

THE YOUNGER GAMES ...

Laine Cook, Axie Allen, Paul Guerrero, Riley Cook, Tanner Clark and Connor Cook are ready for archery practice. Almost 40 4-H youth have participated in the local archery program this year. One of the reasons archery has become so popular with youth, enthusiasts believe, is because of popular movies such as "The Hunger Games" series that feature a female archer as the heroine. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)



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Fadeyi to perform on **BET network Sunday**

Finally! Funding: TWDB approves \$6,314,000 in financial assistance to City of Tahoka for water system improvements

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) last Thursday approved by resolution financial assistance in the amount of \$6,314,000, consisting of a \$1,871,000 loan and a \$4,443,000 grant from the Economically Distressed Areas Program, to the City of Tahoka. The assistance will allow the City to finance construction costs associated with water distribution system improvements.

"We're finally getting the funding to go to construction with replacing our water lines," said Mayor John Baker this week. "We've always

known we would have a portion we would have to finance, but this financial assistance means we will not have to search for a lender or call for a bond election - this will be paying for certificates of obligation instead," he explained.

According to information from the TWDB, the City could save approximately \$6,375,874 over the life of the loan by using the Economically Distressed Areas Program.

With this funding, the City plans to install/replace all the old water lines underneath city streets (excluding any

new lines that have been added in recent years) and complete other water system improvements, including a whole new system of electronic water meters. The project will significantly reduce water loss within the City's water distribution system.

"Last year alone, we lost over a million gallons of water due to water line breaks in the city," said the mayor. "We know that because of the discrepancy based on water consumption and what the city was billed from the CRMWA (Canadian River Municipal Water Authority)."

The mayor anticipates that the city will publicize for construction bids within the next 30 days, and allow another 30 days to accept bids, which means that by the first of October actual construction may begin.

This project has been a long time coming, with the city seeking grants or low-interest loans over a period of the last several years to replace the antiquated water lines. In addition to the new water lines, a new electronic metering system will also be installed, which the mayor says will be more

(See WATER SYSTEM, page 4)

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n Inc.

Sheena Fadeyi, granddaughter of the late T.C. & Myrtle White of Tahoka and daughter of Marilyn White Fadeyi, is one of the top ten finalists in a BET network singing contest. Sheena will be singing this Sunday, August 2 at 7:00 pm for a chance to win the Sunday Best: Race to the Stage competition. To vote for Sheena, go to www.bet. com/sundaybest.

Daron Norwood songs were high on CW charts

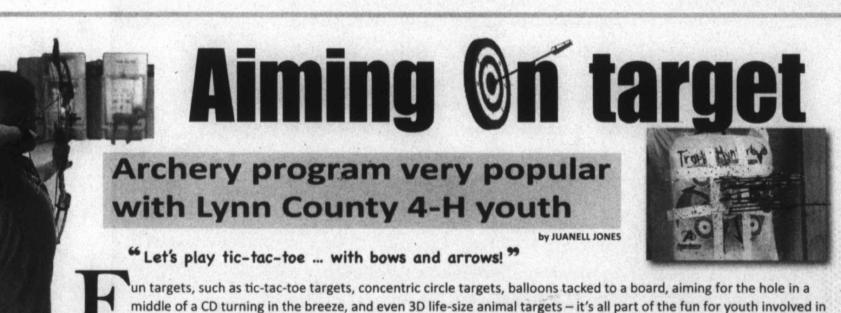
Daron Norwood, country-western singing star from Tahoka who died at his home in Hereford July 22 at the age of 49, hit his peak of popularity in the music world in the 1990s.

Norwood, a 1985 graduate of Tahoka High School, had two of his songs rated in the Top 40 of country music charts, and several others charted. His best-known and toprated song was "Cowboys Don't Cry," which reached No. 24 in the U.S. and 22 in Canada in 1994. Another successful releas, "If It Wasn't for Her, I Wouldn't Have You," topped out at No. 26 in the country in 1993.

Some other releases that made the charts: "If I Ever Love Again," No. 48 in 1994, and "Bad Dog, No Biscuit" and "My Girl Friday," Nos. 50 an 58 in 1995. "In God We Trust" was released in 2002 and "Take Me Back" was released in 2011.

Norwood was a close friend of professional golfer John Daly, who came to Tahoka in 1998 to demonstrate his remarkable driving skill at T-Bar Country Club in an event supporting Norwood's new organization, Daron Norwood for Kids. In later years Norwood toured area high schools to address students on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse. During that period, he resumed singing performances on a

part-time basis. See obituary page 2.



Paul Guerrero

"The very first thing we tell these kids when they are starting out and remind them at every practice and every event - is safety first," says Brad Ashbrook, who along with his wife Jessica are certified instructors and volunteer leaders in the 4-H archery program for Lynn County. "And the second thing? Have fun!" he says with a laugh.

Apparently that approach is a good way to entice youth to learn a new skill, because the archery program is very popular with local youth. Nearly 40 county youth have taken a shot at learning archery skills this year under the direction of the Ashbrooks, a young couple who have been involved as volunteer leaders with 4-H for quite a few years.

The 4-H program operates under the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, and Lynn County Agent Wendy Scott is thrilled with the program's success at attracting newcomers. The rapid influx of additional youth in this 4-H program, in fact, has gained the attention of other county agents in Texas, she discovered at a recent State 4-H event.

"What a great State 4-H Roundup we had! I am excited to report that the Lynn County 4-H program was

Now fthat's

Leaders ... Jessica Ashbrook and her husband, Brad, volunteer



the Lynn County 4-H archery program. But the first rule taught to anyone even thinking of picking up a bow? Safety.

recognized as the only county showing a significant increase in participation, and that was due to our new archery program and all the adult volunteer leaders we have. We have had a 65 percent increase in membership! Other county agents were asking me, what did I do to make such a tremendous increase? I told them, it wasn't me - it was having the right people, at the right place, at the right time, volunteering as leaders in our programs. We have tremendous support here," the county agent told Lynn County Commissioners at a recent meeting.

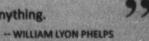
"Brad and Jessica have been proj-

ect leaders in Lynn County for several years," Scott told The News. "When approached with the opportunity to start archery, they wholeheartedly said yes. Through their time and energy, they have developed an outstanding program. Because of the growth of archery, three more adults have been trained, with more planning to attend," she added. Now, in addition to the Ashbrooks, adult volunteers Marla Cook, Lisa Cook and Mistie Kahl have also become certified instructors for the local 4-H archery program, and together

they have taken the time to learn how to teach a skill that may be intimidating to some of the youth, and even has a level of danger due to the fact that these children - some as young as 8 years old - are taking up weapons

(See AIMING ON TARGET, page 3)

If at first you don't succeed, find out if the loser gets anything.



2 July 30, 2015 🔳 The Lynn County News

The Lynn County News

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The Lynn County Tax Assessor-Collector office is located on the west side of the square across from the Courthouse at 1521 Ave. J in Tahoka. 561-4112

The Lynn County Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 office is located on U.S. 380 at 905 Lockwood in Tahoka. 561-4337



Daron Norwood

Daron Jay Norwood passed away from this life on July 22, 2015. He was born to Hugh Jack and Margaret Norwood on September 30, 1965. He was a passionate, bigger than life entertainer that had the gift of motivation. Daron was a Nashville recording artist that signed with Giant Records in the early 1990's. Two of his songs, "If it wasn't for Her" and "Cowboy's Don't Cry," reached Billboard's top 25. Besides his music, Daron was an avid educator of young people on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse. His children and grandchildren were his whole world.

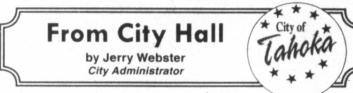
Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Suella; children, Krista Spears and husband Ben, Delaney, Roxy, and Daylan; two grandchildren, Brock and Lily-Kate Spears; grandfather, J.T. Miller, siblings, Byron and Sandra Norwood and Misti and J.J. Arpassi; and nephews, Slade and Miller.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, July 27, at First Baptist Church in Tahoka with interment at Nevels Memorial Cemetery.

Please celebrate the life of Daron by visiting www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com. (PAID)



Sports talk ... Tahoka High School Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Brandon Hopper (left) is pictured here with KCBD Sports anchor Pete Christy during the KCBD Live Community Tour in Tahoka last Friday. KCBD broadcasted their 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. newscasts live from the Lynn County Courthouse grounds. (LCN PHOTO)



Waterline Project ... Our construction application for this project has been approved by the Texas Water Development Board. We now await word on when the funds will be available for this project. We are certainly hopeful we can begin this project before the end of this vear.

Weeds ... We will begin shredding the middle of the alleys this week. Remember, it is your responsibility to mow from your fence to the edge of the alley. Please do, as this will help keep mosquitos down. Mosquitoes ... We have begun spraying in alleys. We will

spray between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Water ... As the days heat up more people will be watering

yards and gardens. Please remember to be "Water Wise." There are brochures at city hall with helpful hints on water conservation.

If you have any questions please contact the city at 806-561-4211.



"HEN I WAS only 3 years old, I was bitten on the left foot by a copperhead snake, and I immediately learned two things that I have strongly believed ever since:

Snakes are horrible, ugly, slimy and fearsome, and should be killed on sight.

You should never go outside barefooted.

Over the years since I first was bitten, I have had many people (even some I had previously considered intelligent) tell me that some non-poisonous snakes are nice, good for the environment, even good pets, and should not be harmed. I never even considered that they knew what they were talking about. A snake, poisonous or not, is still a snake, a serpent, a repulsive thing that should be killed immediately with a hoe, gun or atomic bomb.

When I was in college, there was one jerk who once decided it would be great fun to throw his pet small garter snake on some unsuspecting person. He then would laugh like an idiot when the person recoiled in fear or horror, as most did.

He quit doing that so much one day when a big kid who had seen him throw it at another student, told him, "Sonny, if you throw that thing on me, I'm going to kill it any way I can, and then YOU are going to DIE laughing."

Anyway, getting bitten by a snake when you're just 3 years old is a traumatic experience. My parents and some other adults were making homemade lye soap in some big black pots out in the country near Roanoke, TX, where we lived. Some of us smaller children were playing barefoot down by a nearby creek, when I stepped on this copperhead, which bit me, apparently unaware that I would never try to stomp a snake with my bare foot.

I immediately went to my mother, who was stirring a pot of soap and gabbing with some other ladies, and I said, "Excuse me, momma, but I have been bitten by a poisonous snake, so you need to do something pretty quick, or I may never grow up to own a newspaper in Tahoka, play tennis or saxophone or do any other good things."

Okay, so that's not exactly how it went, and I did survive. But I did develop an aversion to any kind of snakes, which are not needed on this planet. Noah surely didn't intentionally put two on the ark, but a couple probably were swimming around near the boat, and managed to slither onto it.

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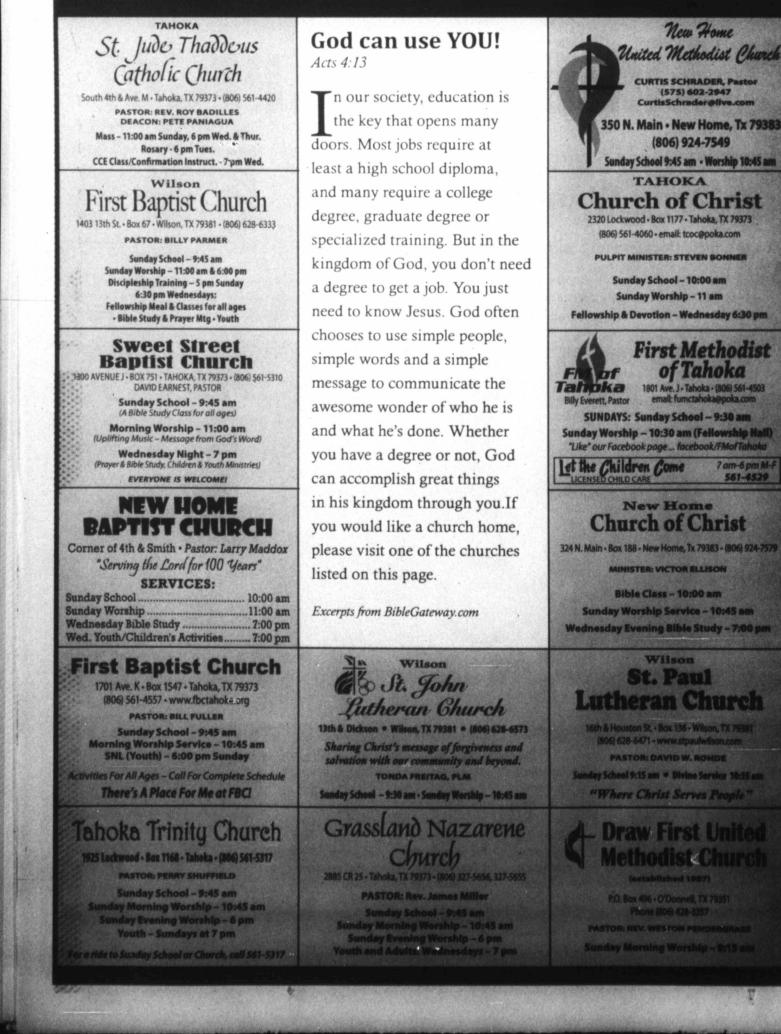
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Aiming on target

with sharp, pointy arrows.

(Continued from page 1)-

"We're very careful to teach safety first, and in archery we use whistle blasts to tell the kids when to step up to the line, when to begin shooting, or to cease fire," Brad explains. "And, the thing about a bow you can tell if it's loaded, not like a gun. It's easy to see if a bow is armed with an arrow," he adds with a grin. "Archery is for anybody - these kids don't have be an athlete or into sports, they don't have to be strong. We set the bows for their individual strength, and teach them how to

shoot." It was apparent during a recent practice with six youngsters, ages 9-13, that Brad is a respected leader. He is softspoken and watchful, quietly offering suggestions or tips to the young archers as they take aim at a lineup of targets, but easily smiles and brags on the skills his young protégés have developed.

He is an avid archer himself, and in addition to target practice also hunts deer with bow and arrows. His wife, Jessica, has her own bow and is a certified instructor in her own right. And the young couple have a 4-year-old daughter, Cheyenne, who has her own pint-size bow. "Oh yeah, she's got a little bow about this big," says Jes-

sica with a laugh, holding her hands about 18-inches apart. "It's a pink one," she adds. The arrows, of course, are plastic and "are about like throwing a toothpick," according to dad. Both are Tahoka natives,

and Brad has a long history with the Lynn County 4-H program, starting from his youth.

"I started in 4-H horse club when I was 3 or 4 years old," recalls Brad. "When I was old enough to start 4-H I did livestock judging, horse judging, wool judging, showed steers and pigs, trap and skeet. After graduating high school I helped with the trap and skeet club, and also helped many youth with livestock projects. Livestock judging helped me get a scholarship to judge on the college level," he added Brad has been involved with 4-H as a youth/adult leader for about 18 years, and Jessica has been involved as an adult leader for 9 years. Both are certified in and taught archery, trap and skeet.

support. 4-H has so many opportunities for the kids - it will get them out and get them away from the TVs and computers. It's great at teaching life lessons they can use in everyday life," said Jessica.

The youth in the archery program seem to be learning these lessons, but they are having so much fun that the life lessons are just a side benefit.

"Oh yeah, we like coming to practice," says Riley Cook, 13. "It's always fun. My favorite targets are the 3-D ones," he adds. The 3-D targets include a turkey and a deer, and points are determined by the area in which the arrow lands - the closer to

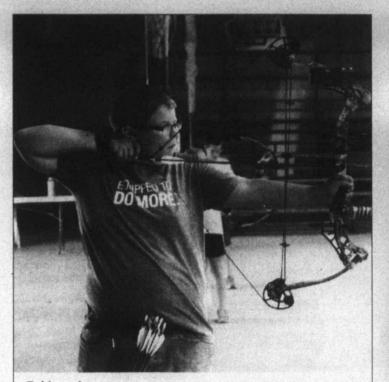
the heart, the higher the points. During practice, the youth stand about 10 yards away from their targets to begin their practice session. The sessions are held inside the Lynn County Showbarn (held inside only, for safety reasons). At competitions, however, the youth shoot at a minimum from 20 yards, and can shoot from 25 or 30 yards as well, in both indoor and outdoor events. To get 20 yards from their targets set up inside the showbarn, the youth stand just outside an open door-

way, aiming arrows to the interior of the building. "When we shoot the 3-D

targets at competitions, its always outside," said Riley. "It's harder to shoot outside if it's windy, but the 3-D targets are more fun," he added.

"The hardest part of archery is holding the bow still," said 10-year-old Paul Bernal, as the other youth nodded in agreement

All youth start out with long bows, which the 4-H program provides - which is a simple bow not equipped with sights or sighting marks, and has no hann 1 mino visine



Taking aim ... Tanner Clark, 11, takes aim at the target. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

mechanical release. Most youth eventually purchase their own compound bows, which can have sighting devices and mechanical release aids. They can compete in 4-H with both types of bows.

The compound bows aren't cheap, starting at a minimum of \$400, according to Ashbrook.

"Then you have to buy the arrows, too, and those can run pretty high," added Marla Cook, an archery mom and instructor. "These cost about \$7 apiece," she said, indicating her children Connor, 12, and Laine, 9, standing nearby with their bows and arrows. "So we try not to lose any!" she says with a laugh.

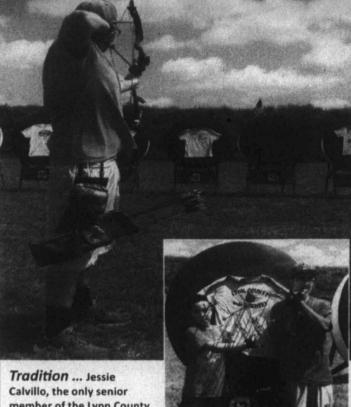
Laine was one of two Lynn County 4-H youth who won first place in district archery competition this year, along with Kash Kahl, son of Kent and Mistie Kahl. It is only the second year of competition for the local archery program, and the youth are doing well in it.

"This is for the kids - and we want them to just have fun with it," says Brad. "There are so many more things we can go into from this - wildlife lessons, basic survival skills, and other lessons. The first year I think we had 17 compete in district, and this year there were 27. I think the most we had at one time, in practice, was 34 or 35 kids."

Bryan Reynolds, longtime former county agent here, said, "4-H volunteers are what make it the best youth organization. That is one of the great things about the 4-H program when former 4-H members take the initiative and leadership to give back to the program. 4-H develops leaders when they are young and then gives them the opportunity to showcase their talents as adults," he added.

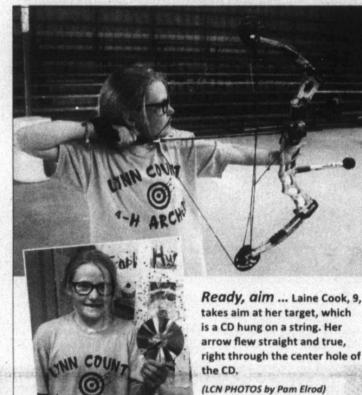
Brad is a prime example of giving back to a program that has played an important role in his life.

"These kids can use the skills they learn here, just for a fun, or even try to get college scholarships - there are college teams that shoot," added Brad. "Whatever the reason, we're just in it for the kids."



member of the Lynn County 4-H Archery program, aims at a target displaying his 4-H t-shirt, joining in a tradition

that seniors "aging out of 4-H" do at the Texas State 4-H Shoot shooting their shirts. In the inset photo, Jessie and his younger cousin, Paul Guerrero, pull the arrows from the shirt. Jessie, son of Felix and Pat Calvillo, competed in the State Shoot July 14-18 in San Antonio.





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Jessica came to the 4-H program as an adult leader, not having participated in it as a youth.

"Growing up, I thought 4-H was just stock shows - I had no idea there were so many more opportunities in 4-H," said Jessica. "I never thought I would be so involved in 4-H with the kids today, since growing up I wasn't involved and didn't know anything about 4-H. Now, 4-H is such a big part of our lives and I feel it will be a big part of Cheyenne's since she loves going to archery and is starting horse club this summer," she added.

Both Brad and Jessica are quick to point out that there are other volunteers involved in the program as well.

"We are so thankful for all the instructors and adults that have stepped up and helped with the archery program, whether it was just keeping the kids in line at practice, helping in the concession stand, or just all the

God's Clothes Closet OPEN at 9:00 am every 1st & 3rd SATURDAY of the month for those needing clothing. (Please use West entrance.)

TAHOKA **CHURCH OF CHRIST** 2320 Lockwood (Donations accepted any time in the outside bins.)



Certified instructors ... Pictured from left are certified instructors Marla Cook, Jessica Ashbrook, Brad Ashbrook and Lisa Cook. Mistie Kahl, not pictured, is also a certified instructor for the 4-H archery (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod) program.

POST FAMILY DENTAL, PLLC 204 West Main . Post, Texas 79356 806-495-3600

After 41 years of service to Post and the surrounding areas, Dr. Charles McCook has retired. Dr. Michael Cauley a second generation West Texas dentist, raised in Seagraves and practicing in Brownfield, has acquired Dr. McCook's practice. Dr. Cauley has now expanded operations to Post. Over the last few months, we have totally remodeled and upgraded all dental equipment to offer the newest technology and the highest standard of care. Dr. Cauley has also recently hired Dr. Bradley Isom, who is in the process of relocating to

the area. Once he is in place, we will be open full time. Friday, August 7th at 2:00 we will be having a ribbon-cutting



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At band camp ... These Tahoka 3-D Band members attended the McMurry Band Camp in Abilene July 12-17, where they participated in different bands plus chosen elective classes. "The result of this camp is that they all grew as musicians, both through their playing as well as interaction with others," stated director Carroll Rhodes. "Thanks to the support of the Tahoka Band Boosters, Tahoka Rotary Club, and selected individuals, all were able to attend the camp for \$75 or less," he said. Pictured, in back from left: Tari'Anna Pena, Mishelle Earnest, Rachel Fleenor, Carroll Rhodes and Mason Walker; front row: Mercedes Perez, Brandon Farrell, Emit Quintero, Jordan Fowler, Leticia Olvera, Nathaniel Sullivan, and McKenzie Henry.



EMS Camp... EMS Super Hero Camp was held at the Tahoka City-County Library last week. Attendees made emergency first aide kits and were able to tour the inside of the new recently purchased Lynn County EMS Ambulance. EMTs pictured at left are Micah Stone and Traci Jolly; at far right is Paramedic/ EMS Director John Baker and Dr. Brooke Ersland, who will be joining Lynn County Hospital District in mid-August.

Military Super Hero Camp slated at

TAHOKA ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Water system ... (Continued from page 1)

accurate as well as saving time in the meter-reading process.

"All the water meters throughout the city will be replaced with new electronic meters," Baker said. "With these new meters, one guy will be able to read all of them in four hours, instead of taking four days and four guys to read. And, some of our older meters may have been inaccurate as well, so the newer meters will provide a more accurate reading.'

Baker told The News that the construction plans call for laying new lines next to the older lines, and switching over entire sections at a time when the new lines are ready. He said the new meters will replace old meters in their same location as before.

"When this project is completed, it is my sincere hope that we will never, ever, ever have to cut off water to the entire city at one time!" Baker said emphatically, referring to the numerous occasions the water lines have been turned off due to water line breaks. The new system has been designed in sections that may be valved-off as needed for repairs or other maintenance issues.

"Barring a major catastrophe, we will never have to cut off water again throughout the entire city, once this new construction is completed," he said.

Lynn County 4-H golf tourney set

The Lynn County 4-H golf tournament will be held Saturday Aug. 8 at T-Bar Country Club with tee times at 8:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

The 4-man scramble cost will be \$120 per team. There will be a putting and chipping contest, as well as contests for the longest drive and closest to pin. A meal will be served afterwards. A raffle for a Ruidoso trip with two nights lodging will be held with tickets being sold for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. For more information, contact the Lynn County Extension office at 561-4562, and to register a team contact T-Bar Country Club at 998-5305.

BBQ grill raffle... The Lynn County Senior Citizen Pioneer Center is selling raffle tickets for a Landmann charcoal grill with smoker with a 21-piece BBQ set, shown here by Rosie. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased from Bianca Baker, Senior Citizens Director, at the Center, or Cathy Ross, 998-5363, or Pam Elrod at the Lynn County News. Drawing will be held when all tickets are sold. All proceeds are to benefit the Senior Citizens program. For more information or any questions, contact Bianca at the Center at 561-5264.



Vehicle burglary reported to police

Theft of about \$400 and two credit cards from the purse of a Tahoka woman last Thursday night or early Friday was reported to Tahoka Police Dept. Friday. Laura Stephens told police the money was taken after she inadvertently left her purse in her 2011 GMC Envoy overnight at her residence.

Thirty-nine people were being held in Lynn County jail early this week, including 28 held for Ector County and one each for Crosby and Dawson counties. Persons recently jail were charged with driving while intoxicated, application to revoke probation on conviction of possession of marijuana, contempt of court/disobeying court order, and failure to appear on motion for enforcement of nonpayment of child support.



Elrod graduates from DeVry University

Tonya Elrod of Loveland, CO, received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Engineering Technology on July 18, 2015 from DeVry University in Westminster, Colo.

She is a retired Veteran of the U.S. Army and a graduate of Tahoka High School. She is the daughter of Allen and Pam Elrod of Tahoka.

Library August 4

- 8-

Name:

The Tahoka City-County Library, located at 1717 Main Street, will have a Military Super Haero Camp on Tuesday, August 4th from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. for children who have completed grades 4-6. Games, crafts and snacks will be provided. For more information, contact the Library at 561-4050. Plains. He will share how Rota-

Rotary District Governor John Scott will visit the Tahoka Rotary Club at their regular meeting at noon July 30, at The Life Enrichment Center. John represents the 1,800 Rotarians in District 5730 which stretches from Perryton to Pecos covering the Panhandle, South Plains, Permian Basin, and Rolling

Age: ____

Family Wellness & Rehab Center

1809 LOCKWOOD in TAHOKA

School Sports Physicals

appointments are filling up

fast...don't wait. CALL NOW

Lynn County Hospital District

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

REHAB CENTER:

Travis Armstrong, ACSM-CEP, EP-C, CSCS, USAW-LISP

Mike Green PTA, LMT . Cherie Robles P

806-561-1340

THS Varsity Cheer Clinic 📿 🕵

August 3-6 (Mon.-Thurs.) 10 am-12 noon

Pep Rally, Thurs. Aug. 6 at 5:30 pm (1)

Shirt Size: (circle one) YS YM YL AS AM AL

lease bring this complete registration form along with \$40 to

Registration at 9:45 am Monday, August 3rd. THANKS!

Questions? Contact a cheerleader or sponsor Rachel Lehman at 806-759-6148.

COMPLIMENTARY T-SHIRTS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO REGISTER ON MONDAY!

FAMILY WELLNESS CLINIC:

Melanie Richburg, DNP, FNP-C

Shannon Hammonds, FNP-C

806-998-4604

for Ages 3 yrs-6th grade · Cost: \$40

AT TAHOKA HIGH SCHOOL GYM

Emergency Contact Information:

Parent/Guardian Contact #s:

Parent/Guardian Name:

ry is eradicating polio, supports international disaster relief, supports local and international education, and seeks to improve the lives of people around the globe.

The Rotary Club of Tahoka is comprised of business and community leaders who subscribe to the motto "Service Above Self", by delivering essential items to the Senior Citizens of Tahoka annually at Christmas, helping and donating funds for Christmas for Kids, helping coordinate the Billy Tomlinson Annual Hospital Auction and donating scholarship funds to Tahoka graduates, among other activities.

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Their work impacts lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit Rotary.org.

Contact Melanie Richburg, President, 806-998-4604, mrichburg@lchdhealthcare.org for additional information about the Tahoka Rotary Club.

Commissioners amend budget

Lynn County commissioners Monday made numerous amendments to the budget, adjusting amounts to conform to actual expenditures to date. The second regular monthly meeting for July, almost five hours long, was otherwise mostly routine.

The group went into executive session for almost an hour to discuss with an attorney possible litigation against the county. No action was taken on the matter in open court afterward. Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin

gave a monthly report on activities of his department.

County Judge Mike Braddock presided, and all commissioners were present. They are Keith Wied, John Hawthorne, Don Blair and Larry Durham.

Senior Citizen's Menu

August 3-7

Monday: Cheeseburger, potato wedges, tomato wedge salad, melon medley Tuesday: BBQ chicken, mashed

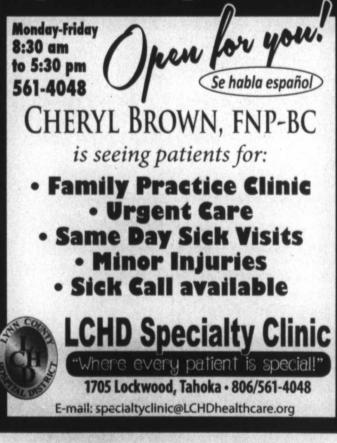
potatoes, carrot raisin salad, baked apple Wednesday: Swedish meatballs, parsley noodles, mixed veggies, angel food cake w/ strawberries Thursday: Beef soft taco, Span-

ish rice, broccoli, corn, mandarin oranges Friday: Fish on a bun, potato

wedges, coleslaw w/ dressing, peach chantilly

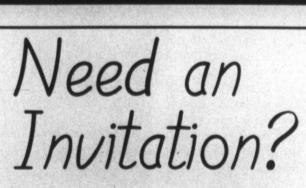
Mark your calendars... · BBQ grill & accessories raffle tickets are being sold for \$25 each! Contact Bianca at the Center or Dollar Store, Cathy Ross at 998-5363, Pam Elrod at Lynn County News, or Pop Belly's BBQ.

· Bingo July 23, 1:45 p.m. Come join us - fun, prizes, fellowship.



The Lynn County Hospital District

Specialty Clinic



If you need an invitation for a Baby Shower, Wedding, Anniversary, Birthday Party or anything else, come by the Lynn County News office and let us help you! We have lots of samples to choose from and can help you customize your invitations ... all at a low price.

For example: 50 Post Card invitations ... \$22.50

ELynn County News

1617 Main Street in Tahoka · 561-4888

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July 30, 2015 🔳 The Lynn County News

These local firms are sponsoring this FARM NEWS:

AgTexas Farm Credit Services Travis Ferguson and Mike Metzig

Capital Farm Credit Clint Robinson Jason Gandy

Farmers Co-op Association No. 1

Lynn County Farm Bureau

Three Tahoka FFA students receive high Lone Star degrees

Peyton Curry, Coy Mercer, and Dane Rivas of the Tahoka FFA Chapter, were awarded the Lone Star FFA Degree in at the 87th annual Texas FFA Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas. The Lone Star FFA Degree is the highest degree bestowed by the Texas FFA.

All three recipients were 2015 graduates of Tahoka High School this past May.

The Lone Star FFA Degree recognizes FFA members who have received the Chapter degree, been active FFA members for at least two years, completed at least four semesters of agricultural science at or above the ninth grade level, maintained a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program, demonstrated their leadership skills and has shown a commitment to the FFA through involvement at the chapter level and above. More than 2,500 FFA members received this esteemed degree.

The Texas FFA is the nation's largest state FFA association with a membership of more than 109,000 members and 1,032 local FFA chapters. FFA gives students the opportunity to apply practical classroom knowledge to real world experiences through local, state and national competitions. For more information about the Texas FFA visit www.texasffa.org.

lication in the Jacksboro weekly

newspapers, and it is scheduled

for publication within the next

few weeks. Most names familiar

to Jack County readers but not to

Lynn County readers have been

edited out for this story in the Lynn

In the early 1940s, life and

many of society's values and

customs were very different for

students in school at Jacksboro

(and everywhere else), com-

pared to present times. And for

me, they were even more differ-

ent, because I was physically re-

stricted as a result of a bone dis-

ease that had left one leg shorter

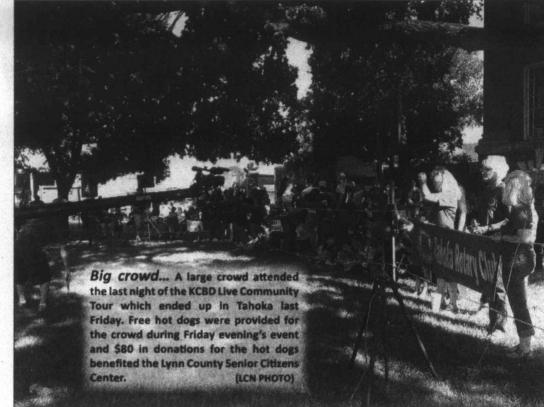
and less useful than the other.

Much of my teenage years I

walked wearing a leg brace, but

County News).

By DALTON WOOD





High honors ... Three Tahoka FFA members received the Lone Star degree, the highest degree bestowed by the Texas FFA. From left is Peyton Curry, TISD Ag Science teacher Shelbie Hannum, and Dane Rivas at the State FFA Convention held in Corpus Christi recently. Not pictured: Lone Star recipient Coy Mercer. All three recipients were 2015 graduates of Tahoka High School.

Rivas receives \$10,000 FFA scholarship

Dane Rivas, of the Tahoka FFA Chapter, was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship, sponsored by Richard Wallrath Education Foundation at the 87th annual in events and activities, being recognized for their achievements, and serving as the legislative body for the Texas FFA Association.

Coy Mercer receives FFA Ford scholarship

Coy Mercer, a 2015 Tahoka High School graduate, was awarded a \$1000 Built Ford Tough scholarship through the National FFA Organization. The scholarship is sponsored by Spike Dykes Ford as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Growing up in a small town in the 1940s

(THE FOLLOWING was written by Dalton Wood, a 1946 graduate of Jacksboro High School, now semi-retired publisher of the Lynn County News in Tahoka. Wood, who writes the weekly column Woodwork in the Tahoka newspaper, wrote this story for pub-

shal told him angrily, "Son, if you want to get smart with me, you're going to jail." But eventually the marshal was convinced, and let the boy go.

So far as I know now, that marshal, the only local law officer that I recall, was a good guy, but teenage boys in those days made fun of him. As I remember, he only fired a weapon when he was called on to shoot stray dogs, something that was allowed in those days, and he had sort of a reputation as a dog shooter.

One night, he was trying to arrest a drunk in public when the guy ran, leaving the marshal holding the drunk's coat. The marshal pulled his gun, called a warning, then shot the man in the foot. Later, some local teenage boys claimed that was the only place the marshal could confidently aim, as he was accustomed to shooting down at dogs. During most of my high school years, I lived with my grandparents, my older brother John, and my mother, in a frame house diagonally across from the Green Frog Café (which still was a popular eating place when I was there several years ago). My mother, Hazel Arnold, who had been divorced from my father for many years, was a beauty operator, with a shop in an upstairs alcove at the rear of a dry goods store no longer in business. She later married J.W. House Jr., became a Methodist minister, then retired, and both she and Jay House lived in Tahoka until their deaths in the 1990s I don't know anything about what high school girls did in the 1940s. All the ones I remember at JHS were smart, beautiful and mysterious. But boys mostly played sandlot football games, went swimming and hunting and tried to do things that the girls might notice. I learned to swim at a place we called "Water Crossing," at the edge of town where the water from somewhere (creek, river or springs?) ran across the road, and on one side was at least 10 feet deep. I don't know if the water crossing is still there or not. It has been too many years since I went there, just as it has with Sewell's Lake, the other place we went swimming, disregarding the frequently seen snakes at both locations. Although I was handicapped from a childhood bone disease, I played a lot of sandlot football, mostly with friends about my age including one boy whose father was a doctor, and who later also became a doctor. I even went out for football at JHS my senior year, but after a few weeks of practice, they made me quit because of my physical limitations. The main thing I remember about that is one day at blocking practice, when it came my

turn to block whoever was next in the other line, I realized I was supposed to block Freddie Joe, a really big guy who played tackle. I weighed about 120 at the time, and he was about twice that size. I remember giving it the best effort I could, and actually took him down, but he fell on me and squashed much of my ambition to play varsity football.

During WW II, the Jacks-. boro Tigers won few football games, at least partly because no young knowledgeable coaches were available, as all healthy young men went off to fight a war (several from Jack County were imprisoned in what became well known as the Lost Battalion), and some coaches were just older teachers or even someone hired with no coaching or teaching experience. After losing most games one year because the players were obviously not in condition, a guy was hired who insisted on hard training.

Wayne Cox, a friend whose father was a barber and who eventually played for TCU, played tackle, and told me how the new coach insisted everyone play regardless of injury. Once during the season after Wayne was injured in one game, he said the coach insisted that he would play in the next one anyway. "I may be the only player in history who had to be carried ONTO the field," he grumbled. Then in my senior year, I joined the high school band.

LynnCoNews@poka.com

In those days, high school students were seated in classes in alphabetical order, so I often sat next to kids whose names started with Ws. I was seated next to a boy named Walker in a senior year chemistry class taught by a nice little darkhaired lady who always was calm and soft-spoken. Except one day she got very angry at young Walker, when she glided around behind him to see what he was writing that had some of the rest of us laughing in class.

He had written on his notepad, "If the girls would bathe in Sweetwater and dress in Plainview, the boys could Seymour." I thought that was pretty clever, until she started whacking his hands and arms with a ruler and some keys in such frenzy that I feared she might hit me, too.

I hastily hid the note I had started writing to him, reading, "Odessa good one!"

I think of Jacksboro fondly as the home of the frozen malt, which was invented by two brothers who had a drug store in Jacksboro. I loved those things, and the last time I checked, several years ago, they still were available at the City Drug Store in Jacksboro. Life in Jacksboro and probably all small Texas towns in the 1940s was good for young people growing up. There were many really wonderful, caring people around, and I expect that's still true today. It's where I learned that friends you can count on are life's greatest treasures.

Texas FFA State Convention held July 13-17 in Corpus Christi.

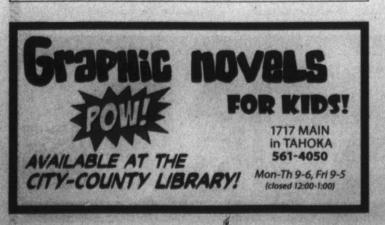
Dane was awarded for his qualifications in academic achievement, leadership, SAE, FFA involvement, financial need, and personal interview.

Members attending the 87th annual Texas FFA State Convention spent the week in leadership workshops, participating

Coy is the daughter of Kim & Joe Mercer of Tahoka and plans to use the funds to pursue a degree at West Texas A&M University.



In the Smoky Mountains ... Vanita Hobbs, and her daughter Bev Peeples of Greenville, SC, recently went to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, and took the Lynn County News with them. "We were there for a small family reunion – about 25 of us stayed in a beautiful cabin high up in the mountain area. We had a blast!" said Peeples. The Smokies are 1,196 miles (17 hours, 25 minutes) from Tahoka, Texas.



I still tried to take part in everything boys did in those days.

There were 35 students in my graduating class, and Jacksboro's population in those days was about 3,000, so the town was similar in size to Tahoka.

While today's young people appear to spend most of their time texting or playing games on smart phones, or driving sports cars and pickups everywhere, I can remember only a couple of boys (and no girls) who drove cars to school.

However, several boys had access to cars to drive around after school, and the rest of us would pile in and we all would just drive around. I had a good friend whose parents let him drive around in their 1937 Chevrolet, and he hauled a bunch of us around almost every evening. I don't remember that we ever did anything worth mentioning, except that one Halloween night we took a sign from a hatchery, a large cutout of a chicken, with the words "Quality Chicks" at the bottom. We took the "s" off the sign and left it in front of the home of a popular high school girl.

Sometimes at night, some of us boys would mess around someplace we shouldn't have been, as on the school grounds, and the City Marshal, usually very patient with us, would run us off. Another of my friends, the son of a man who ran a downtown Tin Shop and played a zither, told me the following story about a kid named Bobby Ray Washington, who had recently moved to Jacksboro:

Bobby Ray's father actually was named George, and was, I believe, a painter or some kind of day laborer. Bobby Ray started running with some other local youngsters, and one night the marshal caught them messing around in somebody's barn or some such place. The guys all scattered as the marshal drove up, but Bobby Ray was physically handicapped and could not run very well, so he was caught.

The marshal didn't know

When I was not allowed to play football, I took private lessons on alto saxophone from a local man named Roy Hensley, a really talented musician who played several instruments.

Doggone it, shop at home when you can.

Our local economy is fragile ...

Shopping locally is a vital part of our growth and prosperity.

Why send locally-owned, hard-earned dollars out of town to support someone else? Money spent in Lubbock or other surrounding towns does not support our community, our school, or our hospital.

The local businessperson pays a high percentage of local taxes and all our area businesses are staunch supporters of this community. 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 we 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 1617 Main St., Tahoka • 561-4888 •Fax 561-6308 • LynnCoNews@poka.com Open Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:30