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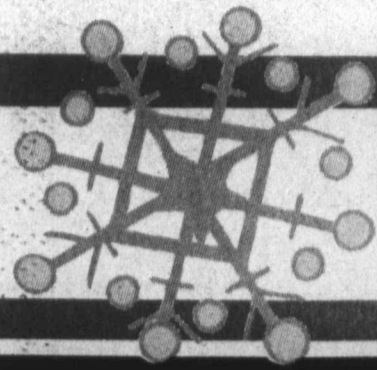
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THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2011 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 49

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011

8 PAGES PLUS INSERTS

50¢

What's Inside

- **Obituaries** - pg. 2
- Michael Sean Scoggin
- **Animal shelter needs blankets** - pg. 3
- **Co. Attorney files for re-election** - pg. 3
- **Wilson ISD gets \$2.5 million grant** - pg. 4
- **Rotary sponsors senior citizen project** - pg. 5

THE BIG BANG THEORY:

Have you heard the big booms occasionally during the past couple of weeks? Not to worry, according to the Sheriff's office those booms are from blasting at the large caliche pit northwest of Tahoka on E.L. Short's land. Plumes of white smoke from that direction can be seen immediately after the blasts are heard.

Lynn County Area BALE COUNT

(reported 12-6-11)

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union.....	34,948
New Home Coop, Lakeview.....	32,755
Wells Coop Gin.....	10,785
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell.....	\$9,920
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell.....	3,417
Grassland Coop Gin.....	\$2,918
Close City Gin, Post.....	931
TOTAL.....	95,674

* Final Bale Count

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov. 30	63	29	
Dec. 1	56	32	
Dec. 2	35	30	0.18"
Dec. 3	58	30	
Dec. 4	41	30	0.14" from 1" snow
Dec. 5	28	27	0.02" from 2" snow
Dec. 6	29	12	
Precipitation for Jan:			0.01"
Precipitation for Feb:			0.66"
Precipitation for Mar:			0.07"
Precipitation for Apr:			0.00"
Precipitation for May:			0.05"
Precipitation for June:			0.30"
Precipitation for July:			0.21"
Precipitation for Aug:			0.53"
Precipitation for Sept:			1.08"
Precipitation for Oct:			0.85"
Precipitation for Nov.:			0.25"
Precipitation for Dec.:			0.34"
Total Precip. for 2011:			4.52"

Lynn County News

P.O. Box 1170 • Tahoka, TX 79737
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LynnCoNews@poka.com

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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)

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays



Generous donors provide 500+ free smoke alarms for Tahoka

by JUANELL JONES

Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department, along with two generous donors who are funding the project, are giving away more than 500 smoke alarms to the Tahoka community, in a project dedicated to the memory of 8-year-old Laela Duran who was a victim of a house fire here. The smoke alarms are at Tahoka City Hall, available free to anyone who wants one for their home - and if someone is unable to install their alarms, they need merely to give their name and phone number to someone at City Hall and a member of the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. will come install it for them.

"The Duran family fully supports and blesses this effort to place smoke detectors in the homes in Tahoka, in honor and memory of Laela," her mother told a member of the Tahoka VFD. "We want to keep anyone else from experiencing the pain of our loss. This is a wonderful way to honor

contact you to make arrangements to come install it for you," he added.

The fire chief also encourages those who have smoke alarms to check the batteries in them, and replace them every year at a time that can be remembered, such as when daylight saving time ends. A smoke alarm with a dead or missing battery is useless. Most smoke alarms have a test button, which is an easy way to make sure the device is functioning, and should be tested monthly.

Also, if the smoke alarm in your home is more than 10 years old, even if the batteries have been faithfully replaced each year, the smoke alarm unit needs to be replaced. Any smoke alarm purchased before December 2001 should be replaced immediately, according to information from the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA).

To reinforce the fire safety education locally, the Tahoka VFD is planning to have a little help from



"The Duran family fully supports and blesses this effort to place smoke detectors in the homes in Tahoka, in honor and memory of Laela."
- SYLVIA DURAN

Free smoke alarms ...
Tahoka volunteer firefighter Vernon Baker (left) gives Mildred Hall two smoke alarms at City Hall Monday, which are available free for Tahoka citizens through a program sponsored by the Tahoka VFD, First National Bank and the Hegi family.

Laela's memory by preventing another tragedy," she added.

First National Bank of Tahoka has donated \$1,000 to the project, and the Hegi family has matched that with an additional \$1,000 contribution. The Tahoka VFD ordered the smoke alarms, which were available at City Hall as of last Wednesday. During the week since, nearly 250 smoke alarms have been given away, according to information from Tahoka Fire Chief Steve Sanders.

"We urge anyone in Tahoka who does not have a smoke alarm in their home to come by City Hall and get one," said Sanders. "If you are unable or unsure how to install your smoke alarm, please leave your name, address and phone number at City Hall and a member of our fire department will

church youth groups who are going to place a fire safety flyer on every homeowner's door in Tahoka that details what families can do to make their homes safe and provides tips on fire escape. The Lynn County Harvest Festival is contributing \$500 to this project for the cost of printing the fire
(SEE SMOKE ALARMS, PAGE 8)

Courthouse evacuated Wednesday morning after CO alarm sounds

A carbon monoxide (CO) alarm sounding in the basement area triggered an evacuation of the Lynn County Courthouse last Wednesday morning at approximately 10:45 a.m., but investigation by an Atmos representative detected no carbon monoxide present in the building when he arrived within an hour. Officials believe the CO detector may have been faulty, and sounded a false alarm in the boiler room of the basement area.

"When maintenance staff turned off the alarm and restarted it immediately, no alarm sounded again, but for safety reasons we had to evacuate and get someone in to test for carbon monoxide," County Judge H.G. Franklin told The News. "No carbon monoxide was detected, and we believe the CO alarm was probably defective," he added.

The courthouse was re-opened for employees and visitors at approximately 12:45 p.m.



Flipped ... This vehicle overturned Monday afternoon north of Tahoka on U.S. 87, one of seven accidents on that highway in Lynn County on a day when snow and ice covered the roads.

Seven U.S. 87 accidents reported on icy Monday

Seven traffic accidents were reported on U.S. 87 in Lynn County Monday, when snow and ice on the highway were factors. Several persons were injured, with Lynn County EMS ambulances called to five of the seven accidents.

Details of the accidents, with names of drivers and persons injured, were unavailable, as Dept. of Public Safety troopers, including some who were called in from other counties, could not be contacted Tuesday for information.

Most of the accidents appeared to involve single vehicles which skidded on the highway and overturned. Three of the accidents were on 87 south of Tahoka Monday morning, and four were north of Tahoka in the afternoon.

Also, there was at least one wreck during Tuesday night with an Aero Care helicopter called to the scene.

Doug Taylor, who lives north of Tahoka on FM 400, this week offered a reward of an unspecified amount, for information regarding theft of 10 head of cattle missing from Tahoka Lake Pasture since Nov. 22. The stolen animals include five cows, a heifer and four calves, branded NT. Anyone with information is asked to call 786-2869.

Tahoka Police this week arrested a 28-year-old Tahoka man on a warrant for revocation of his probation, and took a report of criminal mischief from a Tahoka woman, who named a suspect she said punched a hole in her living room wall.



One hurt in wreck ... The pickup above overturned south of Tahoka on U.S. 87 Monday morning, after snow covered the area. One of the two persons in the pickup reportedly was taken by ambulance to Lynn County Hospital for treatment of unspecified injuries.

woodwork by dalton



CHRISTMAS TIME'S A-COMING, just like the song by that name (written by a man from Big Spring who I know, and recorded by Emmy Lou Harris and others) says. All of a sudden, we're just 17 days away from Christmas, and Christmas movies are being repeated on many TV channels.

Many of those Christmas movies are very good, sentimental and inspiring, and a few are sort of dumb. And at least one, *Bad Santa*, is awful, and should be rated UVA (unfit for viewing by anybody).

I always enjoy some of the old favorites such as *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, and all the various modern versions of that one, most of the Hallmark Christmas movies, and *Miracle on 34th St.*, which I thought for years was about driving down a certain street in Lubbock without running over a manhole cover.

I thought it would be interesting to find out if there are any real people anywhere in the world with the last name of Scrooge. But neither Google nor Ask.Com, a couple of computer sources that usually know everything, would give me a yes or no answer. Instead I was pointed at something called Scrooge McDuck and about a zillion references to Dickens' classic.

If anyone knows of someone named Scrooge or even Cratchit, please let me know.

I did have a friend in Indiana who claimed to know a man whose last name was Christmas. And, according to my friend, this man actually had a daughter named Mary. I did not make this up.

Some say the real Santa Claus gives expensive things to people, whether they have been good or not, and lives in Washington, D.C. He is aided by his seven elves, Grumpy, Dopey, Harry, Barney, Nancy, Sneaky and Biden.

THE WISE GUY in Wilson says Christmas is the only time of the year you sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of your socks.

Happy Holidays

December Calendar

This week's events:

- 1-12 U Can Share 12 Cans of Christmas Food Drive**, donations at several locations
- 8 Christmas Concert**
TMS Band, 7 pm, auditorium
- 10 "Scouting For Food"** Boy Scout Food Drive, food on front porches by 10 am
- 10-11 Santa's Land open**
6:30-9 pm, S. 11th & Ave. O
- 11 Christmas Concert**
THS 3-D Band, 7 pm in high school auditorium
- 11 "The First Christmas"** play performance at Tahoka Trinity Church, 7 pm
- 13 Children's Christmas Story Time**, 10 am at City/County Library
- 15 Open House**, First National Bank Community Room, 11 am-3 pm, live music

Got an event open to the public?
Email us at LynnCoNews@poka.com

GOAL STILL 5,000 LBS:

'U Can Share' 12 Cans of Christmas food drive continues this week

The 'U Can Share' 12 Cans of Christmas Food Drive continues this week, during the first 12 days in December, with a goal of collecting 5,000 pounds of food by Dec. 12. As of Dec. 6, the halfway point, only 1,000 pounds of food has been collected, which is only a fifth of the goal.

"This year's goal is 5,000 pounds of food, which will all be shared locally between the Food Pantry based at the Tahoka Church of Christ and the Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center," says Elizabeth Tew, coordinator of the event.

"The local food pantry provides food for 100 families per month, and the Senior Citizens Center provides 40 nutritious meals every weekday for homebound senior citizens, as well as serving additional meals at the center. These services are worthy of our support, and I ask every citizen to contribute during our 12 Cans of Christmas Food Drive," added Tew.

U Can Share barrels are in several locations in the community including Thriftway Grocery, Tahoka ISD campuses, First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church. Canned or dried goods of any kind are welcome. At Thriftway, there are prepackaged \$5 sacks or \$10 sacks of canned/dried goods available for purchase, or of course individual canned goods are also welcome.

Other ways to contribute to the 12 Cans of Christmas food drive include the Boy Scouts "Scouting For Food" Drive and the City/County Library's annual "Food For Fines" food drive.

The Boy Scout food drive, originally set for Dec. 3, was postponed to Saturday, Dec. 10 because of anticipated bad weather last Saturday. To participate in the Boy Scouts event, local residents may place bags

of food on their front porches by 10 a.m. on Saturday (must be visible from the street). Scouts will check each street throughout town.

The City/County Library's "Food For Fines" project accepts canned goods to pay off library fines during the Dec. 1-12 food drive event. "For each item of food donated, \$1 will be subtracted from the total fine amount owed by a patron," says Library Director Claudia Guin.

Food collected through the Boy Scout and Library projects is contributed to the U Can Share 12 Cans For Christmas Food Drive.

Senior Citizens MENU

DECEMBER 12-16

Monday: Sweet & sour pork, fried rice, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit parfait

Tuesday: BBQ beef sandwich, tater tots, carrots & zucchini, ambrosia

Wednesday: Breaded chicken tenders, baked potato w/ sour cream, peas & carrots, strawberries with whipped topping

Thursday: Beef taco bake, Spanish rice, cauliflower, salad, country apple crisp

Friday: Wisconsin veal cutlet, cabbage & noodles, breadstick, peas, diet pumpkin custard

Reminders & Activities:

Holiday announcement:

The Lynn County Senior Citizens Center is hosting their annual Christmas Open House on Wednesday, December 21, beginning at 12:00 noon.

We will be serving finger foods, sweets and holiday punch. You are welcome to bring a favorite dish to share. Mr. & Mrs. Claus may be stopping by! Also, Maureen, courtesy of Calvert Home Health Care, Lubbock,



12 Cans of Christmas ... Students in Mrs. McCleskey's 5th grade class at Tahoka Elementary pose in the shape of a Christmas tree to remind area residents to give to the U-Can-Share 12 Cans of Christmas Food Drive. Pictured from top to bottom, left to right, are: Kaylyn Green, Bryson Resendez, Shalee Williams, Rosa Aleman, Madison Moya, Jamie Santibanez, Elissa Calzonciti, Aly Dotson, Elizabeth Rossiter, Dalton Chapman, Marvin Locke, and Miguel Granados. The Food Drive ends Dec. 12, with a goal of 5,000 pounds of food collected for local food pantry and senior citizens center. As of Tuesday, Dec. 6, only 1,000 pounds of food had been collected.

will be performing.

November & December birthdays will also be celebrated during open house. A quilt handmade by Lois Roberts will be raffled during open house. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Baby quilts are for sale as well at the Center.

Bingo will begin at 2:00 p.m. Lots of great prizes to be given away!

Everyone is invited to come celebrate the Holiday season with us.

• **Effective Dec. 1:** Our daily meals and monthly menus are provided to the Center by a registered dietician employed by DADS/SPAG.

• Gently used medical equipment available to lend out. Call 561-5264 for more information.

• Timeless Treasures cookbooks are still available! Pick one up for a Christmas or wedding gift at The Center, Lynn

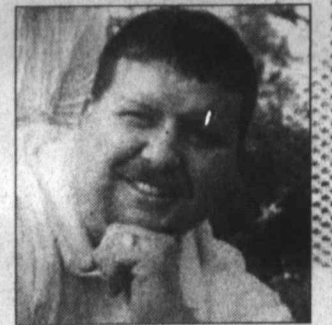
County News, City-County Library, Huffaker Law Office, & Virginia's Beauty Salon for \$12.

• The aluminum recycle bin is located at the old Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber yard at 1714 Ave. H. All can donations

belong to the Center. Please tie your bags.

• **Feed Our Community lunch tickets ...** A suggested donation of \$35 for a 10-day ticket for persons age 60 or over. Tickets for individuals under age 60 is a suggested donation of \$50.

Obituaries



Michael Sean Scoggin

Funeral services for Michael Sean Scoggin, 34, of Irving, formerly of Lubbock, were held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 3, 2011, at the South Campus of Indiana Baptist Church with Chris Hurt officiating. Burial was at the City of Lubbock Cemetery. He died on November 27, 2011.

He was born June 3, 1977 in Lubbock. He married, Michelle Renee (Quisenberry) Scoggin on May 29, 1999 in Tahoka.

Survivors include his wife Michelle; son, Ryan Scoggin; daughters, Kirsten and Katie Scoggin; mother, Sharron Scoggin; mother-in-law, Gail Quisenberry, of Brownfield; father-in-law, Mike Quisenberry of Tahoka; brother, Peter Scoggin; sister, Melissa Funk; and father, Ralph and Janice Langley, of Plainview.

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Tahoka Church Christmas

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HIPPA law healthcare
By Jim Mo


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We would like to invite all our friends and customers to our *Christmas Open House*

Thursday, December 15th
from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. in our Community Room.

The Belles of the Bank will serve refreshments and there will be live musical entertainment starting at 12:30 p.m. (to about 3 p.m.) by Dalton Wood, Marv Gregory, Zane Curry, Scott McLaughlin and Alton Kenney.



First National Bank of Tahoka

1601 South 1st St., Tahoka ♦ 806 / 561-4511 ♦ Member FDIC.
www.fnbhtahoka.com ♦ 24-Hr. Bank by Phone: 1-855-232-8603 (toll free)



Donation for children ... Susan Tipton and Bill Schoemann (center) accept a \$1500 donation from Tahoka Rotary Club President Rebekah Filley (second from right) for the Lynn County Child Welfare Board. Funds were provided for the donation through a contribution to Rotary Club by John Powell. Also pictured are other Rotary Club members Ray Box and Donnis Scott (at left), and Haney Wells (far right). (LCN PHOTO)


Christmas greetings donation benefits local students

The public is invited to participate in the annual Phebe K. Warner Club Community Christmas Greeting, the club's annual scholarship fundraiser. Contributors have until Dec. 16th to make their donations. Contributors' names will be printed in the Dec. 21 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 to be given to local graduating Lynn County Seniors. 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.



DONATIONS
to the Lynn County Hospital District EMS are greatly appreciated.
LCRD EMS, Box 1310, Tahoka, Tx

This holiday season ...

Lynn County Senior Citizens Center

invites the community ...
- individuals and businesses -
to decorate the *Sr. Citizens Christmas Tree*
... by donating to the Center
(In Honor, In Memoriam or a Family name)

- \$100 donation ... a Gold Christmas Ornament
- \$50 donation ... a Silver Christmas Ornament
- \$25 donation ... choice of Purple, Blue or Red ornament

STOP IN AT THE CENTER, CALL 561-5264 OR MAIL IN YOUR DONATIONS TO P.O. BOX 223, TAHOKA, TX

State Funding has NOT come in since October ...
ALL DONATIONS will help to continue our on-site and home-delivery meal programs in Lynn County.

The Lynn County News

Tahoka, Texas 79373

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS (usps 323200) is published weekly by Lynn County News, Inc. on Thursday (52 issues per year) at Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas. Office location is 1617 Main, Tahoka. Phone (806) 561-4888. Periodical postage paid at Tahoka, Texas 79373. Postmaster: Send address change to The News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373.

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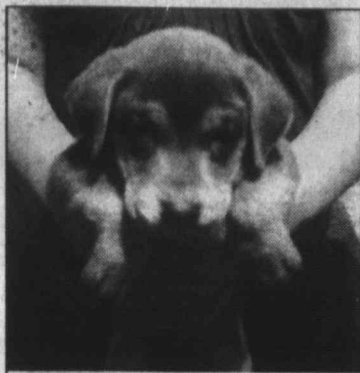
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Lucky to be alive
 ... This puppy is lucky to be alive, after he was found in a pet cage left outside the Lynn County Animal Shelter when workers arrived Monday morning. Director Abbey Redman said the puppy was wet and shaking in the extreme cold, and she was not sure if he was left the night before or early in the morning, but temperatures dropped down into the teens Sunday night. He is currently in a pet foster home, and is available for adoption for someone who wants to give him a better life.
 (LCN PHOTO)

Tahoka Trinity Church to present Christmas play

The Tahoka Trinity Church, located at 1925 Lockwood, Tahoka, invites the community to come as guests for the presentation of the play "The First Christmas".

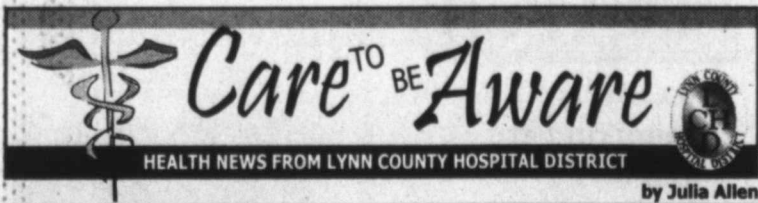
The play will be held on December 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Tahoka Middle School band Christmas Program is today

The Tahoka Middle School band will present their annual Christmas program tonight (Thursday, December 8), at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. This free concert will commence with the Sixth Grade Concert Band who will share what they have learned this first semester of learning a band instrument. They will conclude their part with "Jolly Jingle Holiday."

The Symphonic Band, composed of 7th and 8th graders, will then share their musical offering featuring "Deck the Halls," "Twisted Night Before Christmas," and "Banana Split."

The programs should be through by 7:30 p.m. All are invited to come and catch the Christmas spirit.



HIPAA laws confine healthcare discussions
 By Jim Morris

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, otherwise known as HIPAA, has been around for a number of years now and has changed the way we do things in the healthcare world. Information of all kinds must now be carefully guarded and protected and behavior has been altered in order to remain compliant with the rules and regulations.

One thing to remember about HIPAA is that it is NOT GOING AWAY! Changes in human behavior have been particularly difficult, especially in smaller communities. Everyone knows everyone and casual conversation can often lead to people feeling comfortable in asking about a person's medical condition or in pursuing a healthcare professional's opinion about some aspect of their health. Of course, if this is done in the clinic or hospital setting and the healthcare professional is your care provider, then it's not a problem.

Unfortunately, with cell phones, smart phones, text messaging and electronic social media becoming an ever-increasing part of our lives; it also has become easier to find one-

Animal shelter needs extra blankets during cold temps

Lynn County Animal Shelter is in need of extra blankets for the extreme cold temperatures, if citizens would like to contribute to the cause.

"We can use your old blankets if you no longer need them, and we can cut the larger sizes down to a more usable size to

Redman also asks that animals not be dropped off at the shelter without contacting them at 561-4056 during business hours, or calling the Sheriff's Office at 561-4505 after business hours.

"Please don't leave an animal here without contacting

Please don't just leave an animal out in the cold, call us or the Sheriff's Office (561-4505) after business hours.

— ABBEY REDMAN

help keep our dogs warm," says Abbey Redman, Animal Control Director.

Bring blankets to the animal shelter at South 2nd and Ave. H, or call them at 561-4056 to arrange to have them picked up. The shelter can also accept monetary donations to purchase needed items.

someone, especially during these really cold days," said Redman. "Someone left a puppy outside the shelter in a pet cage that we discovered upon arrival Monday morning and it was wet and shaking from the cold. Please, notify someone if you need to leave an animal at the shelter."

Co. Attorney files for re-election

Lynn County Attorney Donnis Scott filed this week for another term of office, filing on the Republican ticket for the March Primary election. Other than Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin (D) who filed for re-election last week, no other candidates have filed to date for local offices.

The filing period continues through Dec. 15.

Local county offices on the ballot in the March Primary elections include the positions of Sheriff, County Attorney, Tax Assessor/Collector, and Commissioners for Precincts 1 and 3, as well as the unexpired term for County Treasurer. Filing fee is \$750, and candidates must file with the county party chairman.

Tahoka 3-D Band in concert December 11

This coming Monday, December 11, the award-winning Tahoka 3-D Band will present its annual free Christmas concert at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Starting the program will be the high school choir, which will share songs guaranteed to get everyone in the Christmas spirit.

Following their short presentation will be the 3-D Band with their presentation of "Holiday Fantasic," "Christmas Adoration," "Jingle Bell Rhapsody," and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas Concert Medley."



Rotary gift to library ... Claudia Guin (second from right) accepts a check for the City/County Library from Tahoka Rotary Club members John Krey, Rebekah Filley and, far right, Ray Box. The gift of \$1,000 was provided through a contribution to Rotary Club by John Powell, a former Tahokan, who gives annually for programs that benefit children in the county.
 (LCN PHOTO)

A Message of Thanks

"DO NOT FEAR, FOR I HAVE REDEEMED YOU; I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME, YOU ARE MINE. WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE WATERS, I WILL BE WITH YOU; AND THROUGH THE RIVERS, THEY SHALL NOT OVERWHELM YOU; WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH FIRE YOU SHALL NOT BE BURNED, AND THE FLAME SHALL NOT CONSUME YOU. FOR I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD, THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL, YOUR SAVIOR."

(ISAIAH 43:1B-3A)

There are no words to express the loss of our Laela Marie Duran.

She has become an amazing angel that will forever be in our hearts.

The beautiful smile that she always carried reminds us that she and God are leading us through the days ahead and allowing us to bring our hearts to peace.

As we are facing the most challenging times yet, we are leaning into the love that has been shown to our family. We are so grateful for the gracious contributions and compassion of many individuals that have stepped forward and surrounded us with love. The compassion of strangers is the most amazing, not only because of its soulfulness, but also because our Gracious Savior is guiding you. God has allowed Laela to show us His beauty through the most tragic of times...

Grace is granted, for we are not alone, for we have seen the light that guides us all.



THIS THANK YOU IS EXTENDED OUT TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR ALL OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS:

- | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Tahoka Fire Dept. & EMS
Church of Christ
First Baptist Church of Tahoka
First United Methodist Church
Industrial Design Construction
St. Jude Catholic Church
Bautista Getsemane Church
Crestview Baptist Church in Lamesa
The New Testament Baptist Church of Lubbock
New Home Methodist Church (Rev. Bob Powell)
Tahoka Independent School District (Mr. Burleson & Staff)
Lyntegar Electric Coop.
Plains High School and Community
*Our friends & Family at the Lubbock State Supported Living Center
Covenant Medical West4 Rehab Center (Rosa DeLeon & Paula Casarez)
Faith Chapel EMC
Farmers Co-op Gin
First United Bank of Lubbock
First National Bank of Tahoka
First Bank & Trust Family & Friends
City of Tahoka
Boy Scouts (Tahoka)
Plains All American
Douglas G. Barham Foundation
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Cody Southern
Alicia Moore
Pam Sims |
|--|--|---|---|--|

... And to all the individuals who have decided to remain anonymous, we thank you as well.

Sincerely:

Luis, Sylvia, Charlie & Mikey Duran

- | | |
|---|--|
| Mike, Sara & Jill DeLeon
Tino & Rosa DeLeon & Family
Elaine & Richard Lopez & Family
Yolanda & John Alvarado & Family
Michael & Vanessa DeLeon
Felipe & Yeronica DeLeon & Family
Diana & Mike Lara & Family | Danny & Minerva DeLeon & Family
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Habiel & Delia DeLeon & Family
Joey & Grabiella Munoz
Jenny & Ronny Hernandez
Jessie & Brenda Duran
Cindy & Gilbert Cantu & Family |
|---|--|

NO WORDS CAN EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE THAT WE HAVE FOR EVERY PERSON THAT HAS CONTRIBUTED. THANK YOU FOR ALL THE LOVE AND SUPPORT THAT HAS BEEN SHOWN TO OUR FAMILY - WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE THAT WE FEEL. YOU HAVE ALL BEEN GOD SENT.



Snowy day ... Snow blanketed the Tahoka area Monday morning as a cold front lowered temperatures into the low teens at night, with daytime temps only in the 20s on Monday and Tuesday. Pictured here is the Lynn County Courthouse, with flocks of sandhill cranes just visible flying overhead in the background. (LCN PHOTO)

TAHOKA SCHOOL NEWS

by THS Journalism Students

Varsity Boys Basketball

By: Coy Mercer

The Tahoka Varsity Boys Basketball team played Slaton on Nov. 18. They lost to the Tigers 44-38.

Keyshawn Liggins was the high scorer of the game with 12 points. Preston Hammonds had a total of 10 points and Tyler Rossiter had 9 points.

The Tahoka Bulldog Varsity Boys played Roosevelt on Nov. 29. Tahoka won 70-35. The high scorers of the game were Ke'shawn Hood with 17 points, and Liggins with 16 points. The Tahoka Varsity Boys Basketball team played in the Denver City Tournament on Dec. 1-3. Tahoka ended up winning the Guarantee game therefore getting 7th place.

On Dec. 1, Tahoka played Brownfield and fell 67-50. Rossiter had the most points with 18 points. Liggins was right behind Rossiter with 11 points.

On Dec. 2 Tahoka played Lovington, losing 69-55. Liggins was high point with 24 points. Rossiter had 14 points.

They won their final game against Seagraves in overtime, 59-57.

JV Boys Play on the Road

By: Dane Rivas

The Tahoka JV Boys played the Slaton Tigers on Nov. 18. They lost 83-37. The top scores were Roman Parmer with 10 points, and Colton Taylor and Dane Rivas both scored 7 points.

On Nov. 22, the Tahoka JV Boys played the Littlefield Wildcats. The Bulldogs lost 42-33. JV Boys played the Roosevelt Eagles on Nov. 28. The Bulldog lost 47-32.

Lady Bulldogs Ruff up the Roughnecks

By: Maci Dimak

The 8th grade's lady bulldogs beat Sundown 31-13 on Nov. 21.

Maci Dimak was the top scorer with 12 points. Clarissa Lopez and Taylor Morin each had 6 points. Hannah Hammonds added 3 points, and Kelsi Hilger and Adriana Salinas each added 2 points.

8th Grade Boys Basketball

By: Nathaniel Locke

The 8th grade boys basketball team lost to Smyer 20-18 on Nov. 14. Carlos Morales scored a total of 6 points. Grant Garvin, Hadley Reynolds, and Trace Cook each scored 4 points.

The team travelled to Sundown and lost 26-11 on Nov. 21. Morales led again with 6. Nick Garcia scored 4 points. Hadley Reynolds added a free-throw.

The team played their first game, and lost to Morton 36-21. Morales was top point with 7. Garcia added 5. Jared Green added 4 points. Curry Lehman and Reynolds scored 2 each. Cook added a free throw.

Middle School teams will play Seagraves Monday, Dec. 12.

7th Boys Basketball play Sundown

By: Nick Garcia

The seventh grade boys lost to Sundown 38-17 on Nov. 21. Isaac Arriazola led scoring with 6 points. Grant Tekell made a total of 5 points. Brit Lockaby made a total of 4 points. Christian Aleman made a total of 2 points.

7th Grade girls on a Winning Streak

By: Miranda DeLeon

Tahoka 7th grade girls won Nov. 21 against the Lady Roughnecks. They won 32-29. Scoring the most points was Chelsea Hunter with 18 points. Sabrina Rossiter added on with 7 points, then Mickie Lopez with 4, and Olivia Hammonds adding 2. Lady Bulldogs smashed the Morton Indians Nov. 28, 30-24. Top scorer was Chelsea Hunter once again scoring 17 points with Mickie Lopez following with 7, then Sabrina Rossiter with 4, and Bayle Jolly adding 2.

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We greatly appreciate all the interest you have shown in the effort to preserve and protect this unique piece of God's creation. Some of the ways you can continue to help would be to donate wild bird seed and food for wild mammals all who have suffered as we have from our unprecedented drought. Your gifts to Tahoka Lake Pasture or the J.C. Calm Foundation are tax deductible. We wish you a Joyful Christmas and a Prosperous 2012!

Wilson ISD gets \$2.5 million grant for technology/instructional funds

Wilson Independent School District was one of 47 campuses/school districts in Texas to receive the Texas Title I Priority Schools Grant, Cycle 2 (TTIPS) grant. This grant will provide WISD with at least \$2.5 million over the next two year with a possible extension for a third year at an additional \$1 million to improve the system of instruction for all students.

"This grant will allow a major restructuring of the ways that students are taught at Wilson ISD. The major change will be for all students at all grade levels to have 1-to-1 access to computing. In other words, all students at WISD will have laptop computers or age appropriate technology to enhance their learning," said WISD Supt. John Horak.

"The Internet backbone at WISD is being upgraded to expand the bandwidth and wireless connections so that in every classroom every student and teacher can use online extensions to their instruction. The grant will also allow several needed staff positions to be created that will support our

students and their families in becoming lifelong learners," he said.

WISD is working with Lubbock-Cooper ISD and the Llano Estacado Rural Communities Foundation to writing this and other grant proposals. This association has already gained WISD a Math Staff Development grant and access to ongoing grant writing efforts.

"WISD is currently in negotiations with TEA (Texas Education Agency) and when they are completed we will provide further information on the exact items that this TTIPS grant will provide and an invitation to the TTIPS Kick Off where every student will receive their computer and the community will be introduced at our TTIPS Mustang Pride Program for the 21st Century," said the superintendent.

Adopt a Pet!

Check with the Lynn County Animal Shelter about adoptable pets.

Lynn County Animal Shelter
806-561-4056



Stingers raising funds ... The "Stingers" Youth Girls Basketball team will be having a Bake Sale at Thriftway on Sunday, Dec. 11, beginning at 9:30 a.m., to raise money to purchase new basketball jerseys. Team members are Michalia Lopez, Natalie Stice, Haley Stephens, Rosa Aleman, Kendra DeLeon, Wendy Aleman, Yulissa Villegas and Aly Dotson. The Stingers will participate in the Jingle Jam Youth Basketball Tournament in Lubbock on Dec. 17. The Stingers are coached by Tony Rodriguez and Michael Deleon.

Local Senior Citizens Center seeks donations

Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center is in need of funds, according to Director Bianca Baker, who said this week that the center is having some trouble making ends meet financially until the first of the year. Any donations to the center will be welcomed and appreciated, she said.

"Due to the extreme heat and now the cold temperatures, we did not anticipate nearly enough for heating and cooling costs this year, and costs have also skyrocketed for fuel and food," said Baker. "Also, donations have decreased significantly throughout the year, although we did do very well at the Harvest Festival booth," she added.

Baker says it takes approximately \$7,500 to \$9,000 per month to operate the center, depending on varying factors.

"In October, we delivered 651 meals in our homebound program - and that doesn't even count the number of meals served at the center itself," said Baker. "Many of our homebound are living on fixed incomes and are unable to contribute for the costs of these meals," she added.

She expects the center's finances will get a boost in January from the county's annual

contribution, and again in February when she expects a large check from the state.

But, until the end of this year, she says the center could use a boost from voluntary donations.

Tahoka ISD SCHOOL MENU

DECEMBER 12-16

BREAKFAST

Monday: Sausage biscuit
Tuesday: French toast
Wednesday: Blueberry muffin
Thursday: Breakfast muffin
Friday: Pizza bagels

LUNCH

Monday: Hamburgers, trimmings, tater tots, baby carrot dippers, crispy cereal treat
Tuesday: Cheese enchiladas, refried beans, salad, cinnamon apples
Wednesday: Steak fingers, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, roll, frozen cherry bar
Thursday: Pizza, salad, orange smiles, gingerbread
Friday: Hot dogs, baked potato chips, baby carrots, apple & orange, sherbet cup

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Tahoka Rotary Club sponsors Christmas senior citizen project



Doing our part ... Local teens are doing their part in a project sponsored by Tahoka Rotary Club benefitting Tahoka senior citizens, pictured here bringing items collected by the Tahoka High School National Honor Society organization. NHS members here include Braidon Fisher, Hannah Thomas, Zach Garcia and Logan Tekell. The program will provide "necessity" gift bags to underprivileged senior citizens. The Lucky Leaf 4-H youth in New Home also participated in the project, bringing 40 bags of items for the Rotary Club to distribute. (LCN PHOTO)

Tahoka Rotary Club has begun a new Christmas "Senior Santa" project to reach out to Tahoka senior citizens in need, collecting personal "necessity" item gift bags to help senior citizens who may be having a difficult time making ends meet this holiday season.

"In our community, some senior citizens are having a difficult time making ends meet," says Retha Pittman, co-chairman of the Senior Santa Project Committee, along with Amy Preston. "They may be receiving assistance from the South Plains Food Bank for food, however, personal items are not a part of the SPFB distribution."

This Christmas, Tahoka Rotary Club members will deliver "necessity" gift bags to underprivileged senior citizens. These bags will consist of personal items that may be costly when living on a limited income.

"We hope that in addition to addressing a need, this gift will be emotionally encouraging as well," said Preston.

Area youth have also volunteered to participate in the program. The Tahoka High School National Honor Society organization collected and contributed items for the Senior Santa project, and in New Home, Jett Ballard coordinated the project with the Lucky Leaf 4-H program collecting items for the cause.

A list of individuals who may benefit from the Senior Santa program is being compiled with information from the Lynn County Senior Citizens

Director and from local pastors. The gift bags are being compiled at Tahoka City Hall.

For more information on the Senior Santa project, contact Retha Pittman at City Hall, 561-4211.

Christmas dinner for single adults offered at FUMC

Along this Christmas? First United Methodist Church of Tahoka invites all adults who will be alone this Christmas to a Christmas Day Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 25 at 12:00 noon at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

The meat will be provided and guests are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

For more information contact the church office at 561-4503.

Three critical points to remember before signing an oil/gas lease

By William Fisher, Citizens Shale Advisors

Knowing what you're signing, protecting your land and water, and making sure you get the most money possible are the most critical points to remember before signing an oil and gas lease. If an oil and gas company wants to drill on your land, they will send you a "standard short lease". This two-page contract is written by the oil and gas company and favors them, but it is negotiable. A proper lease that protects your land and interests is 15-20 pages.

If you sign the standard lease, without any changes, you will not have any provisions that protect your land and resources or money from things that can and might go wrong. Usually, there is nothing in a short form lease to protect benefit land owners.

Make sure you're getting the largest percent of the profit possible by requesting your royalties come after the oil or gas is sold or marketed. Remember

— once you sign a lease, it is forever.

The upfront bonus money tends to get people excited. Don't rush to a decision based just on the bonus. There are people that can assist you, and will not charge you money up front. Make sure the advisor you select has expertise in specific areas such as gas and oil marketing, geology, cementing and pipelines, and the entire dollar value stream of the oil company. Talk to an expert before you sign a lease so you can protect your land and maximize your financial rewards.

About the author: William Fisher is president of Citizens Shale Advisors. Find out more at www.citizensshaleadvisors.com or call 817.887.8044.

Donations to the
Lynn County Pioneers
benefit our local
Senior Citizens Center
— CALL 561-5264 —

Terrible News: Texas drought could last until 2020, predicts A&M climatologist

Texas' historic and lingering drought has already worn out its welcome, but it could easily stay around for years and there is a chance it might last another five years or even until 2020, says a Texas A&M University weather expert.

John Nielsen-Gammon, who serves as Texas State Climatologist and professor of atmospheric sciences at Texas A&M, says the culprit is the likely establishment of a new La Niña in the central Pacific Ocean. A La Niña is formed when colder than usual ocean temperatures form in the central Pacific, and these tend to create wetter than normal conditions in the Pacific Northwest, but also drier than normal conditions in the Southwest. A La Niña has been blamed for starting the current drought but the new one, which began developing several weeks ago, is likely to extend drought conditions for Texas and much of the Southwest.

Currently, about 95 percent of Texas is in either a severe or exceptional drought status and the past year has been the worst one-year drought in the state's history, Nielsen-Gammon adds. "This is looking more and more like a multi-year drought," explains the Texas A&M professor.

Many parts of Texas are from 10 to 20 inches behind in rainfall.

"We know that Texas has experienced droughts that lasted several years," adds Nielsen-Gammon. "Many residents remember the drought of the 1950s, and tree ring records show that drought conditions occasionally last for a decade or even longer. I'm concerned because the same ocean conditions that seem to have contributed to the 1950s drought have been back for several years now and may last another five to 15 years."

The drought has devastated

farmers and ranchers, and officials have estimated agriculture losses at more than \$5.2 billion. This summer, hundreds of wildfires erupted in Texas and burned more than 127,000 acres, the most ever, and lake levels are down as much as 50 feet in some lakes while several West Texas lakes have completely dried up.

Numerous Texas cities set heat records this summer, such as Wichita Falls, which recorded 100 days of 100-degree heat, the most ever for that city. Dallas also set a record with 70 days of 100-degree heat, and the city had to close down 25 sports fields because large cracks in the ground were deemed unsafe for athletic competition.

"Our best chance to weaken the drought would have been a tropical system coming in from the gulf, but that never happened," Nielsen-Gammon reports.

"Because Texas needs substantially above-normal rain to recover, and it's not likely to get it, I expect that most of the state will still be in major drought through next summer."



Harvest Festival donation ... Lynn County Harvest Festival Committee members Susan Tipton (left) and Rebekah Filley (right) present a check for \$1000 to Janet Porterfield for the Lynn County Christmas For Kids program. The funds will be used to help purchase gifts for 250 children in the program. "We had the last signup period last week, and in those two hours we went from 75 kids to 250 kids in the program, so appreciate all the help we can get to help provide gifts for these families," said Porterfield. (LCN PHOTO)

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The local businessperson pays the highest percentage of local taxes. Every time a business goes under, local taxes will go up in order to have the same tax base. That means homeowners and remaining businesses will inevitably pay more in taxes. So please, **think before you shop out of town** -- if prices seem cheaper elsewhere, are they really going to be cheaper in the long run? What will happen when you can no longer buy what you need in our town and there are no businesses left?

And all local businesses especially appreciate it when our taxing entities -- our school, county, hospital and city -- spend the taxes they collect from us in our own town and county.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

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Open Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:30

New Home ISD School News

On Thursday, November 29 the New Home Leopards defeated Dawson, 56-48. Zach Paul and Zach West both put up 19 points for the boys. The Lady Leopards beat Dawson, 58-33. Haley Lehman led the scoring with 22 points along with Clarissa Elizondo's 14 points.

The New Home Leopards defeated Christ the King on Thursday, December 1 to begin the New Home Classic Tournament. The score was 80-53. Zach Paul dropped 24 points and Zach West banged in 28 points for the boys. On Friday, the Leopards won against Loop, 67-51. Zach West put up big points for the boys with 30 points. On Friday, the boys fell short against O'Donnell, 34-38. Zach West had 15 points. Senior, Zach West and junior, Zach Paul were named All Tournament Team for the Leopards.

The Lady Leopards and Leopards will play at Loop on Friday, December 9.

The Lady Leopards of New Home defeated Dawson on Tuesday, November 29.

The Lady Leopards claimed the Championship trophy in the New Home Classic Tournament. They played Springlake Earth to begin the first round in the tournament on Thursday, December 1. They won with a score 54-30. Clarissa Elizondo scored 14 and Naomi Nevarez put up 13 points for the ladies. On Friday the ladies defeated Loraine, 64-38. Clarissa Elizondo banged in 17 and Merritt Mitchell scored 13. The Lady Leopards came up with a win over Dawson for the Championship on Saturday. The score was 41-29. Naomi Nevarez led the way with 13 and Merritt Mitchell put up 10 points for the ladies. Sophomore, Merritt Mitchell, junior, Katlin Thompson, and senior, Clarissa Elizondo were named All Tournament Team. The ladies will play at Loop on December 13.

The New Home Jr. High girls fell to Lorenzo on Monday, December 5, 9-22. The Jr. High boys defeated Lorenzo, 32-22. Kade Sherwood led the Leopards with 11 points. The Jr High will play at Wilson on Monday, December 12.

New Home ISD SCHOOL MENU

DECEMBER 12-16

BREAKFAST

Monday: Pancakes
Tuesday: Tortilla omelette
Wednesday: Donuts
Thursday: Biscuit sausage
Friday: Muffins

LUNCH

Monday: BBQ on bun, baked potato, pineapple-cherry delight
Tuesday: Chicken alfredo, green beans, roll, peaches, brownie
Wednesday: Fish strips, mac & cheese, salad, fruit
Thursday: Beef & bean burrito, Spanish rice, corn, apple
Friday: Hamburger, tater tots, baby carrots, crispy cereal treat

Show your colors!

FLY THE AMERICAN FLAG
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Tournament champions ... The New Home Lady Leopards won the Championship trophy in the New Home Classic Tournament last weekend. Team members include, standing from left, Quincy Decker, Naomi Nevarez, Clarissa Elizondo, Audra Bruton, Haley Lehman, and kneeling from left, Coach Shane Moore, Merritt Mitchell, Katlin Thompson, Ashleigh Holley, Linzee Gibbons, Maranda Hymes and Coach Sha Moore.

FUN FACTS ABOUT TEXAS

from www.50states.com

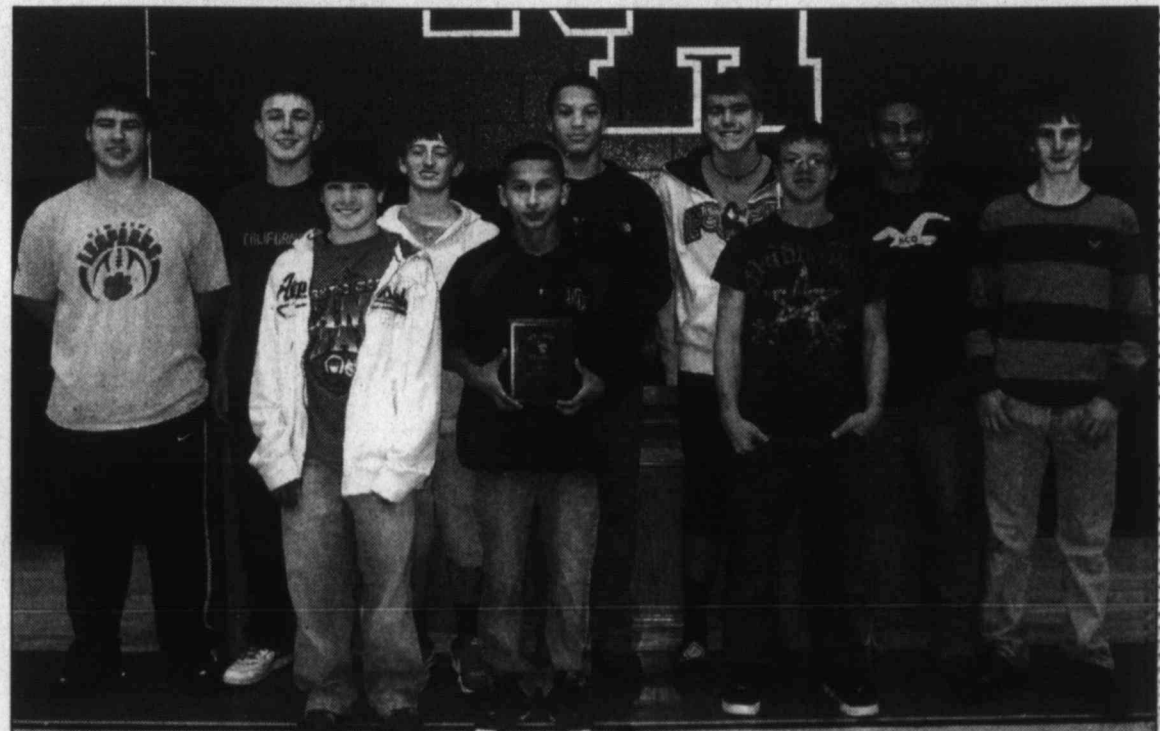
Although six flags have flown over Texas, there have been eight changes of government: Spanish 1519-1685, French 1685-1690, Spanish 1690-1821, Mexican 1821-1836, Republic of Texas 1836-1845, United States 1845-1861, Confederate States 1861-1865, United States 1865-present

Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.

The worst natural disaster in United States history was caused by a hurricane that hit Galveston in 1900. Over 8000 deaths were recorded.

*** Texas' largest county is Brewster with 6,208 square miles. ***

*** Texas possesses three of the top ten most populous cities in the United States. These towns are Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio. ***



Leopards are runners-up ... The New Home Leopards defeated Christ The King (80-53) and Loop (67-51) before falling to O'Donnell (38-34) in the New Home Classic Tournament last weekend. Team members include, from left, Chris Alaniz, Zach Jackson, Zach West, Zach Paul, Zach English, Josh Paul, DJ Ussery, Blaine Watts, Mariano Torres and Bradley Walden.

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Call 561-4888
by NOON Tuesday

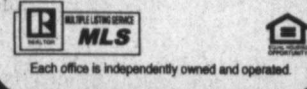
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(INCUMBENT)

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(CANDIDATE)

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Lynn County Sheriff
JERRY D. FRANKLIN
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Brick home, large corner lot near school. 3 Bedroom/2 bath/ 2 car garage. Water well, sprinkler system, storage, cellar and hard wood floors.
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I have over 400 other used vehicles in inventory. You can also beat the Tax Man buy purchasing a brand new Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, or Jeep and write off the purchase price of a new vehicle. We have HUGE rebates and incentives on all remaining 2011's but you better hurry, the 2011's are going fast!!!!!! You can contact me, KRIS HARMON, on my cell at 806-548-4909 or by text at the same number. I can also be reached via email at kharmon@achevy.com 49-4tp

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New Home ISD School News

On Thursday, November 29 the New Home Leopards defeated Dawson, 56-48. Zach Paul and Zach West both put up 19 points for the boys. The Lady Leopards beat Dawson, 58-33. Haley Lehman led the scoring with 22 points along with Clarissa Elizondo's 14 points.

The New Home Leopards defeated Christ the King on Thursday, December 1 to begin the New Home Classic Tournament. The score was 80-53. Zach Paul dropped 24 points and Zach West banged in 28 points for the boys. On Friday, the Leopards won against Loop, 67-51. Zach West put up big points for the boys with 30 points. On Friday, the boys fell short against O'Donnell, 34-38. Zach West had 15 points. Senior, Zach West and junior, Zach Paul were named All Tournament Team for the Leopards.

The Lady Leopards and Leopards will play at Loop on Friday, December 9.

The Lady Leopards of New Home defeated Dawson on Tuesday, November 29.

The Lady Leopards claimed the Championship trophy in the New Home Classic Tournament. They played Springlake Earth to begin the first round in the tournament on Thursday, December 1. They won with a score 54-30. Clarissa Elizondo scored 14 and Naomi Nevarez put up 13 points for the ladies. On Friday the ladies defeated Loraine, 64-38. Clarissa Elizondo banged in 17 and Merritt Mitchell scored 13. The Lady Leopards came up with a win over Dawson for the Championship on Saturday. The score was 41-29. Naomi Nevarez led the way with 13 and Merritt Mitchell put up 10 points for the ladies. Sophomore, Merritt Mitchell, junior, Katlin Thompson, and senior, Clarissa Elizondo were named All Tournament Team. The ladies will play at Loop on December 13.

The New Home Jr. High girls fell to Lorenzo on Monday, December 5, 9-22. The Jr. High boys defeated Lorenzo, 32-22. Kade Sherwood led the Leopards with 11 points. The Jr High will play at Wilson on Monday, December 12.

New Home ISD SCHOOL MENU

DECEMBER 12-16

BREAKFAST

Monday: Pancakes
Tuesday: Tortilla omelette
Wednesday: Donuts
Thursday: Biscuit sausage
Friday: Muffins

LUNCH

Monday: BBQ on bun, baked potato, pineapple-cherry delight
Tuesday: Chicken alfredo, green beans, roll, peaches, brownie
Wednesday: Fish strips, mac & cheese, salad, fruit
Thursday: Beef & bean burrito, Spanish rice, corn, apple
Friday: Hamburger, tater tots, baby carrots, crispy cereal treat

Show your colors!

FLY THE AMERICAN FLAG
TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
FOR OUR NATION.

SPECIALS OF THE WEEK
10-Oz. Rib-eye Steak Dinner
\$8.25 with cornbread

CARDI'S CAFE

Catfish Dinner
\$5.50 with cornbread

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2415 W. Hwy. 87 Access Rd • Tahoka
(806) 561-1490 or (806) 561-1491



Tournament champions ... The New Home Lady Leopards won the Championship trophy in the New Home Classic Tournament last weekend. Team members include, standing from left, Quincy Decker, Naomi Nevarez, Clarissa Elizondo, Audra Bruton, Haley Lehman, and kneeling from left, Coach Shane Moore, Merritt Mitchell, Katlin Thompson, Ashleigh Holley, Linzee Gibbons, Maranda Hymes and Coach Sha Moore.

FUN FACTS ABOUT TEXAS

from www.50states.com

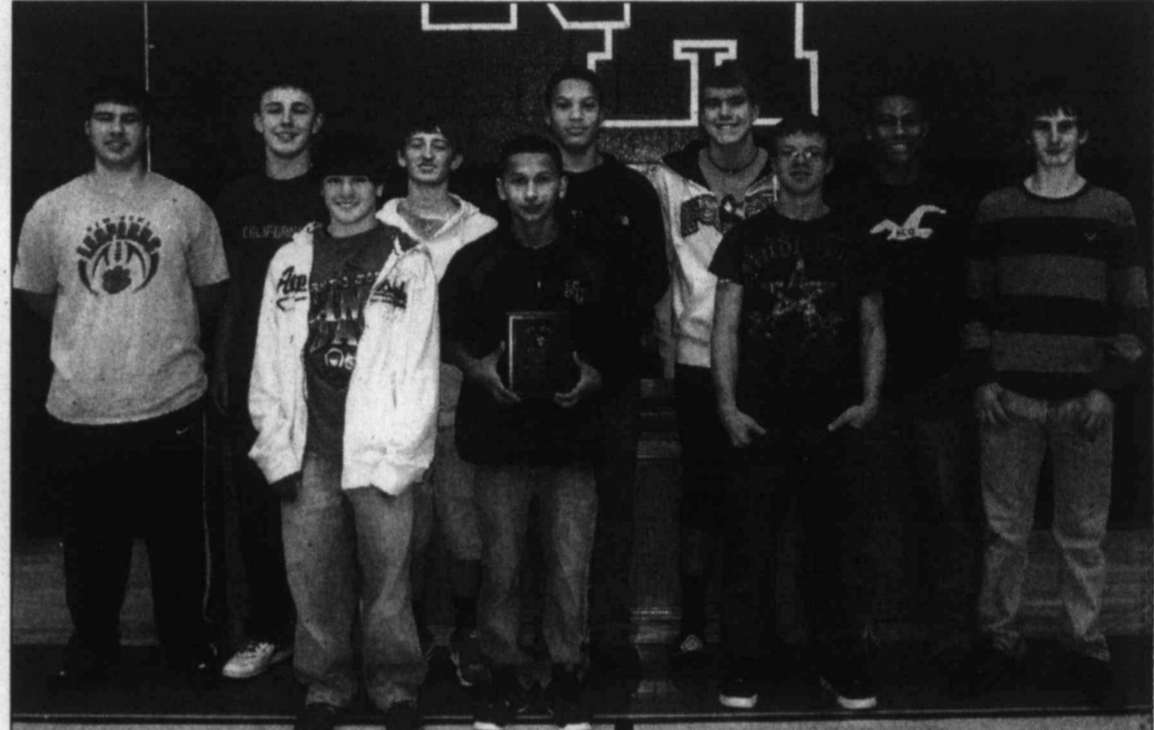
Although six flags have flown over Texas, there have been eight changes of government: Spanish 1519-1685, French 1685-1690, Spanish 1690-1821, Mexican 1821-1836, Republic of Texas 1836-1845, United States 1845-1861, Confederate States 1861-1865, United States 1865-present

Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.

The worst natural disaster in United States history was caused by a hurricane that hit Galveston in 1900. Over 8000 deaths were recorded.

*** Texas' largest county is Brewster with 6,208 square miles. ***

*** Texas possesses three of the top ten most populous cities in the United States. These towns are Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio. ***



Leopards are runners-up ... The New Home Leopards defeated Christ The King (80-53) and Loop (67-51) before falling to O'Donnell (38-34) in the New Home Classic Tournament last weekend. Team members include, from left, Chris Alaniz, Zach Jackson, Zach West, Zach Paul, Zach English, Josh Paul, DJ Ussery, Blaine Watts, Mariano Torres and Bradley Walden.

Wilson ISD SCHOOL MENU

DECEMBER 12-16

BREAKFAST

Monday: Cinnamon roll
Tuesday: BKF pizza
Wednesday: Oatmeal, toast
Thursday: Canada bacon, toast, yogurt & bananas
Friday: Sausage, eggs, toast

LUNCH

Monday: Chicken quesadilla, pinto beans, corn, apricot cobbler
Tuesday: Country style steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, roll, strawberry shortcake
Wednesday: Pizza, salad, orange smiles, crackers
Thursday: Hot dog, oven fries, apple & orange smiles, sherbet cups
Friday: Cheese enchiladas, refried beans, salad, cinnamon apples

Prices Good Thru 12/31/11

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Store #182
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BUY ONE ORDER OF 3
GET ONE ORDER OF 3
FREE

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Allsup's Wheat Bread 24 oz. \$1.69 FOR	Pepsi 2 \$7 FOR
Kellogg's Cereal Cups each 99¢	Lipton Naturals 20 oz. 99¢
Jack Link's Jumbo Steak 2 oz. \$4.59 FOR	Gatorade 32 oz. 2 \$3 FOR
Trident Gum All Flavors 2 \$2 FOR	Red Bull 12 oz. 2 \$5 FOR
Candy Bars King Size \$1.19	Wired 16 oz. 2 \$2 FOR
Keebler Crackers 1.8 oz. 2 \$1 FOR	Tom's Chips 6.5-9 oz. \$1.99

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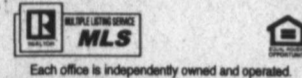
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Smoke alarms ... (continued from page 1)

safety flyers, as well as for the purchase of additional smoke alarms if needed.

A working smoke alarm continuously scans the air for smoke, 24 hours a day, seven days a week – it never sleeps. Working smoke alarms can save lives, as well as property, by sounding an alarm when smoke is detected.

Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of a home, including the basement. Many fatal fires begin late at night or early in the morning, so the USFA recommends installing smoke alarms both

security bars can be properly opened.

• Practice feeling your way out of the house in the dark or with your eyes closed.

When a fire occurs, do not waste any time saving property. Take the safest exit route, but if you must escape through smoke, remember to crawl low, under the smoke and keep your mouth covered. The smoke contains toxic gases, which can disorient you or, at worst, overcome you.

When you come to a closed door, use the back of your hand to feel the top of the door, the doorknob, and the crack



Rotary donation to help buy gifts for children ...

Tahoka Rotary Club President Rebekah Filley presented a check Monday for \$1500 to Janet Porterfield (third from right) for the Lynn County Christmas For Kids program. Funds were provided for the donation through a contribution to Rotary Club by John Powell, a former Tahokan, who gives annually for children's programs in the county. Pictured with Mrs. Porterfield, from left: Rotarians Ray Box, Bill Schoemann, Susan Tipton, Rebekah Filley and Haney Wells. (LCN PHOTO)

FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- Every home should have smoke alarms
- Test smoke alarms monthly
- Practice family escape plans
- Designate a meeting location away from the home

inside and outside of sleeping areas.

In the event of a fire, every second counts, so families should practice escape plans to get out of the home quickly. In less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire.

Every month, prepare and practice an escape route with the entire family, including children. Some tips to consider when preparing your escape plan include:

- Find two ways to get out of each room.
- If the primary way is blocked by fire or smoke, you will need a second way out. A secondary route might be a window onto a neighboring roof or a collapsible ladder for escape from upper story windows.
- Only purchase collapsible ladders evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).
- Make sure that windows are not stuck, screens can be taken out quickly, and that

between the door and frame to make sure that fire is not on the other side. If it feels hot, use your secondary escape route. Even if the door feels cool, open it carefully. Brace your shoulder against the door and open it

slowly. If heat and smoke come in, slam the door and make sure it is securely closed, then use your alternate escape route.

Designate a meeting location away from the home, (possibly the end of the driveway, or a front sidewalk) and make sure everyone has gotten out safely. Designate one person to go to a neighbor's home to phone the fire department, and do not attempt to re-enter your home.

Wildfires, drought concerns considered in policies adopted at TFB annual meeting

Wildfires which ravaged nearly 4 million acres of Texas, and the accompanying drought influenced policy adopted by Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) members as they wrapped up their 78th annual meeting recently in Corpus Christi.

"This drought has had a devastating impact on the farm and ranch families in Texas," said TFB President Kenneth Dierschke, who was elected to his 10th term as president of the state's largest farm organization. "Just as this drought will influence the operation of our farms and ranches for years to come, it has sparked policy to ensure we are prepared for dry times in the

future." As Texas Farm Bureau and county Farm Bureaus' reflected on donations totaling nearly \$1.5 million to relief efforts for volunteer fire departments, voting delegates adopted a resolution to limit personal liability for volunteer fire departments and private citizens for any actions, on either public or private property, related to wildfires.

Delegates also supported a change in state and federal wildfire policy to require federal fire managers and incident commanders to coordinate with local fire departments and landowners when acting as first responders and contributing to



Too cold to slide ... With snow and temperatures in the teens and 20s, it was much too cold for any children to play on the playground at Tahoka Elementary School early this week. (LCN PHOTO)

firefighting efforts.

Addressing drought concerns, delegates said the selling of livestock, hay, grain, fiber or nut production should not result in the loss of agricultural valuation status for a period of three years following the end of a declared drought or natural disaster. They supported legislation requiring that land controlled by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and environmental/conservation groups be managed in a manner which improves water conservation and diminishes fire risks by reducing excess undergrowth and thinning forests.

They supported more aggressive programs to improve water conservation and water quality by removing and controlling non-beneficial/non-productive invasive plant and animal species that consume or impede water flow in streams, ponds, lakes and estuaries.

They supported continued programs of brush removal and riparian management that aids in flood control. They also supported intense research on beneficial plant species, animal species and agricultural practices that will conserve water and more efficient methods of applying water and creating more efficient dry land farming techniques.

In national policy, delegates

made technical adjustments to ensure crop insurance works better for Texas farmers. They also supported development of the 2012 Farm Bill focused on the following principles:

- If direct and/or counter-cyclical payments are eliminated or the loss is inevitable, support an enhanced revenue based risk management program, including livestock and forage losses, that would provide adequate producer risk mitigation.
- Conservation programs should be adequately funded with emphasis on the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP).
- Continued use of the commodity marketing loan program that accurately reflects the cost of production.

In a three-way race, Kenneth Dierschke, a grain and cotton farmer from San Angelo, was elected to his 10th consecutive one-year term as Texas Farm Bureau president. Upon adjournment of the meeting, the board reelected Dewey Hukill of Lamb County as vice president. They chose Russell Boening of Wilson County as secretary-treasurer.

New state directors include Robert Gordon, Dallam County Farm Bureau; Michael White, Wilbarger County Farm Bureau; Albert Thompson, Nacogdoches

County Farm Bureau; and Bob Reed, Matagorda County Farm Bureau.

Board members reelected to two year terms include Dan Shelton from De Kalb; Daye Edmiston of Brady; and Dale Murden of Monte Alto.

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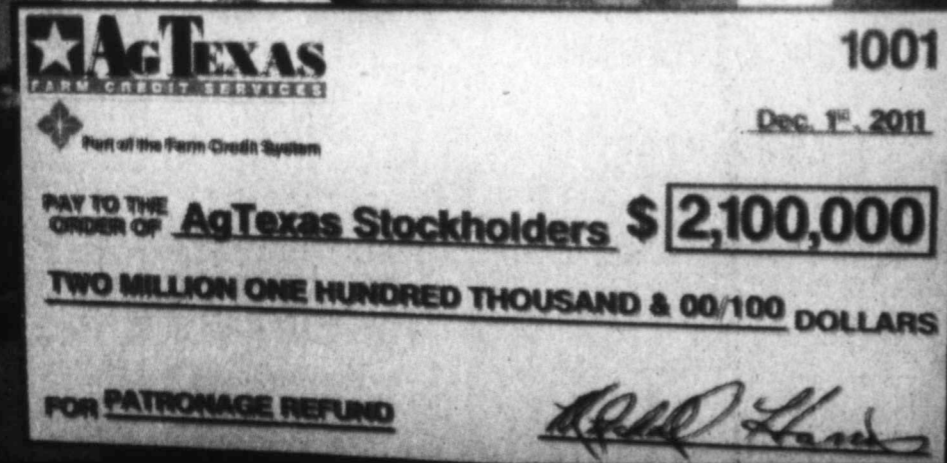
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