

## What's Inside

- **Obituaries** - pg. 2
  - Kenneth Otto Carter
  - Ruben H. Perez
- **Woodwork** - pg. 2
- **Burglaries, rollover reported by law officers** - pg. 3
- **Wilson News** - pg. 4
- **HPWD annual water level measurements in progress** - pg. 6

## Elected officials to be sworn in on January 1

All county officials who were recently elected in the Nov. 8 General Election will take the Oath of Office in ceremonies to be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017 in the District Courtroom of the Lynn County Courthouse. Family members and interested citizens may attend.

Lynn County officials who will be sworn in include: Abraham Vega, Sheriff; Rebekah Filley, County Attorney; Donna Willis, Tax Assessor/Collector; Matt Woodley, Pct. 1 County Commissioner; and Don Blair, Pct. 3 County Commissioner.

## 'Did you know' ...

- Proportional to their weight, men are stronger than horses.
- They have square watermelons in Japan - they stack better.
- It is possible to lead a cow upstairs but not downstairs.
- A mole can dig a tunnel 300 feet long in just one night.
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients in dynamite.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY TO BENEFIT SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

A New Year's Eve party of fun games, food and fellowship will be held on Dec. 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tahoka City Hall Meeting room, (old Lyntegar building). Cost will be \$10 per person with proceeds going to the Lynn County Senior Citizens Building fund. Bring your favorite snack and game to share.

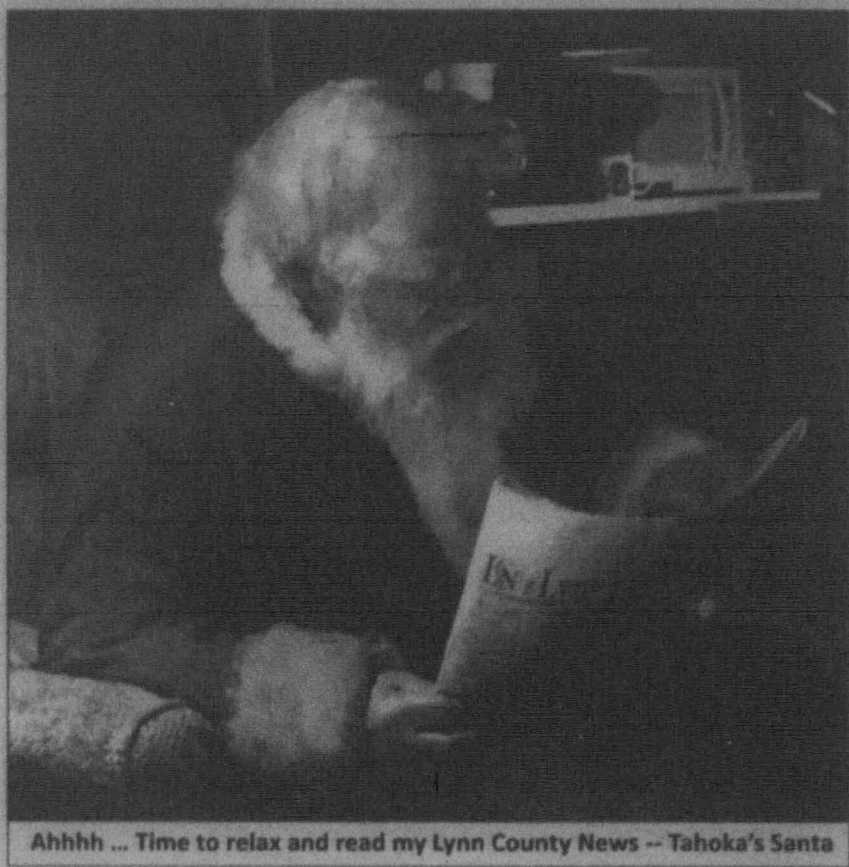
## What's Outside

NWS official readings for Tahoka

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Dec 20	42	15	
Dec 21	71	31	
Dec 22	70	37	
Dec 23	50	36	
Dec 24	64	36	
Dec 25	72	36	
Dec 26	62	36	

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

Total Precip for Jan:	0.23"
Total Precip for Feb:	0.12"
Total Precip for Mar:	0.39"
Total Precip for Apr:	1.08"
Total Precip for May:	5.83"
Total Precip for June:	3.76"
Total Precip for July:	0.49"
Total Precip for Aug:	5.34"
Total Precip for Sept:	7.51"
Total Precip for Oct:	0.25"
Total Precip for Nov:	3.21"
Total Precip for Dec:	1.01"
Total Precip. for 2016:	29.22"



Ahhh ... Time to relax and read my Lynn County News -- Tahoka's Santa

## Keith Wied finishes term as Pct. 1 Commissioner

Lynn County Commissioner Keith Wied finished his term this week, attending his final meeting as County Commissioner of Precinct 1 on Tuesday, Dec. 27. County officials honored Wied with a going-away party following Tuesday morning's commissioner session, and thanked him for his years of service. Wied served as commissioner for Lynn County from Nov. 2007 through December 2016.

Wied chose not to run for reelection for another term, and commissioner-elect Matt Woodley will take the oath of office for the Pct. 1 seat on Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017.

In other business at Tuesday's meeting, commissioners accepted a corrected plat for the Palms at Kitty Hawk, a subdivision in northwestern Lynn County. This is a replat of Lots 1-32, 38-41 and landing strip located

in section 120, block 12, EL&RR RY., Co. Survey.

Commissioners approved a motion regarding health insurance, to add that if an elected official becomes an employee with no time lapse, said official will be covered fully by the county health insurance and will be exempt from the 90-day probation period.

Budget amendments were approved and monthly bills approved for payment.

County Judge Mike Braddock reported on the changes and improvements at the county showbarn, telling commissioners about the renovation project currently underway by the Lynn County Stock Show Assn.

"They are almost finished with the insulation, and the new south door is installed," Braddock told *The News*.

(See COMMISSIONERS, page 6)

## A caring heart ... Local woman volunteers time to assist with GED classes here

by JUANELL JONES

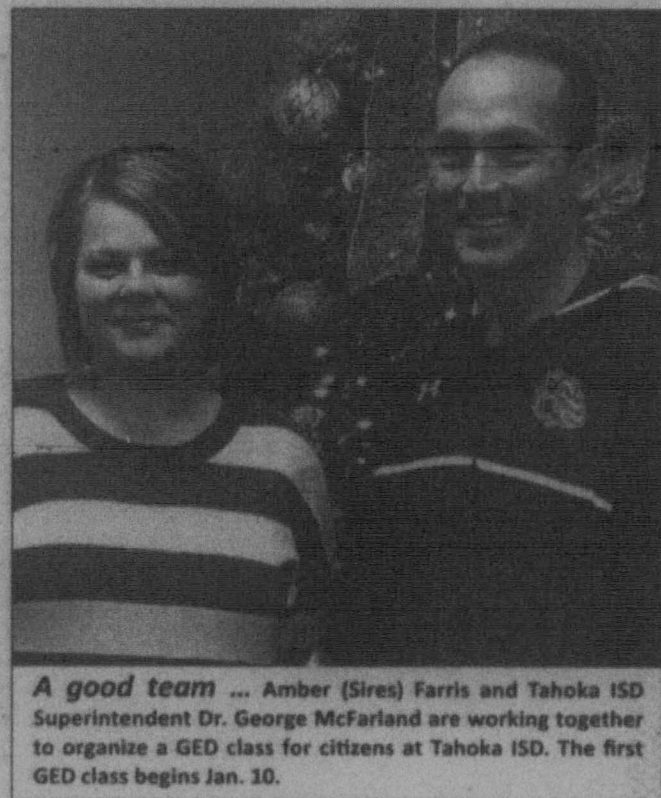
Amber (Sires) Farris has a passion. She wants people who may have low self-esteem because of not finishing high school to know that they are worthy, and wants to encourage them to obtain their GED. She has such a passion for it that she visited with Tahoka ISD Superintendent Dr. George McFarland about it, and now she volunteers her time to seek out those who would benefit from the program that is being offered through TISD. But she doesn't stop there - she calls them, encourages them, and is an exuberant cheerleader to support them as they undertake a new chapter in their lives.

"I'm so excited about this program," says Farris. "Did you know that Lynn County is in the top 5% of the poorest counties in the state of Texas? And that designation tends to have the stigma of an uneducated population? And so, rather than being judgmental of those who, for whatever reason, were unable to get their high

school degree, I decided I wanted to be a part of the solution and to help people get an education, and maybe have an opportunity to better their lives," she explains.

Farris believes the basic step to having an opportunity to making a better life, is to start

(See GED CLASSES, page 3)



A good team ... Amber (Sires) Farris and Tahoka ISD Superintendent Dr. George McFarland are working together to organize a GED class for citizens at Tahoka ISD. The first GED class begins Jan. 10.

## A brand new look for 2017 County showbarn renovation includes new pens, show ring

by JUANELL JONES

The Lynn County Showbarn will feature a fresh new look - and be more 'user-friendly' - in January's upcoming stock shows. A much-needed renovation has been undertaken by the Lynn County Stock Show Association during the past few months, to upgrade and insulate the holding pen areas, as well as adding new show ring panels, gates and other upgrades.

"It's been 53 years since the wooden pens were built by the Lynn County Stock Show Assn, to hold animals at the showbarn, back in 1963, and we really needed new ones," said Martin Gill, President of the Stock Show Assn. "We're having 150 custom-built steel pens made to replace the old wooden pens and doing some other much-needed renovation at the county showbarn. We expect to have the majority of the renovations finished in time for the Tahoka Show and County Stock Show coming up in January," he added.

Gill said the new animal pens will be 5x5 ft. pens, custom-built by a company in Canada to replace 110 wooden pens that have been in the showbarn for years.

"The old wooden pens were in horrible shape, and had diseases in them, and a lot of the gates didn't work," Gill said, shaking his head. "These new pens will be nice, with better gates, and we have asked all the school ag programs in the county to help us by building new storage racks

for the pens," said Gill, explaining that when the pens are not needed they can be taken up and placed on the storage racks to get them off the floor. "These pens can be moved out to the wall, and that will allow space to be used for other activities if needed. And, it will make cleanup so much better," he added.

There will be a brand new garage door on the south entrance of the barn that will allow better access for loading and unloading animals, and the Stock Show Assn. is also adding spray foam insulation to the walls to better insulate the animal holding area in the southern half of the showbarn. The front public area of the showbarn is already insulated, but the back half has never been insulated.

Gill said the Stock Show Assn. is also buying new show ring panels, with all new gates, for showing animals in the stock shows.

"Those old gates we had in the past were hard to use, and didn't work right a lot of the time," he explained.

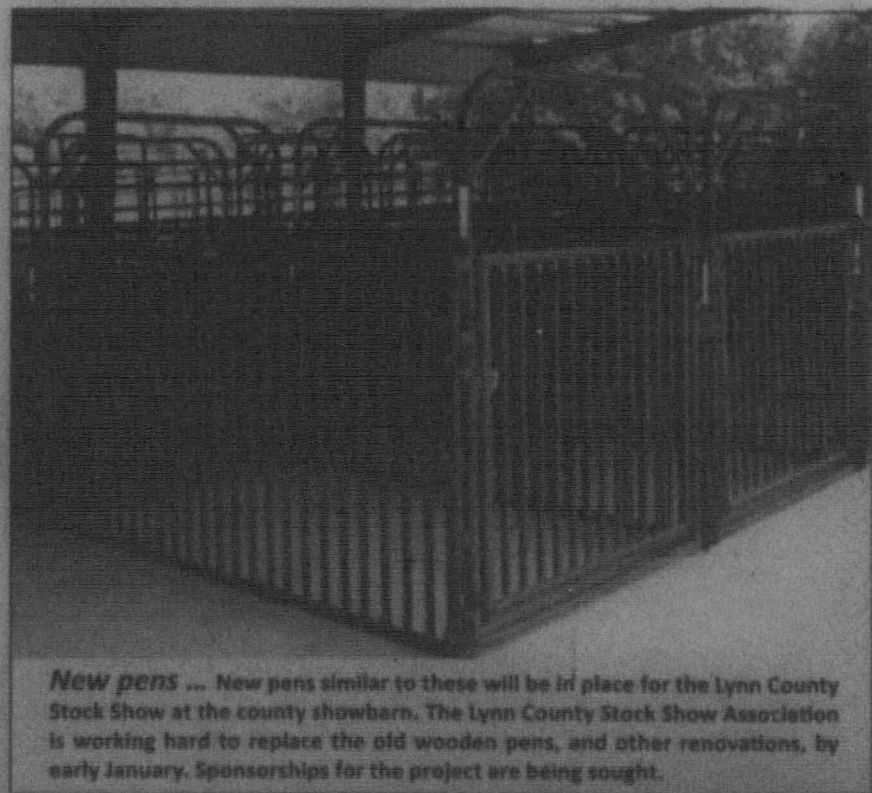
It is a large project that the Stock

Show Assn. has taken on to improve the showbarn, and they have opened up sponsorship opportunities to help fund the renovation. Sponsorship opportunities include Platinum Sponsors (\$5,000 contribution), Gold (\$3,000), Silver (\$2,000), Bronze (\$1,000) and Pen (\$400).

To become a sponsor, contact any Lynn County Stock Show Assn.

member. Gill is president of the Stock Show Assn. and may be contacted at (806) 577-3579. Vice President is Cody Donald, (806) 831-5860; and Treasurer is Marcy Gandy, (806) 544-1719.

"Your donation is greatly appreciated," said Gill. "This project would not be possible without you," he added.



New pens ... New pens similar to these will be in place for the Lynn County Stock Show at the county showbarn. The Lynn County Stock Show Association is working hard to replace the old wooden pens, and other renovations, by early January. Sponsorships for the project are being sought.



Did you know?

“ Heinz Catsup leaving the bottle travels at 25 miles per year ... ”  
that's reeeaaally sloooowww!

### The Lynn County News

The Lynn County News (USPS 52-3200) is published weekly by Lynn County News, Inc., on Thursday (52 issues per year) at Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas. Periodical postage paid at Tahoka, Texas 79373. Postmaster: Send address change to The Lynn County News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373.

**DESCRIPTION RATES:**  
Lynn County Address - \$25 year  
Other Addresses in U.S. - \$30 year

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**DEADLINE:** Noon Tuesday

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**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday-Thursday, 9 am to 5:30 pm  
Closed on Fridays. Office hours available by appointment.

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**MEMBER**  
Texas Press Association

### New Home School Menu

January 2-6  
**Breakfast**

**Monday:** No School  
**Tuesday:** Sausage biscuit/  
breakfast round  
**Wednesday:** Pita pocket/Breakfast  
strudel  
**Thursday:** Stuffed bagel, sausage/  
PIB Sandwich  
**Friday:** Dutch Waffle, bacon/  
Cereal & toast

**Lunch**  
**Monday:** No School  
**Tuesday:** Eschichadas, Spanish rice/  
Tangitos & Queso  
**Wednesday:** Pizza, churros/Fiesta  
Bowl  
**Thursday:** Chicken nuggets, mac  
& cheese, green beans  
**Friday:** Burgers/Corn dog  
Santa Fe Salad available daily

## Obituaries



### Kenneth Otto Carter

Kenneth Otto Carter, a beloved husband, father and friend, passed away on Monday, December 19, 2016 at the age of 91. Kenneth was born on November 2, 1925 in Abbott, to Otto and Neat Carter. He graduated from Tahoka High School. He went on to join the United States Navy in 1943. He served during World War II and received an honorable discharge in 1946. In 1952, he graduated from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. On February 3, 1968, he married the love of his life, Patricia. They were blessed to spend 48 years together.

Kenneth was a successful Lubbock businessman. He, along with his wife and son, owned and operated the Lubbock El Chico restaurant since 1969, making it the longest tenured El Chico franchise in existence. Kenneth loved spending time at the restaurant visiting with customers.

Anyone who knew Kenneth knew of his deep passion for riding motorcycles. He rode his motorcycle to most parts of the United States, including Alaska, Key West, Maine, and Southern California. He also took several trips to Canada. He was also a member of the Tahoka Masonic Lodge for 69 years and rode in many Shriner parades.

death by his beloved wife Patricia, his parents, and his sisters Christine Carter and Joy Lindley.

Those left to cherish Kenneth's memory are his son Kenneth Scott Carter, his brother Clayton "Ike" Carter, and many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

A memorial was held on Thursday, December 22, 2016 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Combest Family Funeral Homes in Lubbock, Texas. Services were held on Thursday, December 22, 2016 for family and friends from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at El Chico Restaurant. A graveside service was held for family and friends on Friday, December 23, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tahoka Cemetery.

Celebrate the life of Kenneth by signing his guestbook at: [www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com)



### Ruben H. Perez

Viewing and visitation for Ruben H. Perez 67, of Tahoka will begin Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at Calvillo Funeral Home Chapel in Lubbock at 5 p.m. Rosary will be held Thursday, Dec. 29, at 7 p.m. at Calvillo Funeral Home Chapel in Lubbock. Funeral mass will be celebrated on Friday, Dec. 30, at 2 p.m. at

St. Jude Catholic Church with Father John Stevens officiating. Burial will be at Nevils Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Calvillo Funeral Home and Chapel. He died on Monday, Dec. 26, in San Antonio.

He was born on August 10, 1949 in Chicago, Illinois to the late Evaristo Sr. and Elvinda Perez. He worked for Poka Lambro Phone Company for nineteen years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Maria Ponce, Amaia Perez, Lupe Perez and Susie Perez; brothers Evaristo Perez Jr., Jose Perez and Eldoro Perez.

Survivors include his son David (Maribell) Perez of Tahoka; daughter Denise (James) Devroe of Lubbock; former spouse Gloria Perez of Tahoka; six grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

### Senior Citizens LUNCH MENU

Jan. 2-6

**Monday:** Closed for New Year's

**Tuesday:** Beef, macaroni, & tomato casserole, lima beans, fruit & oatmeal bar

**Wednesday:** Beef tips & noodles or ric, meadow blend veg., corn, chocolate cake

**Thursday:** BBQ Chicken breast, roasted ranch potatoes, squash, salad, peach cobbler

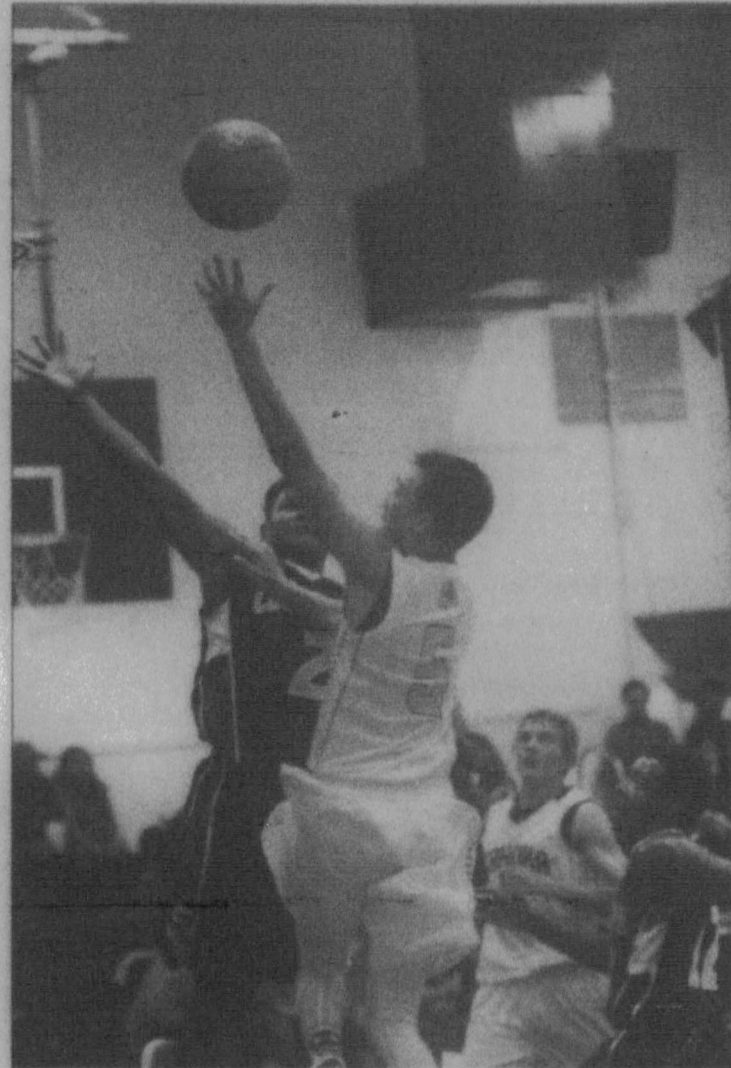
**Friday:** Tilapia, corn, coleslaw, cherry crisp

Mark your calendars...  
\* Donations to benefit the Center are needed for ongoing expenses! All donations are tax deductible; we are a 501(c)3 organization.

\* Join us for the New Year's Eve party at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 31 at the City Hall community room. Cost will be \$10 per person benefiting the Senior Citizens Building fund.



**Five generations...** Pictured here are five generations of the Askew family. From left are Brooke Inkiebarger, Sarita Weeks, Brandie Hudson holding Madison Rodriguez, and Christine Askew holding McKynlie Rodriguez.



**Long arms ...** Tahoka's Colbe Perez (5) faces off with a Crosbyton player in last Tuesday night's 64-52 win over Crosbyton. Perez tossed in 4 points for the Bulldogs. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

## Please visit these Lynn County Churches

**NEW HOME BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Corner of 4th & Smith • Pastor: Larry Maddox  
*"Serving the Lord for 100 Years"*

**SERVICES:**  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 am  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm  
Wed. Youth/Children's Activities ..... 7:00 pm

**TAHOKA**  
**St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church**  
1829 S. Ave. M • Tahoka, TX 79373 • Office (806) 561-4436  
PASTOR: FATHER JOHN S. RATHINAM, 806-241-0086  
DEACON: PETE PANIAGUA, 445-4077

Sunday Mass - 11:00 am  
Communion Mass Service Wednesdays & Thursdays, 6:00 pm  
CCE Wednesdays at 6:30 pm  
Reconciliation 10:30 am Sundays or any time by appointment

**Draw First United Methodist Church**  
(established 1907)  
P.O. Box 496 • O'Donnell, TX 79351  
Phone (806) 428-3357  
PASTOR: REV. WESTON PENDERGRASS  
Sunday Morning Worship - 9:15 am

**First Methodist of Tahoka**  
1101 Ave. J • Tahoka • (806) 561-4503  
email: [fmotahoka@poka.com](mailto:fmotahoka@poka.com)  
SUNDAYS: Sunday School - 9:30 am  
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am (Fellowship Hall)  
"Like" our Facebook page... [facebook.com/fmoTahoka](https://www.facebook.com/fmoTahoka)  
Let the Children Come  
LICENSED CHILD CARE 7 am-6 pm M-F  
561-4529

**TAHOKA**  
**Church of Christ**  
2320 Lockwood • Box 1177 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4066 • email: [ccc@poka.com](mailto:ccc@poka.com)

PULPIT MINISTER: STEVEN BONNER  
Sunday School - 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship - 11 am  
Fellowship & Denotion - Wednesday 8:30 pm

**Wilson**  
**First Baptist Church**  
1403 13th St. • Box 67 • Wilson, TX 79381 • (806) 628-6333  
PASTOR: BILLY PARKER  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 am & 6:30 pm  
Worship Training - 5 pm Sunday  
6:30 pm Wednesdays  
Fellowship Meal & Classes for all ages  
• Bible Study & Prayer Mtg - Youth

**The Glow Remains**  
*"Read Psalm 19 & 2 Corinthians 12:9"*  
I suffered a disabling stroke four years ago and am being cared for in a residential home. My window faces west, and each night I am able to watch the evening sky and see wonderful sunsets. Tonight it was radiant, with pink streaked with turquoise, patches of light blue tinged with purple, changing every moment as I watched. Gradually the sun sank lower until it disappeared, and only the glow remained to tell that it had been there. In those moments frustrations and limitations were forgotten, and I could only thank God afresh for the wonder of his handiwork. My heart was filled with praise as I felt God's nearness. I trust the memory of it will help me in future days of loneliness and fear, for the God who made the beauty of the earth is the same God who has promised to be with me all the way.

-K. Finnie, England  
(from the Upper Room)

Do you need a church home? Please visit one of the churches listed on this page.

**Wilson**  
**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
16th & Houston St. • Box 138 • Wilson, TX 79381  
(806) 628-5471 • [www.stpaulwilson.com](http://www.stpaulwilson.com)  
PASTOR: DAVID W. BOHDE  
Sunday School 9:15 am • Divine Service 10:15 am  
"Where Christ Serves People"

**First Baptist Church**  
1701 Ave. K • Box 1547 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4557 • [www.fbc tahoka.org](http://www.fbc tahoka.org)  
PASTOR: BILLY FULLER  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Morning Worship Service - 10:45 am  
SNL (Youth) - 6:00 pm Sunday  
Activities for All Ages - Call For Complete Schedule  
There's A Place For Me at FBC!

**Wilson**  
**St. John Lutheran Church**  
13th & Dickson • Wilson, TX 79381 • (806) 628-6573  
Sharing Christ's message of forgiveness and salvation with our community and beyond.  
TONDA FREITAG, PLM  
Sunday School - 9:30 am • Sunday Worship - 10:45 am

**Grassland Nazarene Church**  
2885 CR 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373 • (806) 327-5656, 327-5655  
PASTOR: Rev. James Miller  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 pm

**Tahoka Trinity Church**  
1925 Lockwood • Box 1168 • Tahoka • (806) 561-5317  
PASTOR: PERRY SHUFFIELD  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 pm  
Youth - Sundays at 7 pm  
For a ride to Sunday School or Church, call 561-5317

**Sweet Street Baptist Church**  
1300 AVENUE J - BOX 751 - TAHOKA, TX 79373 - (806) 561-5310  
DAVID EARNEST, PASTOR - (806) 438-5105  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
(A Bible Study Class for all ages)  
Morning Worship - 10:50 am  
Uplifting Music - Message from God's Word  
Wednesday Night - 7 pm  
Prayer & Bible Study, Children & Youth Ministries  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

**New Home United Methodist Church**  
CURTIS SCHRADER, Pastor  
(575) 802-2947  
[CurtisSchrader@live.com](mailto:CurtisSchrader@live.com)  
350 N. Main • New Home, TX 79383  
(806) 924-7549  
Sunday School 9:45 am • Worship 10:45 am

**New Home Church of Christ**  
324 E. Main - Box 188 - New Home, TX 79383 • (806) 924-7579  
MINISTER: VICTOR ELLISON  
Bible Class - 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship Service - 10:45 am  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 7:00 pm

### A look back at ... Woodwork



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

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

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

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

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

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

As Boudreaux and Thibodeaux start loading the plane for the return trip, the Pilot says, "The plane can only take four of those."

The two Cajuns object strongly. "Last year we shot six and the pilot let us put them all on board; he had the same plane as yours."

Reluctantly, the pilot gives in and all six are loaded. However, even with full power, the little plane can't handle the load and down it goes and crashes in the middle of nowhere.

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

"I think we're pretty close to where we crashed last year," says Thibodeaux.

-December 11, 2007

### ODD TRIVIA FACTS:

Some butterflies have fake heads on their butts to confuse predators.

What person, not a "Seinfeld" regular cast member, is featured in every episode of "Seinfeld"?

-- Superman, either by name or pictures on Jerry's refrigerator.

### Sheriff-Elect Abraham Vega attends Newly Elected Sheriffs Seminar



ABRAHAM VEGA

Abraham Vega, who will take the oath of office as the new Lynn County Sheriff on Jan. 1, recently attended the Sheriff's Association of Texas 2016 Newly Elected Sheriffs Seminar held in San Marcos, December 5-9, 2016.

The Newly Elected Sheriff's Seminar is held every four years after election time for new Sheriffs and Chief Deputies' education, teaching and preparing them for office. This year, participants received training on a variety of topics, including: Duties and Responsibilities of the Sheriff, Model Policies, Inmate Trans-

portation, Open Records, Media Relations, Texas Department of Public Safety Resources, TDCJ Intake and Classification, Estray Law, Parole Warrants, Civil Process, Texas Commission on Jail Standards and Regulations, Cold Case Review Team, Evidence and Property Room Liabilities, New Technology, Labor Laws, Ethics and many more.

This seminar also provides them a comprehensive overview of the responsibilities of their new office and a chance to meet their peers to whom they can look to for support during the coming term.

The Sheriff's Association of Texas (SAT) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the effectiveness of local law enforcement in Texas. Through the support of their members, SAT provides training, legal/technical information, and other critical resources to law enforcement personnel in Texas. SAT also offers scholarships to Peace Officers and their children who wish to continue their education. In addition, they honor Fallen Officers with their Lost Lawman Memorial.

### Burglaries, one-vehicle rollover reported by law officers here

by JUANELL JONES

Two burglaries and a one-vehicle rollover were reported in Lynn County during the past two weeks, and Tahoka Police officers were busy with drug arrests and a DWI.

A building in the south side of Tahoka that was used for storage was reported burglarized, according to Tahoka Police reports in the past two weeks. Todd McNeely reported that his property in the 1800 block of South 7th Street, formerly the Tahoka Care Center, was burglarized sometime during the last month.

The owner told police on Dec. 16 that the suspect(s) had broken a window on the south side of the building to gain entrance. McNeely, and others, used the building for storage, and he reported several items had been taken. A complete list of stolen items was to be provided to police, and the investigation continues.

Lynn County Sheriff's Officer received a report of a barn burglarized on Dec. 15. The owner reported that he discovered the door lock broken, and reported tools missing including a Miller welder, a grind rock, and a cutting torch. The barn is located 4-5 miles north of Tahoka and 1.5 miles west on CR15.

A Tahoka man, 31, was found to be in possession of narcotics, after police contacted him regarding another matter on Dec. 12. Police saw the man pull into a local convenience store parking lot and approached him because he was needed to sign a criminal trespass warning for another case. Upon making contact, however, the man admitted to police that he had a pocket-knife and "a little bit of marijuana" in his possession.

Three Brownfield men were arrested in Tahoka on Dec. 20 on charges of possession of methamphetamine after police were called in to a local grocery store to apprehend a suspect attempting to cash a forged check. When police questioned the 49-year-old Brownfield man regarding the attempted forgery, the drugs were found inside the vehicle that the man and two other men, ages 33 and 31, were traveling in. All three were arrested on felony possession charges, and the investigation continues on the forgery case.

On Dec. 23, a 20-year-old Tahoka man was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, and also charged with Prohibited Weapon-Knuckles, Disregarding Stop Sign, and Driving While Unlicensed. A Tahoka officer observed the man driving a 2000 GMC Yukon at 2:30 a.m. driving southbound on the west access road at a high rate of speed, disregarding the stop sign at the intersection with Lockwood Street, and proceeding eastbound before he was stopped by police. The driver was transported to the Lynn County Jail.

A 20-year-old Amarillo woman was the driver in a one-vehicle rollover that occurred in Lynn County on Dec. 26, about 4:40 p.m. She told officers she was driving to Midland, but apparently fell asleep and lost control of the vehicle about 3 miles south of Tahoka on US 87. She was transported by Lynn County EMS for unspecified injuries. A male passenger was reportedly not injured, according to information from the Sheriff's Office.

Lynn County Jail held 34 inmates this week, including 29 for Ector County.



Smart TV...Tea and Tales Ladies are pictured here with the Samsung 60" 4K Smart TV the City/County Library is raffling Feb. 2nd, just in time for the Super Bowl. Tickets for for the TV raffle are \$5 each, at the library.

### GED classes ...

(Continued from page 1)

with a high school degree. So, for those who were unable to finish high school, she is encouraging them to get their GED.

General Educational Development (GED) tests are a group of four subject tests which, when passed, provide certification that the test taker has earned their high school diploma. Farris coordinated her efforts with Tahoka ISD, and on January 10 the GED classes will begin for anyone interested in taking them. The classes are free, and while the four tests required for certification are not free, she has resources that will provide funds for the local GED candidates to take the tests without having to pay for the tests themselves.

Tahoka ISD has tried to offer a GED class in the past, but community interest in the class seemed slim.

"As a district this was something we tried to do with a GED class in the summer of 2015 but we were unable to gather enough interest," said Dr. McFarland. "Amber called me midway through the Fall 2016 semester about her interest in establishing a GED program in Tahoka, and more importantly, that she had already determined that we would have a good amount of interest in the program. I proceeded from there to make the parts fit so that we can house an adult education program in our district. However, Amber has been instrumental in gathering the participants for the program," he added.

Farris is not a GED teacher, but she is working with Supt. McFarland to get the program started, and is also a liaison between the school and certified GED instructors to help set up class schedules. She calls people, trying to find out whom she may approach to encourage to obtain their GED. Then she works with those she calls, encouraging them to take the first step, sign up for the classes, and to focus on the education opportunities. She currently has 26 people who have signed up for the GED program that will begin in January here.

"Someone needs to stand up and say, 'You're worth it!'," says Farris. "It takes a lot of courage to make this decision, to admit that a GED is something worth working for."

After helping someone get their GED, Farris has plans to encourage people to continue their education, helping them to apply for scholarships or seek entry-level positions in the workforce. She volunteers her time to serve as a liaison with Texas Work Force to



Gingerbread Houses... Youth had fun at the City/County Library decorating gingerbread houses. Pictured here are Sarah Dunlap and Emma Rosson (left) and Zoe Moreno and Christina Hernandez (right) with their decorated gingerbread houses.



Reading Club ... Tahoka Elementary Reading Club is pictured here, enjoying the children's area at the City County Library.

help place people in internships or job opportunities.

Although not employed by Tahoka ISD, Farris is sort of the official "unofficial" contact person for the Adult Learning Center. She welcomes calls at (806) 241-2754 for anyone interested in getting their GED or other adult education opportunities. She may also be reached by email at ads-farris@gmail.com.

While she is volunteering her time and passion to do all of this, Farris is also attending college classes at Wayland campus in Lubbock and working a double major in General Business and the Christian Mission field. She has owned her own cleaning service for several years. She has a son entering college next year, and a daughter who attends school at Tahoka ISD. Her husband, Chris Farris, is also attending Wayland,

majoring in Christian Ministry. She hopes someday that she and her husband can serve in Christian ministries in the mission field.

"Wherever God leads me, I'm going to be ready. I am ready. But right now, I need to do what I can right here at home, in Tahoka," says Farris.

"I love this community. If I can help someone with their education, then maybe they can make more money, or maybe even start their own business here in Tahoka. Whatever happens with that level of education, they may have better opportunities to improve their own lives, and the lives of their families," she adds.

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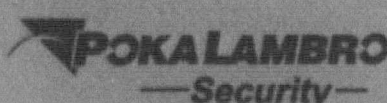
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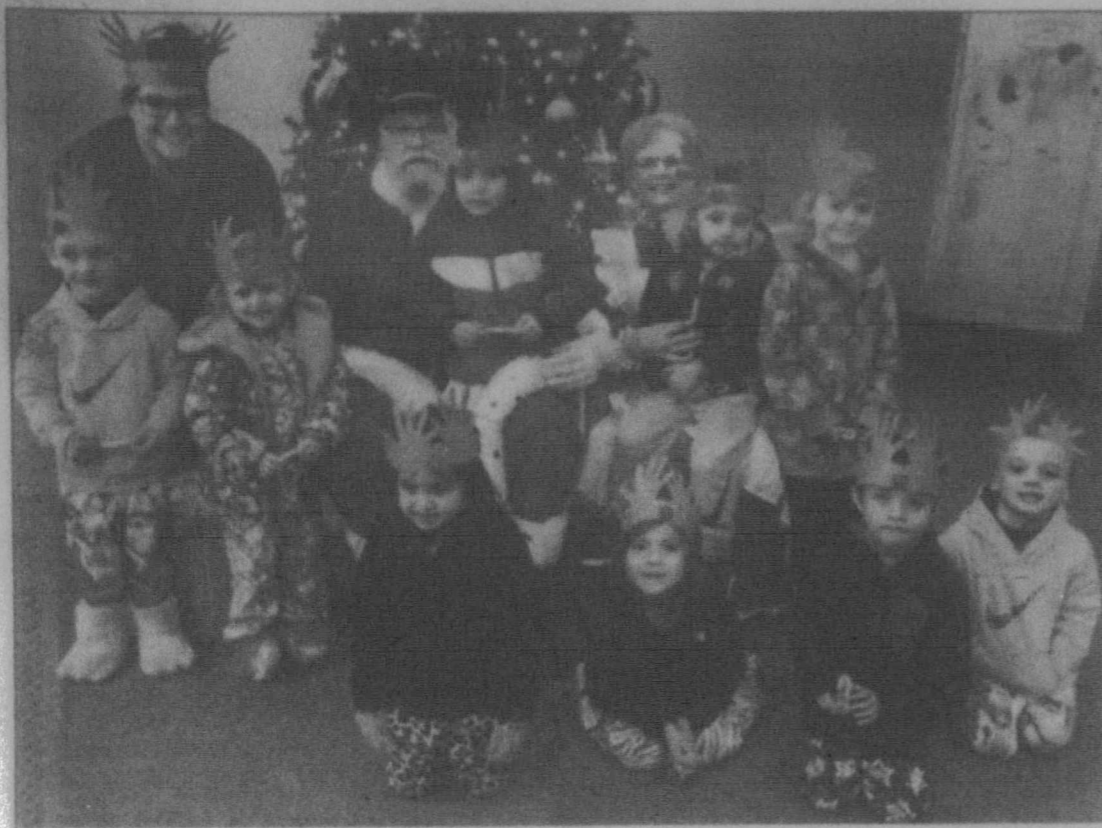
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**Visiting Santa**... On December 16, Wilson ISD students and staff took turns hopping aboard an actual train to see Santa and Mrs. Claus at Wilson's FirstBank & Trust. The small "Polar Express" is from Tahoka, and completed this holiday experience.



**UIL participants**... These Tahoka Elementary students placed at the UIL meet that was held Dec. 8th in Sundown. Bottom row-Rachael Arthur, Ariel Castaneda, Hailey Glenn, Claire Reglin, Marlie Scott, Reese Moore; Middle row-Hayden Ritchey, Gabriell Hernandez, Lillianna Vargas, Daniel Perez, Isaiha DeLeon, Jordan Pledger; Top row-Denton Moore, Grace Reglin, Kenedi Holly, Maggie Segovia, Natalie Whitley, Isabella Saucedo, Ezyah Perales, Issac DeLeon. "I would like to thank all parents and staff that helped to make it a successful day," said teacher Dana Taylor.

**WILSON COMMUNITY NEWS**

by Bonnie S. Schwertner

Send news to: bonnie\_schwertner\_wilson@yahoo.com



Glowing smiles on the faces of children and adults brightened Wilson last week, and the spirit of Christmas was in the air.

Students with the Gifted and Talented program participated in a Meals on Wheels project called "Santa to a Senior." Helping deliver gifts were students Seth Villarreal, Bailey Steen, Kylie Steen, Shawna Steen, and Joel Soliz. Assisting them were Tracey Reed, Richard Soliz, and Evander Soliz. What a wonderful example of community service!

On December 16, the entire school took turns hopping aboard an actual train to see Santa and Mrs. Claus at Wilson's FirstBank & Trust. The small "Polar Express" is from Tahoka, and completed this holiday experience. A special thanks to Eddie and Connie Bilderback, who graciously offered hugs and their laps!

Students of the month were honored at the December school board meeting. Teachers were very complimentary of these super citizens. Karaly Pharis (PreK-1): "She's a very hard worker. She's very charismatic. She will play with or get to know any student that is asked. She has a very good attitude at school." Presley Earwood (2-5): "polite, respectful, and responsible." Lupita Olvera (JH): "hard work, willingness to help others, her overall character. She's a pleasure to have in class." Bryan Mendez (HS): "great character, friendly, and excellent role model." Teacher of the Month was Stephanie Cortez, and Employee of the Month was Lana Cross.



**Santa to Senior project**...Wilson ISD students with the Gifted and Talented program participated in a Meals on Wheels project called "Santa to a Senior." Helping deliver gifts were students Seth Villarreal, Bailey Steen, Kylie Steen, Shawna Steen, and Joel Soliz. Assisting them were Tracey Reed, Richard Soliz, and Evander Soliz.

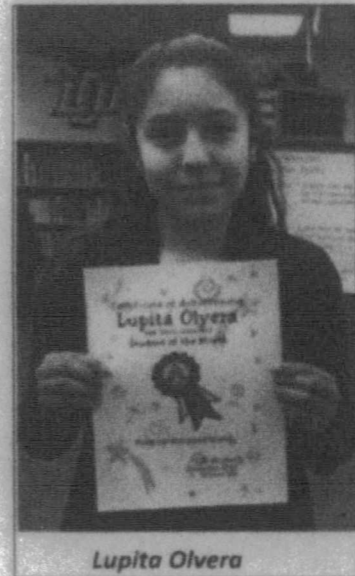
**Wilson Students of the Month...**



Presley Earwood



Karaly Pharis



Lupita Olvera

**News from the Library**  
CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY  
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**Gingerbread Houses**

Girls enjoyed decorating gingerbread houses at the City-County Library getting ready for the holidays. Pre-assembled houses were ready for candy and icing and the girls used great creativity with different designs on every house. We look forward to this program again next year.

**Reading Club**

Tahoka Elementary Reading Club visited the City-County Library. They were treated with a tour of the Library, decorating a Christmas cookie, and a cool snowball fight. Club members munched on their cookies and took back to school an activity book with a bookmark for each student. Call us at 561-4050 to check out field trips at the Library for your group.

**Texas Tips**

**This week's tip:**  
**Drive less**

Combining errands into one trip saves you time and money and reduces emissions. Several short trips, taken from a cold start, can use twice as much fuel as a longer, multi-purpose trip covering the same distance when the engine is warm. To save more money and fuel, take advantage of carpools and ride-share programs. According to the American Automobile Association, if two people living nearby were to ride together on the 50-mile round trip commute each day and split the driving, each would save more than \$3,400 a year on gas, reduced maintenance costs, and insurance. Also consider using public transit when it's available. Walk or ride a bike along with your child to school. It's good for the environment and healthy for your family too.

**Refuel at the right time of day**

If you're on your way to work in the morning and notice you need gas, wait until your drive home to refuel, and you can actually help keep the air clean. Postponing your stop at the gas station until late afternoon or evening reduces the emissions during the peak daylight hours when ozone formation is most likely. At the gas pump, vapors are released into the air that, when combined with sunlight on hot, still days, will form ground-level ozone, sometimes referred to as smog. Another thing to think about at the pump: don't top off your tank; stop at the click. This prevents fuel from escaping as vapor, and it also decreases the chance for spilling fuel. After you finish filling up, make sure you properly tighten the gas cap; otherwise, gas will evaporate from your car's tank.

**Grandparents ...**  
send us a photo of your little angels...  
and make your children and grandchildren happy!

Send or bring us a cute photo of your grandchild and we'll place it in a box lined with hearts including child's name and grandparents' names

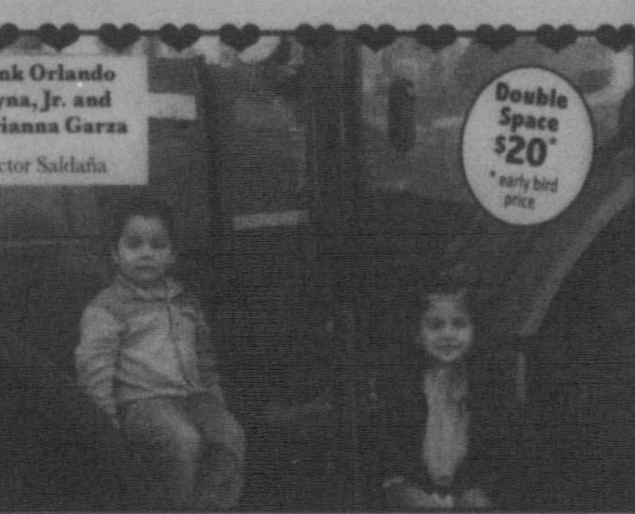


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or send them digitally to: LynnCoNews@poka.com

More than one child in the photo? **NO PROBLEM**... just choose a Double Space for \$20\* (early special)

**Deadline is 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8.**  
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## LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT OF ESTRAY

Case No. 2016-12-0142  
Date: 12/27/2016

On the 22nd day of DECEMBER, 2016, I impounded the following estray.  
Kind of Animal: QTR. HORSE  
Breed: QTR. HORSE  
Color: LIGHT GREY  
Sex: GELDING  
Age: 15 YEARS  
Size: 1000 LBS  
Brand, Marks, Identifying Characteristics: LEFT EYE MISSING  
And on the 27th day of DECEMBER, 2016, I filed a Notice of Estray in the Estray Book of Lynn County, Texas.  
I have made a diligent search of the register of records brands in Lynn County, Texas, for the owner of the said estray, but the search did not reveal the owner.

Notice is hereby given that, if the ownership of said estray is not determined by the 9TH day of JANUARY, 2017, said estray will be sold at public auction/sheriff's sale at the Lynn County Courthouse.

WITNESS my hand this 27TH day of DECEMBER, 2016.

/s/ Jordan Jones  
Sheriff or Designee of Lynn County, Texas

### NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY INTO FIELDS

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the Southern High Plains Caprock Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of all of Cochran, Hockley, and Lubbock counties and parts of Terry, Lynn, Crosby, Garza, and Dickens Counties are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning January 9, 2017. All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone. For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

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CAUSE NO. 2016PR0026  
ESTATE OF CHARLES B. SCHNIERS, DECEASED  
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS  
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CHARLES B. SCHNIERS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CHARLES B. SCHNIERS, were issued December 20, 2016, in Cause No. 2016PR0026, pending in the County Court of Lynn County, Texas, to:

DOROTHY M. SCHNIERS

The residence of such Independent Executrix is Lynn County, Texas. The address for purposes of presenting claims is:

21722 CR 3630  
Slaton, Texas 79364

All persons having claims against said Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this the 20th day of December, 2016.

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**NRCS announces deadlines for FY2017**

The USDA NRCS in Texas has established the agency's FY2017 timeline for application ranking deadlines for State and National priority areas as well as the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) through the 2014 Farm Bill's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Ranking deadlines for State Priority Areas and selected Initiatives is Jan. 27, 2017. The ranking deadline for Local Fund Pools is Feb. 27, 2017. This includes:

- Conservation Activity Plans
- HU-Socially Disadvantaged
- HU-Beginning Farmer
- High Tunnel System Initiative
- Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)/Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) Beef, Dairy, Poultry
- Air Quality
- On-Farm Energy
- Organics Initiative
- Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
- Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative
- Longleaf Pine Initiative
- StrikeForce Initiative
- Monarch Butterfly Habitat Development Project
- Eagle Mountain Lake
- Pronghorn Antelope
- Bob-white Quail
- Water Quality - Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- Central Gulf Coast Irrigation
- Highland Lakes
- University Lands
- Nueces River Water Conservation
- Edwards Aquifer
- Gulf of Mexico Initiative
- Wildlife Mitigation
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Rio Grande Ft. Quitman
- Winter Gardens
- Poultry Energy
- North Plains Irrigation

Ranking deadlines for the Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW), RCPP and the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) is March 31, 2017 and includes:

- RCPP 16 - High Plains Irrigation
- RCPP 16 - Monarch Butterfly
- NWQI - Chambers Creek
- NWQI - Leon River

NRCS accepts applications on a continual basis regardless of available funding or scheduled ranking periods. For more information on the above State and National conservation opportunities and deadlines contact Mark Habiger, NRCS Texas assistant state conservationist for programs, visit your local USDA Service Center or [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov).

Where in the world is **The Lynn County News?**



**In Bangkok ...** Dane Rivas of Tahoka took his Lynn County News on a mission trip to Bangkok, Thailand. Dane was with Raider Church/Experience Life Church of Lubbock. The News is 8,934 miles from home!

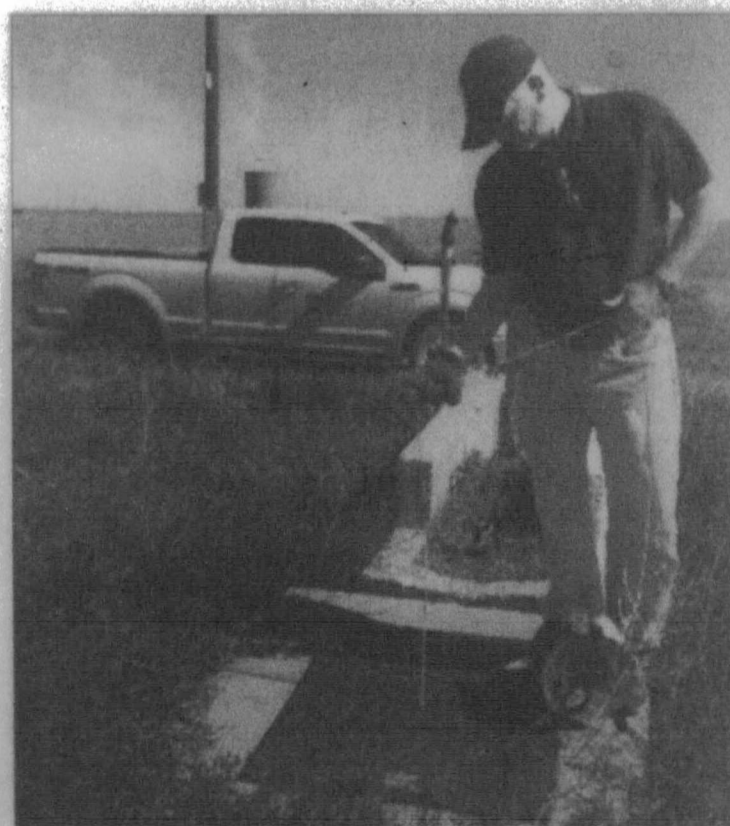
**HPWD annual water level measurements in progress**

High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) personnel are now making water level measurements to determine the effect of 2016 pumping on groundwater levels in the aquifers within the district's 16-county service area.

Measurements are made annually in a network of more than 1,400 privately-owned water wells. These observation wells are spaced at a density of about one well per nine square

miles throughout the district. After the measurement is made, a blue vinyl sticker with the observation well number, the depth-to-water level measurement, and the date of the measurement is affixed to the well equipment or other appropriate surface near the well site.

High Plains Water District personnel measure the same wells in the observation well network each year as long as the individual wells are accessible and continue to provide satis-



**Taking measure ...** Field Technician Mark Hamilton uses an e-line to make a water level measurement in a HPWD observation well. District personnel will visit well sites from December 2016 to March 2017 to obtain depth-to-water level data.



**Commissioner retires ...** Keith Wied (second from right), Lynn County Commissioner for Precinct 1, was honored with a retirement party after his final commissioner meeting on Tuesday. Pictured with Wied are Commissioner Larry Durham, County Judge Mike Braddock, Commissioner Don Blair, and at right, Commissioner John Hawthorne. Wied was Pct. 1 Commissioner from Nov. 2007-Dec. 2016.

**Commissioners ...**

(Continued from page 1)

"And I am told that the new pens will arrive any day, to replace all the old wooden pens. All is expected to be ready for the upcoming stock shows in January," he added.

Braddock said that the county will auction off all the old wooden pens from the showbarn, with all proceeds from the sale to go towards paying for the insulation that has been added to the area housing the animals at the showbarn.

Commissioners met in special session just prior to Christmas, on Dec. 21, approving subdivision plats for Gaylon and Vicki Zait, and approving a factory data.

The current depth-to-water level measurements in individual wells are compared to those of previous years to determine the average annual change in water levels.

In recent years, the district has established a network of observation wells in the Dockum Aquifer within its service area.

These water level data are made available to the public through an interactive observation well map on the district's web site ([map.hpwd.org](http://map.hpwd.org)) as well as publication in an annual water level measurement report.

corrected final plat for Kent and Mitzi Bruton for Cotton Creek Estates.

Commissioners also opened five sealed bids for Construction Manager at Risk qualifications for the courthouse restoration project, with bids submitted by Stoddard Construction, Teinert Construction, KBL Restoration, Phoenix Restoration, and J.C. Stoddard Construction. Commissioners went through the process of verifying each bidder's criteria in order to be considered as a bid. Commissioners are expected to meet Jan. 9th with Komatsu Inc., the engineering firm on the restoration project, and with a representative from the Texas Historical Commission, to consider the bids and choose a firm for the project.

Commissioners approved a resolution of the County and District Clerk's Association in opposition to SEARCHTX, a web portal that would allow access to a consolidated database of case information that has been e-filed, which could have privacy issues.

**Lynn County Area Gins BALE COUNT**

(reported 12-20-16)

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union	99,794
New Home Coop, Lakeview	69,583
Wells Coop Gin	45,377
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell	33,600
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell	N/A
Farmers Coop #1, Tahoka	32,047
Garlyn Gin	15,810
<b>TOTAL BALES</b>	<b>326,313</b>

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Did you know ... about dogs

- Cerberus was the tri-headed dog that guarded the underworld in Greek mythology
- Female dogs bear their young for 60 days before they're born
- The earliest dog fossil dates back to nearly 10,000 B.C.
- All breeds of dog have been found to attack livestock - from 3-month old puppies, all the way up to thirteen year old poodles.
- Davy Crockett had a dog named Sport
- Dogs were first domesticated by cavemen
- Many foot disorders in dogs are simply an issue of long toenails
- Dogs are natural pack animals - they are naturally submissive to any creature with higher pack status - human or canine
- Dogs with little human contact in the first three months typically don't make good pets
- The Chihuahua was named after the state in Mexico where they were discovered

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The Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department urges everyone to change batteries in smoke alarms at least once a year, and replace smoke alarms entirely every 8-10 years.

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