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100 + 100 + 101 ...

This Thanksgiving, Tahoka citizens are blessed with three Centenarians in our small town, pictured here in their first photo together. MADELINE HEGI, 100, is seated left, JACKIE TURNER, 100, is standing in the center, and TRUDY SCHUKNECHT, who is 101 years old, is seated at right. All three seem to be doing remarkably well, and graciously agreed to allow The Lynn County News to take their photo. One remarked, "Oh, good, a picture with my 100-year-old buddies!" (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)



email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

INN COUNTY COURTHOUSE



Lynn County News

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 47

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

Farms near Wilson lose items - pg. 2

Inside

Obituaries - pg. 3

What's

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- Dennis J. Clem - Laela Marie Duran
- Jesus 'Jesse' Mendez, Jr.
- Harold Sanders
- Woodwork pg. 4
- Filing period opens Monday - pg. 4
- TISD clerk resigns after investigation - pg. 6
- Hospital upgrades radiology service - pg. 6

Lynn County Area BALE COUNT

(reported 11-22-11)

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union.....27,552 New Home Coop, Lakeview 26,338 Wells Coop Gin..... 10,427 Farmers Coop, O'Donnell............ 3,290 Grassland Coop Gin 1,910

TOTAL 79,321

Lynn County News

P.O. Box 1170 · Tahoka, TX 79373 Phone: 806-561-4888

Fax: 806-561-6308

E-mail address:

.ynnCoNews@poka.com ews Office: 1617 Main Street

Open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Open During Lunch Hour) CLOSED FRIDAYS (Drop Box available by front door)

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays



8-year-old girl dies in house fire here

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2011

by JUANELL JONES

claimed the life of Laela Marie Duran, 8-year-old daughter of Sylvia Hernandez and Luis Duran Sr., in tragic circumstances at their home on South 2nd Street in Tahoka. Her parents, and a younger brother and an older sister, escaped from the burning home, although her father was hospitalized for injuries apparently suffered while trying to save Laela. According to information from City Fire Marshal Jerry Ford, the father tried twice to get back into the house through the front door, as well as from a window to the front

bedroom, but was unable to get in through the smoke and flames.

Contribute to: The family watched in agony as house was engulfed in flames, with friends and

neighbors standing in silent witness to the tragedy, watching as fire fighters fought the blaze in the cold early morning hours.

The 9-1-1 call for help came at 12:11 a.m. Friday, with a Tahoka Police officer the first to arrive on scene, followed shortly afterwards by the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department, who arrived at 12:15 a.m. according to information from the City Fire Marshal. The house was fully engulfed in the blaze when firemen arrived, with intense flames and smoke preventing anyone from entering the home. As soon as possible, firemen entered the home to search for the little girl, whose body was reportedly found underneath her bed in a front bedroom. Firemen and Lynn County EMS transported the body from the home to an ambulance at approximately 1:30 a.m.

The State Fire Marshal was on An early morning fire last Friday scene Friday investigating the blaze. He told local officials that he believed the fire most likely started in electrical wiring behind the refrigerator in the kitchen area at the back of the home, but that officially the cause was "undetermined." There were no smoke alarms in the home, which was completely destroyed in the blaze. The family had no insurance on the home or contents, according to the City Fire Marshal. The family lost everything in the fire. They are currently staying with other family members in Tahoka.

A donation fund for the family has been established at First National Bank, P.O. Box 1030.

"Duran Family Benefit Fund" First National Bank of Tahoka P.O. Box 1030, Tahoka, TX 79373

Donations accepted for the family who lost their 8-year-old daughter, their home, and all their belongings. Tahoka, TX

> second grader at Tahoka Elementary School, and one of her sisters, Charlie, is a freshman at Tahoka High School. She has another sister, Paris Duran,

and two brothers, Luis Duran Jr. and

79373.

Laela was a

Mikey Duran. Students at Tahoka Schools were addressed by grief counselors Friday, and were available Monday as well, according to school officials. To accommodate an anticipated crowd, funeral services for the little girl were held in the Tahoka ISD gymnasium at 10 a.m. Monday, with students allowed to attend with consent of a parent, or with a parent in the case of younger students. Tahoka second grade students who wanted to attend the service with their families were invited to be seated in a section near the family.

Father Eduardo Teo, of St. Jude Catholic Church, led the service. "At St. Jude's, we have had many funerals - but few so profoundly sad as that of a child," he said in opening remarks at the service. "The Lord welcomes another angel today ... but we can understand and identify with the family's first painful steps in their long journey from grief," he

The family also invited other local pastors to speak at the service, with Rev. Vernon Baker from First United Methodist Church, Rev. Bill Fuller with First Baptist Church, and Dr. Steve Bonner with the Tahoka Church of Christ speaking briefly at the end of the service. Laela's second grade teacher, Nancy Greenhill, also spoke, sharing memories of a little girl that she and her students knew so well.

"Laela was so much fun and such (SEE TRAGIC FIRE, PAGE 3)





Fire destroys home ... The Duran family lived at this home in the 1700 block of South 2nd Street in Tahoka.

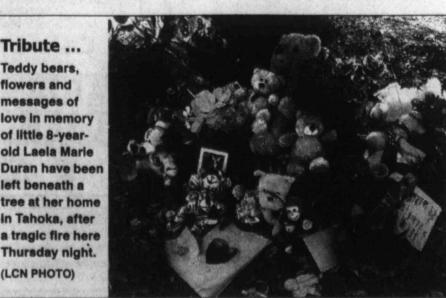
Santa's Land drive thru **Christmas Park opens**

Santa's Land opens in Tahoka on Thanksgiving Day, and members of the community are invited to stop by and see the lights and Santa and Mrs. Claus. Santa's

Land Drive-Thru Christmas Park, located at the southern edge of Tahoka, includes four acres of land, 1/2 mile of driving paths, thousands of lights, 100-plus wooden cut outs, 15 blow-ups, a wide variety of Christmas trees, and three decorated antique cars. Visitors are able to stay inside their cars or get out and mingle while enjoying a warm fire and some hot chocolate.

Admission is free, and donations will be accepted to help keep the lights

The drive-thru park is located at South 11th and Ave. O. On opening weekend Santa's Land will be open Nov. 24-27. The drive-thru park will be open in December on Dec. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, and 23-25. Gate opens at 6:30 p.m. and lights will go out no earlier than 10 p.m. If Santa is present, he departs at 9 p.m. To find out if Santa will be present, call 806-891-1291.





MR. AND MRS. O.R. "PUG" PARKER

Couple celebrates 65th wedding anniversary

O.R. "Pug" Parker and Billie Parker of Tahoka will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on November 28, 2011. Parker and the former Billie Pennington married at the First Baptist Church in Tahoka on November 28, 1946. The couple was raised in Tahoka and both graduated from Tahoka High School.

Parker served during World War II in the United States Army. He later worked at Lyntegar Electric where he retired after 37 years of service. Billie spent many years as a hair stylist. The couple continues to make their home in Tahoka.

The couple has two daughters, Nancy Carkeet of Lubbock, and Penny Redman of Tahoka. They have four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Christmas book available at Santa's Land

"The Butterfly Christmas," a Christmas story about hope and goodness, a read-to-me story for small children, or a read-alone for older ones, has just been released, and will be available for purchase at Santa's Land Drive Thru Christmas Park in Taho-

Written by Sue Carlton Swinson of Lubbock, and illustrated by Linda Shaw of Ravenna, Ohio, the children's book is a story about North Wind who with the help of thousands of butterflies helps a poor family

The author will be available for book signings at Santa's Land Drive Thru Christmas Park on two weekends, Nov. 25-26 and Dec. 3 & 10, from 6:30-8

"The Butterfly Christmas" is available for \$16.95, and is also available at Word Publications, 1310 Ave. Q, ordering directly from PO Box 93194, Lubbock 79493; sold at Barnes and Nobles, Hastings, or by calling Sue Carlton Swinson at 806-791-3741 or 806-470-5095



Sawyer J. Hale Thompson

Chris and Abby Thompson of Odessa announce the birth of their son, Sawyer J. Hale Thompson, born November 15, 2011 at 7:58 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20-1/2 inches long. He has two sisters, Jencee and

Grandparents are Jim & Chloie Jan Wells of Tahoka and Roy & Peggy Thompson of Littlefield. Great-grandmother is Jeanine Thompson of Littlefield.

Farms near **Wilson lose** items to thieves

Two farms east of Wilson lost items to thieves and burglars, according to reports received Nov. 15 by Lynn County Sheriff's Dept.

Two trailer ramps were stolen from a farm six miles east of Wilson. Owner Weldon Neugebauer of Slaton valued the ramps

Reported on the same day, but believed to have occurred more recently, was a burglary of a barn about two and a half miles east of Wilson, owned by Manuel Zamora of Lubbock. Several metal items were stolen, with the loss estimated at \$1,280.

LETTER to the EDITOR

Scholastic Book Fair was huge success

Tahoka Elementary would like to thank all those that participated in this year's book

Again, it was a huge success and could have not been without your involvement as a community. The proceeds will help the Elementary buy more books for the school for all the students to enjoy. Thanks to Pride Corps, Carol Miller, Yolanda Aleman and Gloria DeLeon for their help as well. The willingness of each of us makes the Book Fair successful.

Tejeda Cafe

is open on

Friday

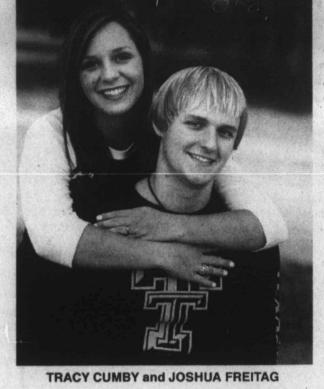
Nights

6:00-9:00 pm

DINE IN OR CARRY OUT!

1600 Main, Tahoka · 561-1298

Rhonda McNeely Book Fair Coordinator, Tahoka Elementary



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Couple announces engagement

Tracy Cumby of Lubbock and Selenda Cumby of Ralls announce the engagement of their daughter, Alesha Cumby to Joshua Freitag. Freitag is the son of Donald and Tonda Freitag' of Tahoka.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of James and Glenna Reynolds of Ralls. She is currently attending South Plains College with plans to transfer to Texas Tech University to pursue a degree in Math.

Freitag is the grandson of Donald and Carolyn Klaus of Wilson and Tom and Charlotte Freitag of Lubbock. He will graduate from Texas Tech in May with a degree in Exercise and Sports Science and will pursue a Doctoral Degree in Physical Therapy.

The couple plans to marry on January 7, 2012 at the First Baptist Church in Ralls.

Farm Bureau donation expresses gratitude to volunteer firefighters

A \$334.00 contribution to the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department, as well as O'Donnell, New Home, Wilson, Post and Justiceburg, has been matched on a three-to-one basis by Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) to help recover resources and funds used to fight area wildfires.

"We are grateful for these local heroes who protect our homes, land, animals and families,' said Lynn County Farm Bureau President, Michael White.

The TFB state office committed to match county Farm Bureau donations on a \$3 to \$1 basis, up to \$1,000 per volunteer fire department, across the

"Volunteer fire departments are ready, at a moment's notice, not just to put out fires, but also to prevent them. They deserve financial help. More than that, those in our community should say thanks for those who risk their lives to protect our families and resources," said White.

Statewide, combined contributions from county Farm Bureaus and TFB now exceed

For more information about TFB's wildfire relief efforts, visit the http://www.txfb.org/ drought2011.aspx.

The Front Porch LASSROO Wilson ISD lists Honor Roll

Wilson Elementary students listed on the all A Honor Roll are; Abigail Isham 1st grade, and 2nd grade, Tanner Clark, Kaitlyn Hernandez, Leslie Pantoja, Gabriella Ramirez and Dylan Steen.

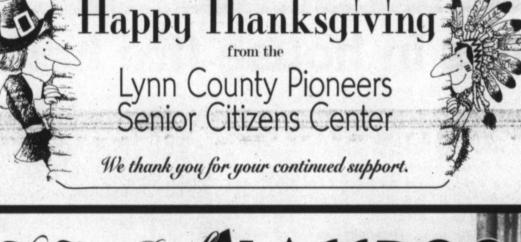
Students listed on the A/B Honor Roll are, 1st grade- Richard Adame, Ernesto Perez, Kadi Salinas, Alex Sandoval and Chrishtyn Sims. 2nd Grade- Dillon Cowley, Alize Garcia, Andrew Hinojosa and Gemini Rodriguez. 3rd Grade-Ilyssah Garcia and 5th Grade- Bryan Mendez and Rebekah Parmer.

Students listed on the Junior High Honor Roll are, All A- 6th grade, Kylie Steen, and 8th grade Bryan Pena. A-B Honor roll are 6th grade, Graciela Lerma, Ebby Spen-

yssa Mattheus, Zackk Mendez, and Angela Rendon. 8th grade, Anastacia Gonzales, Exmid Lerma, Angel Lopez, and Brandon Rowland.

High School all A Honor Roll was 9th grade, Joshua Trice. 11th Grade, Mayra Gonzalez and Peggy Jackson and 12th grade, Juana Lo-

Students on the A-B Honor Roll are 9th grade, Michaela Borrayo and Jaunita Lerma. 10th grade, Austin Castillo, Fransisca Garcia, Jordan Guzman, Krista Lehmann, Trista Mattheus, Alexandria Rodriguez, Bailey Schaffer and Ashley Trice. 11th grade, Alaura Mendez and Coby Villareal. 12th grade, J Alonso Briones, Jurmiya Leyva, Sidalia Rangel and



When I was in the fourth grade, I was offered a job as a paper someone to talk boy. It didn't pay much money, but I knew having a job would build with; now she has friends brimming graders. My lessons started on the first day on the job. A customer over. Her husband paying his bill asked me if I wanted a tip, and I said, "Sure." He said, was gone, but life went on. She had One of my customers was a lady named Mrs. Stanley. She was her community and was luminous with love.

Community is a beautiful thing; sometimes it even

heals us and makes us better than we would otherwise be. I live in a city now. My front porch is a concrete slab. And my

paper boy is a lady named Edna with three kids and a twelve-year-old Honda. Every day she asks me how I'm doing. When I don't say "fine," she sticks around long enough to find out why. She's such a nice lady that sometimes I act as if I have a problem, just so she'll tarry. She's lived in a city all her life, but she knows about community, too.

Community isn't so much a locale as it is a state of mind. You find it whenever folks ask how you're doing because they care, and not

because they're getting paid to inquire. Two thousand years ago, a church elder named Peter wrote the recipe for community. "Above all else," he wrote, "hold unfailing your love for one another, since love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8). That means when you love a person, you occasionally have to turn a blind eye toward their

which turned out to be enough. I quit my paper route after her healing. Moved on to the lucrative business of lawn mowing. Didn't see the widow Stanley for several years. Then we crossed paths up at the Christian Church's annual fund-raiser dinner. She was standing behind the steam table spooning out mashed potatoes and looking radiant. Four

my character so I took it, good character being important to fourth

a widow and not prone to wild living, so I took to lingering on her

front porch during my rounds. She'd watch for me to come down

her street, and by the time I'd pedaled up to her house, there'd be

a slushy bottle of Coke waiting for me. I'd sit and drink while she

The widow Stanley talked mostly of her dead husband, Roger.

"Roger and I went grocery shopping this morning over to the IGA,"

talked. That was our understanding - I drank, she talked.

she'd say. The first time she said that, the

Coke went up my nose. That was back in

the days when Coke going up your nose

wasn't a crime, just a mite uncomfortable. Went home and told my father about

Mrs. Stanley and how she talked as if Mr.

Stanley were still alive. Dad said she was

smile, and maybe she'd work it out of her

system. So that's what I did. I figured this

was where the character-building came into

play. Turned out dad was right. After a few

summers, she seemed content to leave her

Nowadays, we'd send Mrs. Stanley to a

psychiatrist. But all she had back then was a

front porch rocker and her paper boy's ear,

husband over at the South Cemetery.

to sit and listen and nod my head and

probably lonely, and that maybe I just ought

"Stay away from wild women."

shortcomings.

Kind of like what my dad told me about the widow Stanley. Sometimes it's better to nod your head and smile. Psychiatrists call that "enabling denial," but back when I delivered papers, we called it "compassion."

-- excerpted from "Front Porch Tales" by Philip Gulley



 SPECIAL OF THE WEEK -Carne Guisada Plate Choice of red or green sauce

Good thru

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

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS (usps 323200) is published weekly by Lynn County News, Inc. on Thursday (52 issues per year) at Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas. Office location is 1617 Main, Tahoka; 806 / 561-4888; Fax 806 / 561-6308; e-mail: LynnCoNews@ poka.com. Periodical postage paid at Tahoka, Texas 79373. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Lynn County News, Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373.

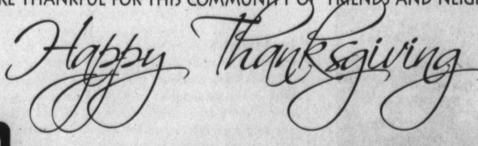
years before she'd had to bribe her paper boy with a Coke to have WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THIS COMMUNITY OF FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

beautiful thing

sometimes it even heals us

and makes us better than

we would otherwise be.





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a joy to have in class," said Mrs. Greenhill, speaking to the family seated directly in front of the podium. "She loved her family, and wanted to be just like her sister, Charlie. We will miss her every day. I and the other second grade teachers had the privilege of meeting with Laela's classmates on Friday - we cried, we prayed, and we shared so many good memories of her," she added.

"I want to share with you some of the quotes from letters written by the second grade students. 'We will remember Laela in our hearts and never forget her' ... 'You were so special to me' ... 'Laela was so funny' ... 'We will miss you and hope you are safe in Heaven' ... 'Jesus, we know Laela is with you, and she is floating in the clouds'," she read.

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Rowland.

Rev. Baker, who is also a member of the Tahoka VFD, addressed the family saying, "Our hearts break as well. We cannot imagine the pain you are feeling, but we will walk this path with you. Jesus made it very clear that the children have a clear path to Him. Laela is being held ... and we are here to hold you," he add-

"Little Laela reminds me of who I ought to be ... so full of life, so full of joy - a child of God," said Dr. Bonner in his remarks to the family.

Laela's older sister, Charlie, also addressed the crowd at the end of the service. She is a freshman at THS, and a cheerleader for the Bulldogs.

"We want to thank everyone for their help, support and prayers during this time," she said. "My sister was such a happy kid, but she could be sassy too," said Charlie with a small smile. "I remember when she was born, I was in first grade. She had such chubby cheeks, and that's why we called her 'Chubby' ... She loved singing and dancing and cheerleading, and she would have been a great cheerleader - better than me."

Members of the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. were also deeply affected by the death of the little girl, and met Monday night with a crisis team from Lubbock fire dept. to help them deal with the trauma of Thursday night's tragic events. The VFD expressed their condolences to the family.

TISD Superintendent Steve Burleson, who visited with the family on the night of the tragedy and oversaw the school's cooperation in working with staff and students, issued the following statement to The News:

"The staff of Tahoka ISD just wants to express our heartfelt sympathy to Laela's family and friends. It has warmed my heart to see how the school, churches, and community have joined together to support the Durans. T've been especially blessed by the love and support that our young people have had for Charlie Duran and her family. Several of our school classes are currently raising funds for this family. I was also very proud of Mrs. Greenhill, Laela's second grade homeroom teacher, who shared many notes and expressions of love and friendship written by the entire second grade class," said the superintendent. He noted that the notes and drawings by second grade students would be compiled in a book to give to Laela's family.

Weather Co

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov. 16	59	37	
Nov. 17	55	24	
Nov. 18	72	25	
Nov. 19	76	38	
Nov. 20	60	39	
Nov. 21	46 1	37	0.08"

0.01" Precipitation for Jan: 0.66" Precipitation for Feb: 0.07" Precipitation for Mar: 0.00" Precipitation for Apr: 0.05" Precipitation for May: Precipitation for June: 0.30" 0.21" Precipitation for July: 0.53" Precipitation for Aug: 1.08" Precipitation for Sept: Precipitation for Oct: 0.85" 0.25" Precipitation for Nov.:

Total Precip. for 2011:

4.18"

Craft show set here Dec. 3rd

Area crafters are gearing up for the Annual Christmas Craft Show set for Saturday, December 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Life Enrichment Center in Tahoka. The popular event will feature the talents of crafters from Tahoka, Lubbock and surrounding communities.

"There will be over 20 booths with a wide variety of items," according to Amy Preston of Tahoka, Craft Show Coordinator. "We've added a few new yendors this year and will have many of our regulars back by popular demand," added Preston.

Admission to the craft show is free and visitors can expect to find a little bit of everything. Phebe K. Warner Study Club will be preparing and selling lunch as a fundraiser for their

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

Wilson

Nov. 28- Dec. 2 **Breakfast** Monday: Eggs, hash brown, toast Tuesday: Canada bacon, toast, yogurt & banana Wednesday: French toast stick Thursday: BFK pizza Friday: Eggs, hash brown, toast

Lunch Monday: BBQ on bun, baked potato, pineapple cherry delight Tuesday: Golden fish strips, mac & cheese, salad, Texas toast, fruit Wednesday: Toasted ham & cheese sandwich, veggie dippers, chips, chocolate chip cookie Thursday: Crispy tacos, Spanish rice, pinto beans, gelatin Friday: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, carrots, rolls, strawberries

Dennis J. Clem

bituaries

Alfonso Bernal Sr.

Sr., 77, of O'Donnell were held

on Monday, November 21, at

7:00 p.m. at Calvillo Funeral

Chapel in Tahoka. Funeral mass

was celebrated on Tuesday, No-

vember 22, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at

St. Pius X Catholic Church with

Father Edwardo Teo officiat-

ing. Burial was at O'Donnell

Cemetery under the direction of

Calvillo Funeral Home. He died

on Friday, November 18, 2011 at

He was born on January 23,

1934 in Cardeyta Jimenez, Nue-

vo Leon to the late Guadalupe

and Eusebia Bernal. He mar-

ried Connie Deloa in 1959 in

Snyder. He was a retired farmer.

He moved to O'Donnell in 1980

two brothers Guadalupe Bernal

Connie of O'Donnell; four sons,

Paul and Louisa Bernal of Ta-

hoka, Mario Bernal of Lubbock,

Lupe and Brandi of Lubbock,

Alfonso Jr, and Chriselda Ber-

nal of Big Springs; two daugh-

ters, Mary and Johnny Antu of

Lamesa, Irma and Domingo

Baeza of O'Donnell; two sis-

ters Josefa Mendoza of Puelbo

Nuevo, Nuevo Leon, and Con-

suelo Rodriguez of Harlingen;

19 grandchildren and 21 great

Draw First United

Methodist Church

(established 1907)

P.O. Box 496 • O'Donnell, TX 79351

Phone (806) 428-3357

or Fern Barnes (806) 327-5583

PASTOR: REV. MONTY BARNETT

Sunday Morning Worship - 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School following

grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by

Survivors include his wife

his residence.

from Tahoka.

and Juan Bernal.

Rosary for Alfonso Bernal

Services for Dennis J. Clem, 65, of Plano were held in Dallas on Tuesday, Nov. 22

He died November 17, 2011 in Plano. He was born Oct. 20, 1946 in Tahoka to Roland Warren "Slick" Clem and Melba Ruth Adamson Clem. His parents preceeded him in death.

He graduated from Tahoka High School in 1965 and attended West Texas State University. He married Linda on August 3,

Survivors include his wife, Linda Gale Clem of Plano; a daughter Christian Denise Clem of Plano and a son Jay Michael Clem and wife, Holly, of Lubbock; and two grandchildren.

Harold Sanders

Graveside services for Harold Sanders, 79, of Lubbock were held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday Nov. 22, 2011 at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park in Woodrow. He died Sunday November 20, 2011 at UMC.

He was born in Independence, Kansas. He graduated from High School in Wichita, Kansas. He was a US Army veteran serving in Korea during the Korean War. He worked in the grocery business for Allied Supermarkets and Affiliated Foods and was the city manager for Rotan for 15 years before retiring. Survivors include his wife Becky of Lubbock; four children, Rhonda Gray of Cincinnati Ohio; Steve Sanders of Tahoka; Tracy Sanders of Enid, Oklahoma; and Scott Sanders of Liberal, Kansas.

Donations to the

Lynn County Pioneers benefit our local

Senior Citizens Center

Laela Marie Duran

Our precious daughter went home to Jesus on Friday, November 18, 2011 at the young age of eight. Born to Luis Duran and Sylvia Hernandez on September 23, 2003, Laela was a burst of energy. She had a love of singing, dancing, drawing and coloring. When she grew up she aspired to be a cheerleader like her sister, a nurse like her mom and an artist. She was fascinated with butterflies and flowers:

Rosary was held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 20, 2011 at St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church in Tahoka. Mass was at 10:00 a.m. Monday, November 21, 2011 at the Tahoka High School Gymnasium with interment at Nevels Memorial Park in Tahoka.

Survivors include her parents, Luis and Sylvia; two brothers, Luis Duran, Jr. and Mikey Duran; two sisters, Charlie Duran and Paris Duran; paternal grandparents, Grabiela Duran and Jose Munoz of Dilley and Jose Ismael Duran of Bay City, Michigan; maternal grandparents, Mike and Sara DeLeon of Tahoka; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends who loved her dearly.

Please celebrate the life of Laela by visiting www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com.



Jesus "Jesse" Mendez, Jr.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2011 . LYNN COUNTY NEWS . PAGE 3

Services for Jesus Mendez, Jr. "Jesse", 42, of Wilson were held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, November 17, 2011 at First Baptist Church Wilson. He died on Sunday, November 13, 2011.

He was born November 30, 1968 in Lubbock to Jesse and Antonia (Faz) Mendez, Sr. He graduated from Wilson High School in 1988. He married Mary Kathleen Trujillo on July 9, 2005 in Sandia Pueblo, NM. He worked as a plumber for Lakeside Healthcare Rehabilitation Center in Lubbock and was a member of First Baptist Church in Wilson. He was a former Little Dribblers Coach for Wilson and had a passion for helping and teaching children.

He was preceded in death by one sister Esmeralda Olguin and his father.

Survivors his wife Kathleen of Wilson; five children, Shay, Samantha, Amber, Ryan and Craig Mendez all of Wilson; one brother Danny Mendez of Wilson; and two sisters, Arlene Mendez and Mary Lou Ybarra, both of Lubbock.



DONATIONS

o the Lynn County Hospital District EMS are greatly appreciated. LCHD EMS, Box 1310, Tahoka, Tx

ATTEND CHURCH IN LYNN COUNTY

St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church

South 4th & Ave. M . Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4436 PASTOR: REV. EDUARDO TEO DEACON: FRANCISCO AGUILAR

Mass - 9;30 a.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Wed. & Thur. Rosary - 7 p.m. Tues.

CCE Class/Confirmation Instruct. - 7 p.m. Wed.

Grassland Nazarene Church 2885 CR 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373

(806) 327-5656, 327-5655

PASTOR: Rev. James Miller Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Youth and Adults: Wednesdays - 7 p.m.

Wilson St. Paul **Lutheran Church**

16th & Houston St. • Box 136 • Wilson, TX 79381 (806) 628-6471 · www.stpaulwilson.com PASTOR: DAVID W. ROHDE Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. Divine Service - 10:15 a.m.

"Where Christ Serves People"

Wilson First Baptist Church

1403 13th St. • Box 67 • Wilson, TX 79381 (806) 628-6333 PASTOR: BILLY PARMER

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00 a,m. Discipleship Training - 5 p.m. Sunday Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays: ellowship Meal & Classes for all ages
Bible Study & Prayer Mtg · Youth

New Home United

Methodist Church

350 N. Main

(806) 924-7549

PASTOR: BOB POWELL

Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m.

Youth Activities

ew Home, TX 79383

All Different

READ PSALM 107:1-15

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Psalm 100:12 (KJV)

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2320 Lockwood · Box 1177 · Tahoka, TX 79373

(806) 561-4060 · email: tcoc@poka.com

PULPIT MINISTER: STEVEN BONNER

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER: ANDY BREWER

Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Fellowship & Devotion - Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

I was born with a hole in the roof of my mouth that causes my speech to sound muffled and unclear. Throughout my life, I have complained to God because I am not like everyone else. I was bitter and unhappy for a long time; and my anger grew, especially a few years ago in my early teenage years -- until I began noticing people around me. I was shopping at a local store when I approached a man who was

moving slowly. One of his arms and one leg were completely paralyzed. I looked more closely to see his face and found that he was laughing. Even without being able to use his arm and leg, he was happy. How could this be? I tried to think what life would be like if I did not have use of an arm and a leg.

Even though I have a problem speaking, I can still be thankful for my ability to talk. I learned that in life we often complain about our problems, only to find that other people have problems worse than ours. While I was complaining, I was not looking to God and trusting God for who I am. Now I try to thank God for who I am, just as I am. That is hard to do, so sometimes I pray for patience, joy, and healing.

Thought for the Day All of us imperfect people can thank God even in our imperfection.

Prayer: Dear God, help us as we face our physical limitations. Protect us from discouraging thoughts, and replace our frustration with joy. Amen.

Brent Johnathan Funk (Pennsylvania) ... from The Upper Room (www.upperroom.org)

Tahoka Trinity Church 1925 Lockwood • Box 1168 • Tahoka, TX 79373 Phone (806) 561-5317

PASTOR: PERRY SHUFFIELD Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

Youth - Sundays at 7 p.m. For a ride to Sunday School or Church, call 561-5317

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Lutheran Church

13th & Dickson • Wilson, TX 79381 Sharing Christ's message of forgiveness and salvation with our community and beyond.

LEADERS: REV. LESLIE LEWIS TONDA FREITAG, PLM Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship - 11:15 a.m.



1801 Ave. J - Box 500 Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4503 email:

fumctahoka@poka.com PASTOR:

VERNON BAKER

SUNDAYS: Praise Worship - 8:30 a.m. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m. TUESDAYS: Branded Ministries - 6:30 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Youth - 6:30 p.m.

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First Baptist Church 1701 Ave. K · Box 1547 · Tahoka, TX 79373

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Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service - 10:45 a.m. SNL (Youth) - 6:00 p.m. Sunday

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New Home Church of Christ

St. address · Box 188 · New Home, TX 79383 (806) 924-7579 MINISTER: VICTOR ELLISON

Bible Class - 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service - 6:00 p.m. Mid-Week Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

in County News, LynnCoNews@

er: Send address

New Home ISD School News

The New Home Lady Leopards began the Wilson Cotton Classic Tournament with a win against Jayton on Thursday, Nov. 17. With the score 44-12, seniors Naomi Nevarez and Clarissa Elizondo both put up 14 pts. each for the ladies. The ladies went on Friday, Nov. 18 to defeat Westbrook, 58-33. Junior Haley Lehman put up 19 points along with Naomi Nevarez 11 pts. The Lady Leopards defeated Hermleigh, 50-28 on Saturday, Nov. 19 in the championship game. Haley Lehman made 16 pts. along with sophomore Merritt Mitchell's 13 points. Clarissa Elizondo and Merritt Mitchell were named All Tournament Team for the Lady Leopards.

The New Home Varsity boys defeated Jayton to start the Wilson Cotton Classic Tournament with the score 45-32. Senior Zach West dropped 25 pts. for the Leopards. The boys then won 53-32 over Loop on Friday. Zach West put up 20 pts. along with junior Josh Paul's 11 points. The Leopards fell short on Saturday against Southland 45-33, which placed them 2nd in the Tournament. Zach West had 15 pts and Zach Paul put up 10 pts. and 13 rebounds for the Leopards. Zach Paul and Zach West were named All Tournament Team for the Leopards.

Tuesday, November 8 the Lady Leopards travelled to Wellman-Union for a win. The score was 42-18 with Merritt Mitchell swishing 18 pts. and Clarissa Elizondo's 11 pts. The boys defeated Wellman-Union 39-36. Zach Paul banged in 21 pts. with 10 rebounds and Zach West added 12 pts. for the Leopards.

The Leopards look ahead to play Dawson on November 29 at New Home and hosting the New Home Classic Tournament December 1-3.



Champions ... The New Home Lady Leopards were the Champions in the Wilson Cotton Classic Tournament recently. They defeated Jayton, Westbrook, and Hermleigh to win the tournament, and Clarissa Elizondo and Merritt Mitchell were named to the All Tournament Team for the Lady Leopards.

Filing period opens Monday for primary elections

The filing period for candidates interested in filing for the Republican and Democratic Primaries, including six Lynn County offices, opens Monday, Nov. 28 and continues through Dec. 15, according to information from the Lynn County Clerk's Office.

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

Potential candidates must first come to the Lynn County Clerk's office to file their appointment of a campaign treasurer, and then must file as a candidate for the office with the respective county party chairman of the party in which they choose to run. The Lynn County Republican Party Chairman is John Baker, phone 789-1257, and the Lynn County Democratic Party Chairman is Rosalinda Guiterrez, phone 561-2233 or 559-5258. Terms of office for county offices are for four years, and the unexpired term for treasurer is for two years.

Additionally, the office of District Attorney for the 106th Judicial District, which includes Lynn, Gaines, Garza and Dawson counties, will be on the March Primary ballot. Candidates interested in filing for the DA office must file with the State.

Republican and Democratic Primary elections will be held March 6, 2012, and the General Election will be held in November 2012.

Christmas for Kids final sign-up reminder

The final sign up for Christmas for Kids will be held Saturday, Dec. 3rd, at the Lynn County Senior Citizens Center, 1600 S. 3rd in Tahoka, from 1-3 p.m. This is the final sign-up. No sign ups will be taken by phone.

Anyone interested in shopping, wrapping, etc., can call Janet Porterfield at 561-4036 or Linda Owen at 561-5079.

woodwork

by dalton wood



THE POST OFFICE and this newspaper will be closed Thursday, but we're scurrying to get the news together a bit earlier than usual, so most people should be reading this before the Thanksgiving dinner (lunch, usually) is served.

However, some of you won't get your paper until after. Thanksgiving, so you can either stop reading right now, or try to memorize all this stuff so you can apply it next. November.

Anyway, aside from the usual things we all should be thankful for, like good health and plenty to eat and a roof over our heads, there are some things I am thankful for this year.

For instance, I am glad I am not a turkey, no matter what some of you may think. I do have some things in common with turkeys, though—I gobble a lot, especially on holidays. But real turkeys are an endangered species around Thanksgiving.

Come to think of it, I do have some other turkey-related qualities: I often seem to stick my neck out without considering the consequences. But when it comes to standing up for my rights, I am more chicken than anything else.

A theatrical booking agent with an office on the 10th floor of a building in New York City was interviewing a man who had come in and said he needed an agent to represent him.

"What kind of act do you have?" he asked.

"I do bird imitations," the visitor said.

"Bird imitations? Sorry, but I only book musical and comic acts. I have no time or place for anybody doing bird imitations."

"Well, okay," the visiting man said. He then turned and flew out the window.



Leopards take 2nd ... The New Home Varsity took second place in the Wilson Cotton Classic Tournament recently, defeating Jayton and Loop before falling to Southland in the championship game. Zach Paul and Zach West were named to the All Tournament Team for the Leopards.

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Tuesday: Donut Wednesday: Pancakes

Lunch
Monday: Country style steak,
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rolls, strawberry shortcake

rolls, strawberry shortcake **Tuesday:** Beef & bean chalupa,

Spanish rice, cinnamon apple-

Wednesday: Chicken fajita, refried beans, corn, orange Thursday & Friday: menu unavailable

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Ducks Quack, Eagles Soar ...

customers well....that's because great service is a choice. Harvey Mackay, tells a wonderful story about a cab driver that proved this He was waiting in line for a ride

No one can make you serve

at the airport. When a cab pulled up, the first thing Harvey noticed was that the taxi was polished to a bright shine. Smartly dressed in a white shirt, black tie, and freshly pressed black slacks, the cab driver jumped out and rounded the car to open the back passenger door for

He handed my friend a laminated card and said: "I'm Wally, your driver. While I'm loading your bags in the trunk I'd like you to read my mission statement.

Taken aback, Harvey read the card. It said: Wally's Mission Statement: To get my customers to their destination in the quickest, safest and cheapest way possible in a friendly environment.

This blew Harvey away. Especially when he noticed that the inside of the cab matched the outside. Spotlessly clean!

As he slid behind the wheel, Wally said, "Would you like a cup of coffee? I have a thermos of regular and one of decaf." My friend said jokingly, "No, I'd prefer a soft drink." Wally smiled and said, "No problem I have a cooler up front with regular and Diet Coke, water and orange juice." Almost stuttering, Harvey said, "I'll take a Diet

Handing him his drink, Wally said, "If you'd like something to read, I have The Wall Street Journal, Time, Sports Illustrated and

As they were pulling away, Wally handed my friend another laminated card, "These are the stations I get and the music they play, if you'd like to listen to the radio.'

And as if that weren't enough, Wally told Harvey that he had the air conditioning on and asked if the temperature was comfortable for him. Then he advised Harvey of the best route to his destination for that time of day. He also let him know that he'd be happy to chat and tell him about some of the sights or, if Harvey preferred, to leave him with his own thoughts.

"Tell me, Wally," my amazed friend asked the driver, "have you always served customers like

Wally smiled into the rear view mirror. "No, not always. In fact, it's only been in the last two years. My first five years driving, I spent most of my time complaining like all the rest of the cabbies do. Then I heard the personal growth guru, Wayne Dyer, on the radio one day.

"He had just written a book called You'll See It When You Believe It. Dyer said that if you get up in the morning expecting to have a bad day, you'll rarely disappoint

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yourself. He said, 'Stop complaining! Differentiate yourself from your competition. Don't be a duck. Be an eagle. Ducks quack and complain. Eagles soar above the crowd..'

"That hit me right between the eyes," said Wally. "Dyer was really talking about me. I was always quacking and complaining, so I decided to change my attitude and become an eagle. I looked around at the other cabs and their drivers. The cabs were dirty, the drivers unfriendly, and the customers unhappy. So I decided to make some changes. I put in a few at a time. When my customers responded

well, I did more." "I take it that has paid off for you," Harvey said.

"It sure has," Wally replied. "My first year as an eagle, I doubled my income from the previous year. This year I'll probably quadruple it. You were lucky to get me today. I don't sit at cabstands anymore. My customers call me for appointments on my cell phone or leave a message on my answering machine. If I can't pick them up myself, I get a reliable cabbie friend to do it and I take a piece of the action.'

Wally was phenomenal. He was running a limo service out of a Yellow Cab. I've probably told that story to more than fifty cab drivers over the years, and only two took the idea and ran with it. Whenever I go to their cities, I give them a call. The rest of the drivers quacked like ducks and told me all the reasons they couldn't do any of what I was suggesting.

Wally the Cab Driver made a different choice. He decided to stop quacking like ducks and start soar-

ing like eagles.

How about us? Smile, and the whole world smiles with you... The ball is in our hands! A man reaps what he sows. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up... Let us do good to all people.

Ducks Quack, Eagles Soar. Have a nice day, unless you already have other plans. SORROW looks back, WORRY looks around, and FAITH looks UP... "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass.

it to God and let him handle it. [Taken from an internet story received Thanksgiving week.]

It's about learning to dance in the

rain." And while in the storm, give

Tahoka

NOV. 28-30

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LINDSAY ZIMMATIC CENTER PIVOT

TISD clerk resigns after investigation

Rudy Fuentes has resigned as payroll clerk of the Tahoka Independent School District after an investigation revealed he had used his work computer to access nude pictures of women, according to school documents, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported last week.

The Lubbock newspaper said Supt. Steve Burleson sent Fuentes a letter of reprimand on Sept. 16, informing him an investigation had been conducted to see if he had accessed inappropriate material during work hours. The letter stated that an examination of Fuentes' computer revealed that in the previous 30 days, "you have searched for and accessed over 100 pictures of women in various states of undress, including' fully nude."

A second letter delivered to Fuentes on Sept. 16 advised him that he had been placed on paid administrative leave, and that the school district was conducting a further investigation. Fuentes sent Burleson a letter of resignation on Sept. 20, effective on Oct. 14

Fuentes was an at-will employee at the TISD business office, and as such there was no action undertaken by the Board of Trustees. At-will employees may be hired/fired under the jurisdiction of the superintendent.

Supt. Burleson told The News that the incident did not involve the school campus, teachers or students in any manner, nor involve any school funds, and said he did not anticipate any legal action to be taken.

Fuentes also is a member of the Tahoka City Council.

Show your colors! Fly the American flag to show

your support for our nation



State qualifiers ... The New Home High School Sr. Farm Skills team placed 2nd at the area contests in Big Spring on Saturday, November 19. This qualifies them for the state competition to be held in Huntsville, Dec. 2-3. The team members consisted of Jonathan Nieman, Haley Lehman, Kimberely Alaniz and Madison Gass. Their skill was demonstrating the procedure of installing a watering system using pex.



Jr. Farm Skills Team ... The New Home ISD Jr. Farm Skills team consisting of Kaylan Lehman, DJ Ussery, McKenzie English and Blaine Watts competed at the area contests in Big Spring where they finished 4th place. The Public Relations team, including Deakin Stokes, Linzee Gibbins, Quincy Decker and Sammy Olsen also competed at the area con-

nior Citizen

Nov. 28-Dec. 2

Monday: Open faced hot turkey sandwich, oven fries, salad, peach crisp

Tuesday: Chicken strip salad, deviled eggs, chips, coconut

Wednesday: Chicken w/ mushroom sauce, scalloped potatoes, lima beans, rolls, tapioca pud-

Thursday: Ham & beans, cornbread, spinach, corn, orangepineapple cup, apple crisp Friday: Beef stroganoff, noodles, wheat rolls, mixed veggies, winter fruit cup

Reminders and Activities:

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

· The annual Christmas open house event at the Center will be held on Dec. 21 from 12:00-4:00. Watch for details

first picture day or who would like to order portraits, may do

Students will receive information in their English classes or may pick up an information

sheet in the front office. Senior picture retakes will also be this day.



NOVEMBER 28-30 Lunch

Monday: Pizza, salad, corn,

Tuesday: Steak fingers, potatoes, gravy, glazed carrots, roll, honey diced pears .

Wednesday: Nachos, lettuce, refried beans, pineapple Thurs. & Fri.: unavailable

Hospital upgrades radiology service Lynn County Hospital has were Jannis Horwood, Nancy Guilliams, Cal Huffaker, James

contracted for 24/7 readings of

x-rays and CatScans, by con-

tracting with radiologists out of

Amarillo. The hospital board

last week approved appointment

to the medical staff of High

have never had the luxury of

getting our x-rays and CatScans

read around the clock, so this

should prove to be very benefi-

cial to all concerned," said Ad-

board meeting, members ap-

proved a revised personnel pol-

icy manual, approved Christ-

mas bonuses for employees and

heard a report from Morris that

auditors had been at the hospital

for two days conducting the an-

He said the audit went

The EMS ambulance ser-

Board President Jerry Ford

vice reported 17 out of county

transfers during the last month.

presided, and members present

TAHOKA

SCHOOL NEWS

Tahoka High School stu-

Sarah Freitag placed 4th

Cort Fisher placed 5th in lit-

Trystan Hilger placed 6th

School picture retakes are

Students who missed the

scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 8.

Students who purchased photos

and want retakes need to bring

in 10th grade calculator; Stevie

Moya placed 10th in 10th grade

dents competed at the Texas

Tech Fall Fandango UIL prac-

in 11th grade calculator. Kayla

Long placed 4th in news writing.

Caelan Decker placed 4th in 10th

grade number sense.

erary criticism.

calculator.

School Retakes

Schedule Dec. 8

the first package back.

Students Place

At UIL Meet

tice meet.

nual audit.

smoothly.

In other business at the

ministrator Jim Morris.

"Our providers and patients

Plains Radiological Assn.

Liggins awarded McMurry scholarship

Craig, and Sharon Isham. Ab-

sent was member Victoria Bak-

Officials at McMurry University in Abilene are pleased to announce that Brittney Liggins of Tahoka, TX, a student at Tahoka High School, has been awarded the Deans Scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year. The Deans Scholarship is a four-year, academically merit based scholarship awarded up to \$9,500 annually.

Liggins, a senior, is the daughter of John and Joey Miller of Tahoka.

Local farmers want government to wash hands of dust regulation

Farmers and ranchers in Lynn County are happy to hear of newly proposed legislation that would restrict the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) power to further regulate naturally occurring dust.

"Regulating the dust in our fields would not only make farming harder, but it would also drive food prices higher," said Michael White, Lynn County Farm Bureau president.

The legislation, submitted by U.S. Sen. Mike Johanns (R-Neb) introduced language that aims to prevent further EPA regulations on air and farm dust. Supporters call current standards adequate.

"The scientific evidence for dust regulation is questionable, at best," added White. "In this case, the costs of EPA regulation would outweigh the benefits."

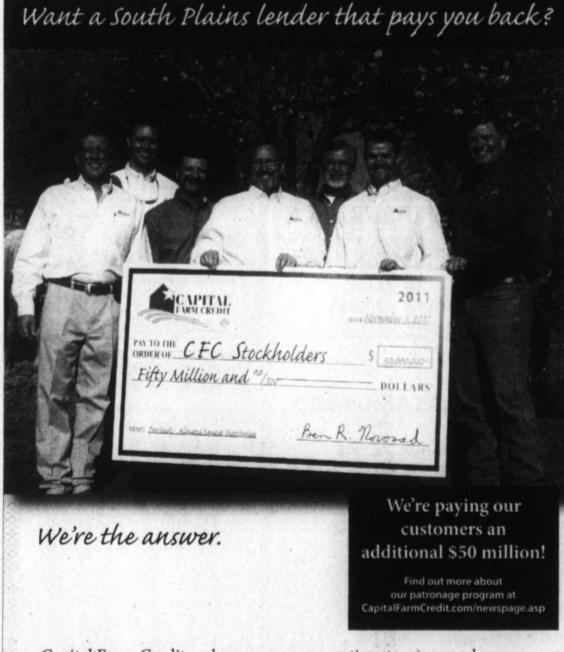
The federal agency is reewing its air quality standards under the Clean Air Act that prescribes re-evaluation every five years. Several agricultural groups, including the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, support Johanns' push to halt the regulation.

Lighting of star on Gail mountain set Nov. 25th

The 18th Annual Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain will be held Friday, Nov. 25 in Gail. The Courthouse and Borden County Museum will open at 5:30 p.m. for viewing, reminiscing, fellowship and refresh-

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available to visit with the children (bring your own camera for photos).

For more information, email lightsforgail@yahoo.com, or on the Facebook page: Lighting of the Star on Gail Mountain!



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Lynn County Farm Bureau

