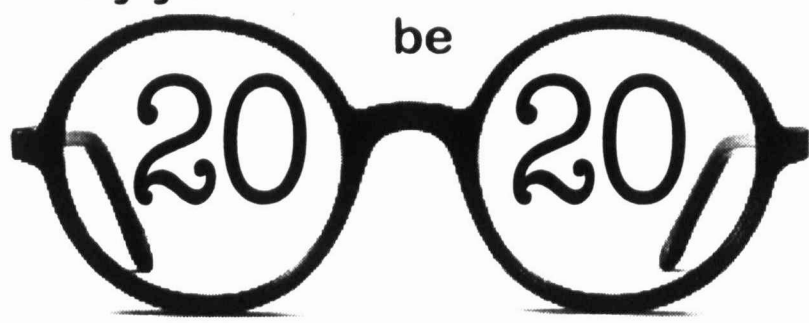


May your VISION for the future

Happy New Year!



Focus on being Kinder Braver Happier

LN THE Lynn County News



January 2, 2020 ■ Volume 117, No. 1

Serving Lynn County since 1903

Tahoka, Lynn County Texas

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75¢

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Did you know?

The 10 most common puppy names in 2019 were:

1. Luna
2. Bella
3. Charlie
4. Bailey
5. Lucy
6. Cooper
7. Max
8. Daisy
9. Bear
10. Oliver



• Frozen lobsters have been known to spring back to life after after an overnight freeze. The Connecticut-based company Trufresh stumbled upon the phenomenon after freezing its live lobsters in a minus-40 degree chemical; once the creatures thawed out, it was undeniable—they were still alive.

• A giraffe cleans its ears with its tongue! Not only are they the tallest animal in the kingdom, giraffes may be the most creatively fastidious, using their on-average 21-inch tongues to clean their own ears.

What's Outside

NWS official readings for Tahoka

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Dec 23	69	28	
Dec 24	70	34	
Dec 25	70	38	
Dec 26	68	40	
Dec 27	61	42	
Dec 28	57	46	
Dec 29	57	31	
Dec 30	45	23	

(Precipitation/temps measured as of 7 a.m. on date reported, for the previous 24-hr period)

Total Precip for Jan:	0.00"
Total Precip for Feb:	0.00"
Total Precip for Mar:	1.59"
Total Precip for Apr:	3.37"
Total Precip for May:	3.32"
Total Precip for June:	1.63"
Total Precip for July:	0.05"
Total Precip for Aug:	1.02"
Total Precip for Sept:	3.75"
Total Precip for Oct:	0.23"
Total Precip for Nov:	2.80"
Total Precip for Dec:	0"
Total Precip. for 2019:	17.76"

Congressman Jodey Arrington visits with community leaders

by JUANELL JONES

Congressman Jodey Arrington, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives serving the 19th Congressional District of Texas, visited with community leaders in Tahoka on Monday, Dec. 30. The congressman addressed a group gathered in the Lynn County Courthouse, speaking on a variety of issues, and then answered some questions from the audience.

Arrington expressed his appreciation to local citizens for allowing him to be their voice at the nation's capital.

"I hope we have made you proud and we certainly have done some things to make a difference. However, I'm never satisfied with what we've accomplished because there's just a whole lot more to do to make a difference in the lives of the people we represent," he said during opening remarks.

"My number one issue for West Texas was getting the farm bill done, getting it done on time, and fixing the hole in the safety net

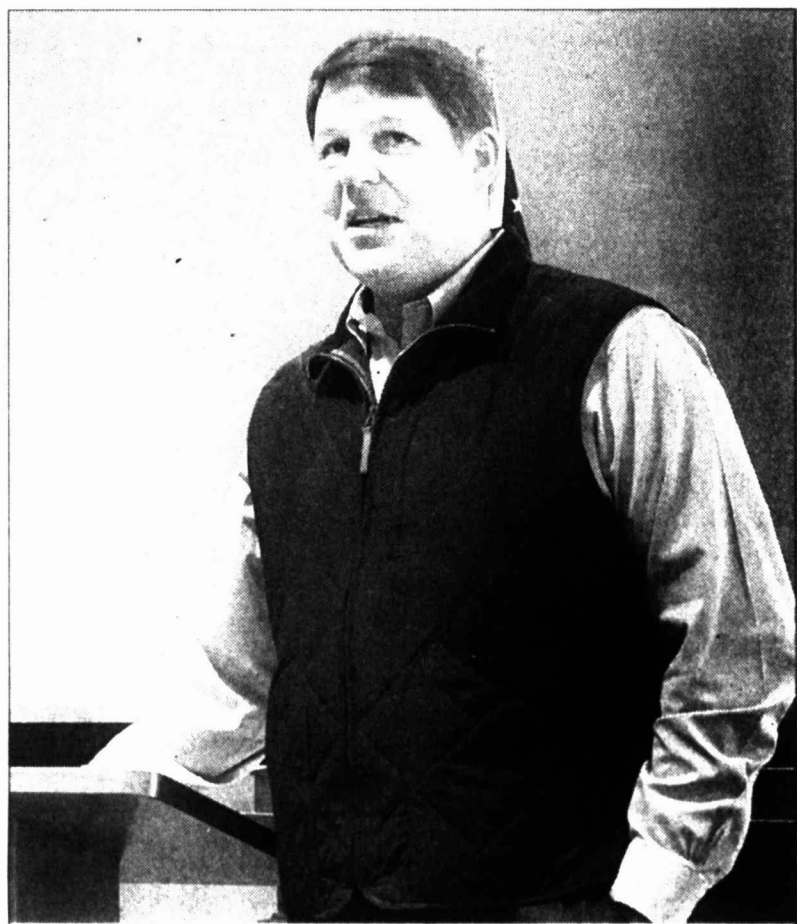
where cotton used to be ... and just making sure of what's good for rural America, and having some reliability to that safety net. I'm proud of it," he said.

"On top of the farm bill I think the biggest accomplishment, not just for West Texas but the ag and industry economy around the country, would be the tax cuts and the deregulation that has unleashed the greater potential of our economy, reducing burdens so that our job creators can do what they do. We don't create jobs — we just create an environment that's conducive for job creation," said Arrington.

He has a positive outlook on the American economy.

"We've got 5 million people off food stamps, the economy is growing like it hasn't in many, many years, we have a 50-year low in unemployment, and job participation is at an all-time high in recent history. American prosperity is better, and the prospects for hope for people to get a better job, wages are up,

(See CONGRESSMAN, page 3)



Congressman visits ... Congressman Jodey Arrington, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives serving the 19th Congressional District of Texas, visited Tahoka Monday, at the Lynn County Courthouse. He spoke briefly and answered questions from community leaders.

(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

FBI flags warrants on two Tahoka citizens

by JUANELL JONES

Three Tahoka citizens, including a husband and wife, and their son, were the subjects of three local warrants issued on recent felony charges of Identity Theft, Theft of Property, and Theft by Check. While all three subjects had identical warrants, two of the warrants, those issued for the husband and wife, were flagged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation because the charges involved using Social Security numbers that were not

their own, according to sources at the Lynn County Sheriff's Office.

Lynn County Sheriff's Deputies served the warrants at 6:08 a.m. Friday, Dec. 20 at the home of Edwardo and Maria Elizando in Tahoka, arresting Edwardo Elizando, 50, and his son Miguel Elizando, 20. The warrants were also served on Maria Elizando, 51, but due to circumstances involving the care of minor children in the home, Mrs. Elizando was not incarcerated at that time. The case will be pro-

cessed through the District Attorney's office.

Two reports of house fires were called in to the Sheriff's Office, but one turned out to be a controlled burn at CR 13 and US 87, not a house fire, on Dec. 18. The other report was on Dec. 20, with a caller reporting that an old barn a half mile north of FM 211 on County Road DD was on fire. Wilson VFD responded to the scene.

A woman was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated,

after the Sheriff's Office received multiple calls around 2:30 a.m. on Dec. 19 of a vehicle traveling the wrong way, southbound in the northbound lanes of US 87, near FM 211. A deputy stopped the vehicle at the Tahoka cemetery overpass on US 87, arresting the female driver on the DWI charges. Fortunately, no accidents occurred during the incident.

Deputies assisted two transients passing through the county, one of

(See SHERIFF'S REPORT, page 3)

TEDC project could boost new housing inventory in Tahoka

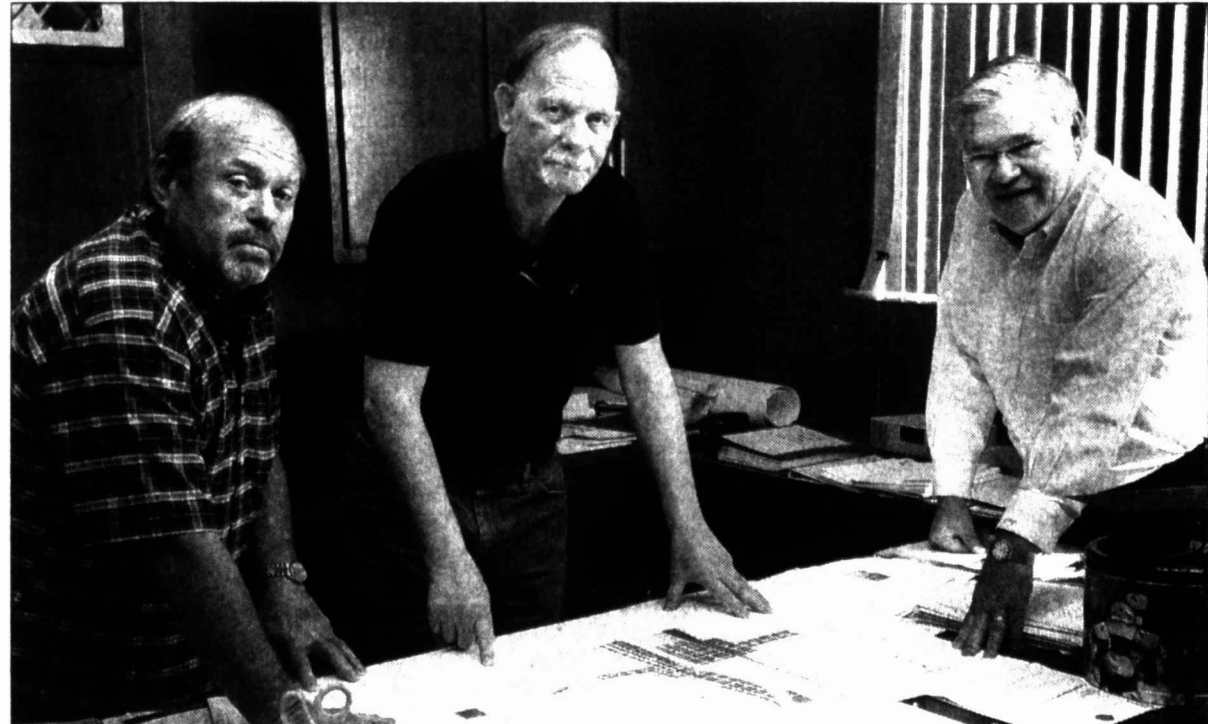
The possibility of new housing on lots currently empty in Tahoka is being targeted through a new project initiated by the Tahoka Economic Development Corporation (TEDC).

"Affordable housing and having a trained workforce are plaguing American cities," says David Partlow, Director of TEDC. "Tahoka is no exception. We need to have a workforce so that when a company decides to move here, they can have employees ready to go to work — but those employees will need housing.

"One of the projects that the Tahoka Economic Development Corporation is working on to help alleviate the shortage of affordable housing is a project called 'Housing In-Fill'. This is where they find empty lots and hopefully have a developer build a home or duplex on it," explains Partlow.

"What spurred action on this

(See HOUSING IN-FILL, page 6)



Looking to build ... TEDC and the City of Tahoka are working on trying to build the housing inventory through a project called "Housing In-Fill", which is finding empty lots and having a developer build on them. City Administrator Jerry Webster (center) is shown with two developers from Lubbock that are looking at Tahoka. At left is Pat Kelly, of Kelly Properties, and at right is Greg Garrett, a Lubbock Developer.



Did you know?

Months that start on a Sunday will always have a Friday the 13th.

The Lynn County News

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Monday-Thursday, 9 am to 5:30 pm
Closed Fridays. Drop box available by front door.

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MEMBER:



Former Tahoka graduate dies in accident Friday

The Texas Department of Transportation identified Bryan Callahan II, 26, of Waxahachie, as the person who died in a two-vehicle wreck between Axtell and Leroy at about 5:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27. Callahan was a 2012 graduate of Tahoka High School.

Callahan was driving a Volkswagen north on Farm-to-Market Road 2311 and crossed into the southbound lane, colliding with a Chevrolet Equinox driving south. DPS Sgt. Ryan Howard said. The collision happened south of Olive Branch Road.

SHOP LOCAL!

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT ARE HERE FOR YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY

Obituaries



Venita Bea Bickerstaff

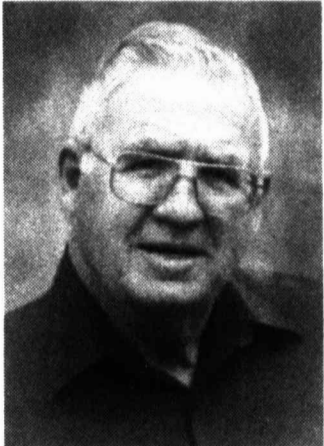
Venita Bea Bickerstaff, age 78, passed away on December 22, 2019 in Tahoka, TX. Bea was born to Earl and Pinnie Dicken in Wichita Falls, TX and resided in Fisher County, near Sweetwater, TX since 1962. She recently battled pneumonia and never really recovered from the loss of her beloved husband, Ernest Lee Bickerstaff, who passed away in 2017. Services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 28, 2019 at the First United Methodist Church in Rotan, TX, under the direction of Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home in Rotan. Burial was at Rotan Belvieu Cemetery.

Bea dearly loved her kids and grandchildren, and a special cousin, Jo Powell. She always enjoyed company and conversation, with a special fondness for sending cards and gifts to friends and family for any occasion. She kept a meticulous calendar for birthdays, anniversaries and holidays.

She is survived by her two sons, Clifton Earl Bickerstaff of Amarillo and Eric Lee Bickerstaff of Lubbock, as well as four grandchildren, Brooke Stice, Erica Bickerstaff, Colton Bickerstaff, and Brittany Romero, along with four great grandchildren, Ben, Gabby, Leah and Lilly. She is also survived by a sister, Dea Ann Gray, and brother, Larry Dicken, along with their families. Special thanks to Brooke Stice, who

helped look after her over the past two and half years.

The family kindly suggests that any memorial donations be directed to First United Methodist Church, 209 N. McKinley Ave, Rotan, TX 79546. (PAID)



Donald Hancock

Donald Hancock passed away on December 22, 2019. We will celebrate his life of 83 years at 11:00 am on Monday, December 30, 2019, at Wolforth United Methodist Church. Friends may share memories and expressions of sympathy for the family to cherish and view his life tribute at www.memorialdesigners.net.

Donald Hancock was born on December 6, 1936, to Durwood and Flora Hancock in Slaton, Texas. He married Wanda (Joyce) Raymond on June 22, 1957, in Abernathy, Texas. Donald was very well known within the New Home community for his lifelong acts of service, guidance, and betterment of the world around him. He served as an active member of the future Farmers of America, the Cotton Board, the New Home Coop Gin Board, the Plains Cotton Cooperative Oil Mill Executive Board, the New Home ISD Board Member and President, and was named the Lynn County Conservation Farmer of 1986.

Donald came from a background of hard-working cotton farmers; a virtue that he believed in whole-heartedly. He instilled this into his family, as

well as the Christian teachings that Christ gave us all. Donald loved his family deeply, and always had their best interests in mind while guiding and teaching them along the way. Donald was a direct and stern man, but he taught many life lessons that touched all those he interacted with. He held a special place in his heart for his beloved wife, each and every family member and his many friends. Aside from the many family adventures he had, Donald also had a deep passion for raising livestock, attending livestock shows with his family, and enjoying the companionship of many dogs at his side. Donald was a man of great character who made many sacrifices and lasting memories for his family. The legacy of Donald Hancock will be remembered and cherished for many generations to come.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Durwood Woodard and Flora Hancock.

Survivors include his wife, Wanda (Joyce) Hancock; son, Dahlen Ken (Jody) Hancock; daughter, Wanda Donette Case; four grandchildren, Matthew (Kacy) Hancock; Zachary (Melissa) Walker; Rody Case, Allison Case; great-grandchild, Cora Hancock; and sister, Lee Moore.

The family of Donald Hancock has designated Methodist Children's Home or your favorite charity, for memorial contributions donated in his memory. (PAID)

Did you know?

- Wearing headphones for just an hour will increase the bacteria in your ear by 700 times
- New born babies have 350 bones (by age 5 the amount of bones merges to 206)
- You use 72 different muscles while speaking
- The most common disease is tooth decay
- The longest time a person has been in coma is 37 years



Dolores Webb

Dolores Elizabeth Webb, 90, of Tahoka passed away on Friday, December 20, 2019. She was born October 9, 1929 in Tahoka to Deen and Mildred Elizabeth (Bosworth) Nowlin. Dolores graduated from Tahoka High School in 1947 and went on to graduate from Howard Payne College in 1961. She married Joe Allen Webb on November 15, 1947. Dolores taught school for 20 years in Early, Albany and Tahoka, retiring in 1993.

Dolores was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Those left to cherish her memory are her children Loreta Pugh and husband Dale of Abilene, Steven Webb of Lubbock and Cheryl Calloni and husband Ben of Willow Park; brother, Michael Thomas Tower of Boulevard, California; nine grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

Services were held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, December 23, 2019 at Sweet Street Baptist Church with interment at Grassland Cemetery. (PAID)

Three locals on ASU Dean's List

Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, has announced the students achieving the Dean's List designation for the 2019 fall semester. Three local students are included in the list: Dode Gieg-horn and Mi-Jeanne Van Der Bank of O'Donnell, and Kyrlynn McClesley of Tahoka.

To be eligible for the ASU Dean's List, full-time undergraduate students must maintain at least a 3.25 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

Did you know?

- Your right lung takes in more air than your left
- The average person has 10,000 taste buds
- Honey enters your blood stream within 20 minutes of being eaten
- Your brain weighs 2% of your body weight, but uses 20% of all oxygen you breathe and 15% of the body's blood supply
- To ensure a year of good luck, firecrackers and noise-makers became tradition in order to scare away any remaining evil spirits and to ensure a brand new start.
- 2,000 pounds (907kg) of confetti are dropped on the crowd in Times Square at midnight.

Mark your calendar for the 40th Annual

Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Auction Saturday, April 18 at Lynn County Show Barn

Sponsored by the LCHD Foundation. All proceeds benefit our local hospital! For more information, contact KATHY GRANT, 998-4533, ext. 333

Grandparents ... Get Your Pictures Ready!



SEND US A PICTURE OF YOUR LITTLE ANGEL! The Valentine Brag Page will be in the February 13 issue of *The Lynn County News* and you can have your grandchildren's photos published for only \$10 each picture. So, start hunting those photos out and bring them to the news office.

Deadline is 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 6.

Please visit these Lynn County Churches

New Home United Methodist Church
Pastor Madoc Thomas (806) 470-2939 emt@madocthomass.com
350 N. Main • New Home, TX 79383 (806) 924-7549
Sunday School 9:45 am • Worship 10:45 am

First Baptist Church
1701 Ave. K • Box 1547 • Tahoka, TX 79373 (806) 561-4557 • www.fbctahoka.org
PASTOR CLIFF HOLDRIDGE
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship Service - 10:45 am
SNL (Youth) - 6:00 pm Sunday
Activities For All Ages - Call For Complete Schedule

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

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

First Methodist of Tahoka
1801 Ave. J • Tahoka • (806) 561-4503
email: functahoka@poka.com
Billy Everett, Pastor
Sunday School - 9:30 am
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am (Fellowship Hall)
"Like" our Facebook page... facebook.com/FMofTahoka
Let the Children Come 7 am - 6 pm
LICENSED CHILD CARE 806-561-4529 M-F

Greatest Gift
"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."
John 3:17

Have you ever considered what happened in heaven on the day earth received the greatest gift in the history of forever? When Jesus became a man, he set aside the indescribable power of being fully God and instead embraced humility and weakness. For a time, the Father lost the immeasurable depth of relationship with his Son and had to watch as Jesus learned obedience through suffering. There is truly no greater sacrifice than what both Father and Son made to declare to us all that we are loved.

Without the work of the Holy Spirit, the incarnation of Jesus would not have been possible. It is the same Spirit at work in you who reveals God's deep love and offers you the opportunity to receive his gift. Think on that as you celebrate the gift of giving.

God, your gift to us is immeasurable, unfathomable, and indescribable. I am humbled by your outpouring of love to all of mankind despite our unworthiness. Thank you.

Do you need a church home? Please visit one of the churches listed on this page. May the peace and love of God, in Christ, be with you.

Wilson St. Paul Lutheran Church
16th & Houston St. • Box 136 • Wilson, TX 79381 (806) 628-6471 • www.stpaulwilson.com
PASTOR: DAVID W. ROME
Sunday School 9:15 am • Divine Service 10:15 am
"Where Christ Serves People"

Grassland Nazarene Church
2885 CR 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373 • (806) 327-5656
Pastor Genell Knisley (806) 201-0792
Sunday School - 10:00 am
Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00 am
Wednesday Prayer Service - 7:00 pm

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

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

New Home Church of Christ
324 N. Main • Box 188 • New Home, TX 79383 • (806) 924-7579
MINISTER: MIKE HEATWOLE
Bible Class - 9:00 am
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 am
Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 6:30 pm

Sweet Street Baptist Church
1300 AVENUE J • BOX 751 • TAHOKA, TX 79373 • (806) 561-5310
Sunday School - 9:45 am (A Bible Study Class for all ages)
Morning Worship - 10:50 am (Uplifting Music - Message from God's Word)
Wednesday Night - 6 pm (Prayer & Bible Study, Children & Youth Ministries)
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Con

(Continued)

family in... are looking... doesn't... translates... there's a... rural ag... definitely... tax refor... and I thi... numbers... a decade... petitive e... again, by... Forum."

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Congressman Arrington ...

(Continued from page 1)

family income is up, so things are looking up," he said. "That doesn't mean that always translates to rural America - there's a lag affect I think on rural ag economies, but it is definitely a pro-ag pro-energy tax reform. I'm proud of it, and I think the proof is in the numbers. For the first time in a decade, we're the most competitive economy in the world again, by the World Economic Forum."

He also said that he is proud of another accomplishment, in regards to supporting the American military.

"We've made a major down payment in rebuilding to filling the \$200 billion cut to the military during the Obama era. Most importantly, our soldiers know that we stand with them, and that if we send them to harm's way, that we have their back, and their Commander In Chief has their back, and that we want them to have the tools and resources to be safe and successful in doing what I feel is the most important job in federal government - and that's national security."

He made a point to thank those present in the crowd who had served their coun-

try in military service, and he also thanked the law enforcement for their service.

A Republican, Arrington spoke to the Democrat impeachment of President Donald Trump, saying, "Republicans are in the minority now, Nancy Pelosi and the Democrats are in control of the House. I don't hate anybody, I've got some good friends that are Democrats and I try to work with them when I can, as they were elected by my fellow Americans. But I vehemently disagree with the direction that the House is going in terms of policy. Fortunately, the country is not going down that road yet because the Senate will never take up some of the bills that have been passed out of the House. Washington is very partisan, it's very dysfunctional and the impeachment process only added to the dysfunction."

Arrington said he moved his family from West Texas to Washington while he is serving as a congressman.

"We moved to Washington. In some ways it's good because we're all there working together, and we get to know each other's families, go to church together, and



Larpenater retires from Tahoka VFD... Kevin Larpenater retired from the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department after serving for 15 years. Pictured back row from left are: Slate May, Tyler Hawthorne, Kent Stone, Jr., Josh Hawthorne, Travis Rosenquist, Raymond Young, and Scott Dimak. Front row from left are: Ross Aten, Brady Askew, Matt Woodley, Bryan Reynolds, Kevin Larpenater, Shane Huffaker, and Luke Hawthorne.

our kids play soccer together. When you have relationships with people, and friendships, you tend to work better with them. When you just fly in, do battle, and then leave, it's hard to do business that way. I've tried to cultivate a lot of good relations on both sides of the aisle," he said.

"I want you to know in spite of the impeachment circus and the craziness of Washington at this time, I've worked with Democrats to pass legislation to bring down the cost of drugs. It's not the only thing to solve the problem of the high cost of drugs, but it is something, and it's bipartisan and it passed the House, and I'm proud of it.

"The battle for the heart and soul of the country continues. I'm shocked at socialism being mainstream. I think America's exceptionalism has come from America's freedom, and I think the power and the uniqueness of America is in 'we the people.' As long as 'we the people' are in charge, we'll have our problems but we will prevail.

"More West Texas, and less Washington, that's my philosophy," he said with a smile.

He fielded several topics of conversation from the crowd, including healthcare issues and the prospects of the Ports to Plains highway.

After visiting with citizens, the Congressman was going to tour Lynn County's historically-restored courthouse to close out his visit here.

Sheriff's Report ...

(Continued from page 1)

whom was a man found in a ditch on US 380 covered with a blanket, at 9:37 p.m. near a roadside park near the Terry/Lynn County line on Dec. 18. The man told the deputy he was trying to get to Beaumont, TX. The deputy gave him a ride to the Garza/Lynn County line on US 380. Deputies gave a ride to another transient, a man on his way to Big Spring, on Dec. 17, taking him towards Lamesa on US 87.

Deputies responded to a residence in the 2100 block of South 11th Street in Tahoka at 3:43 p.m. Dec. 19, when a woman caller reported there were trespassers on her property. She wanted an officer to ask the two males and two females in an SUV to leave her property. The deputy spoke with all parties, and the SUV left the residence.

A caller at 4:25 p.m. Dec. 21 reported that some people in a white Ford pickup were shooting shotguns near his property on FM 2192 and that the pellets were falling on his roof. A deputy responded to the scene.

On Christmas Eve, several calls were received about a large grass fire south of FM 212 and FM 211 about a mile west of Hackberry Gin. Slaton VFD responded to the fire, but also requested Wilson VFD assist due to the size of the fire. Several areas of the fire continued to burn for the next couple of days, but firefighters were allowing the fire to burn under control as it was in no danger of spreading, according to call sheet reports.

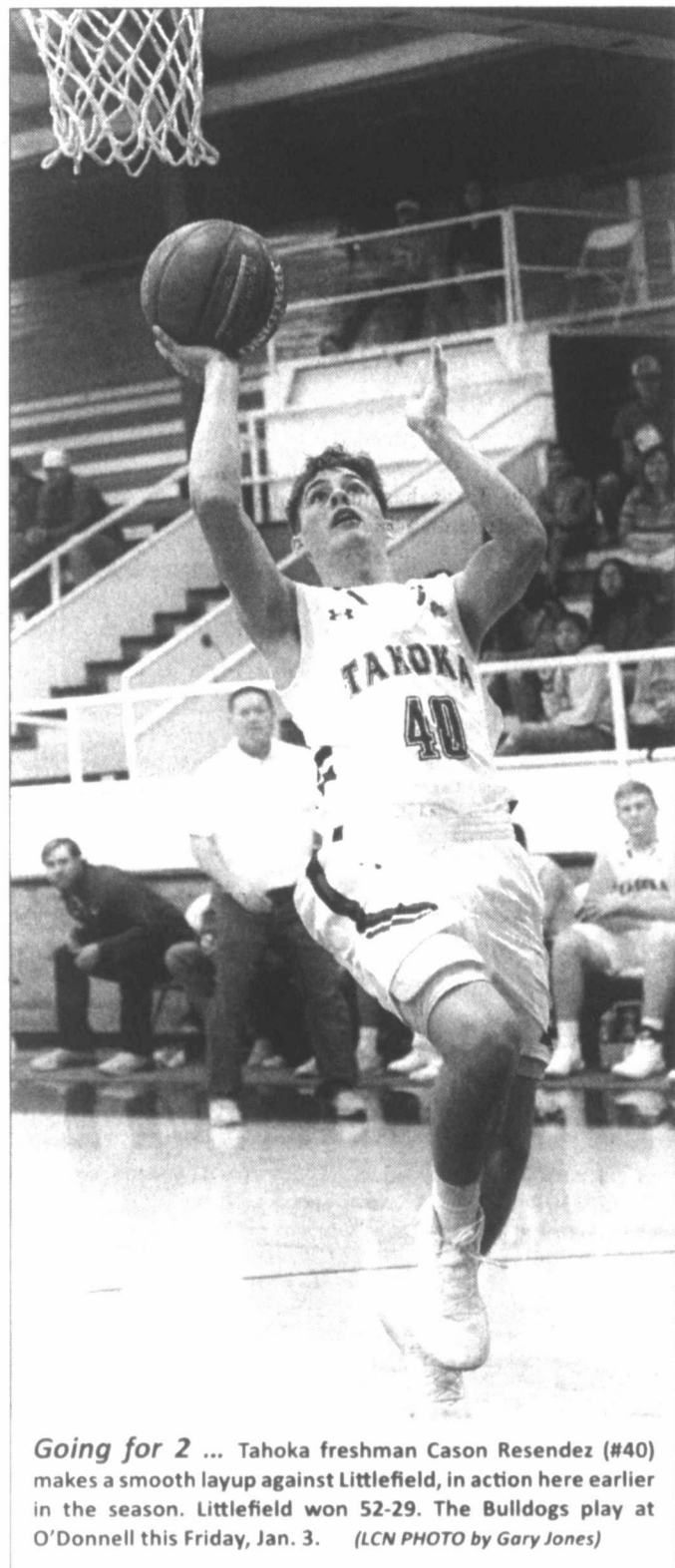
Lynn County Jail held 28 inmates during the past two weeks, including 17 held for Ector County, one for Floyd County, and 10 for Lynn County. Local charges included the two on the felony warrants, one for driving while intoxicated, two for possession of marijuana, one for driving while license suspended/invalid, and one for assault causes bodily injury to family member.

Did you know?

• Your foot is the most common body part bitten by insects

Did you know?

- In humans, each red blood cell lives an average of 4 months and travels between the lungs and other tissue 75,000 times before returning to bone marrow to die
- The hardest substance in the human body is enamel
- There are over 10 trillion living cells in the human body
- The number 1 cause of blindness in the US is diabetes
- The average person has over 1,460 dreams a year
- The night vision of tigers is 6 times better than humans
- The average person consumes over a ton of food and drink each year
- There are over 100 different viruses that cause the common cold
- Acorns are poisonous to humans (if eaten it can cause damage to your kidneys)
- A person will die from total lack of sleep sooner than from starvation (death can occur about 10 days without sleep while starvation takes a few weeks)



Going for 2 ... Tahoka freshman Cason Resendez (#40) makes a smooth layup against Littlefield, in action here earlier in the season. Littlefield won 52-29. The Bulldogs play at O'Donnell this Friday, Jan. 3. (LCN PHOTO by Gary Jones)

You are 23 Times more likely to crash when you text while driving.

Texting while driving IS ILLEGAL IN TEXAS.

Is sending an LOL text message really worth an accident?

Park the phone when you drive.

ANNOUNCING NEW HOURS AT THE

Fast Track Clinic

**Monday-Friday
7:00 AM-6:00 PM**



"For when you need to be seen today"



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2600 Lockwood • Suite C
Tahoka, Texas
806-561-4802

Healthcare
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H + M E
Lynn County Hospital District

2020 It's a New Year...

**start it off right with an account at
First National Bank of Tahoka.**

It's easy... all you have to do is come by and open a

FREE checking account, or get an

instant-issue DEBIT card, or easily get set up for

ONLINE banking (with 24-7 banking available on the internet and total access to all your accounts) ~

complete with Online BILL PAY

... all of this only takes a few minutes and you'll be on your way to uncomplicated banking at First National Bank, with fast and friendly, quick and easy service.

- Online Banking with Online Bill Pay ► Savings Accounts ► Safe Deposit Boxes ► Checking Accounts
- Loans: Farm, Commercial, Residential, Auto and Installment ► Certificates of Deposit
- Home Mortgage Loans ► Bank by Mail ► Direct Deposit



**First National Bank
of Tahoka**

1601 South 1st St., Tahoka • 806 / 561-4511 • Member F.D.I.C.
www.fnbtahoka.com • 24-Hr. Bank by Phone: 1-855-232-8603 (toll free)

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

These local firms are sponsoring this FARM NEWS:

AgTexas Farm Credit Services
Travis Ferguson and Mike Metzger

Capital Farm Credit
Jason Gandy
Shaun Wied

Farmers Co-op Association
No. 1

Lynn County Farm Bureau



New county agent ... Cody Hill (third from left) was named Lynn County Ag Agent through the Texas Agrilife Extension Service, at the Lynn County Commissioners meeting held Dec. 23. Pictured with Hill are, from left, Commissioner Larry Durham, Texas AgriLife Extension District Administrator Michael Clawson, Commissioner Don Blair, County Judge Mike Braddock, and Commissioner John Hawthorne. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Local, county stock shows slated here

The O'Donnell and New Home Local Stock Shows will be held Saturday, Jan. 4, and the local Tahoka Stock Show will be held Saturday, Jan. 11.

The annual Lynn County Livestock Show will be held Jan. 16-18. Both the Tahoka and County shows are at the County Show Barn in Tahoka, on South 9th Street.

The County Show will include a Baked Show Division on Friday, January 17. Rules for entering baked goods are available through the Lynn County Extension office.

As wild pig territory expands into city areas, public health and safety concerns increase

by Adam Russell
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Whether you call them wild pigs or feral hogs, they are no longer just a rural problem, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Wild pigs cause more than \$52 million in agricultural damage in Texas annually, said John Tomecek, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist, Thrall. But it's their encroachment into increasingly urbanized areas that is becoming a burgeoning problem for landowners and municipalities.

Texas' wild pig population was 2.6 million according to a 2012 study. Now experts estimate their numbers have reached at least 3 million. Damage from the pest has been reported in nearly all 254 Texas counties.

Tomecek said wild pigs entering more populated areas is a growing topic of conversation. As human and wild pig populations continue to increase in Texas, he said interactions in urban-suburban areas will likely continue.

"It's a subject that's come up several times in the past six months," he said. "Everyone knows about the rural problems and how they affect ag producers, but I'm getting more and more questions about pigs in the city."

Tomecek said wild pigs' growing confidence to enter more populated areas raises public health and safety concerns. Encounters with humans and pets and contamination of riparian areas or disease exposure are becoming more likely as wild pig numbers continue to grow and sounders range into urban-suburban areas.

Tomecek said people should give wild pigs a wide berth. Instances of people being injured by wild pigs is relatively low in the U.S. Most instances occurred when hunters approached the animal. But the first unprovoked human death caused by wild pigs recently occurred in Texas.

"If a person is walking and comes across wild pigs, don't make them feel cornered," he said. "You won't outrun them, but they typically will give up the chase if they don't perceive a threat. But if a person is threatened or pigs become aggressive, get off the ground. Climb a tree or a car, do anything to get elevated. If that isn't an option, try to get away, but in that instance stay on your feet at all costs."

Wild pigs on urban-suburban roadways is a major property and public safety concern, Tomecek said. Vehicle versus pig accidents cost Texas drivers more than \$1,100 per accident, according to an AgriLife Extension report. Human injuries were reported in 6% of those accidents.

Tomecek said damage to lawns, as wild pigs search for food resources, is another growing problem in developing areas. Golf courses have also experienced substantial damages to turfgrass by wild pigs.

"When pigs access golf courses and root around trees or root up a golf green, it can get into the tens of thousands of dollars quickly," he said. "We get calls about that type of situation frequently."

Wild pigs are also responsible for damaging ecosystems and spreading diseases, including E. coli, to public water supplies and recreational waterways, Tomecek said. They are known to carry a disease - swine brucellosis - that is transferable to humans. Instances have been limited to situations such as hunters with an exposed open wound cleaning a wild pig carcass.

rules and conflicting opinions about how to deal with the issue."

Tomecek said landowners and cities should take proactive stances against wild pigs where possible. They should focus on public lands and right-of-ways adjacent to or near bottomlands, creeks and heavily covered areas. Wild pigs are also mostly nocturnal, which means homeowners will likely see the damage they cause before seeing the animals.

"Hogs spend a lot of time in bottomlands, but they venture out in search of food," he said. "A lot of creeks and low-lying areas with good cover are like wild pig superhighways, so those areas, especially if there are signs of pigs, are good areas to set up a trap."

Pigs are extremely intelligent, and trapping entire sounders is vital. Any animal that escapes is likely to avoid future attempts with similar methods.

"Removal is the best method, especially for this urban-rural interface," he said.

"We also recommend landowners check with municipalities or state agencies when trapping inside jurisdictions or along public right-of-way. We hope all Texans will join the fight against wild pigs, but we also want them to be good neighbors while doing it," said Tomecek.

Veteran extension agent Cody Hill named Lynn County Ag Agent

by JUANELL JONES

Cody Hill, a 25-year veteran with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, was named Lynn County Ag Agent in a unanimous decision by Lynn County Commissioners in their final meeting of the 2019 year, held Dec. 23. Hill will begin his duties with the Lynn County Extension Service on Feb. 3, 2020.

Hill is coming to Lynn County from Taylor County (Abilene) where he has served as county agent for the past two years. Prior to that post, Hill served 11 years in Borden County, and also in Parmer County.

"We liked it in Abilene, but my passion is here in the South Plains, and my wife Mistie and I are excited about coming back," Hill told commissioners at the meeting. "Not just to the South Plains but also to Lynn County. Growing up as a kid and working as an agent, Lynn County was always kind of the hot spot - always had one of the most competitive 4-H pro-

grams, and always had great leaders in agriculture as well. There have been a lot of great agents that worked here, and many of them still live here. A lot of my friends grew up here and came back here to work and raise their families. To be honest with you, this is still one of the areas that is continuing to grow and to prosper, and so that is always a positive. I'm excited to be here to work with your ag program and your 4-H kids, and to serve all the needs of the people in Lynn County."

Lynn County Judge Mike Braddock welcomed Hill to Lynn County, saying, "We believe he will be an asset to the county."

In other business, commissioners voted to accept a donation of a 2005 Dodge pickup from Precinct 3 Commissioner Don Blair valued at \$12,350 "as is" to Commissioner Precinct 3. Blair was donating a personal vehicle to be used in his precinct. He abstained from voting, with commissioners Larry Durham and John Hawthorne, and Judge Braddock, voting 3-0 to accept the donation.

Commissioners appointed Slate May to another two-year term as Lynn County's representative on the Lynn County Appraisal District Board, and approved a resolution for a County Jail Medication-Assistance Treatment grant program, which will provide some funding for medication required for county jail inmates. Monthly bills were approved, and Chief Deputy Jason Flores presented a report from the Sheriff's Office.

The meeting lasted a half hour, adjourning at 10 a.m. Judge Braddock led the session, with Commissioner Matt Woodley absent.

Overstreet, McCleskey are ASU grads

Angelo State University conferred 452 undergraduate and 188 graduate degrees during its 2019 fall commencement exercises on December 14 in the ASU Junell Center/Stephens Arena in San Angelo, Texas.

Local graduates include Kylynn McCleskey of Tahoka, summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Health Science Professions; and Kayla Overstreet of Tahoka, with a Master of Education in Educational Administration.

Lynn County Area Gins BALE COUNT
(reported 12-30-19)

Texas Star Coop Gin.....	*73,396
New Home Coop, Lakeview	60,445
Wells Coop Gin	*42,548
Farmers Coop #1, Tahoka	*31,307
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell	*26,986
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell	23,074
Garyl Gin	14,490
TOTAL BALES	272,246
* FINAL COUNT	

Did you know?

- Construction began on the Brooklyn Bridge in 1870
- The world's first underground passenger railway system opens in London, England in 1863
- The ball was first dropped at Times Square in New York City in 1908
- American League Baseball adopts the "Designated Hitter" rule in 1973.

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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Tex. Prop. Tax Code -81.085, Lynn County Appraisal District is providing this Notice of Availability of Electronic Communications. Currently, Lynn County Appraisal District is not equipped for electronic communications including, but not limited to Tex. Prop. Tax Code -831.01 Tax Bills and Tex. Prop. Tax Code -825.19 Notices of Appraised Value with taxpayers.

NOTICE

The Tahoka Housing Authority owns and operates the 24-unit West Gate Apartment Complex located in the 2100 block of North 7th Street in Tahoka, Texas. Applicants for these apartments must meet all the eligibility requirements as set out by the USDA Rural Development. Rental Assistance may be provided by USDA Rural Development. Applications for these apartments can be picked up at the main office of the Tahoka Housing Authority located at 1400 Ave. K in Tahoka, Texas. Applications are accepted during our regular business hours of 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday-Thursday or by mailing your completed application to P.O. Box 238, Tahoka, TX 79373. Personas que hablan español y requieren un interprete, favor llamar a, Bill Miller, al siguiente numero (806) 561-4716. Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a, Bill Miller, al siguiente numero (806) 561-4716. Para solicitar una adaptacion o modificacion razonable, favor llamar, Bill Miller, al siguiente numero (806) 561-4716. Bill Miller Executive Director Tahoka Housing Authority

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CAUSE #19-05-07561

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
VS
OF

MICHAEL SCHOPPA, KATIE SCHOPPA
ROBERTS JOSHUA SCHOPPA, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF LINDA E. SCHOPPA, DECEASED AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF HARVEY G. SCHOPPA, DECEASED
Defendants

In re: Rt. 4, Box 287 FM 179
Tahoka, Texas 79373

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF LINDA E. SCHOPPA, DECEASED, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF HARVEY G. SCHOPPA, DECEASED Defendants

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation the same being Monday, February 10, 2020, before the Honorable 106th District Court of Lynn County, at the Courthouse in said County in Tahoka, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed May 30, 2019 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of the suit is as follows, to-wit: PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Tahoka, Texas, this the 19th day of December, 2019.

ATTORNEY FOR STATE
JOYCE NWACHUKWU
1255 W. 15th ST. SUITE 060
PLANO, TX 75075

CLERK OF THE COURT
SANDRA LAWS
P.O. Box 939
TAHOKA, TX 79373

by: Lonnetta Hudgens, Deputy

Area News *News items from area newspapers*

House explosion rattles part of Brownfield, injures two men

BROWNFIELD – An incorrectly connected portable heater is believed to be at the heart of an explosion Thursday, Dec. 16 that rocked a Brownfield neighborhood and left two men injured.

According to reports from the Brownfield Police Department, around 11:15 Thursday morning a house on the corner of West Buckeye and South Second streets in Brownfield exploded.

The cause of the blast, reports said, was a propane heater being used in the house at the time.

Two men, both from Levelland, were in the house at the time of the explosion but managed to escape without serious injury, reports show.

Reports added the men had used mismatching connections to hook up the heater before lighting it.

— from the Brownfield News

TatumTek opts for new location in Lamesa for manufacturing facility

LAMESA – TatumTek, the Dallas-based firm that is planning a \$20-million modular manufacturing facility in Lamesa, has completed the purchase of a 64.7-acre tract of land there as the site for the operation. That site, however, is about 100 yards or so east of the former Weaver Gin property that previously was being considered as the location.

Edwin Tatum, founder and CEO of TatumTek, told the Press-Reporter the location will be along the east side of County Road J about a block or two north of U.S. Highway 180.

County Road J runs just east of the Weaver Gin site. Inside the Lamesa city limits, CR J is identified as Ave. V.

Tatum said that while the main focus of their site selection had been on the Weaver Gin site, they recently began considering the CR J location as an option. He said that property proved best both from an investment analysis and from an efficiency standpoint.

The new site will allow both the manufacturing and shipping locations to be at one location – which wasn't possible at the Weaver Gin location.

He hopes to break ground on construction sometime around April or May.

"Now we're really focused on the factory design," Tatum said.

It will take about 10 months from groundbreaking until production can begin.

— from the Lamesa Press-Reporter

New vocational building to help Slaton students build own futures

SLATON – People driving along Division Street by the Slaton High School dome may have noticed bulldozers and other vehicles digging up dirt around the lot. They have been preparing for a new building that will help students learn trades and other vocations to help them in the future.

Assistant Superintendent Jim Andrus said the building is part of the final phase of a bond that the public voted for in 2015.

"A combination of the remaining bond funds and local school district funds are being used to complete this construction project. There are no additional taxes levied for this project," he said.

"The new building will host a large multi-purpose workshop with 16 welding bays, a building trades wood shop, three classrooms, office space and a Banner Room," said Andrus. "It's designed with tremendous versatility to also house electrical trades, HVAC systems, and a variety of other vocational courses."

"Slaton students will be able to graduate with a wide-ranging array of technical certifications. This will be a great head start for our students who choose a vocational career," he added.

— from The Slatonite

Snyder school board participates in Lone Star Governance update

SNYDER – The Snyder ISD school board heard an update on the district's participation in the Lone Star Governance program at its meeting Thursday evening. Lone Star Governance is an initiative through the Texas Education Agency to train school board members and administrators with the goal of improving student performance.

Laurie Elliott, a Lone Star Governance coach and monitor, teleconferenced with the school board during the presentation,



Artistic talent ... Tahoka High School senior Jayda Rosas (left) recently had her artwork selected out of students in the Lubbock and surrounding areas to be included in the annual West Texas Regional Scholastic Art Competition at Wayland Baptist University. It will be on display January 7-February 7, 2020 at the Abraham Art Gallery in Plainview. She is pictured with Ms. Doty, her art teacher.

HPWD personnel to begin annual water level measurements Jan. 2

Beginning Jan. 2, High Plains Undergrnd Water Conservation District (HPWD) personnel will begin annual water level measurements to determine the effect of 2019 pumping on groundwater levels in aquifers within the district.

These measurements are made in a network of more than 1,350 privately-owned wells. These observation wells are spaced at a density of approximately one well per nine square miles throughout the 16-county HPWD service area.

"We want the public to know that our staff will be visiting observation well sites from early January until completion of this work effort. They are driving pickup trucks which are clearly identified as High Plains Water District vehicles," said General Manager Jason Coleman.

These water level data are made available to the public through an interactive map on the HPWD website (map.

hpwd.org).

Persons may access annual observation well data, annual supplemental well data, and daily water level data in select wells using this feature.

"Since its debut in 2013, the interactive map has grown in popularity each year. Most persons utilize this feature to obtain depth-to-water and saturated thickness information," Coleman said.

An introduction to the interactive map and discussion of each of its features are included in tutorial videos posted to the HPWD YouTube channel.

Those without computer access are encouraged to contact Jed Leibbrandt at the HPWD office to request a printed report of annual water level measurement data for a county or counties of interest. He may be reached at (806) 762-0181.

Housing In-fill project ...

(Continued from page 1)

project was a developer came to TEDC from Lubbock, saying that if TEDC would give him the lot(s) he would be willing to build a home/duplex on them. The lots must also already have the infrastructure (water and sewer lines) at the site. In exchange we get a new home/duplex on the tax rolls and a working family buying services from our local businesses," Partlow explained.

"This is the best chance we have of building our house stock," adds Partlow. "The chances of someone coming in and building a sub-division are next to nothing. The demand for a sub-division of 15+ homes is just not there. So, the next best thing is to fill in those spots (empty lots) with single family homes or duplexes."

The project began with Partlow and Jerry Webster, Tahoka City Manager, riding through the city and identifying the addresses of where

the empty lots are located. They initially found 25 lots that were suitable on which a developer who could build a \$100,000 - \$150,000 home/duplex. Now they are finding out which of these lots are for sale. Partlow invites property owners of lots that are a minimum of 50'x140' to contact him at 806-782-7676.

"The city has property they already own, and city officials will encourage building on those lots. Also, if anyone has a lot that is at least 50'x140', please contact me so we can show them your lot," said Partlow. "This project is similar to a project I worked on in Brownfield, and one that has been successful and continues to grow," he added.

"We are encouraging the developers to build duplexes, as we feel that market is very strong. If this program works, a prospective developer could start building as early as February of 2020," concluded Partlow.

Did you know?

• San Francisco has the oldest Chinatown in North America, which was established in the 1850s in the wake of the California Gold Rush. San Francisco is said to be the birthplace of several American Chinese food traditions including Chop Suey and Fortune Cookies.

• Pensacola, Florida is actually the oldest city in the US. It was settled in 1559 by Don Tristan de Luna. Attractions include the National Museum of Naval Aviation (with over 100 aircrafts that are as old as the 1920s; they also house a torpedo bomber flown by former US president George H.W. Bush).

• The Smithsonian Institution is comprised of 19 various museums. The National Zoological Park actually has a Panda Cam for those who can't make it to see giant pandas Mei Xiang and Tian Tian in person. They are two of just over 300 other pandas who reside at zoos and research centers across the world, but only 15 of which live in America.



Homeowners who are age 65-and older or Disabled

Did you know? ...
that you may pay your property taxes in four separate installments instead of a one-time full payment?

... but you must NOTIFY the Lynn County Appraisal District, and make your first quarterly payment **BEFORE the end of JANUARY**

There is an option for homeowners over age 65 or disabled, to pay their taxes in four installments instead of a one-time full payment. To make the installment payments, the homeowner must notify the Appraisal District before the end of January, by phone or in person, of their intent to pay their tax bill in this method.



The first payment is due by the end of January, with the other three payments due in March, May and July.* The Lynn County Appraisal District will mail out reminder letters when the quarterly payments are due.

* If payments are not made by the required dates, penalties may be assessed.

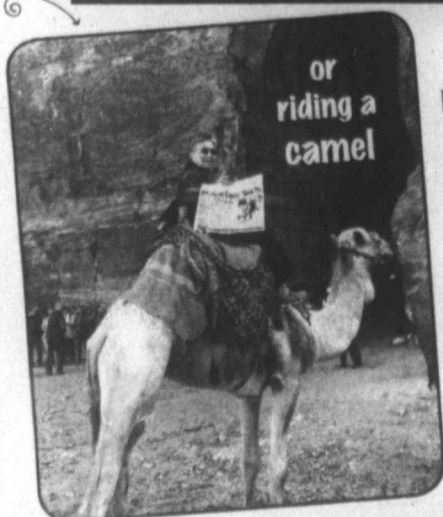
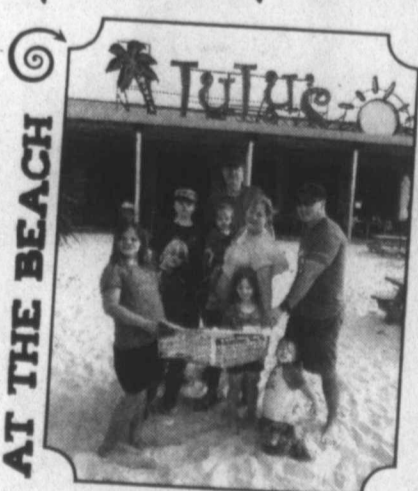
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