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There is
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to be thankful for.



GRATEFULNESS
can transform common days into thanksgivings,
turn routine jobs into joy,
and change ordinary opportunities into
BLESSINGS.

- William Arthur Ward

LN THE Lynn County News



November 26, 2015 ■ Volume 112, No. 48

Serving Lynn County since 1903

Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas

email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

75¢

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Fun Turkey Facts



- The average weight of a turkey purchased at Thanksgiving is 15 pounds.
- The heaviest turkey ever raised was 86 pounds, about the size of a large dog.
- Turkey has more protein than chicken or beef.
- Turkeys will have 3,500 feathers at maturity.
- Male turkeys gobble. Hens do not. They make a clucking noise.
- Commercially raised turkeys cannot fly.
- A large group of turkeys is called a flock.
- Turkeys have poor night vision.
- It takes 75-80 pounds of feed to raise a 30 pound tom turkey.
- A 16-week-old turkey is called a fryer. A five to seven month old turkey is called a young roaster.

BULLDOG BASKETBALL

- Dec 1 - Abernathy, 5 pm, JVG, VG
- Dec 3-5 - Anton Tourn, VG-VB
- Dec 3-5 - Tahoka JV Tourn, JVG-B

What's Outside

NWS official readings for Tahoka

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov 17	74	41	0.56"
Nov 18	55	34	
Nov 19	68	35	
Nov 20	63	36	
Nov 21	73	31	First Freeze!
Nov 22	48	26	
Nov 23	64	28	

(Precipitation/temps measured as of 8 a.m. on date reported, for the previous 24-hr period)

Total Precip for Jan:	1.70"
Total Precip for Feb:	0.89"
Total Precip for Mar:	0.53"
Total Precip for Apr:	2.10"
Total Precip for May:	12.83"
Total Precip for June:	1.62"
Total Precip for July:	2.45"
Total Precip for Aug:	1.51"
Total Precip for Sept:	1.24"
Total Precip for Oct:	3.67"
Total Precip for Nov:	0.76"
Total Precip. for 2015:	28.26"

Giving THANKS

Local family feels blessed to have tiny baby girl, *Angelu*, home at last

by JUANELL JONES

Baby Angelu arrived in this world three months earlier than expected, weighing less than 2 pounds. But the tiny little girl is a fighter, too, and after 75 days in the Neonatal ICU, she is home in time for her first Thanksgiving with her parents, Eugene and Alma Tomamao, and her older sister Eula. And she's now a 5-pound bundle of love.

"She was the tiniest person I had ever seen," says her mother, Alma. "When I first saw her, it was the first time I saw a tiny person like that. She was moving and crying like a big baby, so I said 'she's alive!' I felt scared and happy at the same time, and I was teary-eyed, Eugene was there and he just couldn't say anything. The nurses were saying, she's okay, she's okay ... but I've never seen anyone so tiny," she said.

Alma and Eugene Tomamao (pronounced to-mou'-mou) are both lab technicians at Lynn County Hospital. They moved to Tahoka from the Philippines in 2008 to work at the hospital together, bringing their 5-year-old daughter, Eula (now 12). Both are soft-spoken and friendly, energetic people who are quick to smile.

"Eugene and I were classmates that met in the lab in the Philippines, and we worked in the same lab for two

years. Then we worked in a lab in Saudi Arabia together for six years," explained Alma. They moved back to the Philippines, where Alma was teaching for four years and Eugene went to work in Kuwait. But they wanted to be together as a family, and when an opportunity arose to come to the USA, they took it.

"Linda Gordon was the lab manager at Lynn County Hospital, and she was a recruiter in Texas. She invited us to come to Tahoka, and if we accepted then the hospital would be processing all our paperwork. I came first, and there were only two people in the lab, so she decided to hire Eugene too. This gave us an opportunity to work together in the US, and we wanted to be together so that our daughter, Eula, could have her family all together. So we came, and both Eugene and I work in the lab here. It's been wonderful," said Alma.



Home at last ... Baby Angelu, now 3-1/2 months old and weighing in at a hefty 5 pounds, is home for her first Thanksgiving with her family, parents Alma and Eugene Tomamao, and sister Eula. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Angelu Melodie Tomamao is the newest addition to their family, born August 3, 2015 at 27 weeks, 4 days of gestation - that's 13 weeks early - and weighing only 1 lb. 12 oz. She came home to Tahoka on Oct. 17, after spending 75 days in the Neonatal ICU unit of UMC Hospital in Lubbock.

"It's been a long journey," admits Alma, hesitating before adding, "We had three miscarriages before this. I started miscarrying at age 36, and over the years had two more miscarriages. At age 41, we weren't really trying for it, but thought if it happened, it would be God's will.

"I was on an emotional roller coaster because of the earlier miscarriages, but when we made it past eight weeks we felt hopeful. I had hypertension (controlled by medication) before I became pregnant, but when I got pregnant with her my blood pressure went way down, to normal. It was so normal that the doctor took me off of the hypertension meds and said we would just keep an eye on it. I felt fine. But then came week 26 and my blood pressure just skyrocketed. When we went for a checkup at week 27, the doctor asked me if I was ready to be

(See GIVING THANKS, page 3)

Commissioner files for re-election, and DA Munk files for another term

by JUANELL JONES

Another candidate has filed for a local position in the March Primary elections, and the District Attorney also filed for another term, as of Monday afternoon. Both filed on the Republican party ticket. The filing period opened on Nov. 14 and continues through Dec. 14.

Don Blair, Lynn County Commissioner for Precinct 3, filed for re-election, the only local candidate to file during the past week, according to John Baker, Lynn County Republican Chairman. Another local candidate filed the previous week, Abraham Vega, for County Sheriff. No one has filed locally on the Democratic ticket, according to County Party Chairman Heather Jester.

For the 106th Judicial District, District Attorney Michael Munk filed

during the past week for re-election, according to the official Republican Party of Texas filing website. Challenger Philip Mack Furlow had filed for the DA seat the previous week, which now is a contested race.

The 106th Judicial District includes Lynn, Garza, Dawson and Gaines counties.

There are five county positions that are up for election, including the County Sheriff, County Attorney, County Tax Assessor-Collector, and Pct. 1 and Pct. 3 County Commissioners. All are four-year terms that will begin Jan. 1, 2017.

The Republican and Democratic Primary elections will be held in March 2016, with the winners from the primaries having a place on the ballot in the November 2016 General Election.

WATCH for the SIGNS ...

Tahoka Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the Tahoka Polar Express train ride on Saturday, Dec. 19, and the signs are already being placed in town to promote the free event. The train will depart from the "Depot" at Tahoka Donuts (1515 South 1st) and go through town to see the Christmas lights, making many trips throughout the 6:00-9:00 p.m. event. The Chamber is sponsoring a Christmas Lighting Contest for businesses and homes on this year's route. Pam Elrod, a Chamber Director, is pictured with this sign.



Now that's **funny!**

“ I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book. ”
-- Groucho Marx

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www.facebook.com/LynnCountyNews



Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain Friday

The 22nd annual Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain will be held on Friday, November 27, at the Borden County Museum, Courthouse and Courtyard in Gail.

The Courthouse and Museum will open at 5:30 p.m. for viewing and reminiscing, fellowship and refreshments. Santa Claus will be available to visit with the children. Please bring your own camera for photos. Christmas music will be provided by local musicians, and there will be storytime for children, hayrides, ornament contest and door prizes.

For more information, please e-mail lightsforgail@yahoo.com

Obituaries



Jerry Ford

Jerry Cody Ford, beloved father, grandfather and friend, of Tahoka departed this life on November 21, 2015, at the age of 82 years. He was born in Mt. Pleasant, on December 5, 1932, to John Leslie and Hazel (Harvey) Ford. Jerry married Veta Grace Johnson in September 28, 1952 in Plains. Jerry worked for Lyntegar Electric for 29 years, the City of Tahoka for 18 years before his retirement. Jerry was a Lynn County Municipal Judge for 18 years. He served on the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department for 27 years, Lynn County Hospital Board for 18 years and the Lynn County Pioneer Board. He was ordained as a Deacon on March 5, 1972 for First Baptist Church where he was a member.

Jerry was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Veta; his parents; daughter, Judy Sharp and sister, Aubrey Fae Gossett.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughter: Ann Skasik and husband Greg of Albuquerque, New Mexico; two sons: Jerry Ford and wife Jann of Tahoka, and Leslie Ford and wife Kay of San Antonio; son-in-law, David of San Angelo; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. with family receiving friends from 5:00-7:00 p.m., Friday, November 27, at Combest Family Funeral Homes in Tahoka. Celebration of Life Services will be held at

Three served on grand jury felony indictments

Three people were served with Grand Jury indictments during the past week, from the 106th Judicial District. Johnny D. Flores, 31, of Tahoka was indicted on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine); Jeremy Wall, 33, of Lubbock was indicted on unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon; and both were already incarcerated on the original charges. Kacee Lea Payne, 44, of Lubbock, was arrested on grand jury indictment of possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance (methamphetamine). Payne was stopped by law enforcement while traveling through Lynn County.

Tahoka Police and Lynn County officers assisted Brownfield and Terry County law enforcement officers last Wednesday, as they were in pursuit of a vehicle traveling eastbound on Hwy. 380 towards Tahoka, at 1:15 in the morning. Officers deployed stop sticks on the highway to slow the vehicle about 3 miles west of Tahoka, which was reportedly traveling at 75 mph without headlights on. The stop sticks shredded the right front tire of the vehicle, but the pursuit continued through Tahoka before the vehicle was stopped about 3 miles

1:00 p.m., Saturday, November 28, at the First Baptist Church in Tahoka, with Rev. Bill Fuller officiating. Interment will be at Tahoka Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers family suggest memorials donations be to First Baptist Church P.O. Box 1547 Box Tahoka, TX 79373 or Lynn County Hospital 2600 Lockwood Tahoka, TX 79373

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

east of town. The driver was arrested and released to Brownfield Police officers.

Police arrested a Tahoka man last Thursday morning on charges of assault domestic violence, after an altercation at a residence here, involving a man fighting with his father and sister.

Lynn County Jail held 46 inmates, including 17 for Lynn County, 26 for Ector County, and 3 for Dawson. Local charges included one for child support, one for failure to appear, one for driving while intoxicated, and the assault causing bodily injury to a family member.

Senior Citizen's Menu

Nov. 30- Dec. 4

Monday: Chicken rice casserole, black eyed peas, carrots, fruit cocktail

Tuesday: Polish sausage, pinto beans, coleslaw, peaches
Wednesday: Charbroiled beef patty w/ peppers & onions, garlic mashed potatoes, beets, mandarin oranges

Thursday: Tuna casserole, English peas, chuck wagon corn, applesauce

Friday: Beef stew, turnip greens, black forest parfait

A look back at ... Woodwork

(Reprinted from the past)

Dalton Wood



THANKSGIVING, according to Grollier's Encyclopedia, "originated in three days of prayer and feasting by the Plymouth colonists in 1621, although an earlier thanksgiving was offered in prayer alone by members of the Berkeley plantation near present-day Charles City, VA on Dec. 4, 1619."

Well, I certainly agree that prayers of thanksgiving for all the good things we have in life are appropriate. Prayers are great. But prayers with turkey and dressing and hot rolls are even greater, and I guess those folks in Plymouth felt the same way when they decided to include feasting.

Those people who just prayed on Dec. 4, 1621, had no idea that exactly 307 years later I would be born, and that while I might stumble occasionally in prayer, I can feast effortlessly.

President George Washington first proclaimed Thanksgiving Day a national holiday, and it was first observed on Nov. 26, 1789.

President Abraham Lincoln made it an annual holiday to be observed on the last Thursday in November, President Franklin Roosevelt moved it back a week, and then Congress in 1942 changed it to be celebrated on the fourth Thursday of each November.

That was another of Congress' mistakes. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day are three holidays which are too close together. There's not much can be done about Christmas and New Year's (unless you are Chinese, who start their new year some other time which I can't remember). So Thanksgiving could easily have been set up for March or one of those other months when not much is going on.

It's a little better in Canada, where Thanksgiving is officially celebrated on the second Monday in October.

-- November 2003

Santa's Land Christmas Park opens Thanksgiving

Santa's Land Drive-Thru Christmas Park in Tahoka will open at 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving night, with the Blue Weed Special Train taking visitors around the park throughout the opening weekend, from Nov. 26-29. Lights are on from 6:30-10:00 p.m., but the train rides will only be offered from 7:00-8:30 p.m., provided by Leighton and Joan Knox at Wildcat Mfg.

The park is located at South 11th and Ave. O, just off Hwy. 87 on the southern edge of Tahoka. A turnoff sign is posted on the highway to direct visitors to the park. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted to help keep the lights on.

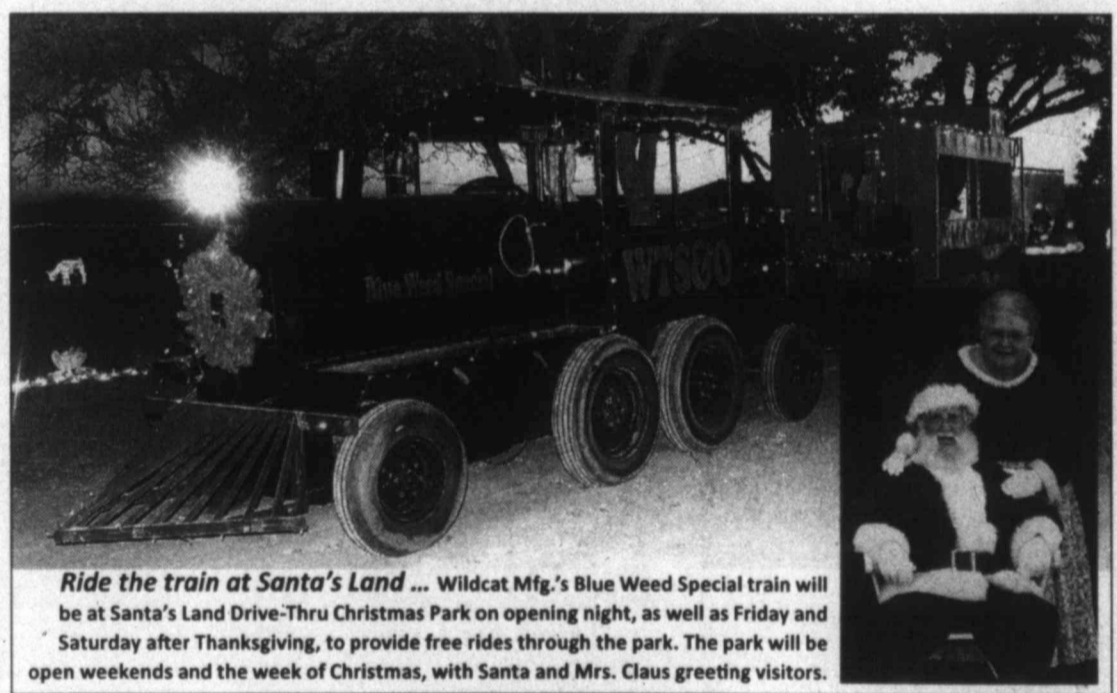
The park includes four acres of land, thousands of lights, 100-plus wooden cut outs, 15 blow-ups, lots of Christmas trees, and decorated antique cars. Visitors

are able to stay inside their cars or get out and mingle while enjoying a warm fire and some hot chocolate.

"We would love to invite you to stop by and see the lights and Santa and Mrs. Claus, and please bring your camera," invites Bill and Frances Chancy.

After the Thanksgiving weekend, Santa's Land Drive-Thru Park will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday

night in December, as well as every night the week of Christmas (December 20-27). The park opens at 6:30 p.m., with lights out no earlier than 10:00 p.m. If Santa is present he departs at 9:00 p.m. If you want to make sure Santa will be present please call (806) 891-1291 or check the Santa's Land facebook page at www.facebook.com/SANTASLAND79373.



Ride the train at Santa's Land ... Wildcat Mfg.'s Blue Weed Special train will be at Santa's Land Drive-Thru Christmas Park on opening night, as well as Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, to provide free rides through the park. The park will be open weekends and the week of Christmas, with Santa and Mrs. Claus greeting visitors.

We Give Thanks

For all the blessings of the past year and for all the possibilities that the future holds. We are especially thankful for all of our customers and friends that make this community so special!

Happy Thanksgiving

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY HOURS:
WE WILL CLOSE AT 3:00 P.M. (BOTH LOBBY AND DRIVE-THROUGH)
ON NOVEMBER 25TH & 27TH

First National Bank of Tahoka

1601 South 1st St., Tahoka ♦ 806 / 561-4511 ♦ Member FDIC.
www.fnbhtahoka.com ♦ 24-Hr. Bank by Phone: 1-855-232-8803 (toll free)

HOURS: Lobby - 9:00-3:00 Monday-Friday; Drive-Thru - 9:00-6:00 Monday-Friday • ATM at Stripes Convenience Store, Tahoka



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1717 Main • Tahoka

Go to <https://tahoka.biblionix.com/catalog/> and use our catalog for easier access to e-books ... you will need to enter your City-County Library card number and password to log in.

Questions? Just call 561-4050 and we will help!

Christmas Craft Show set Dec. 5

Area crafters are busily preparing for Tahoka's Annual Christmas Craft Show, which is set for Saturday, December 5. The popular event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Life Enrichment Center in Tahoka and will feature the talents of crafters from Tahoka, Lubbock, Brownfield and other surrounding communities.

"There will be over 20 great booths with a nice variety of items," according to Amy Preston of Tahoka, Craft Show Coordinator. "We've added several new vendors this year and will have many of the regulars back as well," added Preston.

Admission to the Craft Show is free. Phebe K. Warner Study Club will be preparing and selling lunch during the event.

Tahoka's Life Enrichment Center is located at 1717 Main Street in Tahoka. For more information, please contact Amy Preston at 806-759-1690.



Giving THANKS ...

(Continued from page 1)

admitted," she recalled. "I said, 'What?! No, I'm just here for a checkup. He said my blood pressure was way too high, and it was bad for me and for the baby.'"

Daughter Eula said, "That was the scariest thing I had ever heard."

Alma was admitted to the hospital, but it soon became apparent that medication could not control the spiraling blood pressure. On Aug. 3, her obstetrician said it was time to have an emergency cesarean to take the baby. She was born weighing 1 lb. 12 oz. and was placed in the neonatal intensive care unit, where she lived for the next 75 days.

"The nurses and staff there were our family for 75 days. They were so good to us, and they would ask about Eugene and Eula if they weren't there. I went to be with her every day, and we would also call every day," said her mother.

It would take time for baby Angelu to develop physically, as she was not fully developed at birth. She developed chronic lung disease and that is one of the main reasons she had to remain in NICU for so long, on oxygen, as they waited for her to be able to take in enough oxygen on her own. She also had a hole between the big arteries of the heart that is normally supposed to close by itself by the age of 2, but because she was premature, doctors said the hole was way too big.

"The doctor called me and said the hole had gotten bigger and they had to treat her, starting with steroids first and if it worked they would not have to do surgery on her. Thank God it worked! But a month later they did an echocardiogram and said the hole was getting bigger again. I went home, crying and praying, all night long. The next day they did an echo again, and it was a miracle because in just a day the hole got smaller again. I believe that our prayers really worked," says Alma.

By Oct. 17, weighing 5 pounds, baby Angelu got to

come home, where she is doing well. She has several specialists attending to her, including a high-risk doctor for preemies, a cardiologist, an eye doctor, and her pediatrician. She requires daily breathing treatments, and her family is vigilant about keeping a close eye on her.

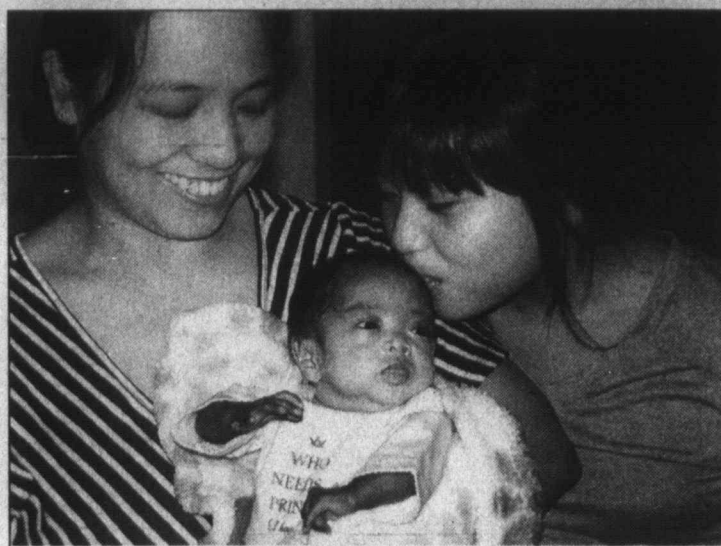
"I am very thankful to God for her doctors and nurses, and for this community, our LCHD family, and friends. Of course we are so very far away from our own family, that Tahoka is our family now. We have to divide our time between Eula and baby, but so many people help us. We go to the football games, and people that we don't even know would say how are you and how is the baby, and tell us they have been praying for us. When I went back to work for a few weeks, some patients would come and say we heard about what you went through and are praying for you. So we are very, very, very blessed," she says.

With the many hours away from home or taking care of Angelu, both Alma and Eugene worried that daughter Eula was not getting the attention she deserved from her family.

"Eula had a whole year of cheerleading and I hope she enjoyed it because I couldn't even fix her hair, but all the other parents took care of her and I could not believe how everyone offered to help us out. If we were late coming back from the hospital, we would call someone to pick her up. I don't think you can find that anywhere else — not even in the town where I grew up," Alma says with a laugh.

Eula says that her little sister is a miracle, and parents Alma and Eugene agree.

"She is God's gift to us," says Alma. "Even though we had to go through all of this, she's a gift. And during the experience, that we have had — we have more to be thankful for, and gained more friends. Good things came out from the bad experience. We feel truly blessed."



Sweet baby girl ... Eula Tomamao, 12, gives her baby sister Angelu a kiss, while their mother, Alma, watches with a smile. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Thanksgiving is the reason for TV dinners!

In 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey (260 tons) that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like sweet potatoes — and the first TV dinner was born!

Thanksgiving trivia questions

1. According to the Butterball corporation, they recommend that you thaw a wrapped turkey in the refrigerator how long per 4 pounds of bird? *One Day per 4 Lbs.*
2. Thanksgiving is celebrated only in the United States. True or False? *False, Canada also celebrates Thanksgiving*
3. The Greek Goddess of Corn is: *Demeter*
4. The first department store to hold a Thanksgiving parade was: *Gimbel's*
5. What is the name of the famous rock credited to where the pilgrims first landed? *Plymouth Rock*
6. Butterball says that once the turkey is done, you should let it stand for 15 minutes before serving. Why? *To let the stuffing cool a bit before you take it out.*
7. The Indians who were invited to the Thanksgiving feast were? *The Wampanoag tribe.*
8. Who was their chief? *Massasoit*
9. What was the name of the ship the pilgrims came over on? *Mayflower*
10. Who was the captain of this ship? *Christopher Jones*
11. Thanksgiving became a national holiday thanks to this woman who was an editor of a woman's magazine called "The Godey's Lady's Book". Who was she? *Sarah Hale hand wrote letters to Congress for years to establish Thanksgiving*
12. Which President was the first to establish Thanksgiving as a legal national holiday to be held the 4th Thursday in November? *Franklin D. Roosevelt*
13. In Canada, they celebrate Thanksgiving in what month? *October - the second Monday in October*
14. The term "Cornucopia" means what? *Horn of Plenty*
15. What was the original name for the pilgrims? *Puritans*
16. Butterball recommends that you cover the breast and the top of the drumsticks with aluminum foil when? *When it is 2/3 cooked, so that they are not over cooked*

Pages from the Past

By Vondell Elliott
Excerpts taken from past issues of THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS.

Total rainfall in 1941 is 41 inches

When the final returns were in it was found that 40.98 inches of rain had fallen in the editor's rain gauge during the year 1941.

In some parts of the county, the rainfall obviously exceeded that figure by several inches.

But 41 inches is more water than ever fell before, since records have been kept in any community in Lynn County.

The precipitation by months, as registered by the News rain gauge was as follows: Jan. 5.6, Feb. 1.38, March 2.71, Apr. 2.63, May 11.09, June 4.05, July 2.60, August .46, September 6.30, October 8.61, November .13, and December .46. - Jan. 2, 1942

Boxing Tournament to Open Monday

82 Fighters Enter Golden Gloves Meeting Here

Some of the best boxers on the South Plains are entering the Tahoka boxing tournament which is scheduled to begin Monday night and continue through Wednesday, January 21 at the local gymnasium.

A few of the boys that have sent in their entries are Tech McLaurin, O'Donnell flash, who is considered a top ranking welter weight; Dale Odom, another boy who is popular in fight circles; and Glen Bratcher of Draw who will represent Tahoka. Several Lubbock fighters are entering the tournament. Competition promises to be strong in each division... - Jan. 16, 1942

Train Almost Gets Geo. Short

George Short is hustling around about as fast as ever, but he came near being stopped cold Monday.

And, thereby hangs a tale. Mr. Short had been having some feed ground at Burleson's feed plant. As he was leaving the mill, he drove his car out onto the railroad track. It happens that the Blueweed Special was steaming down the track, unbeknown to George, at the same instant. Before George could say Jack Robinson, the train had bashed in the side of his car and flopped the car, George, and all over on the ground. The boys at Burleson's dashed to the rescue, but you can't hurt old George. And he's still driving the car. - Jan. 16, 1942

Over Five Hundred Babies

The News reporter got to looking through the birth records of Lynn County one day this week and discovered some figures that may be of interest to some of our readers. There have been four sets of twins born in this county since it was organized in 1903. The first twins on record were born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robinson in the town of Tahoka, Dr. S.H. Windham in attendance, March 16th, 1907, both being girls. The second pair to be recorded were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fletcher of about 10 miles north of Tahoka, Dr. M.E. Miles in attendance, June 6th, 1908, being a boy and a girl. The third pair were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ira Doak in Tahoka, May 20th, 1910, both girls. The fourth pair were born to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Henderson of 10 miles southeast of Tahoka, Dr. E.H. Inmon in attendance, Dec. 18th, 1915, both boys, one of whom weighed 5 and a 1/4 pounds and the other 6 and 3/4 pounds, mother and boys doing nicely. Two-hundred-fifty babies were born between the summer of 1903 and Nov. 7, 1909; somewhere between 60 and 70 babies have been born in Lynn County during this year and the total number recorded in the Lynn County records, up to date are 508. - Dec. 24, 1915

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving night, the opening in rides will Mfg.

as well as evk of Christmas (7). The park n., with lights in 10:00 p.m. If he departs at he wants to make present please 291 or check facebook page ok.com/SAN-



Craft Show Dec. 5

are busily pre-oka's Annual Show, which y, December 5. at will be held o 2:00 p.m. at ment Center ill feature the from Tahoka, field and other munities. e over 20 great ice variety of to Amy Pres-raft Show Co-ve added sev- this year and of the regulars led Preston. o the Craft be K. Warner be preparing h during the e Enrichment at 1717 Main For more in-ctact Amy 9-1690.

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.

-Melody Beattie

Happy Thanksgiving from

MICHAEL MUNK

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
106th Judicial District

We want your ...

Vintage Christmas photos and cards!

FOR OUR CHRISTMAS ISSUE

Send us your terrific family photo showing Christmas from the past

1960

1956

We want to use area vintage photos in our CHRISTMAS issue this year ... so search through your albums for a vintage photo and send it to us ... TODAY!

DEADLINE IS DEC. 14 - BUT PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL THEN!

Send your photos NOW to Lynn County News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka TX 79373 (we will scan them and return them to you asap), or email to LynnCoNews@poka.com. Please identify the individuals, or at least the family surname, for publication.

At least one family member, or descendant, must have Lynn County connections. Vintage photos must be from at least 20 years ago. Please include an approximate date/year of the photo.

Annual county road reports approved; social media policy added to handbook

by JUANELL JONES

Lynn County Commissioners met in regular session Monday morning at the Lynn County Courthouse, with County Judge Mike Braddock leading the session. Annual road reports that had been approved by the Grand Jury were approved by commissioners Don Blair, John Hawthorne, Larry Durham and Keith Wied.

In other business, commissioners voted unanimously to appoint Slate May as the county's representative on the Lynn County Appraisal District Board, to fill the seat vacated by Brady Askew; and approved adding a couple of policies to the county employee handbook, regarding the prohibition of nepotism as stated in the Texas Government Code, and a social media policy regarding county employees and county computer usage.

"As far as the nepotism rule (prohibiting favoritism granted to relatives), all elected officials are bound by that oath when they take office, so Lynn County already abides by it," explained County Attorney Rebekah Filley. "However, just to make it clear, I believe we should add it to the employee handbook," she told commissioners.

The social media policy notes that employees should refrain from commenting on county business on their personal facebook pages or other social media, and also explains that employees should be aware they have no right to privacy regarding anything viewed on county-owned computers.

Commissioners approved a Rider Supplement from Texas Department of Highways to accept road materials for fiscal year 2016, which would benefit Commissioner Precincts 1 and 3. The other two precincts receive state materials in alternat-

ing years.

Monthly bills were approved, and County Treasurer Amy Schuknecht informed the court that Texas Association of Counties paid the county \$1,057 for county employee participation in the County Wellness program.

Juanell Jones addressed the court to inform them that the Tahoka Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the Polar Express train ride on Saturday, Dec. 19, and that the courthouse grounds would be on the train's route, expressing appreciation for the Christmas lights and decorations that the county places on the grounds.

Raindl gets promoted at PlainsCapital, Dallas

PlainsCapital Bank, Dallas named Brent Raindl president of the Dallas market for the \$8.6 billion-asset bank in his new role. Raindl will report to Dallas Region Chairman George McCleskey and work with him in support of strategic initiatives for the Dallas market.

He joined PlainsCapital Bank (then PNB Financial, based in Lubbock) in 1998. He has served as senior vice-president of the bank and president of PlainsCapital Bank Preston Center since 2007 and will continue to oversee and serve at the 8200 Douglas Ave. Ste. 100 location.

Raindl serves on the boards of directors for NAIOP (the Commercial Real Estate Development Association) and for Junior Achievement of Dallas Inc.

He graduated magna cum laude with a BBA degree in finance from Texas Tech University and earned a MS degree in management and finance from the University of Texas at Dallas. Raindl is a 1996 graduate of Tahoka High School, and is the son of Mitch and Donna Raindl.



No Shave November raises funds ... Lynn County Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin, sporting more facial hair from the No Shave November, presents \$350 contributed by county law enforcement officers and staff who participated in the No Shave November event, to Janet Porterfield for the Lynn County Christmas For Kids program.

NEWS from the Library

CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY
1717 Main St. • Tahoka TX
(inside the Life Enrichment Center)

The Library will be closed November 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving. The City-County Library wishes everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Story Time

Characters were very plentiful at City-County Library Story Time this week. Since this is the time of year when families get together around the table enjoying each others company and a lavish meal, Cooking Up Characters was the theme focus.

After the children heard stories about cooking like "Annie the Apple Pie Fairy" by Tim Bugbird and "How to Make a Cherry Pie and See the U.S.A." by Margorie Priceman, the children sang silly songs then

headed for the craft area where they were delighted to see cupcakes that they turned into turkeys then placed into special cupcake boxes which they also wildly and colorfully decorated. They really cooked up some characters!

Story Time in December will be: 2-Jingle Bells; 9-Santa is Coming; 16-Santa's Helpers; 23-Staying up for Christmas; 30-Winter Wonderland. Story Time is on Wednesdays at 10:30. Due to school being out on the 23rd and 30th of December, the library is inviting children up to the 5th grade to come and join in the fun.

Ribbon Making Class

Christmas, Birthdays, or Decorations for any time of the year are just a few of the possibilities for bows. The City-County Library is offering a Bow Making Class for adults Monday, December 7 from 5-6pm. Examples of ribbon that are easy to work with are on display at the library. Sign up for the class has begun. Please bring your own ribbon, everything else is provided by the library.

City-County Library Christmas Open House

The Library will be hosting a Christmas Open House December 10th from 5-7pm. Santa's elves are getting everything ready for Santa and Mrs. Claus' arrival at the Open House. Santa and Mrs. Claus would love to visit with the children of Lynn County.

Stop by Santa's workshop and see Santa without the hustle and bustle of crowds and traffic. Bring your cameras for the picture perfect photo of your children with Santa or take your family Christmas photo.

Don't forget to stop by Mrs. Claus' kitchen where photos with Mrs. Claus is welcome. Then try some of her tasty North Pole treats prepared by Mrs. Claus and her special little helpers.

The Library would like to thank Santa's Land Drive Thru Park for sponsoring Santa's Workshop and Mrs. Claus' Kitchen.

While at the Open House stop by and register for one of our two door prizes. There will be two door prize drawings. All adults and children that attend the Open House can sign up for a prize package, one for adults and one for children, including a \$100.00 Gift card donated by 106th District Attorney Michael Munk. Time of drawings to be announced and you must be present to win.

SANTA LETTERS

The City-County Library will be selling letters to your children from Santa as a fundraiser. Call or come by the Library to order your letters. Children's Book Signing Event

West Texas children's book author, Jo Burns, will be at Library's Christmas Open House Thursday, December 10th from 5pm-7pm to autograph her children's book. Don't miss your chance to get a children's book signed by a local author.

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. 14 to make their donations. Contributors' names will be printed in the Dec. 24 issue of the Lynn County News.

This annual fundraiser lets community members send Christmas greetings to friends while contributing to the Lady Dobbins Stewart or Maurice Bray Scholarship funds 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.

Senior Citizen raffle drawing set Jan. 4

The Lynn County Pioneer Senior Citizen's BBQ grill w/ accessories drawing will be held on Monday, Jan. 4th. Raffle tickets are still available and are now being sold for 2 for \$25.

"If you have already purchased one or more tickets at \$25 each, you will receive an additional ticket to go into the drawing," said Bianca Baker, director of the Senior Citizen Center.

Contact Bianca at the Center or Dollar Store, Cathy Ross at 998-5363, Pam Elrod at the Lynn County News, or Pop Belly's BBQ.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for cleaning cemetery

To whom it may concern,

I really appreciate the volunteers who have spent many hours and have done a great job of cleaning the Tahoka Cemetery.

I have family buried in the cemetery. When I visited last Christmas to lay wreaths, I was so sad to see the condition of the grounds.

I would propose the city fathers contact those in charge of the Green Memorial Cemetery in Wilson. Mayor Donald Klaus can direct you to the correct people.

Each year they have a drive in the spring. They publicize in the Lynn County News and church bulletins. Each church has a representative to help collect funds. People are very active in making donations for Memorials in Memory of loved ones. Therefore money is available to maintain a beautiful cemetery.

I lived in Lynn County for 61 years and want to be proud of a beautiful Tahoka Cemetery.

Thanks so very much,
JoAnn Steinhauser (Fenton)

Fun Facts about the First Thanksgiving

- The Plymouth Pilgrims were the first to celebrate Thanksgiving.
- The Pilgrims sailed across the Atlantic Ocean on a ship known by the name of "Mayflower" to reach North America.
- They celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day at Plymouth, Massachusetts.
- The Wampanoag Indians were the people who taught the Pilgrims how to cultivate the land.
- The Pilgrim leader, Governor William Bradford, had organized the first Thanksgiving feast in 1621. He invited the neighboring Wampanoag Indians to the feast.
- The first Thanksgiving celebration lasted three days.
- Lobster, rabbit, chicken, fish, squashes, beans, chestnuts, hickory nuts, onions, leeks, dried fruits, maple syrup and honey, radishes, cabbage, carrots, eggs, and goat cheese are thought to have made up the first Thanksgiving feast.
- The pilgrims didn't use forks; they ate with spoons, knives, and their fingers.

May every *Sunrise* hold more PROMISE,

and every *Sunset* hold more PEACE.

Happy Thanksgiving from

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Take a photo of you or someone else displaying The Lynn County News (show the front page of the newspaper) in an interesting location or setting anywhere around the world. Provide information about the photo. We'll publish them as soon as space is available.

Email photos to: LynnCoNews@poka.com or bring them to 1617 Main St. or mail to Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373

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MLS#201503020. Wow! Home ownership pride all over this home! Home is immaculate! Home has had so many updates and remodeling. All Plumbing, sewer line and wiring replaced. Kitchen and Baths have been remodeled recently. All new stainless appliances. All the mortar in the brick was removed and new mortar installed. All windows replaced with Anderson Windows and it has a glassed in Sun Porch with its own A/C and Heat. Home sits on 3 lots, sprinkler system for yard and flower-beds with private water well for yard. Home has attached garage and in 2006 owner built a detached garage/shop tucked in at the end of concrete drive. It has a finished basement in the garage and tons of storage area in garage. Plantation shutters, 2 hot water heaters, carpet and flooring in 2011. HVAC 1.5 years old. So much more! Must see this Amazing Home to Believe!

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NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees
Tahoka Independent School District

December 10, 2015
6:00 p.m.
2129 N. Main
Tahoka, Texas

Notice is provided that the Board of Trustees of the Tahoka Independent School District will hold a public hearing on December 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at 2129 N. Main, Tahoka, Texas, to offer the public an opportunity to provide comments regarding the District's Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) rating for the 2014-15 school year. In addition, the district's 2014-15 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) will be discussed with an opportunity for comments. The meetings are required by law.

Aviso de Audiencia Pública
Del Consejo de Administración
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tahoka

10 de Diciembre, 2015
6:00 p.m.
2129 N. Main
Tahoka, Texas

Se comunica que el Consejo de Administración del Distrito escolar Independiente de Tahoka se reunirá el 10 de Diciembre, 2015 a las 6:00 p.m. en 2129 N. Main, Tahoka, Texas, para dar al público la oportunidad de ofrecer comentarios relativos con respecto al el Distrito Financiera Integridad del Sistema de Calificaciones de Tejas (FIRST) calificación para el año escolar 2014-2015. Además, Texas Informe de Rendimiento Académico del Distrito 2014-15 (TAPR) será discutido con una oportunidad para comentarios. Las reuniones están obligados por la ley.

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The Lynn County Appraisal District is accepting applications for an office clerical clerk.

Applicant must have a high school diploma or its equivalency. Applicant must be proficient with Microsoft Office and Windows based computer applications, as well as other office machines. Applicant must have a good attitude and the ability to work well with public as well as co-workers in a small office setting.

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Applications will be accepted through November 30, 2015.

Applications may be obtained at the Lynn County Appraisal District located at 1615 Main Street in Tahoka.

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The CITY OF TAHOKA is currently accepting applications for a **Grounds Maintenance** employee. This is a full time position. Duties include mowing and taking care of the grounds at the city cemeteries and all other properties owned by the city. Applicants must have a valid Texas driver's license, must be able to pass a background check, must be able to work without direct supervision, and must be dependable and reliable.

Applications can be picked up at City Hall, 1807 Main Street, or can be printed off the city's website, www.tahoka-texas.com. If questions please contact the City Administrator's office at City Hall, 806-561-4211.

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These local firms are sponsoring this **FARM NEWS:**

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Capital Farm Credit
Clint Robinson
Jason Gandy

Farmers Co-op Association
No. 1

Lynn County Farm Bureau

High Plains Ag Conference set Dec. 11

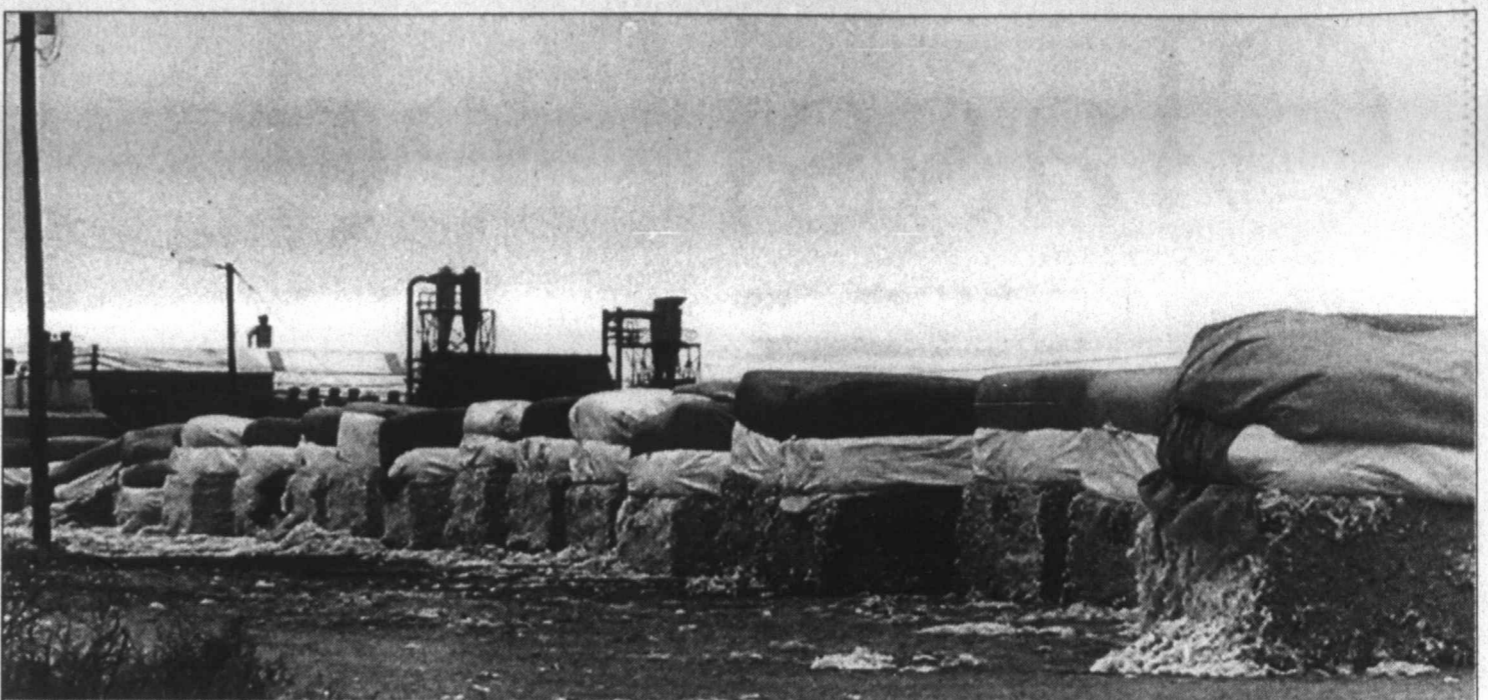
The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the annual High Plains Ag Conference from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1102 E. Farm-to-Market Road 1294, Lubbock.

"As is our custom with this event, the curriculum will cover an array of topics of interest to producers throughout our region and offer a number of Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units," said Robert Scott, AgriLife Extension agent in Lubbock County.

Individual preregistration, which includes lunch, is \$35 by Dec. 9 and \$45 thereafter and at the door, with no lunch guarantee. For more information, contact Scott at 806-775-1740 or rj-scott@tamu.edu.

Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units – one integrated pest management, one laws and regulations and three general – will be offered.

- Topics and presenters will include:
- New Technologies in Resistant Weed Management – new chemicals to be used for pigweed control. How and when to apply chemicals for best pigweed control. Dr. Peter Dotray, AgriLife Extension weed specialist, Lubbock.
- Evaluation of Transgenic Cotton Varieties-discussion of new variety traits regarding bollworm resistance, Dicamba and 2,4-D tolerance. Dr. Mark Kelley, AgriLife Extension cotton program specialist, Lubbock.
- Sugarcane Aphid Management



Ready for ginning ... Modules are lined up ready to be ginned at Farmer's Cooperative Association #1 in Tahoka as cotton ginning season is in full swing. Officially, Tahoka had its first freeze on Saturday, Nov. 21 this year when temperatures fell to 31 degrees. (LCN PHOTO)

Lynn County Area Gins BALE COUNT

(reported 11-23-15)

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union.....	62,195
New Home Coop, Lakeview.....	32,067
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell.....	26,305
Wells Coop Gin.....	23,177
Farmers Coop #1, Tahoka.....	22,664
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell.....	22,200
Garlyn Gin.....	4,300
TOTAL BALES.....	192,908

SPAG reps at Sr. Citizens Center here Dec. 1 for Medicare enrollment

SPAG Area Agency on Aging will be at the Lynn County Pioneer Senior Citizen's Center, 1600 S. 3rd, Tahoka, on December 1, for Medicare open enrollment/prescription drug plan/Medicare part D.

Contact Center Director, Bianca Baker at 561-5264 to schedule an appointment to for your plan comparison. Bring Medicare card and all prescription medication to scheduled appointment.

ment-best management practices for sugarcane aphid control. What to spray, when to spray and how to determine the need to spray, Dr. Pat Porter, AgriLife Extension entomologist, Lubbock.

- Pesticide Laws and Regulations, Steve Boston, Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide inspector, Lubbock.
- 2016 AgriLife Extension Program Updates for Lubbock County, Scott, Mark Brown, county agent, and Vikram Baliga, county horticulturist.
- Industry Update, Angie Martin, Texas Corn Producers, industry relations, Lubbock.
- Corn Sorghum Management, Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Extension agronomist, Amarillo.

Superintendent salary survey released

A recent survey of district trends in superintendents' salaries and benefits was released by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) and Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA). The TASB/TASA survey conducted annually by the TASB HR Services division is the first of a series of three surveys that is the most definitive study of school district compensation and benefits practices in Texas. The information is used by policymakers at both the local and state levels to make decisions about educators' pay. Of particular note:

Twenty-nine percent of returning superintendents (171) did not receive a pay increase. Eighty-seven percent of respondents (604) had a returning superintendent for 2015-16.

The average superintendent pay increase was 2.9 percent, down from last year's average of 3.2 percent.

The average superintendent salary for 2015-16 is \$139,494, a 2.9 percent increase from 2014-15.

Average superintendent salaries range from \$92,479 in districts with fewer than 500 students to \$302,563 in districts with more than 50,000 students. Half of reported salaries are less than \$120,000.

The 2015-16 survey also reveals that superintendents have been in their current position for an average of four years and report an average of seven years of total experience as a superintendent in any district. Most superintendents (63 percent) have served in only one school district. Of the 88 districts (13 percent) with a new superintendent for 2015-16, 68 percent hired a superintendent with no previous experience in the position.

TASB is a nonprofit association established in 1949 to serve local public school districts. School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent serve approximately 5.2 million public school students.

Be Carefull
Drive safely
and have a
Happy Thanksgiving

Celebrate Native American Heritage month by visiting Texas Historic places

Did you know November is Native American Heritage Month? The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) travel website textastimetravel.com features a curated guide to sites and museums throughout the state where visitors can learn about the history and legacy of American Indian heritage in Texas.

The Caddo Mounds State Historic Site, located in Cherokee County west of Nacogdoches, features earthen mounds built more than 1,200 years ago by a group of Caddo Indians known as the Hasinai. The site was the southwestern-most ceremonial center for the great Mound Builder culture, which spanned the eastern North American woodlands for more than 2,500 years. First opened to the public in 1982, the site consists of two temple mounds, a burial mound, and a large portion of the adjacent village area. A new visitors center features immersive exhibits and displays about the everyday life of the early Caddo people, and a walking trail offers access to the scenic grounds. For more information, go to visitcaddomounds.com or call 936-858-3218.

East of El Paso, the Hueco Tanks served as a refuge for humans traversing the Chihuahuan Desert for more than 10,000 years. The Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site features unique geology and a well-preserved collection of pictographs by the Jordana Mogollon, an ancestor group of the Pueblo people who occupied the site around A.D. 1150. The pictographs can be seen beneath rock overhangs, within boulder shelters, and at other odd and hidden places throughout the site, found through guided and self-guided tours. The site also offers camping, hiking, bouldering, and rock climbing. Information on the site's history and activities is available at tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/hueco-tanks and 915-857-1135.

In Amarillo, the Kwahadi Museum of the American Indians features fine art and exhibits highlighting the crafts and cultures of the Pueblo and Plains Indian people. The adjacent theater has two performance ar-

cas and has regularly scheduled public shows by the Kwahadi Dancers, a local youth group, as well as visiting groups. Information is available at kwahadi.com/museuminfo and 806-335-3175.

Visit the THC's website at textastimetravel.com/american-indians for additional places in Texas where you can experience and connect with American Indian history and culture. The site features a range of tools and guides to plan heritage-themed journeys. Travelers can see familiar places in a new light and discover lesser-known destinations with intriguing stories as they travel for business and pleasure throughout the state.

UIL 2016-2018 reclassification guidelines given

The University Interscholastic League released the conference cutoff numbers for the 2016-2018 reclassification and realignment which provide the range of enrollment for each of the six conferences.

The 2016-18 alignments will be released on February 1 for football and basketball. More information about alignments can be found at www.uil-texas.org/alignments.

Conference Cutoffs: 6A: 2150 and above; 5A: 1100 - 2149; 4A: 480 - 1099; 3A: 221 - 479; 2A: 105 - 220; 1A: 104.9 and below

1A - 4A Football Division I and Division II Numbers
1A Division I: 59 - 104.9; 1A Division II: 58 and below; 2A Division I: 158 - 220; 2A Division II: 105 - 157; 3A Division I: 319 - 479; 3A Division II: 221 - 318
4A Division I - 723 - 1099; 4A Division II - 480 - 722

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