Tahoka Police Dept. conducted a narcotics search warrant at a Tahoka home Sunday and arrested two persons.

Arrested and charged after a raid on a residence on N. 2nd St. were Bobby Baldamar Delacruz, 34, and Naomi Avala Delacruz, 33. Officers said the search of the home turned up about 14 grams of cocaine and packaging materials.

Sheriff's officers were advised Sunday of a burglary of the residence of Melissa Pebsworth on FM 3332, in which the intruders took a laptop computer, a Playstation 3 and several firearms, and then also took the victim's 1997 GMC SUV.

Another vehicle was reported stolen the same day from the residence of Devnee Schaffer in the same area of FM 3332. At that location a 2002 Ford pickup was stolen.

One case of criminal mischief in which a vehicle was damaged, and a traffic accident in Tahoka involving a vehicle running through a picket fence were among incidents investigated by Tahoka Police during the last week.

On Saturday a 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by Phillip L. Barnett, 50, of

Tahoka went out of control and through a fence in the 1800-block of N. 2nd St. The driver was not injured.

Cameron Wayne Harcrow of Tahoka reported Saturday that the driver's side door of his parked Chrysler had been dented and scratched. No estimate of damage was listed.

Police also arrested two persons for public intoxication and arrested a Tahoka woman for traffic violations and outstanding warrants.

Thirty-four persons were in Lynn County jail this week, with three each held for Gaines and Lubbock counties. Charges facing 15 persons who were jailed during the last week included:

Driving while intoxicated, driving while license invalid (enhanced charges against three persons), abandoning/endangering child plus manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance in a drug-free zone, hold for immigration authorities, DWI with a child passenger, possession of a controlled substance, public intoxication, application to revoke probation on conviction of DWI second offense, failure to appear and warrant for ride not secured, application to revoke probation on DWI conviction plus theft by check.



Up and away ... Tahoka's Brittany Liggins (33) goes up for a 2-pointer as 1A Tahoka took on 3A Brownfield on Nov. 24, winning 57-40 and bringing the Lady Bulldogs' season record to 7-1. The Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) have ranked the Tahoka girls in the top 25 1A Division I teams in the state, at no. 21. The Lady Bulldogs are playing in the Shallowater tournament this weekend, while the boys play in a Denver City tourney. Tahoka is hosting a JV tournament as well this weekend.
(LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

Drive-thru nativity offered at FBC Dec. 12

First Baptist Church of Tahoka is offering their Drive-Thru Nativity again this year, following last year's highly successful debut of stations telling the life story of Christ presented in live creative depictions. This year's Drive-Thru Nativity, "The Greatest Story Ever Told," will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 6-8 p.m. in the church parking lot, with the entrance on Lockwood Street.

If the response to last year's event is any indication, people should be prepared to wait in line for a time before entering the program, but the line moves pretty quickly.

At the entry, motorists are given a CD to listen to a narrative that tells the story and also indicates when to move forward to the next station, and at the exit motorists can return the CD. There is no admission fee.

Moonlight Madness

at the Tahoka Square

6:00-8:00 pm Monday, Dec. 7

sponsored by Tahoka Rotary Club

Horse and Buggy Rides

Emily Byrum will provide horse and buggy rides
Dru Ann Verkamp will provide buggy rides pulled by miniature horses

Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus

On the Courthouse Square, sponsored by Tahoka National Honor Society. The photo sessions will be moved to the basement of the Courthouse if there is inclement weather.



Hot Chocolate, provided by the Tahoka Fire Department, and **Cookies**, donated by Phebe K. Warner Club and local residents, will be available on the Courthouse square, under the awning

Singers will begin at 6 pm on the square, following back-to-back:

- First Baptist Church Children's Choir
- Byron Norwood
- Carissa Nevill
- James Craig
- Kristin Box



Open House: K. Stone's will have Open House and will be open for business with a 25% off storewide sale, 1501 Ave. J

Open House: W. Calloway Huffaker, Attorney at Law, Walker & Solomon Insurance Agency, and Lynn County Abstract will host an Open House, 1540 Ave. J

(We are still in need of monetary and cookie donations. Anyone willing to donate or help may contact Rebekah Filey at 998-4519.)

TISD trustees interviewing supt. candidates

Tahoka Independent School District Board of Trustees are interviewing seven candidates for the position of superintendent at TISD, choosing a slate of seven from among 23 applicants for the job. The first interview was conducted Monday night, Nov. 30, and the next six interviews will be held during the month of December, according to Gary Harrell, Interim Superintendent. Two interviews each will be conducted on Dec. 3, Dec. 17, and Dec. 21, to complete the initial interview process.

"The Board of Trustees may choose to consider a final candidate from among these seven candidates, or they may want to go back to the applicant list to look at interviewing other candidates, depending on how these interviews go," Harrell told *The News*. "At the earliest, it would most likely be January before a lone finalist would be named," he added.

School officials are not obligated to release the names of any candidates until a lone finalist is named.

woodwork

by dalton



I CAN'T BELIEVE that it's December already, with my birthday and Christmas and another year all practically here. As far back as I can remember, I have had a birthday almost every December. When I was a kid, this was not a good month to have a birthday, because kids with birthdays in December usually get less really good stuff because their birthdays are too close to Christmas.

Later on, it doesn't matter much, because you're just thankful to reach another milestone. I am reminded of something I once heard Weldon (Doc) Mize, a well-known area high school track coach, say at an athletic banquet when he was asked to get up and speak. Doc, who coached at Slaton until his death several years ago, got up and said, "I'm proud to be here tonight ... actually, at my age, I'm proud to be anywhere."

Anyway, I'd just as soon not celebrate my birthday, and I don't expect a birthday cake, because I'm not supposed to eat good things like that anymore. I have learned, though, that it's okay to eat cake or candy as long as my doctor doesn't see me doing it.

...

THE HOUSEWIFE at New Home had some comments about the importance of walking:

"My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 and we don't know where he is.

"I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

"I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I am doing."

Obituaries



BRYAN WRIGHT

Bryan Wright

Services for Bryan Wright, 87, of Tahoka were held at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at First Baptist Church in Tahoka, with Michael Passmore and Richard Harbison officiating. He died on Thursday, November 26, 2009.

He was born February 25, 1922 in Greenville to William and Belle (Vandergriff) Wright. He attended Tahoka High School where he was a team member of the Tahoka High School Baseball State Champions. He received a business degree from Draughon's College. He married Mary (Edwards) Wright on May 9, 1943 in Lubbock. She preceded him in death on April 9, 1996. He later married Marie (Webster) Wright on February 24, 2005 in Las Vegas, NV. He worked as a farmer, rancher, and banker. Mr. Wright was a beloved member of the local and Regional Lynn County Co-op, a former member of the Cotton Board, Secretary and Treasurer of The First National Bank, a member of the First National Bank Board, and a church member to both First Baptist Church in Tahoka and First Christian Church in Lubbock.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife Marie;

one daughter, Dr. Debbie Ruth Wright of Indianapolis, IN; one son, Jimmy Bryan Wright of Alamogordo, NM; 15 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Mary, one brother and one sister.

Arrangements are under the personal care of White Funeral Home in Tahoka. To register or send condolences online, please visit www.whitefuneral.com.

(PAID)

Senior Citizens MENU

December 7-11

Monday: Baked pasta, steamed cauliflower, garlic bread, banana pudding

Tuesday: Chef salad, cracker assortment, blueberry crisp

Wednesday: Cheese quesadillas, Spanish rice, red beans, lettuce/tomato, rice crispy treats

Thursday: Meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, corn, bread, cake

Friday: Chicken patty on a bun, trimmings, macaroni salad, chips, peaches

- Help decorate the Senior Citizens Center Christmas tree! Purchase an ornament by calling the Center or stop in.

- Everyone welcome at domino night, Mondays at 6 p.m.

- A great gift idea: our cookbook, *Timeless Treasures*, available for \$12 each at the Center, Lynn County News, City/County Library, Virginia's Beauty Salon and Huffaker Law Office.

- The recycle bin is open weekdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for can donations. After hours, call Bianca at 201-9169 and she will arrange to accept can donations. **Thank you for your continued support.**

Santa's Land now open on weekends

Santa's Land, a drive-thru Christmas Park that opened Thanksgiving Day in Tahoka, will be open on Saturday and Sunday evenings only, starting at 6:30 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand most evenings, but come before 9 p.m. to see them. The free drive-thru park closes at 10 p.m. on Saturdays and 9 p.m. on Sundays.

Santa's Land is located on land west of the Bill and Frances Chancy home on the south edge of Tahoka. They suggest that drivers enter by turning south from Lockwood Street on to Ave. O, turning right at the dead end on S. 11th, and then left at the next dead end where the entrance to Santa's Land will have a sign. To leave, drive east on S. 11th (a dirt road) to the Hwy. 87 access road, so as to allow the traffic flow to continue.

The drive-thru park will remain open through Christmas weekend.

Christmas Reader's Theater is Dec. 14 at Tahoka Elementary

The Third and Fourth Grade classes at Tahoka Elementary will be presenting a Christmas Reader's Theater on Monday, Dec. 14 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. The community is invited to see the students present a short Christmas play. Plays will be presented simultaneously in each of the six classrooms so guests may go to the room of their choice.

"Come share the excitement of Christmas with us!" said a sponsor.



Character counts

... Tahoka Middle School Character Counts class sponsored a fundraiser, collecting \$156 that was used to purchase 30 new blankets for the homeless through a program with the Tahoka Church of Christ. With the donation from the TMS students, the church has now collected 110 blankets for the homeless, some of which are kept for local use and some of which are donated to the Lubbock area for the homeless. Students pictured here are, in front from left, Shelby Fant, Vanessa Mendez, Ashlee Anderson, Micaila Torrez, and in back, Amanda Flores, Laura Henderson, Jackson Harbison, Devin McCleskey, Jordan Arriazola, and Sonya Gonzales. In the picture at top, TMS Principal Tom Thomas (right) presents the blankets to Ron Fant at the Church of Christ.

Wilson School Menu

DECEMBER 7-11 Breakfast

Monday: Donuts

Tuesday: Mustang McMuffins

Wednesday: Pancakes

Thursday: Burritos

Friday: Breakfast pizza

LUNCH

Monday: Chicken fajitas, corn,

refried beans, fruit, chocolate

pudding

Tuesday: Plain/Chili cheese hot

dog, oven fries, apple & orange

smiles

Wednesday: Oven crispy chicken,

potatoes/gravy, green beans, roll,

cherry bar

Thursday: Nachos grande, trim-

mingings, pinto beans, oranges

Friday: Hoagies, baby carrots w/

ranch, cake

Wilson Elementary Honor Roll listed

Elementary students listed on the second six-weeks Honor roll were: A's 1st grade-Garrett Racca and Ryan Hinojosa; 3rd grade- Filiberto Perez and Brook Tyson; 4th grade- Kylie Steen, and 5th grade-Nicole Ramirez.

Students on the AB honor roll were: 1st grade-Mika Hinojosa, Jo Maldonado. 2nd: Mariela Balderas, Nate Davila, Alexandra Garza, Ryan Isham, Topis Massingill, Tony Pantoja, Araceli Valdez, Kaitlyn Yell. 3rd- Amber Guzman, Bryan Mendez and Ragin Taylor. 4th- Randeey Autry, Meghan Ramirez, Ebby Spencer and Samantha Valdez. 5th- Warren Fluð, Zack Mendez and Bailey Steen.

Christmas greetings donation deadline is Dec. 17 for PBK fundraiser

Those who want to contribute to the annual Phebe K. Warner Club Community Christmas Greeting, the club's annual scholarship fundraiser, have until Dec. 17 to make their donations. Contributors names will be printed in the Dec. 24 issue of the Lynn County News.

This annual fundraiser lets community members send Christmas greetings to friends while contributing to the Lady Dobbins Stewart or Maurice Bray Scholarship funds. This money is often donated in lieu of sending local Christmas cards.

Contributions may be taken to the First National Bank of Tahoka, along with the name of the donor, as it is to appear in the ad.

"Anyone unable to make the trip to the bank may call any Phebe K. Warner Club member to take your contribution to the bank," said a club representative.

If you have a free event in December that is open to the public, contact the Lynn County News and place it in the December calendar.

E-mail: LynnCoNews@poka.com or call 561-4888 or fax to 561-6308.

Look Who's 50 and still going strong.



Happy Birthday
We love you -- your family.

Happy "90th" Birthday!



Helen Bookman
December 1, 2009

Nannie, you are like a song with a beautiful melody, that tells a story of truth and reality.

You are our shining star, who still drives around in a car. Although we hardly say, we do think about you every day.

You are our family's glue, without you we wouldn't know what to do.

We are so proud that you are our grandmother.

We love you!

From Rev. Andrew & Bennie Nance,
Your grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

YOU COULD WIN CASH FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

We're giving away \$500!

Sign up for Security Monitoring or High Speed Internet Service & get 1 entry in Cash Drawing. Sign up for BOTH services & get 2 entries!

Purchase a basic Security System for just \$199 & get FREE Installation -or- switch to our Security Monitoring Service & get 3 months FREE!*

Sign up for High Speed Internet Service! You'll get blazin' speeds, great prices & FREE installation! 1 Mbps & 3 Mbps available.*

*1st 20 Sign-ups get a FREE 1 GB Flash Drive! Offer good through December 18, 2009

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806-387-3333

115 West Main - Post
806-990-9901

512 N 2nd - Lamesa
806-872-6520

11 Miles N of Tahoka - US Hwy 87
806-924-7234 / 800-422-2387

*Offer subject to credit approval. Early termination fees apply. Poka Lambro employees and immediate family members not eligible for cash prize give-away. Prize money will be divided into 3 prizes and distributed via check. See store for internet pricing and availability in your area. Contract required. Other restrictions may apply. See store for details. Poka Lambro Security P.O. Box 1340 Tahoka, Texas 79373 800-662-8805 License #B15273

FAMILY CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Greet friends and neighbors with a photo of your family, the arrival of a new baby, or the family pet in a Christmas photo greeting ad. These ads will run in the Lynn County News Christmas issue on Dec. 24. Plan now to get a photo taken ... **deadline** for Christmas greeting photo ads is **December 10**.

Cost is \$10 for a 1 column by 2.5" tall ad -- or -- \$24 for a 2 column by 3" tall ad.

Send or bring your photo and info to the News Office, 1617 Main Street, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, Tx 79373

or email: LynnCoNews@poka.com



Merry Christmas from Santa and the Somebody family!



All we want for Christmas is some new toys!

-- Gary & Juanel Jones, Casey and Lana and Elsie, Spike and Brownie

The Lynn County News

Tahoka, Texas 79373

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Tyson in Dist Youth

Brook Casey and Wilson, pi Distinguish as Scholar tion Progra tonio Nov. is designed in grades 2- ademically in their sch ties. The ju to select the ers include cord; Servic munity; Per and Intervie



Fight Holl Weight Ga

It's easy! during the h with shopp ing, baking, stress of un But a heal helps boost helps you fi gain. Accord Elizabeth Sc Food & Mo get through in a good m weight:

- Eat bre it, what you e day won't n Breakfast-ea taining a bet energy throu ies show.

- Drink symptom of tigue," says dragging you the holiday baking. Inste two of water still hungri enough wate that will in Without it, y exercise at p won't burn f

- Drink i the tryptoph brain, plus th drate that as Milk is also drink, and a rehydrate bo exercise.

- Hit you ties, but avoi feel relaxed but drinking and increase anxiety -- no boost your m

- Lose t fat foods li replace them crackers, pop hard candy.

- Fall and crease carbo Instead of try or reaching f ies or ice cr controlled ca once or twice cup of crun help keep you your waistlin

Precisel doctor

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1610 Main in Tahoka

Tyson participates in Distinguished Youth program

Brook Tyson, daughter of Casey and Nikki Donald of Wilson, participated in the Distinguished Youth of Texas Scholarship and Recognition Program held in San Antonio Nov. 27-29. The program is designed to recognize girls in grades 2-7 who rank high academically and who are leaders in their schools and communities. The judging criteria used to select the two state titleholders included: Scholastic Record; Service to School & Community; Personality Projection; and Interview.

Brook was sponsored by Wilson Lions Club. She is involved in Lynn County 4-H, Wilson FFA and UIL. She has also been in Student Council for two years, volunteers for



BROOK TYSON

Lubbock Meals on Wheels, is an A+ Honor roll student since kindergarten and has recently been named as Wilson Elementary School Student of the Month for November.

Care TO BE Aware
HEALTH NEWS FROM LYNN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
by Julia Allen

Fight Holiday Weight Gain

It's easy to feel overwhelmed during the holiday season -- what with shopping, parties, decorating, baking, and the inevitable stress of unwanted obligations. But a healthy diet not only helps boost your mood, it also helps you fight holiday weight gain. According to WebMD and Elizabeth Somer, MD author of Food & Mood try these tips to get through the holiday season in a good mood without gaining weight:

- **Eat breakfast!** If you skip it, what you eat for the rest of the day won't matter, Somer says. Breakfast-eaters report maintaining a better mood and more energy throughout the day, studies show.

- **Drink water.** "The first symptom of dehydration is fatigue," says Somer. If you're dragging your feet, don't dig in the holiday treats you've been baking. Instead, down a glass or two of water; then see if you're still hungry. Not drinking enough water is the first thing that will impact your mood. Without it, you won't be able to exercise at peak levels, and you won't burn fat as readily.

- **Drink nonfat milk.** It has the tryptophan you need for your brain, plus the natural carbohydrate that assists its transport. Milk is also a fabulous energy drink, and an excellent way to rehydrate both before and after exercise.

- **Hit your usual holiday parties, but avoid alcohol.** You may feel relaxed in the short term, but drinking interrupts sleep and increases depression and anxiety -- not the best way to boost your mood.

- **Lose the bowls of high-fat foods** like chocolate, and replace them with small low-fat crackers, popcorn, pretzels, and hard candy.

Fall and winter tend to increase carbohydrate cravings. Instead of trying to ignore them or reaching for chocolate, cookies or ice cream, plan portion-controlled carb snacks at least once or twice a day, such as 3/4 cup of crunchy cereal. They'll help keep your mood even and your waistline small.

Reap the Rewards: "Alter your eating habits, and you'll notice a change within just two weeks," Somer says. "Your body will reward you with more energy, and your mind with a calmer, positive, more stable mood."

During the stress-filled holiday season, who could ask for more? Good Luck.

Hospital considers investment program

A program under which Lynn County Hospital would invest funds and be repaid with services valued at about 30 percent more than the amount invested was explained to hospital trustees in length last Tuesday as the board had its November meeting.

Brent Fuller of Durbin & Co. accounting firm in Lubbock presented the details of the government-sponsored program and answered questions from board members. After the presentation, the board voted to take no action on the proposal, pending further study.

Also tabled was action on a tax abatement contract for Wind Tex Energy.

The board did approve a schedule of Christmas bonuses for employees and heard reports from administrator Jim Morris on various matters pertaining to the hospital.

Vice president Jannis Horwood presided, and members attending were Virginia Griffing, Frances Truehart, Dalton Wood and Cal Huffaker. Absent were board president Jerry Ford and member Nancy Guilliams.

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561-4888

FBC offers "Breakfast in Bethlehem"

First Baptist Church invites the community to "Breakfast in Bethlehem" at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 20 in the fellowship hall. Breakfast will be served by the deacons, and children will present a short program.

That evening, the adult choir will present a Christmas program at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Cub Scouts selling popcorn, treats

Tahoka Cub Scout Pack 782 has been selling and delivering orders for popcorn and other treats, but they have a few items left to sell if anyone would like to purchase them. Items available include one Chocolate Lovers Tin, \$50; one 3-Way Cheese Tin, \$30; 2 Trails End Gourmet Blend, \$25; 3 Chocolatey Triple Delight, \$16; 3 Caramel Corn Light, \$16; and 4 15-pack Microwave Butter Popcorns.

If interested in purchasing, please call Virginia at 535-5854.

Letter To The Editor

Counting our blessings

Dear Editor,
Recent events in our daily lives have caused us to count many of the blessings we have received during the last few weeks. It is impossible to remember all the good things that have happened.

First, we must recognize the skill, talents, prayers, and love given by the staff of the Lynn County Hospital as we asked for their help on a Sunday afternoon in early November. Jean's unexpected heart attack created our emergency. While Jean was being treated many people came by while I was waiting. The love and prayers shared with me by people I didn't know proved to me that our Heavenly Father uses all kinds of people to minister to people in need. The experienced staff made all the needed treatments and prepared Jean for transportation by helicopter to Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. Thank you, we love you.

Soon friends from Wilson arrived, Mary and John Henderson, Janice Lee along with our Pastor, Billy Parmer. All of our prayers were answered that day.

After 10 days of treatment by the staff at Covenant hospital, Jean came home to regain her strength and prepare for the wonderful future ahead.

The residents of Lynn County have created a facility that is second to none. We can all be proud that all needs, both medical and spiritual, are available for the asking.

We express our gratitude to all of you.

Jean and Charles Baker



Spirit Cup fundraiser ... Top winner in the Tahoka Elementary Pride Corps fundraiser was Alex Perez (fourth from the left), winning the \$100 American Express gift card. The winners of the \$25 Toys-R-Us gift cards are (left to right) Timothy Garcia, Noelani Rodriguez, Isaac Chavarria, Kalaya Jackson, with Kenzie Henry and Colton Stice (on right). "Pride Corps would like to thank our generous community for participating in this fund-raising activity that will benefit Tahoka Elementary in the upcoming year," said a sponsor.

American Legion raising funds for recovering heroes

The American Legion is renewing its fundraising efforts for the holiday season to purchase comfort items for troops recovering in U.S. military hospitals and warrior transition units around the world through its Operation Comfort Warriors campaign.

"The government does a good job of providing the necessities," said American Legion National Commander Clarence E. Hill. "Through Operation Comfort Warriors we have been able to provide items that usually don't appear in the budget, such as personal sweat suits, i-Pods, DVDs, phone calling cards and other comfort items. The American Legion is challenging its members and friends to continue giving to those who have already given us so much."

The American Legion has already raised more than \$215,000 for Operation Comfort Warriors since its inception last December. Upon taking office in August, Commander Hill set a goal to raise an additional \$100,000 by year's end. Donors can make online contributions by visiting www.legion.org/ocw or by sending a check to Operation Comfort Warriors, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Administrative and promotional costs for Operation Comfort Warriors are paid by The American Legion, allowing 100 percent of the donations to be spent directly on the troops.

With a current membership of 2.5-million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 posts across the nation.

New Home SCHOOL MENU

December 7-11
Breakfast
Monday: PBJ Sandwich
Tuesday: Donut
Wednesday: Cinnamon French toast
Thursday: Sausage & egg
Friday: Assorted muffins
LUNCH
Monday: Pizza, lettuce & tomato, corn, jello
Tuesday: Beefy Nachos, lettuce/tomato, refried beans, hot sauce, pear cup
Wednesday: Chicken sandwich, pickle spears, carrot/cucumber, mixed fruit
Thursday: Chicken fajitas, cheese cup, lettuce/tomato, hot sauce, pineapple tidbits
Friday: Chili cheese dog, tator tots, chili beans, fruit cup

PLEASANT GROVE MENU

Pleasant Grove will be open on **Sunday, Dec. 8.** Please call in orders at 561-1019.

Volunteer ... and help others!
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD.

Christmas Craft Show!
Saturday, December 5th
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
at the
Life Enrichment Center
1717 Main Street - Tahoka
OVER 20 GREAT BOOTHS!!
For information contact Amy Preston, 806-759-1690

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Ceiling Fan pulls ... Texas Tech design or Bulldog colors and more! \$2 to \$5
Pink Chi Hair Straightener ... \$100
Order now - call Diana! 432-416-0320

25% Off Storewide!
*Including already reduced Clearance Items!
WE HAVE LOTS OF GIFT IDEAS ... COME AND SEE!
JOIN US FOR OPEN HOUSE during MOONLIGHT MADNESS Monday, December 7th
K. Stone's
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Runnin boys ... The Tahoka Bulldogs prove that the slogan "Runnin Boys" on the back of their shooting/warm up shirts describes the action in this photo in a game against Stanton last week. Coach Faught is directing the charge for players #14 Travaen Smith, #32 Seth Hawthorne, #34 Neiko Garcia, #24 Xavier Zamarron, and #10 Matt Taylor.

(LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

Tahoka players make All-District Football team

Larry Saldana, 200-pound Tahoka senior, was a unanimous choice as a first team defensive end on the District 7A all-district team announced this week. Tahoka junior Neiko Garcia was named to the safety spot on the all-district defensive team and senior Ridge Hall was named as the punter.

On the second team are linebacker Jac Calvillo, also chosen as second team fullback, running back Kyron Lawson and offensive lineman Ben Freitag.

Eight Tahoka players are on the honorable mention defensive list: A.J. Curtis and Freitag on the line, Seth Hawthorne at defensive end, Jamie Bingham, Kyle Reno and Hall at linebacker and Zach Garcia and Ricardo Delgado at the corners.

Six from Tahoka are honorable mention on offense: quarterback Neiko Garcia, tight end Andy Hinds, receiver Luis Duran and linemen Reno, Curtis and Smith McLelland.



Defense ... Tahoka's Kyra Helm (31) tries to keep a Brownfield player from scoring in this photo, but she worked hard on the offense as well, tossing in 25 points for the Lady Bulldogs in their 57-40 win over Brownfield. Brittney Liggins (33) also scored in double figures, with 13 points. Other Tahoka players shown here include Gretchen Henley (34) and Kaitlyn Reno (11).

(LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

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SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES
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Pack 782 scouting for canned food

Tahoka Boy Scouts of Pack 782 will be collecting canned food and non-perishable items on Saturday, Dec. 12 from local citizens for the local food pantry and Senior Citizens Center. "If the community will place canned food and/or non-perishable items in a bag and put it on the front porch by 10:00 a.m., the scouts will collect the items," stated a representative. All food will remain local.

"Pack 782 thanks you for your support and appreciates your generosity," said a sponsor.

Put out bags of food on your front porch by 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12th for local food pantry donations!

Sponsored by
Tahoka Boy Scouts, Pack 782.

Tahoka School News

by Tahoka High School Journalism Students

Varsity Girls

By Kalee Wuensche

The Lady Bulldogs beat Brownfield 57-40, Nov. 24. The top scorers were Kyra Helm with 25 points and Brittney Liggins with 13 points.

The Lady Bulldogs defeated Stanton 36-26, Nov. 23. The top scorers were Helm with 16 points and Kalee Wuensche with 10 points.

The Varsity girls also played in the Roosevelt Tournament. Their first game they beat Roosevelt 41-38. High points were Helm with 20 and Wuensche with 10. They defeated Post 41-24. The top scorers were Helm with 21 points along with Wuensche 12 points. In the last game Shallwater beat the Lady Bulldogs 57-29. Top scorers include Wuensche 8 points and Kyra Helm 6 points.

8th Grade Boys

By Matt Taylor

The 8th grade boys demolished Seagraves with a score of 60-9. High scorer for the Bulldogs for the second week in a row was Ray Parmer with 29 points. Other scorers for the Bulldogs were Kordell Baker with 14, Keyshawn Liggins with 11, and Gino Arriazola with 6.

7th Grade Girls

By Skyler McCleskey

Tahoka 7th grade girls played in the Roosevelt Tournament on Nov. 21. They played Floydada their first game and lost 17-39. Caley Bingham scored four points, Ashlee Aderson scored three points, and Vanessa Mendez, Kara Larpenter, and Anyssa Pesina all added 2 points each.

For their second game the girls played Roosevelt and lost 40-8. Leading scorers were Coy Mercer and Amanda Hill, both with three points. Amanda Anderson added two points.

The 7th grade "A" team played Seagraves and lost 10 to 24 on Nov. 23. Leading scorer was Micaela Torres with three points. Mercer, Larpenter, and Hill added two points.

The "B" team also played Seagraves and lost 36-8. Laura Henderson was high point with four. McKenzie Mannis and Lauren Raindl both added two points.

7th Grade Boys

By Matt Taylor

The 7th grade boys traveled to Seagraves on Monday, Nov. 23. They came up short, losing 42-26. High scorer for the bulldogs was Roman Parmer with 19 points. Isaiah Arce scored 7 points.

MS OAP Performs in District Competition

The middle school One-Act Play troupe performed "The Masque of Beauty and the Beast" in District competition on Saturday, Nov. 21. Kaitlyn Lehman was named to the All-Star Cast. Kristal DeVine and Kordell Baker were named to the Honorable Mention All-Star Cast.

Other cast members include Alexis Chapa, Yancey Draper, Devin McCleskey, Kayla Miller, Katharina Nickel, Lauren Raindl, Dane Rivas, and Nicole Taylor.

Crew members include McKenzie Dimak, Cort Fisher, and Abby Santos.

Beth Lecocq directed the play.

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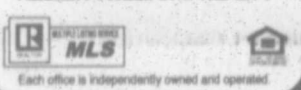
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PET TALK

Kennel Cough Can Be Tough On Dogs

If Rover sounds like he has a hairball stuck in his throat, it may be something he can't cough up as usual.

He may have kennel cough. It's a common canine ailment that is a type of bronchitis characterized by a harsh, hacking cough, says Dr. Alice Blue-McLendon, a veterinarian at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

"Kennel cough can be compared to a chest cold in humans and is generally not serious except in special cases," she says.

Kennel cough (also called bordetella) occurs when damage is done to the "mucociliary escalator," which is part of the respiratory tract and consists of tiny hair-like structures called "cilia" and the mucus that covers them. Debris and infectious agents get trapped in this sticky mucus and the cilia work to move the mucus up through the throat where it is generally coughed up or swallowed.

Kennel cough is a collection of infections that bind directly to the cilia, rendering them immobile within a few hours of infection and causing them to secrete substances that disable the immune cells that consume and destroy bacteria.

"Dogs are most often infected when confined with poor air circulation and lots of warm air that is sometimes found in boarding kennels, vaccination clinics, obedience classes, animal shelters or grooming parlors," Blue-McLendon adds.

The incubation period for kennel cough is 2 to 14 days and the disorder can be found in rab-

bits, guinea pigs, pigs and other dogs. It can be fairly contagious depending on stress level, vaccination status and exposure to minor viruses.

Very young kittens and puppies, especially those housed in pet stores, are often prone to severe cases of kennel cough that may progress into pneumonia, she notes.

"Most cases of kennel cough resolve themselves after time, but recovery can be hastened with antibiotics. Cough suppressants prescribed by your veterinarian can be used to provide comfort during recovery," says Blue-McLendon.

Bordetella vaccinations should be given if animals will be boarded, groomed, shown or housed with other dogs of unknown status on a frequent basis, she explains. Vaccination is not useful in a dog already incubating kennel cough.

Blue-McLendon says your veterinarian can vaccinate against kennel cough in two ways: by injection or through the nose (intranasal).

"An injectable vaccination is a good choice for an aggressive dog and it will provide good systemic immunity when two doses are given after the age of four months," she adds.

"However, this method may sometimes lead to a less severe infection and provide incomplete protection. An intranasal vaccination may be given as early as two weeks of age and it will provide immunity for 10 to 12 months with annual booster shots. The advantage of the intranasal vaccination is that an animal's immunity is stimulated at the nose, the site where natural infection would begin."

Before you start searching for hairballs, consult your veterinarian, Blue-McLendon says. Rover's problem might be resolved with a simple shot.

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Lesser Prairie Chicken expected to be added to Endangered Species list

Source: Texas Department of Agriculture
Texas High Plains farmers and ranchers may face an additional challenge beginning next year when it is expected that the Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC) will be added to the US Endangered Species list. The bird is native to the states of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. It is found in large, contiguous blocks of native rangeland, and is most common in shinnery oak and sand sagebrush habitats.

The range of the LPC has contracted over the past century due to threats such as cultivation of native rangeland, improper range management, and habitat fragmentation due to oil and gas development, and several other factors. The LPC is of special conservation concern for state and federal resource agencies as well as non-governmental organizations.

The Obama Administration has committed increased resources toward endangered species listing efforts. The LPC was petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act in the late 1990s and its numbers and occupied range were reduced significantly. It currently has the 2nd highest priority rating for listing (2 on a scale of 1-12).

All signs indicate the bird will be listed on the Endangered Species List in the next calendar year. While much larger in Texas several decades ago, the range of the LPC within the state is now limited to two small areas in the northeastern and southwestern portions of the Texas panhandle.

If the LPC is listed, landowners will face significant land use restrictions. Violations of the Endangered Species Act can end in large fines and even prison time.

Compounding this problem is the fact that the owners of land where the LPC populations reside in Texas are likely less familiar with Endangered Species Act and its effects because of limit exposure to the regulations. Additionally, there is mounting evidence that the growing wind-energy industry would face a severe slowing of growth. It is hypothesized that the LPC perceives tall structures to be a threat causing range to be significantly affected by the presence of wind turbines.

The best-case scenario is to prevent the LPC from being listed. This will require a concerted effort by private landowners. US Fish and Wildlife Services and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) have entered an agreement to provide a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) to landowners who take proactive action to preserve the LPC and its habitat. By undertaking voluntary conservation measures on their property under the new agreement, landowners will be assured that no further land use restrictions or conditions will be required from them if the lesser prairie chicken is ultimately listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Via the CCAA, TPWD can issue a one-page Certificate of Inclusion signed by a landowner who wishes to voluntarily commit to undertake certain conservation actions outlined in their TPWE-approved wildlife management plan. Such landowner actions would include measures such as brush control, grazing management, prescribed burning, and allowing periodic monitoring on their property.

Grants offered to young farmers

Texas Department of Agriculture now offers grants to young farmers interested in creating or expanding an agricultural operation in Texas.

Young Farmer Grant: a grant program to encourage individuals who are at least 18, but younger than 46, to start or expand their own agricultural business in Texas. The applicant must be able to make dollar-for-dollar matching expenditures. Individual grants may range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Agricultural Loan Guarantee: TAFE provides financial assistance through loan guarantees to eligible applicants who wish to establish or enhance their farm or ranch operation, or establish an agriculture-related business. The program provides guarantees based on a tiered structure, not to exceed \$750,000 or 70 percent of the loan amount, whichever is less.

Interest Rate Reduction: TAFE can facilitate commercial lending that may result in below-market interest rates. Any person who proposes to use the proceeds under this program in a manner that will help accomplish the goal of fostering the creation and expansion of an agricultural business in Texas is eligible.

Young Farmer Interest Rate Reduction: Even more beneficial than the standard interest rate reduction program, the Young Farmer Interest Rate Reduction program offers young farmers greater rate reductions through TAFE. The program is open to any person at least 18 years old, but younger than 46, and who proposes to use the proceeds to help accomplish the goal of fostering the creation and expansion of an agricultural business in Texas.

For more information, visit www.TexasAgriculture.gov and click on Grants/Funding.



Not on our watch ... Lady Bulldogs Gretchen Henley and Kalee Wuensche guard a couple of Lady Buffs in a win over Stanton last week, which put the Tahoka girls at 6-1 for the season. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

Rep. Joe Heflin supports NRA in U.S. Supreme Court case

State Representative Joe Heflin joined a large bipartisan group of state legislators and other elected officials from all 50 states in signing an *amicus curiae*, or "friend of the court" brief supporting the National Rifle Association's position that individual protections of the Second Amendment are incorporated to apply to the states through the Fourteenth Amendment. The *amicus* brief in which Rep. Heflin joined bears the signatures of 891 state legislators and other elected officials, including two governors and three lieutenant governors, and was filed with the U.S. Supreme Court today in the case of *McDonald v. City of Chicago*.

Rep. Heflin is a strong supporter of individual gun rights and has earned an "A" rating by the NRA. He explained, "I believe it is imperative that gun rights be preserved to the individual, and that those rights should not be impinged by state or local governments. I believe that was the intention of our Founding Fathers, and it is a position that I continue to support by joining in this filing today."

NRA chief lobbyist Chris W. Cox said, "We are pleased that such a large group of state legislators and other officials agree that our Second Amendment freedoms should apply to all Americans, not only those who reside in federal enclaves.

Gun owners across the country should be proud of the stand that their lawmakers are taking on this crucial effort to restore and protect the gun rights of law-abiding Americans everywhere."

The Supreme Court agreed to consider an appeal of the *McDonald* case from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in September. The appellate court held that prior Supreme Court precedent prevented it from holding in favor of incorporation of the Second Amendment, but the NRA believes the Seventh Circuit should have followed the lead of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' decision in *Nordyke v. King*, which found that Supreme Court precedent does not prevent the Second Amendment from applying to the states through the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. The Supreme Court is expected to hear the *McDonald* case in February 2010.

Rep. Heflin represents Texas House District 85, including Lynn County. He may be reached at Austin, 512.463.0604, at Crosbyton, 806.675.1583, or in Big Spring, at 432.213.2897.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
10:00AM-3:00PM

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