



**Fun at the Petting Zoo ...** "Stickers," the daddy porcupine (left) and two baby porcupines were popular with everyone eager to touch them; and (at right) this young girl was thrilled with an up-close look at the camel that was visiting Tahoka last Friday morning, when Whitley Acres Exotic Ranch and Stables brought a variety of animals to the Petting Zoo hosted by the City/County Library in Tahoka. More than 500 children and adults alike took advantage of the free opportunity to not only see some exotic animals, but to feed and pet the friendly beasts – from bunnies to porcupines to zebras and camels, the petting zoo was a big hit. (LCN PHOTOS by Juanell Jones)



# THE Lynn County News



June 8, 2017 ■ Volume 114, No. 23

Serving Lynn County since 1903

Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas

email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

75¢

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BE Kind  
to one another.



Good doughnut.  
Good Monday.  
Good deed.

Tahoka Donuts (1515 S. 1st) is open MONDAYS in June, with all profits on Mondays donated to the Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Building Fund. This week, Monday's sales amounted to **\$410.24!** Three more Mondays to go, so remember: **Monday doughnuts are good for our senior citizens!**

## What's Outside

NWS official readings for Tahoka

Date	High	Low	Precip.
May 30	85	54	
May 31	86	57	
June 1	84	60	0.01"
June 2	82	62	
June 3	81	60	0.50"
June 4	81	61	
June 5	84	61	

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

Total Precip for Jan:	2.51"
Total Precip for Feb:	1.16"
Total Precip for Mar:	0.21"
Total Precip for Apr:	2.88"
Total Precip for May:	0.10"
Total Precip for June:	0.51"
Total Precip. for 2017:	7.37"

## A perfect fit ...

### Dr. Melanie Richburg is perfect fit for Tahoka's rural medical practice

by JUANELL JONES

**H**er patients call her, simply, "Melanie." To many, she represents the ideal physician – she has the education, expertise and compassion of a great physician, but she's also friendly and approachable – just the right combination that fits small-town communities. She is a kind and cheerful Family Nurse Practitioner who will listen to you and give a hug if it's needed, but in regards to your health she will tell it to you straight, in plain English. And if she can't help you, she will try her best to find someone who can.

Tahoka physician Melanie Richburg, DNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice), FNP, is not the only physician in town, as Tahoka is indeed fortunate to have a number of exceptional health-care providers here, but she is a unique and driving force at Lynn County Hospital District's Family Wellness Clinic. She loves Tahoka, and it shows in her dedication to her patients, her active participation in community events, and her belief that small-town rural medical care doesn't mean "the drags of the profession."

"I love it here. This is where I want

to be," says Dr. Richburg, or just plain "Melanie" as she is just as happy to answer to that.

"It's not about the title. Some of my patients call me Dr. Richburg or Dr. Melanie, but most of them just call me Melanie. I work just as well with that," she says with a laugh.

She was recently selected by the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Nursing to receive the School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Community Advocacy Award, which honors alumni who have demonstrated exceptional service and devotion to



their community – but Tahoka citizens already know that Melanie is one of Tahoka's treasures.

If one hasn't met Melanie at the Family Wellness Clinic in that capacity, then perhaps it was through the Tahoka Rotary Club, where she is an active member and former president of the club, or at the hospital's annual auction, where she volunteers her time.

Melanie is a vital part of the Tahoka community, but she had to convince hospital CEO Dan Powers (in 2005) to

(See A PERFECT FIT, page 4)

## Honored

### TTUHSC honors Tahoka's Melanie Richburg with Distinguished Alumni award

Presided over by TTUHSC President Tedd L. Mitchell, M.D., Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center held commencement ceremonies in May, and the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Health Professions, Pharmacy and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences honored students, faculty and alumni with awards and recognition.

Tahoka physician Melanie Richburg was selected by the School of Nursing to receive one of their top awards – the 2016 School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Community Advocacy Award. This award recognizes and honors alumni who have demonstrated exceptional service and devotion to their community and whose accomplishments and careers have brought significant credit to TTUHSC School of Nursing.

"Our graduates have the respon- (See RICHBURG HONORED, page 4)

## Witt Butane constructing large new facility here

by JUANELL JONES

John Witt Butane Gas Co. in Tahoka is expanding their services, and they are doing it with a brand new large building that is currently under construction at 631 Lockwood St. on Hwy. 380, just inside the Tahoka city limits.

Witt Butane is celebrating their 75th year in business here at their current location at 1304 Lockwood (on Hwy. 380). Under the leadership of Guy Witt and his daughter Pam Lehmann, and grandchildren Carson, Kaycee and Miranda. The business is expanding and relocating a short distance further east to a brand new 13,800 sq. ft. metal building that sits across the highway from the Lynn County Law Enforcement Center.

Exterior construction has been completed, but interior work is still underway. It is anticipated that the new building will be ready for a grand opening sometime in August according to Mrs. Lehmann.

The new Witt Butane will offer all of the services and products currently offered, but will also include a 5,390 sq. feet showroom to feature these products, as well as some new products including lumber, sheetrock, and more general hardware. They currently sell tractor chisels and sweeps, filters, spray parts, PVC pipe, black pipe, oil, and hydraulic parts. There will be a new hydraulics room that will be dedicated to hydraulic hoses, cylinders and hose making.

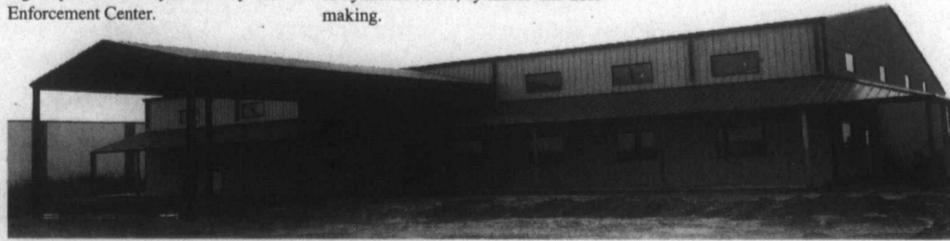
Gasoline and diesel pumps will be on site underneath a covered awning area, and in the new location Witt's gasoline and diesel pumps will be available not only to Witt Butane account holders, but also open to the general public for purchase without a Witt's card and use of credit cards. Blue DEF for diesel motors will be sold by container as well as by a pump next to the high sulfur diesel. They will still have the propane bottle filling station of to the west side of the building.

The family chose to relocate and expand in order to comply with TCEQ and Texas Railroad Commission regulations.

"Because we have been here so long we are grandfathered in on some of the rules, but our underground tanks have been in the ground for 30 years. After 30 years, even though the tanks are still in good shape, the insurance company can decide not to insure them, and we had to do something. Once you start changing things that have been grandfathered you lose that status and have to comply with all the new regulations," explained Mrs. Lehmann. "We decided since there is not enough space to comply with said rules it was a must to relocate," she added.

With a larger building as well as more outside space, she says that Witt Butane will also be able to accommodate 18-wheelers and other large rigs.

"My grandfather, John Witt, actually started John Witt Butane Gas Co. in 1938 in Lamesa, then branched to Ackerly. In 1942 he moved into our current location, and we've been here for 75 years," she said. "I guess we are celebrating 75 years by expanding and moving to a new location!" she said with a laugh.



## Did you know?

Chicago Cubs outfielder Rick Monday became a national hero when he rescued an American flag from two men who were trying to set it on fire in the outfield at Dodger Stadium during a game on April 25, 1976. The 25,167 fans gave him a standing ovation and burst out singing "God Bless America."



**The Lynn County News**

The Lynn County News (USPS 32-3200) 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.

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

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www.facebook.com/LynnCountyNews



**Obituaries**



**Michael Alan Nance**

Michael Alan Nance, 31, of Austin, formerly of Tahoka, passed away on May 29, 2017. Michael was born on June 4, 1985 in Tahoka, to J.E., Jr. and Tommye (Dempsey) Nance. Michael graduated from Tahoka High School in 2004, going on to attend Texas A&M University and graduating in 2009 with his degree in Biomedical Science. He worked as a medical sales representative, a counselor, and a musician. Michael was loved by his family and friends and all that knew him.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, J.E. and Leota Nance, and Leta Davis.

Those left to cherish his memory are his parents; brother, Trey Nance and wife, Trista, of Allen; sister, Misty Nance and husband, Colby, of Lubbock; nieces and nephews, Victoria, Noah, Knox, Breklyn, and Grayson; aunts, uncles, cousins, and his four-legged friend, Mia.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at First Baptist Church of Tahoka, with interment at Nevels Cemetery.

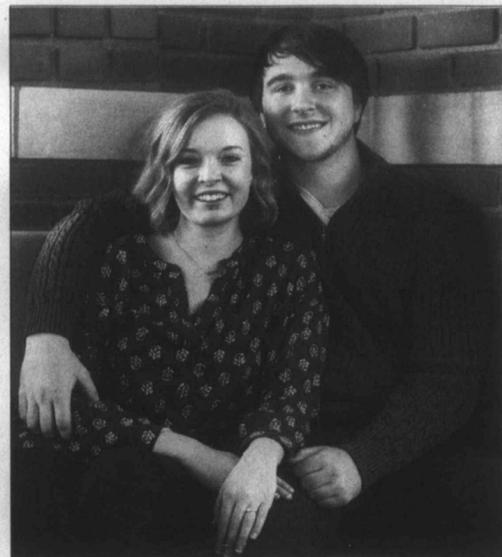
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Texas A & M Foundations "in memory of Michael A. Nance", 401 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840. Gifts received will be applied to the Office of the Dean of Student Life's "Student Life Endowed Fund". These funds will be used to support the Aggie Recovery Community in Michael's memory.

Please help celebrate the life of Michael by visiting www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com

**Harvest America simulcast offered at FBC June 11**

First Baptist Church, Tahoka, located at 1701 Ave K, will be hosting the live simulcast by Greg Laurie entitled Harvest America on Sunday, June 11, at the fellowship hall beginning with a meal at 6:30 p.m. Childcare will be provided. The free event will be held live nationwide from the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, AZ. A clear gospel message will be presented and the Good News delivered to a nation desperately in need of hope.

For more information, contact First Baptist Church at 561-4557 or visit HARVEST-AMERICA.com.



Kaylan Marie Lehman, bride elect of Richard Benjamin Shaw

**Couple to marry in August**

Tara Lehman of New Home, and Todd and Lynn Lehman of New Home, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kaylan Marie Lehman, to Richard Benjamin Shaw, son of Rick and Martha Shaw of Plainview and Ann Benton of Mississippi.

The couple plan to marry August 13, 2017 in Plainview. Both are students of Wayland Baptist University majoring in Intercultural Missions. Ben is a minister of music with Northside Baptist Church and Kaylan is currently employed with United.

The bride-elect's grandparents are Kenny and Rhonda Timmons of New Home. Great-grandparents are Robbie and Wanda Gill of Lubbock, and Grif and Kay Henson of Lubbock.



**Wayland graduate ...**  
Haley Alexandra Lehman graduated Magna cum laude from Wayland Baptist University in May 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She will be pursuing a Masters in the arts of Counseling at Wayland. She is the daughter of Tara Lehman of New Home and Todd and Lynn Lehman of New Home, granddaughter of Kenny and Rhonda Timmons of New Home, and great-granddaughter of Robbie and Wanda Gill of Lubbock, and Grif and Kay Henson of Lubbock.

**Saturday fundraiser to help with medical expenses for Arriazola**

Area residents are invited to a fundraiser this Saturday, from 9 a.m.-2, at the parking lot of Tahoka Church of Christ (2320 Lockwood) for a rummage sale and food items, including sausage wraps, corn on the cob, and pies. All proceeds from the sale will benefit Gino Arriazola of Tahoka, a young man fighting cancer, to help with his medical expenses.

**WILSON COMMUNITY NEWS** by Jessica Wilke

Rain!!! Most of the area finally received a generous amount over the weekend and I know farmers are lifted up by the rain. This is a crucial time of years for farmers, with tractors running full steam to get crops planted.

Wilson ISD is still accepting applications for collegiate classes. Applications can be found online at Wilsonisd.org. They are also accepting transfer students. Mr. Portillo is available for any questions you may have. Summer hours are 8:30 to 3:30 Monday - Thursday.

They will be having a meeting on Thursday, May 22nd in The Tahoka City Hall building, (old Lyntegar building).

I have seen workers around the school getting ready for the collegiate classes. The library is being remodeled to accommodate the new classes. The library has been split by high school and elementary, new libraries are being places in existing rooms in the school. I am excited for the new things at Wilson ISD. Construction is scheduled to be completed in July.

Every Thursday in June the football boys will be playing in Petersburg 6 on 6 summer league. Games will be at 6 pm. If you are free come out and support our boys.

**Summer Fun**  
Summer is in full swing. If you children are like mine, boredom has struck! I have found a way to keep them busy, if only for a short time, and make a snack! Full credit goes to Pinterest.

**Ice Cream in a Bag**  
Nothing screams summer like a tasty frozen treat! We love fruit-based desserts, like watermelon ice, but when we want an extra special treat, we love making ice cream in

a bag. Kids love making ice cream in a bag because they can actually make the ice cream by running around!

**Ingredients for the Ice Cream Bag:**  
1/2 cup heavy whipping cream or half and half  
1 tsp vanilla  
2 1/2 tsp sugar

Place ingredients into a tightly sealed sandwich sized bag, pressing the air out as you seal it. Then put this into another tightly sealed sandwich bag. Fill a gallon size resealable bag half-way full of ice cubes, and mix with 6 tablespoons of coarse kosher salt. Then put the sealed sandwich-size bag into the middle of the ice, and seal the larger bag. I also recommend doubling up the gallon size bags as well, especially if you have little helpers.

**Making the Ice Cream:**

To make the ice cream, get moving! You need to shake the bag for about 5-10 minutes. We run and play tag and other chasing, and toss the bag to each other. When I am holding the bag, I'll usually give it a few extra shakes. When the kids are helping, it's usually about 10 minutes until the ice cream forms.

**Treasure Hunt**  
Plastic toys  
Big bucket that fits in freezer  
Water  
Full bucket 1/4 full of water add a few toys. Place in freezer. Every few hours add more toys and more water. When bucket is completely frozen and full of toys, unleash the kids. Small hammers, cups of water and anything else the kids can chip away at the ice.



Thanks for the donuts, Al ... Lenda Wood and Janey McMillan were caught eating donuts at Friday's Petting Zoo at the library, and said Tahoka Donuts (Al Garrett, owner) was giving away free donuts Friday morning in celebration of National Donut Day.

(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

**GET A DONUT AND HELP SENIOR CITIZENS!**

Every **MONDAY** in June  
**100%** of the day's proceeds will go toward the Lynn County Senior Citizen's new building fund.

**TAHOKA DONUTS**

1515 South 1st St. • 806-561-1611  
OPEN: 6:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

**NOW OFFERING**

**Free FLAVORING** at **Tahoka Drug**

Choose a favorite flavor for your child's liquid medicine

Most pharmacies charge \$3.00 to personalize the taste of your kids' medicine. At our pharmacy, we'll do it for **NO CHARGE**, so what's your favorite flavor?

**TAHOKA DRUG • 561-4041**  
1610 Main, Tahoka • www.tahokadrug.com

**Need an Invitation?**

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

**THE Lynn County News**

1617 Main Street in Tahoka • 561-4888  
email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

**Senior Citizens LUNCH MENU**

June 12-16

**Monday:** Chicken fajitas w/ veg, Spanish rice, fruit cocktail  
**Tuesday:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, stewed okra, corn, pumpkin square  
**Wednesday:** Salisbury steak, diced potatoes, Eng. Peas, fruit salad  
**Thursday:** Chicken spaghetti, carrots, zucchini, bananas w/ vanilla pudding  
**Friday:** Cheeseburger, potato wedges, tomato wedge salad, melon medley

• Tickets are on sale now for a chance to win a Landmann Smoky Mountain series Bravo Premium Charcoal Grill w/ Smoker (\$500 value). Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. All proceeds are to benefit the Lynn County Senior Citizens Building Fund. Tickets may be purchased at the Senior Citizens Cener, Lynn County News or see and Rotary Club Member.

• Donations to benefit the Center are very much needed for ongoing expenses! All donations are tax deductible; we are a 501(c)3 organization.

If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

**Landmann Smoky Mountain Series Bravo Premium Charcoal Grill with Smoker (\$500 value)**

Tickets available at Lynn County Pioneer Center, Lynn County News, or any Rotary Club Member

(Need not be present to win)

**Drawing: Sept. 16, 2017 • Tickets: \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20**  
All proceeds benefit Lynn County Sr. Citizens Building Fund

**Bridal Shower**  
SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2015

honoring bride **Michelle Means**

**KEEP QUIET**  
It's a surprise

**30TH BIRTHDAY PARTY**  
for **Miranda**

Saturday, March 28, 2015 • Dance 7 pm to 1 am  
St. Jude's Catholic Hall  
400 N. Ave. M in Tahoka  
Be sure to arrive BEFORE 7:00 p.m. to surprise her!

For example:  
50 post cards is \$22.50-\$27.50, depending on style.

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**We love baseball ...** These youth enjoyed the youth baseball camp put on by THS Coach Stephen Overstreet last week.

## Tahoka man assaults police officer assisting with 9-1-1 call to his home

by JUANELL JONES

Tahoka Police officers were busy during the past week with several incidents, including an assault on one of their officers. A 27-year-old Tahoka man was arrested on charges of Assault on a Public Servant when the officer responded to a 9-1-1 call for EMS at 2:15 a.m. Friday for a possible seizure at a local residence. Due to previous incidents that had occurred, EMS would not respond without police presence on the scene first, due to what was reported as previous attempts at violence towards EMS staff.

Upon arrival at the residence in the 1200 block of South 2nd, the officer observed an unconscious male subject lying on the living room floor, with his brother draped over the top of him. When the officer asked the brother to step away so EMS could get to him, the man refused, twice, and then

told the officer to "go ahead and make me." He lunged at the officer and scuffled with him as he attempted to handcuff him. EMS staff assisted the officer in holding the man as he was handcuffed and arrested. Gabriel Quintero, 27, was arrested on third-degree felony charges of Assault on a Public Servant.

Investigation continues in a case involving a hit and run traffic accident last Thursday night about 9:15, when a vehicle parked across from George's Restaurant was struck. The 2017 Cadillac Escalade, owned by Mistie Cook Kahl, was parked in the 1500 block of N. 2nd Street, just south of the restaurant, and sustained damage to the left front quarter of the vehicle. Witnesses from a nearby residence told officers that they saw a woman driving a white Ford F250 hit the vehicle, get out and inspect the damage, and then drive off. The witness-

es identified the woman to officers, and officers interviewed her. Charges are pending in this case.

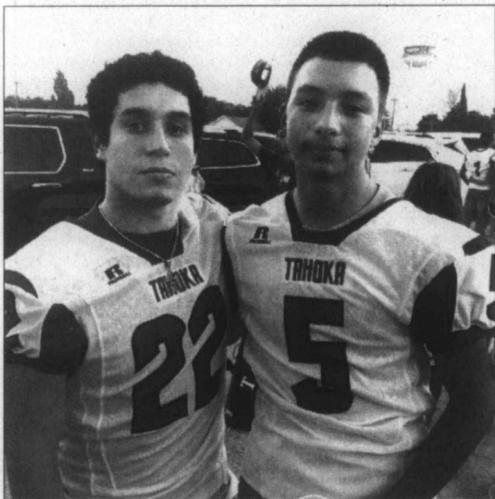
Juan Olveda reported theft of tools last Wednesday morning from a vacant house where he had been remodeling the interior, in the 2200 block of N. 5th. Olveda told officers that he discovered the residence was broken into and his tools stolen overnight, including a Skilsaw circular saw, a Chicago reciprocating saw, and a black Husky toolbox containing several tools. Entrance to the home appeared to have been gained from a window.

A Tahoka woman told officers that her ex-boyfriend had taken a 60-inch flatscreen television from her residence in the 1800 block of South 1st on Wednesday, May 31. Officers recovered the TV, and the investigation continues in this case.

A 28-year-old Wilson man was arrested in Tahoka on Sunday, June 4 after officers were called at 1 a.m. to N. 2nd Street near the Lyntegar warehouse for reports of a man yelling and threatening other citizens. The suspect left the scene on foot, but an officer located him nearby, arresting him on charges of Public Intoxication, as well as on a warrant for ARP-Child Support Order out of Lubbock County.

Three other males were arrested during the week on outstanding warrants. A 28-year-old Tahoka man was arrested last Thursday night on four active city warrants, including Expired Motor Vehicle Inspection, No Driver's License, and two for Theft less than \$100. A 49-year-old Tahoka man was arrested Friday night for a warrant for ARP/Assault Domestic Violence; and a 48-year-old Tahoka man was arrested the previous Saturday for a warrant out of Tahoka Municipal Court for Driving While License Suspended Under Provisions of DL Laws.

Lynn County Jail held 39 inmates during the past week,



**Playing in Greenbelt Bowl ...** Tahoka High School 2017 graduates Andrew Alvarez (left) and Colbe Perez are playing football in the Childress Rotary Greenbelt Bowl Classic on Saturday, June 10, with kickoff set for 6:30 p.m. in the Historic Fair Park Stadium in Childress. THS Athletic Director/Head Coach Brandon Hopper nominated the two players for the honor. The Greenbelt Bowl also offers opportunities for scholarships for athletes. Andrew nominated Olivia Hammonds as his Queen, and Colbe nominated Aly Dotson as his Queen, as players may nominate Greenbelt Bowl Queens.

## District seal coat season has begun for area roads

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is set to begin work this week to seal coat several roadways across the Lubbock District, including several roads in Lynn County. The work is part of TxDOT's annual road maintenance program and will make \$12.3 million in improvements to preserve the roadways.

In Lynn County, seal coating will be on the following roads: FM 211, FM 380, FM 1730, and FM 400.

Project contractor, Ronald R. Wagner & Co., L.P. of Kenedalia, TX, will begin operations on June 2 beginning in Lynn and Garza counties and then moving into the district's northern counties before working back towards the south.

"With two work crews performing seal coat operations, more than one road in an area may be affected at the same time. Drivers can expect daytime lane closures and traffic to be guided through to construction are via pilot car during the operations. Motorists are asked to drive with caution through the work zone for their safety and the safety of the workers," Craig said.

More than 339 miles of Lubbock District roads will be seal coated this summer. Roadways undergoing seal coat improvements at various locations,

including 11 for Ector County, 6 for Dawson County, and 22 for Lynn County. Local charges included one for minor in possession of alcohol, one for driving while license suspended/invalid, one on a warrant for expired motor vehicle inspection, one for assault on a public servant, and one on a warrant for probation revocation.

### Did you know ... about BASEBALL

All baseball fields have certain features in common. The distance between the bases is always exactly 90 feet. The pitching rubber, where the pitcher stands, is 60 feet 6 inches from the back tip of home plate.



Jeni Laine Hammonds, bride elect of Crockett Nathaniel Savage

## Hammonds-Savage engagement announced

Brad and Kim Hammonds of Tahoka announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeni Laine Hammonds of Marble Falls, to Crockett Nathaniel Savage, son of Mike and Melinda Savage, all of Marble Falls.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Edgar and the late Joanne Hammonds, and the late Curtis and Mary Lou Bass, all of Tahoka. The future bride-groom is the grandson of Glen and Patricia Savage and Carolyn Beck, all of Marble Falls.

The future bride is a graduate of Tahoka High School and Texas A&M. Savage is a graduate of Marble Falls High School and Tarleton State University. He is owner/operator at Savage Pumps & Water Well Service.

The couple plans to marry October 7, 2017 at Hidden River Ranch in Lampassas.



**I want that ...** An antelope is eager to take some food from a little boy's hand at the free Petting Zoo hosted by the City/County Library in Tahoka on Friday. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

**HARVEST AMERICA**  
GREG LAURIE  
NATIONWIDE SIMULCAST  
LIVE FROM ARIZONA  
JUNE 11, 2017  
HARVESTAMERICA.COM

HARVESTAMERICA.COM  
**A Message of Hope**  
Please join us at FBC Tahoka for a FREE live simulcast including worship and a message full of hope.

**FBC** 6/11/17 @ 6:30 pm  
Food available . Childcare provided for the event

**Lynnwood**  
Independent & Assisted Living Center  
Providing a safe, homelike atmosphere in a dignified environment.  
ROOMS AVAILABLE NOW - Call for prices.

Studio (One Large Room) 471 sq. ft.  
One Bedroom 512 sq. ft.  
Large One Bedroom (Double Occupancy) 593 sq. ft.

**\$1,000 off first 3 months!**

Owned and Operated by Lynn County Hospital District  
Fac. ID #100713  
1801 Country Club Road • Tahoka, Texas (806) 998-1226 • Jenny Garrett, Lynnwood Administrator



Happy to volunteer ... Melanie Richburg (right) laughs with Amy Preston as they show auction items to the crowd at Lynn County Hospital's annual fundraiser.

## Melanie Richburg is perfect fit ...

(Continued from page 1)

hire her for the job here.

"When [Lynn County Hospital Administrator] Dan Powers hired me 12 years ago, he didn't want to give me a year's contract," she recalls with a smile. "He wanted to give me a 3-month contract. I told him, this is where I want to be — you're not going to find somebody who wants to come to the country and work, but I do. You give me a year and you will wonder why you ever doubted hiring me ... and it's not because I'm vain, I just know what I want and that there's a way to get it done," she said.

"I was raised on a cotton farm south of Roscoe, Texas. We didn't have a post office, and we didn't have a grocery store. I love the country, and I love the country way of living. I love that a nice pair of boots, clean jeans and a white shirt is Sunday clothes. I love that," she says with a grin.

Melanie is tall and slim, and if she looks athletic it's because she is. She played basketball at Tarleton State University, but her passion in life was healthcare. She gave up college basketball to go to nursing school.

"I wanted to be a nurse. I wanted to be a baby nurse, and I was for a while. I worked in the neonatal nursery," she says. At the urging of one of her mentors, she went to Hardin-Simmons and earned her nursing degree and then her Family Nurse Practitioner degree.

She started out in obstetrics and sometimes she is sad that she doesn't get to do that anymore.

"I started with mamas and babies. I did perinatal loss — mamas who lose their babies or mamas who died in childbirth,

selling. I can't do that — and the other part for me is that I don't want or need to know everybody's deep dark secrets. That's a lot of weight for me to be responsible for. I'd like to team up with a professional that knows what to do in these areas," she explains.

She has already pushed to add Friday telemedicine at the Tahoka FWC clinic, which now offers cardiac telemedicine for patients who need that care.

"There are not a lot of communities that are this small that have this quality of medicine available. I don't want to grow my own practice any bigger because I need to tend to the patients I already have. I do want to grow my clinic bigger and have the capability to have more services. We need to expand



My friend ... Melanie Richburg is pictured with Veda Reed.

the banks of the pond because we can't get many more fish in here," she says with a smile.

Melanie's patient base has grown significantly since she first began at the Family Wellness Clinic 12 years ago.

"When I first came to work here we saw 150 patients a month. That's like, five patients a day! I said, oh no, we have got to do better. So I told my staff, if we can get three months in

I had one patient who tried to give me a greyhound racing dog because I helped him figure out how to treat his puppies for jaundice. I said thank you, but why don't you just name him after me, because I don't need a greyhound racing dog.

— MELANIE RICHBURG

a row that we see 400 patients I'll take us all to Vegas. Well, in six months we were up to 400... but it took us another year and a half to get 400 patients for three months in a row, but we did it," she said. And she was as good as her word, taking the staff to Vegas. (She wouldn't let me tell that rest of that story — what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.)

She convinced the hospital CEO at that time, that if she could get the numbers up to 500-600 in a month they could hire another practitioner at the clinic and have two providers. And they did. That's when Melanie convinced one of her FNP students, Shannon Hammonds,

to come back to her hometown to work.

"Shannon was my student, and she was working in the burn ICU in Lubbock. Shannon was like anybody that leaves Tahoka for a career, you know, saying they're never coming back. But once she got back she said, you know I really like this, but sometimes you're always 18 in your hometown. I know some people can't have that physician/patient relationship with her because of that, but she has done really well, and I love working with her," Melanie said.

Melanie says she likes patients of all ages, but because she also sees patients at two area nursing homes she has become somewhat of a geriatric specialist while tending to those chronic needs.



My dogs walk with me ... Melanie Richburg's dogs, Gracie and Lucy, walked with her in the LCHD Walk to Stop Diabetes this year. Melanie is an avid supporter of community events, and happy to be a part of the LCHD community walk.

## Richburg honored by TTUHSC...

(Continued from page 1)

sibility to inspire others, to acknowledge and thank the many people who invested in their educational experience and to care for and serve our communities with exceptional dedication, knowledge and heart," said Mitchell.

Dr. Richburg, DNP, FNP, is a 2013 alumna of TTUHSC, earning her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree then. She serves Tahoka and area citizens as a Family Nurse Practitioner at Lynn County Hospital District's Family Wellness Clinic in Tahoka, and at LCHD's O'Donnell clinic as well.

During May's award ceremony, the TTUHSC presenter said, "Dr. Richburg has dedicated the past 12 years to improving the health of the 2,500 residents of Tahoka, Texas. Over these past 12 years she has worked diligently in growing the Family Wellness Clinic to meet rural health population needs.

"Dr. Richburg has facilitated the growth of the practice to include an off-site clinic and additionally provides care to two long-term care centers. When she began practicing at the Family Wellness Clinic the average patient volume was 150 patients per month and has grown to an average of 450 visits per month. Through Dr. Richburg's leadership the clinic now has the designation of being a Rural Health Clinic, which allows the clinic to care for low income patients while maintaining adequate reimbursement to retain a financially sound practice.

"Dr. Richburg has been an advocate for bringing the best

care possible to this area through telehealth and has worked with TTUHSC telehealth students to create a model for integrating mental health care into her primary care clinic.

"She was recognized by the South Plains Nurse Practitioner (NP) Association as the Outstanding NP of the Year in 2013. Dr. Richburg has presented professionally at local, state and national conferences and always brings her unique perspective, never forgetting the value and impact of rural communities.

"She was recently awarded the Preceptor Award for 10 years of service to TTUHSC nurse practitioner students. Finding a preceptor of her caliber who is willing to precept students is becoming increasingly difficult yet she continues this invaluable work and service. Dr. Richburg is dedicated to developing the best nurse practitioners possible to ultimately improve the healthcare of residents of Texas.

"She is an expert role model and serves on the TTUHSC School of Nursing Advisory Council. Dr. Richburg is tireless in her efforts to advocate for rural communities in Texas through serving as a legislative representative for the Texas Nurse Practitioner Association and the South Plains Nurse Practitioner Association. Dr. Richburg has represented both organizations in Washington at the American Association of Nurse Practitioners Legislative Academy and served in an advisory role as a member of the Regional Advisory Council for Medicaid, Region 1. Additionally she serves as a Medicare surveyor for rural health clinics."

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"Oh, and once I was given moonshine — real, homemade moonshine ... but don't put that in the paper!" (oops) "And one patient gave me an old RC Cola sign, because I guess one of my staff told him I liked old signs for my fence. But one of the neatest gifts, and it's just humbling, was from a little man who came to see me from Welch. He had an old timey Levi denim jacket, and most of the denim jackets you see are Wrangler, not Levi. Anyway, it was small enough that it would have fit me, and I told him that if he ever forgot his jacket here I was going to keep it. He said no, but I'm gonna put a note in my pocket right now that says 'when I die give this jacket to Melanie'. He put it in his pocket right then and buttoned it. He said, 'when I die they'll find it and they'll bring it to you' — and they did. I still have it, and I wear it," she said.

"I love this little town. I do. I've been here 12 years and I don't want to go anywhere else," she says.

How fortunate for Tahoka that Melanie Richburg feels this way. She is part of a wonderful group of physicians, nurses and all the other staff that work together as part of the Lynn County Hospital District team, to bring quality healthcare to the citizens of this area.

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LynnCoNews

At 10:00 a.m. Appraisal District properties are p... due to non-paym... sale along with District.

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The Lynn Co... position of J... Job Descrip... This is a full... port of immat... Job Require... Education, t... Applicant m... must also pa... Other duties... rooms; moni... the Detention... Transportation... from other c... appointment... All assignm... The nature o... physical exer... is performed... involves the... to the commun... be able to a... stressful con... For more inf... Lynn County

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE OF SALE

At 10:00 a.m. on July 11, 2017, at 1627 Ave K in Tahoka, The Lynn County Appraisal District will offer multiple properties for sale to the public. Such properties are presently held in-trust by the taxing entities of Lynn County due to non-payment of Ad Valorem taxes. A listing of the properties for sale along with the minimum bid is available at the Lynn County Appraisal District. 23-30c

## HELP WANTED

### LYNN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE JOB POSTING

The Lynn County Sheriff's Office currently has a job opening for the position of Jailer. The position will be available until filled.

#### Job Description:

This is a full time Jailer position. Duties include care, control and transport of inmates.

#### Job Requirements

Education, training, experience:  
Applicant must hold at least a high school diploma or GED. Applicant must also pass a drug test and physical.

**Other duties and assignments include:** Court Security - secure courtrooms; monitor courts in session; escort prisoners to and from courts and the Detention Facility; perform security checks within the Courthouse. Transportation: transport inmates and other individuals in custody to/from other correctional facilities, hearings, medical facilities, doctor's appointments.

All assignments include writing reports and documenting incidents. The nature of the work necessitates an element of danger and requires physical exertion and the ability to make decisions under stress. Work is performed according to departmental policies and procedures and involves the potential for personal danger. The employee must be able to communicate effectively, solve problems, write concise reports, and be able to act quickly and calmly as part of a team under potentially stressful conditions.

For more information contact Captain Jim Bingham at 806-561-4505  
Lynn County is an equal opportunity employer. 23-20c

## GARAGE SALES

### KELLN-WOODLEY GARAGE SALE

1628 N. 6th • SATURDAY  
Starts at 9 a.m.  
Men's, ladies, clothing, kids clothes up to size 5, shoes, toys, make-up, jewelry/beads, battery operated riding toys, outdoor table & chairs, life jackets, high chair, and lots more! 23-10p

**YARD SALE: 1120 Ave. J**  
Friday • 9-7 Lots of miscellaneous. Antique bike. 23-10p

## CARDS of THANKS

We would like to thank everyone for their support during our fund raiser for Tristen.

It is such a blessing to live in a community that supports their youth and their endeavors!

Small towns are the best and the people that make up the small towns are the "cream of the crop." God Bless each and every one that donated or offered to help! Tristen is "Omaha" bound!

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### Tahoka Pioneer Museum

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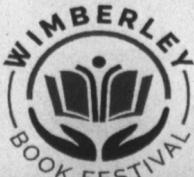
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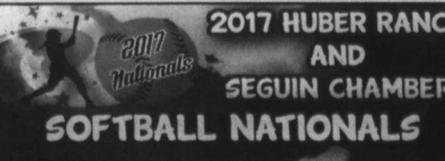


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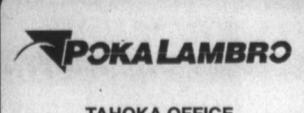
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**That's cool ...** The Lubbock County Sheriff's Dept. SWAT team visited with youth at summer camp in Tahoka this week, showing them some of their weapons and gear. The free summer camp is sponsored by the Lynn County Juvenile Probation Office, June 5-8 and 12-15, from 1-4 p.m. at the Tahoka Elementary School Gym. The camp is open to all area children in grades 1-6.



**Snake necklace ...** This young girl is not at all worried about the python wrapped around her neck, as she poses for a picture at the Petting Zoo at the City/County Library last Friday. Lots of brave youth took a chance with the snake for the unusual photo op. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)



*Volunteer ... and help others!*

**NH's LeClaire, Tahoka's Stone, share Co-Newcomer of Year baseball honors**

Two freshmen, Kaleb LeClaire of New Home ISD and John Stone of Tahoka ISD, shared Co-Newcomer of the Year honors in the District 4-2A 2016-17 All-District Baseball selections, according to information released recently by THS Coach Stephen Overstreet.

The district includes Morton, New Home, O'Donnell, Post, Seagraves, Smyer, Sundown, and Tahoka. Eight players from the Tahoka High School Baseball Team were named to the All-District Teams. Six players from New Home, and two from O'Donnell also made the list.

Stone and LeClaire were the only Lynn County play-

ers named on the Superlatives list. Kobe Ammons, a junior from Post, was named All-District MVP, Christian Huey (fr) of Sundown was Offensive MVP and Austin Britton (jr) of Post was Defensive MVP. Two pitchers were named Co-Pitcher of the Year - Ben Ayala (sr) of Post and Link Wilkes (sr) of Sundown.

First Team honors for Lynn County players included: Pitcher - John Quinonez (sr) of Tahoka, and Keagan Grantham (jr) of New Home; Catcher - Matthew Bradley (jr) of New Home; Infield - Grant Tekell (sr) of Tahoka, Ruben Quinonez (jr) of Tahoka; Utility - Brayden Castillon (jr) of Tahoka, Trevor Balague (jr) of O'Donnell, and Reed Bundy (jr) of New Home.

Second Team honors included: Catcher - Tristen Tipton (jr) of Tahoka; Infield - Kevin White (jr) of Tahoka, and J'Den Gray (fr) of New Home; Outfield - Colbe Perez (sr) of Tahoka, and Dylan Martinez (soph) of New Home; DH - Kale James (jr) of O'Donnell.

Coach of the Year honors went to Jerry Pyles of Post.

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

**Petting Zoo**

The City-County Library's Summer Kick-off Petting Zoo was a big hit. Everyone enjoyed the educational and up-close experience with the exotic and domestic animals that Whitley Acres Exotic Ranch and Stables brought to the library. The African porcupines made another appearance at the library and brought their dad, Stickers, along with them. The children anxiously waited in line for a chance to ride a horse. Only the brave would put the albino python around their neck. Feeding the animals was a special experience for all ages. Donkey, camel, porcupines, wallaby, kangaroo, goats, ducks, snake, turtles, rabbits, zebra, aoudad, 4-horn Jacob sheep and horses OH MY! If you missed our Summer Kick-off Petting Zoo, no worries they will be back with us again next year.

Special thanks to the FirstBank and Trust for providing water at the petting zoo. The library could not have put this special program on without our volunteers: Gary and Juanell Jones, Rhonda McNeely, Julia and Axie Allen, Lenda Wood, Janey McMillan, Liz Tew, Rachel Case and Miklo Hernandez. Thanks to our volunteers and to everyone who visited our petting zoo!

**Summer Reading**

Summer Reading has begun! You still have time to sign up and read to win. Pick up your reading logs at the library. Our reader groups are Read-to-Me, K-2nd and 3rd - 5th grades of 2016-2017 school year. Read 10 books and play the Prize Drop Game for a prize. Two months of reading at your reading level will win you a chance at trophies and gift cards from Altitude Trampoline Park and Cinemark Theatres. Thanks to our sponsors Leighton and Joan Knox, FirstBank and Trust, George's Restaurant and Tahoka Donuts.

**Summer fun at the Library!**

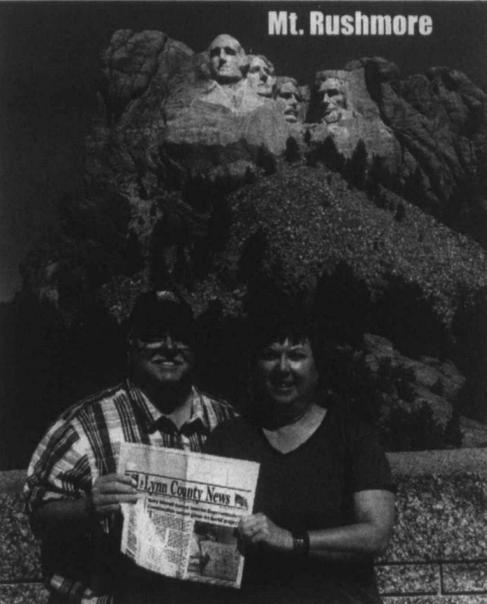
Storytime for children through 2nd grade is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Create and draw in the air with our 3Doodler for kids 3rd - 5th grades. Block-stacking, stack-crashing Jenga Tournament for kids 3rd - 8th grades wanting victory bragging rights. Our summer Jenga Tournaments are scheduled for Wednesdays June 7th, July 5th and August 2nd at 4:00 p.m. Stop by or call the library and schedule your summer time fun.

All our summer programs are for 2016-2017 grades kids just completed.

**Tea and Tales June Meeting**

The Library's Tea and Tales, is scheduled to meet Tuesday, June 13th at 10:00 a.m. We have an exciting program scheduled with a very special guest appearance by Jackie Vedder. Jackie will be here sharing with us her passion of homemade soap making and her crafting. Lynn County's home-based business entrepreneur, Jackie, will bring samples along with merchandise items for sale from Cotton Patch Gypsy's Homemade Soaps and This & That. Come join us for a fun time and get a free sample of Jackie's homemade soaps!

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



**Kent and Vendell Elliott show their Lynn County News** while visiting historic Mount Rushmore National Memorial, a massive sculpture carved into Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills region of South Dakota. The sculpture's roughly 60-ft.-high granite faces depict U.S. presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln.

**Hello Mr. President ...**

The Elliotts also stopped for a quick picture with George Bush Sr., Forty-First President of the United States (1989-1993) in the City of Presidents, a series of life-size bronze statues crafted in tribute to the past, which is part of the Rapid City Historic District Tour in downtown Rapid City, South Dakota. The City of Presidents project began in 2000 to honor the legacy of the American presidency. The News is 980 miles from home.



**This is fun ...** Youth of all ages enjoyed petting and feeding the animals at the free Petting Zoo hosted by the City/County Library in Tahoka on Friday. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

*Did you know ...*

- giant tortoises can live in captivity longer than any other animal
- snakes can't bite in rivers or swamps (they would drown otherwise)
- 'Babe' was played by over 50 pigs
- a platypus can eat its weight in worms every day

**Green Memorial Park Cemetery**

Green Memorial Park Cemetery will have its annual **DONATION DRIVE** during the month of June.

Funds may be deposited directly to FirstBank & Trust or mailed to Green Memorial Park Cemetery, P.O. Box 102, Wilson, Texas 79381.

The board of directors (Servando Benavidez, Brenda Dunn, Randy Dunn, Lester Gickhorn, Carolyn Klaus and Lester Walker would like to thank each of you for your past contributions and ask for your support to help keep the cemetery neat and attractive.

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**Isn't he adorable? ...** Debbie Whitley, with Whitley Acres Exotic Ranch and Stables, holds Rowdy, one of the baby kangaroos that came to the free Petting Zoo at the City/County Library in Tahoka. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

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