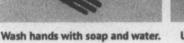
citizens

ur next

#### **Prevention of COVID-19**

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to take steps to avoid exposure to this virus, which are similar to the steps you take to avoid the flu:







Use hand sanitizer as backup.





Avoid touching face.



Disinfect often touched surfaces.



Avoid close contact.

email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

# ELynn County News

Serving Lynn County since 1903

April 9, 2020 Volume 117, No. 15

- Obituaries pg. 2 - John Barrientez, Jr.
- Easter Sunrise Services slated by local churches - pg. 2
- Accident, vehicle chase in law reports - pg. 3
- FSA makes changes to farm programs - pg. 4
- Area News pg. 6 · Hancock heading back to OHS • 5 COVID-19 cases in Dawson Co.

#### **Lynn County Hospital COVID-19 Hotline** 806-561-2076

answered 24-hours-a-day by LCHD healthcare providers Please call if you think you have symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, shortness of breath or persistent pressure in chest

#### Tahoka ISD is serving FREE LUNCHES to anyone 18-and-under

Open to all, not required to be enrolled in TISD.

Carryouts offered 11 am-1 pm Mon-Fri behind the TISD Cafeteria.

"We will deliver if you do not have a way to pick up!" - Call 561-4350

## Did you know?

- Madagascar once was a stomping ground for lemurs which were the size of today's gorillas.
- . The full name of the famous Chuck E. Cheese's mouse is Charles Entertainment Cheese.
- · There is a company in Japan that has schools that teach you how to be funny. The first one opened in 1982. About 1,000 students take the course each

Date	High	Low	Precip
Mar 31	74	44	
Apr 1	76	53	
Apr 2	86	34	
Apr 3	57	33	
Apr 4	55	37	0.02"
Apr 5	65	48	
Apr 6	73	55	

recipitation/temps measured as date reported, for the previous	
Total Precip for Jan:	0.58"
Total Precip for Feb:	0.48"
Total Precip for Mar:	2.56"
Total Precip for Apr:	0.02"
Total Precip. for 2020:	3.64"

## Governor issues statewide "Stay at Home" order ... Two more COVID-19 cases reported in county

Tahoka, Lynn County

by JUANELL JONES exas Governor Greg Abbott released a statewide message to all Texans in an Executive Order that went into effect on April 2 requiring all Texans to stay home unless they are participating in an essential service or activity, to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). City and county officials reiterate the same message, as the number of COVID-19 cases climbed to four this week in Lynn County, and to 8,262 statewide.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Lynn County has had two more cases of COVID-19 cases confirmed, for a total of four cases.

On Friday, April 3, Lynn County Judge Mike Braddock reported a third COVID-19 case in Lynn County that is within the same O'Donnell household as the first two cases, which were reported last week. The family is currently self-quarantining to prevent the spread of the disease.

A fourth case of COVID-19 in Lynn County was reported Monday afternoon, April 6, by the Lynn County Judge, who was notified by the South Plains Public Health District. This is reported to be a female Tahoka resident who reportedly worked in Lubbock, and is quarantined at home. Others living in the same household are also reportedly under the quarantine. Authorities report the woman was tested in Lubbock, not at Lynn County Hospital District.

The Judge reports that an LVN is following up in this case to determine who may have been in contact with the woman, and that health department officials will notify those persons of the potential contact.

"We want to be as transparent as possible in reporting these cases, which we report as soon as the health officials provide us with official notification," said Judge Braddock. "However, city and county officials, like all others who deal with a person's medical information, are limited by federal regulations on what they can disclose. We will give out as much information as we can, as fast as we can, because we do want our citizens to be aware of what is going on in our communities."

City, county and medical leaders will have a weekly update at 4 p.m. Thursday, starting this week, in a live video stream accessible from the Lynn County Hospital District facebook page. All citizens are invited to watch the video, and to send in questions by typing comments on the facebook page during the live session, which will be answered live. It is the intent of these leaders to conduct the live video update every Thursday at 4 p.m. during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tahoka Mayor John Baker encourages citizens to watch the video, and to continue to follow the precautionary guidelines set by the CDC and government officials.

"Stay at home if at all possible, and if you do leave your home for (See COVID-19 UPDATE, page 6)



Local medical/government officials will offer weekly

#### live video reports of **Lynn County COVID-19** at 4 pm every Thursday

starting April 9th.

Go to the Lynn County Hospital District's facebook page to watch, and to type in your questions live (in the comments section).

#### City to postpone May 2 election

The City of Tahoka is postponing the May 2 special election for the District 1 seat on the Tahoka City Council, due to the COVID-19 precautions. The special election will be moved to Tuesday, November 3rd, in conjunction with the general election, according to City Administrator Jerry Webster, who said the City Council would officially approve the move at their council meeting next week...

The District 1 seat on the City Council is currently vacant, and there are three candidates seeking the one-year unexpired term in the special election, including Tom Tejeda, Courtney Stennett, and Derek Stephens.

Three other council seats had uncontested incumbents seeking re-election, and they will be declared elected: Dist. 2: Ronny Jolly; Dist. 4: Ryan Curry; Dist. 5 At-Large: Ray Box.



Palm Sunday service ... Wilson First Baptist pastor Billy Parmer and music director Byron Norwood (at left) provided a Palm Sunday service on April 5th. Over 50 vehicles attended the service in the Wilson ISD parking lot. Area churches are offering drive-up Easter Sunday services on Easter Sunday (see story inside).



#### The Lynn County News

The Lynn County News (USPS 32-3200) is published weekly by Lynn County News, Inc. on Thursday (52 issues per year) at Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas. Periodical postage paid at Tahoka, Texas 79373. Postmaster: Send address change to The Lynn County News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** Lynn County Address: - \$30 year Other Addresses in U.S. - \$35 year

**PUBLISHER / NEWS EDITOR ADVERTISING MANAGER** Pam Elrod © All material Copyright 2020 The Lynn County News

**DEADLINE:** Noon Tuesdays

**CONTACT US:** Office: 806-561-4888 Fax: (806) 561-6308 E-Mail: LynnCoNews@poka.com 1617 Main Street P.O. Box 1170 **Tahoka**, Tx 79373

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

"Like" us on Facebook. www.facebook.com/LynnCountyNews



#### **Senior Citizens Menu**

**April 16-20** 

Monday: Roast turkey & dressing, sweet potatoes, green beans, pineapple tidbits Tuesday: Baked ham, lima beans, corn, chocolate chip cookie

Wednesday: Beef goulash, navy beans, broccoli, oatmeal raisin cookie

thigh, mashed potatoes, carrot/raisin salad, baked apple Friday: King Ranch casserole, Spanish rice, pinto beans, brownie

NOTICE: The Center is CLOSED for dine - in. For curbside pick up (east side) call in before 10 a.m. each day. 561-5264.

#### Got a Storm Shelter?

**REGISTER YOUR LOCATION** WITH LYNN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE (EMO)

This information will assist the emergency responders in a quicker response with rescue, medical services and recovery.

If you wish to have your information on the list, please provide your address, phone, type of shelter and location on the property.

Mail, email or call information to: Lynn County EMO P.O. Box 1166, Tahoka, TX 79373 Phone 806-561-5244 - or - email to: lynncountyemc@co.lynn.tx.us or stop by the office located at 1627 Ave. K in Tahoka.

#### bituaries



## John Barrientez,

Jenobebo "John" Barrientez, Jr., 75 of Tahoka passed away Friday April 3, 2020. He was born April 13, 1944 in Lubbock to John and Pauline (Riojas) Barrientez. He married Sharon Barrientez October 1, 1965, she preceded him in death in 2007. John worked for Taylor Tractor for more than 30 years before retiring. He enjoyed going to the slots, but especially loved family bar-b-ques. John and Sharon played on a bowling league for several years. He was a member of St. Jude's Catholic Church. John was a loving husband, father, brother, grandfather and great-grandfather. He will be deeply missed.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Sharon; his parents; brother, Roman Barrientez; and brother-in-law, Juan Alvarado.

Those left to cherish his Thursday: BBQ Chicken memory are his daughters, Debbie and husband Victor, Amy Deleon, Ann Marie Barrientez and spouse Jacob Perez all of Tahoka; son, Ricky Barrientez and wife Pat of Tahoka; two brothers, Raymond Barrientez and wife Sissy of Liberty Hill, Texas, and Joe Barrientez and wife Linda of Tahoka; five sisters, Severita Hernandez and husband Carlos of Corpus Christi, Tome Alvarado of Tahoka, Carol Hernandez T-Bar Ranch. The turnoff is space for social distancing. and husband Arnold of Lubbock, Helen Fuentes and husband Rudy of Tahoka, and for seating, and allow space held at 11 a.m. in the parking Janie Villareal and husband Ziggy of Fort Worth; eleven grandchildren; and thirteen great-grandchildren.

> Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at Combest Family Funeral Homes in Tahoka. We ask due to circumstances that you only come in groups of 3 to the visitation. Private family services will be held.



St. Clair Hotel ... The St. Clair Hotel was one of the hotels in Tahoka's early pioneer days, pictured in this photo printed in a 1928 pictoral brochure sponsored by the Tahoka Chamber of Commerce. According to information in "Grassroots Upside Down: A History of Lynn County," this building may have been the original courthouse in Lynn County in 1903. From page 123: "In May 1916 ... The old courthouse was sold to L.L. Williams for \$750 on the provision that he move the existing building immediately. Mr. Williams, owner of the St. Clair Hotel, had the building moved to the intersection of Main and Lockwood to be used as his hotel." From page 181: "In May 1937, Oscar Roberts bought the old St. Clair Hotel, formerly Lynn County's courthouse from 1903 to 1916, and was preparing to replace it with a service station building." This photo is on display at the Tahoka Pioneer Museum. The museum is located at 1600 Lockwood, open 10:00 a.m.-2 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Admission is free.



#### **Easter Sunrise Services** slated by local churches

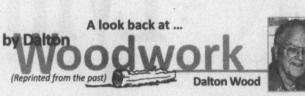
First Methodist Church 6 miles west of Tahoka on Hwy. 380. Bring lawn chairs ter Sunday services will be for social distancing. Stay in your car morning services with attendees to stay in their will be held in the parking vehicles. area at the Methodist Church at 10:30 a.m.'

Church and Tahoka Lake Pasture are sponsoring an Easter Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. at Tahoka Lake Pasture. Turn east off FM 400 approximately 8 miles north of Tahoka (or 2.5 miles south of Wilson), where a black

Two area Community mailbox sits with number Easter Sunrise Services have 883 in white, with a bright orbeen scheduled by local ange bath scrubbie attached). churches for Easter Sunday, Cross two cattle guards, turn April 12, and several area left (east) at a branching road, churches are planning "stay continue east until reaching in your vehicle" Sunday ser- 'the "old Rugged Cross" on "Sunrise Point" overlooking the lake. The ranch road of Tahoka is sponsoring an is not recommended for ve-Easter Sunrise Service at hicles with low clearance. approximately 7:15 a.m. at Wear closed-toe shoes. Allow

> Wilson First Baptist Easlot at Wilson High School,

Tahoka First Baptist Church will have Easter at Wilson First Baptist the Ballpark services on Sunday, with two services scheduled - one at 9:00 a.m. and again at 10:45 a.m. Attendees should stay in their vehicles for the services. The baseball complex is located at South 8th and Ave. L in Tahoka.



F YOU THINK Easter, which will be this Sunday, is really early, you're right. In fact, the next time Easter will be this early (March 23) will be the year 2228, 220 years from now, when we all will be long gone and forgotten.

And the last time Easter was this early was 1913, so unless you are more than 95, you weren't around for that one, and even if you were, you probably can't remember that Easter. I can't remember any Easters which happened before I was about 10 years old (actually I don't remember what happened last Easter).

So, I wonder, why is it called Easter, and not Wester, Norther or Souther? One source reveals that it is not related to directions, but to the word Estre, a Teutonic goddess of the rising light of day and spring (which my calendar says today, Thursday, March 20, is the first day of).

Another source says that today, March 20, is the Spring Equinox, I thought Equinox sounded like some kind of prescription medication, and also is a kind of Chevrolet which someone at the office recently purchased. I looked it up, and discovered that Equinox is defined in astronomy as that moment in time when the sun is directly above the earth's equator, and for some reason is also the first day of spring.

And, believe it or not, that has something to do with when Easter is designated on our calendar. Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox (March 20 this year). This dating of Easter is based on the lunar calendar that Hebrew s used to identify Passover.

And if you don't understand that, ask your preacher or read the Bible.

Anyway, it will be early this year. The next time it will be a day earlier will be in the year 2285, 277 years from now. If you want to see that one, take really good care of yourself, and be sure and take your Equinox pills as prescribed.

GOT TO WONDERING recently if the old saying "Feed a cold, starve a fever" was exactly that, or the other way around. According to Google on the internet, it really was "feed a cold," originating back in the 16the century, although the source quickly said that medical sources claim it won't help either way. It does give a person a good excuse to pig ~March 20,2008 out, however.



Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.



## TAHOKA DRUG 561-4041

Monday-Friday 8:30 - 6:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30-12:00 1610 Main, Tahoka www.tahokadrug.com

We now have a drive up/thru lane in front of Tahoka Drug! Enter from the South and Exit to the North. Please WAIT in your car, CALL us when you are here and we will come to you! We will help you through your passenger window. This is to make drop off and pickup smoother for you, as well as us!

\*We are not accepting old bottles to be refilled\* Call us with the refill numbers ahead of time or be prepared to tell us your numbers when you pull up.

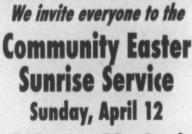
Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

If you are unable to get to Lubbock or elsewhere, we can transfer your prescription here and fill it for you!

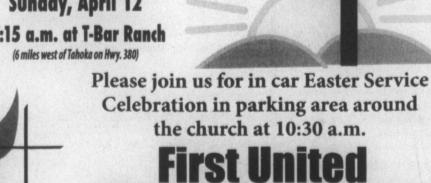


## Did you know?

Easter is not fixed to a specific day. It usually falls between March 22nd and April 25th. It is supposed to fall on the first Sunday after the full moon following March 21st.



7:15 a.m. at T-Bar Ranch





1801 Avenue J • Tahoka • 561-4503

Acc

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## Accident, vehicle chase, and burglaries in local law reports

by JUANELL JONES

Law enforcement reports during the past week included one traffic accident, a vehicle pursuit that crossed three counties, burglaries, and complaints about roosters crowover a house.

A one-vehicle accident occurred in O'Donnell at 10:59 a.m. April 6, by the Allsups store on US 87. Tim Chaplin of Lamesa was the driver of a 2008 red four-door Dodge that impacted with a concrete riser. Lynn County EMS was at the scene, but reportedly did not transport the man, according to the call sheet report from the Lynn County Sheriff's Office.

and Lubbock County SO last the early morning hours. All described as a black Impala that Lamesa PD believed had been involved in a burglary of a vehicle. The chase originated from Dawson County, above his house." where officers lost track of pursuit, which ended in Lubbock County on I-27 and the vehicle burglary that had oc- through town, was released.

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ized. The owner told deputies Tuesday. that windows had been broken to gain access to the vehicles and a gun had been taken

"During these unusual

Vega told The News. "I don't turbance. want to create a panic, but I vehicles to not leave them inis going to be unattended for a identification numbers. period of time," he added.

On April 6, a caller at 2:03 p.m. reported that she had several items stolen from her residence on US 87, and gave officers a list of items report-

Sheriff's deputies sponded to several calls regarding suspicious vehicles/ persons, debris on roadway, and welfare checks, as well as one complaint about an A chase that crossed three airplane flying over his house counties involved Lamesa on FM 211. According to the PD, Lynn County SO, DPS, call sheet report, the complainant told officers that "a Wednesday, April 1, during crop duster kept on flying over his house and scaring all were in pursuit of a vehicle of his animals, as the plane was spraying the farm next to him, and he wanted the plane prosecuted for flying over his house because he owns the air

Tahoka Police responded the vehicle, but notified Lynn to a call in the 1800 block of County SO at 1:30 a.m. that South 1st at 5:40 p.m. April the vehicle may have been 3, where a family member southbound towards Lynn discovered a man who lived County. A Lynn County alone deceased in his home. deputy observed a black Im- Jenobebo "John" Barrientez, pala traveling at speeds of Jr., 75 of Tahoka was pro-108 mph driving southbound nounced deceased, and police chill. at O'Donnell, joining the are conducting an unattended death investigation.

Police were called at noon Marsha Sharp Freeway exit. last Tuesday in response to Subjects inside the vehicle a report of a suspicious perwere arrested and transported son, of a woman knocking on to the Lubbock Co. Detention doors and attempting to sell Center. A gun was recovered jewelry. Police warned the from the vehicle that was woman to stop the door-toidentified as reported stolen door sales, and the woman, out of Lynn County, from a who was reportedly passing

curred earlier in the year. A woman residing in the A call to the Sheriff's Of- 2000 block of N. 2nd was isfice at 6:06 a.m. April 1 re- sued a citation for disorderly ported two vehicles that were conduct after she was reportparked in front of a house on ed to be "yelling at kids" from US Hwy 87 had been burglarher front yard, at 6:39 p.m. last

Police responded to several other calls during the week, including a complaint about a rooster crowing in the 1900 block of N. 7th, people gotimes, vehicle burglaries seem ing through dumpsters in the to be on the rise, not only in 1400 block of N. 3rd, suspi-Lynn County but in speaking cious persons/vehicles, reckwith law enforcement officials less drivers, welfare concerns, in other counties this is oc- a residential alarm (where evcurring everywhere," Lynn erything was reported to be County Sheriff Abraham secure), and a domestic dis-

Lynn County Jail held do want to warn everyone that 31 inmates during the week, if they have valuables - espe- including 20 held for Ector cially firearms - inside their County, 1 for Floyd, and 10 for Lynn County. Local charges side the vehicles. Bring them included one for possession of ing, and a crop duster flying inside with you, if the vehicle drugs, and for tampering with

> New Home Happenings by Denise Sherrod

Day EleventyOrangeTriangle of Quarantine: Things That are Happening:

· I've eaten Pop Tarts for breakfast three times this

answer me...and I understand

· My cats are beginning to

· My dog just sighs when

· The dishwasher is threatening to strike because of overwork

· I'm looking for recipes involving three kinds of canned beans, some fish sticks, and several jars of

· Our very old desert willow is budding.

Things I've Learned: · Pop Tarts won't kill

you...too quickly.

• The cats get it-just

· My dog will still go for a walk to get me out of the house. Be like the dog. But don't run in packs.

· It's good to have a dish-

· There's nothing you can make out of beans, fish sticks, conditions improve. During the and pickles. Make better gro-• Even in the strangest of

times, old trees keep doing their thing

Hang in there; nothing lasts forever.

Except pickles. They last forever. \*\*\*

To submit items for New Home Happenings, email dtsherrod@gmail.com by Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Did you know!

 American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in first-



Stuck ... Tim Chaplin of Lamesa was the driver of this 2008 red four-door Dodge that ended up on a concrete riser near the Allsups store on US 87 in O'Donnell Monday morning.

(LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

#### Texas State Parks temporarily closed to public

At the direction of Gov. Greg Abbott, Texas State Parks will be closed to the public effective at the close of business Tuesday, April 7 in order to maintain the safest environment for visitors, volunteers and staff. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will continue to stay current with the latest public health recommendations and will announce when a definite reopening date has been deter-

"Given the myriad of challenges and heightened risks of operating the parks at this time, we believe this is the best course of action right now in order to meet the health and safety expectations the state has set out for the citizens of Texas," said Carter Smith, Executive Director of TPWD. "All state warks will remain temporarily closed until public health and safety closure, staff will continue to steward and care for the parks to ensure they can be immediately reopened to visitors at the appropriate time.

Outdoor recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing,

citizens. TPWD will continue to do its part to actively encourage and promote these opportunities in ways that are safe and close to home, said Smith

Through this trying time, TPWD has worked diligently to facilitate access to the outdoors across the state, including in the state park system, which hosted nearly 740,000 day and overnight visitors throughout the month of

Despite the implementation of increasingly restrictive visitor use measures to help minimize the transmission of COVID-19 at parks, TPWD has reached a point where public safety considerations of those in the parks, and in the surrounding communities, must take precedence over continued operations. Difficulty in ensuring compliance are essential activities for Texas and keeping park facilities suf-

ficiently sanitized are only a few of the challenges encountered by state park staff.

The Texas State Parks Customer Service Center is currently working toward contacting customers with upcoming overnight reservations to reimburse stays booked through the reservation system. Group and facility reservations have been cancelled until April 30. Cancelled reservations will not be charged normal administrative fees.

purchased Day passes through the reservation system, not associated to the Texas State Parks Pass, will also be refunded without penalties. The Texas State Parks Customer Service Center will automatically process cancellations of both overnight and day-use reservations. "If your reservation is impacted by a facility or park closure, a Customer Service Center agent will contact you - you do not need to contact us. We are contacting customers in order of arrival date and appreciate your patience."

Questions regarding state park reservations can be emailed to customer.service@tpwd.texas. biking, jogging, walking, hiking, with social distancing, problems gov and general park information wildlife viewing, and the like in maintaining adequate supplies can be found at TexasStateParks.

#### **Lynn County Hospital District**

P. O. Box 1310 • Tahoka, Texas 79373

AGENDA FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, April 13, 2020 DATE:

TIME: 5:00pm

PLACE:

Virtual Meeting Public may call into this meeting by calling 617-944-8136

If you would like to comment during Public Forum contact Jill Stone at 806-998-4533 x 425

or jstone@lchdhealthcare.org at least 30 minutes before meeting start time.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION

3. PUBLIC FORUM

4. COMPLIANCE REPORT

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

6. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

7. APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & MONTHLY BILLS

8. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

9. POLICY UPDATE/APPROVAL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**NEW BUSINESS** 

a. Cancel Election b. Discuss and Act Upon Deed Without Warranty, O'Donnell, TX and Wilson, TX

c. Discuss and Act Upon Appointment of Infection Control Officer

d. COVID-19 Action Update

12. BOARD REVIEW AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Chief Nursing Officer Report

2. CEO Report

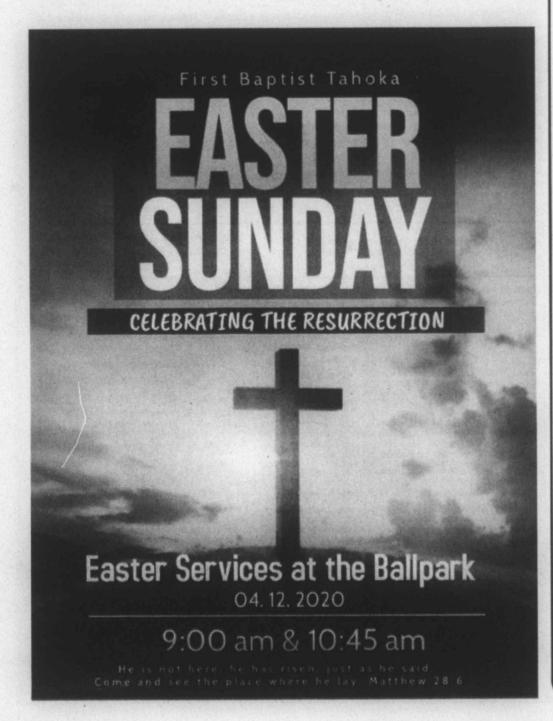
i. Grant Update

3. Pertinent Correspondence

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Lynn County Hospital District reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), 551.078 and/or 551.0785 (Deliberations by Medical Committee or by Governmental Body that Administers a Public Insurance, Health or Retirement Plan Regarding Individuals' Medical or Psychiatric Records), 551.085 (Deliberation by Governing Board of Certain Providers of Health Care Services) and 551.087 (Economic Development). If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting



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**AgTexas Farm Credit** Services Travis Ferguson and Mike Metzig

Capital **Farm Credit** Jason Gandy Shaun Wied

Farmers Co-op **Association** 

FirstBank & Trust Karl McDonald

**Lynn County Farm Bureau** 

#### Planning a **Control Burn?**

Landowners in Lynn County are asked to notify the Lynn County Sheriff's Office at 806-561-4505 when a control burn is going to occur. This notification will allow the Sheriff's Office to be aware of control burns when fire reports are called in by passersby or others, and will assist the S.O. in knowing if area fire departments need to be called to respond to

CALL 806-561-4505 TO REPORT A **CONTROL BURN** IN LYNN COUNTY

Lilies are a flower often associated with Easter (Easter Lilies). The petals face downward, which is in honor of Jesus.

### **FSA makes changes to Farm Loan, Disaster, Conservation and Safety Net Programs**

USDA's Farm Service includes producers now eli-Agency (FSA) county offices are open in Texas by phone appointment only until further notice, and FSA staff are available to continue helping agricultural producers with program signups, loan servicing and other important actions. Additionally, FSA is relaxing the loan-making pro- and cess and adding flexibilities for servicing direct and guaranteed loans to provide credit to producers in need.

open for business by phone program delivery staff will farm loan applications; continue to come into to the office, they will be working with our agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools whenever possible.

"FSA programs and loans are critical to Texas farmers and ranchers, and we want to continue our work with customers while taking precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus," FSA State Executive Director Gary Six said. "We recognize that farm loans are critical for annual operating and family living expenses, Servicing Direct Loans emergency needs and cash FSA is working to find and use every option and flexibility to provide producers with credit options and other program benefits."

FSA is delivering pro-

- · Farm loans;
- · Commodity loans;
- · Farm Storage Facility Loan program;
- · Disaster assistance prothe Wildfire and Hurricane der its jurisdiction. Indemnity Program Plus (this

gible because of losses due to drought and excess moisture self-certify, providing their in 2018 and 2019);

· Safety net programs, including 2020 signup for the ing loan advances on lines of Agriculture Risk Coverage credit; and Price Loss Coverage pro-

Conservation programs; FSA will consider guaranteed

 Acreage reports. **Making Process** 

FSA is relaxing the loan-FSA Service Centers are making process, including:

- appointment only. While our for applicants to complete and
  - documents even if FSA is unable to complete lien and record searches because of closed government buildings. Once those searches are com- additional forms and appliplete, FSA would close the cations by facsimile or elec-
  - quired lien position on the to customers with an eAuth primary security is perfected, even for loans that require cess to the farmers.gov poradditional security and those tal where producers can view because of closed government track certain USDA program buildings.

flow through times like this. lines for producers to respond to loan servicing actions, including loan deferral consideration for financially who do not already have an distressed and delinquent bor-

FSA will temporarily grams and services, includ- suspend loan accelerations, ers to contact their county ofnon-judicial and referring foreclosures to and temporary changes to the Department of Justice. farm loan deadlines and the The U.S. Attorney's Office loan servicing options availwill make the determination able. For Service Center conwhether to stop foreclosures tact information, visit farmgrams, including signup for and evictions on accounts un- ers.gov/coronavirus.

Servicing Guaranteed

Guarantee lenders can borrowers with:

- · Subsequent-year operat-
- · Emergency advances on lines of credit.
- lender requests for: Temporary payment de-
- Relaxing the Farm Loan- ferral consideration when borrowers do not have a feasible plan reflecting that family living expenses, operating ex-• Extending the deadline penses and debt can be repaid;
  - Temporary forbearance • Preparing Direct Loans consideration for borrowers on loan liquidation and foreclosure actions.

**Contacting FSA** 

FSA will be accepting tronic signature. Some ser-• Closing loans if the re- vices are also available online account, which provides aclien searches, filings and re- USDA farm loan information cordings cannot be obtained and payments and view and applications and payments. Customers can track pay-FSA is extending dead- ments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance and electronically sign documents. Customers eAuth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

foreclosures, fice to discuss these programs

## Did you know!

**Odd Facts About Your Body** · There is a company that will (for \$14,000) take your ashes and compress them into a synthetic diamond to be set in jewelry for a loved one.

· There are more living organisms on the skin of a single human being than there are human beings on the surface of the earth.

- The longest bout of hiccups lasted nearly 69 years.
- · Babies is born without kneecaps. They appear between the ages of 2 and 6.
- Men can read smaller print than women. Women can hear
- fracture a rib. If you try to sup- owned and tended privately, press a sneeze you can rupture a blood vessel in your head or neck and die. If you keep your eyes open by force they can pop
- · A kiss stimulates 29 muscles and chemicals that cause relaxation. Women seem to like light and frequent kisses while men like them more strenuous.
- · Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.



Back in the 30's ... Not sure where this photo was taken, but it shows what seems to be a new Farmall Tractor and a truck bearing a 1939 license plate. This photo, and other historical pictures and items, are on display at the Tahoka Pioneer Museum.

#### USDA announces more than 3.4 million acres selected for general signup **Conservation Reserve Program**

Sonny Perdue has announced, tion objectives using targeted the acceptance of more than restoration of vital habitat. 3.4 million acres in the gen- Over 95 percent of SAFE oferal Conservation Reserve fers submitted were accepted Program (CRP) signup re- under this general signup repcently completed, the first resenting more than 487,500 general signup enrollments acres. This acceptance level since 2016. County offices highlights the commitment to will begin notifying produc- SAFE as an important part of ers with accepted offers no CRP. later than April 3.

such as approved grasses or ing to 27 million by 2023. trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on ruary 28, 2020, signups for cropland. Farmers and ranch- continuous CRP, Conserva-FSA encourages produc- ers who participate in CRP tion Reserve Enhancement help provide numerous ben- Program; CRP Grasslands efits to the nation's environ- and the Soil Health and Inment and economy.

helping producers better man- and ends August 21, 2020. age their operations while conserving valuable natural lands enrollments are availresources," Gary Six, State niversary this year, and we Minnesota, Montana, North were quite pleased to see one Dakota and South Dakota are of our largest signups in many eligible for SHIPP.

most competitive offers are (CLEAR 30). selected by protecting fragile lands, improving water quality, enhancing wildlife populations, providing pollinator forage habitat, sequestering carbon in soil and enhancing soil productivity. Seventy • If you sneeze too hard you can percent of the nation's land is and America's farmers, ranchers and landowners have willingly stepped up to protect the environment and natural resources.

(SAFE), which allows probenefit high-priority, locally farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Secretary developed wildlife conserva-

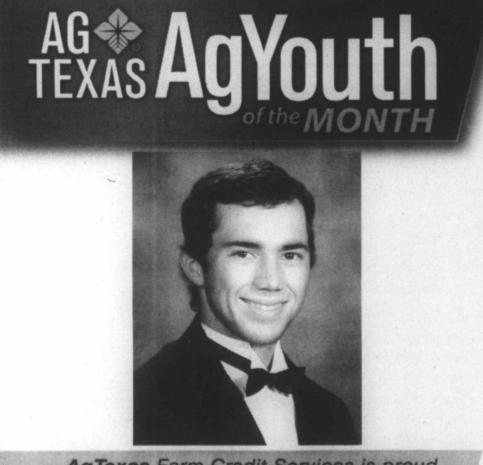
The 2018 Farm Bill estab-Through CRP, farmers lished a nationwide acreage and ranchers receive an an-limit for CRP, with the total nual rental payment for estab- number of acres that may be lishing long-term, resource- enrolled capped at 24.5 milconserving plant species, lion acres in 2020 and grow-

While the deadline for general CRP signup was Febcome Protection Program "The Conservation Re- (SHIPP) are ongoing: The serve Program is one of our CRP Grasslands deadline is nation's largest conservation May 15, and the SHIPP signendeavors and is critical in up begins March 30, 2020,

Continuous and Grassable nationwide. All coun-Executive Director said. "The ties located within the Prairie program marked its 35th an- Pothole region states of Iowa,

This spring, FSA will roll Over these 35 years, out a new pilot conservation CRP has addressed multiple program, the Clean Lakes, concerns while ensuring the Estuaries, and Rivers 30

USDA Service Centers and environmentally sensitive are open for business by phone appointment only and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone, and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any This general signup in- other Service Center agencluded offers for State Acres cy are required to call their for Wildlife Enhancement Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More ducers to install practices that information can be found at



AgTexas Farm Credit Services is proud to honor our Ag Youth of the Month!

#### Riley Robert Cook

- Senior, Tahoka High School, 3.9 GPA
- Chapter FFA Officer 4 years, Lonestar FFA Degree, Outstanding Chapter Member 2018.
- · Exhibit Market Barrows and Market Steers
- · Three time State Qualifying Cotton Grading Team
- Lynn County 4-H Ambassador, Lynn County SWCD Ag Student of the Year.

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Poka Lambro provides the supported services -- voice telephony service and broadband Internet access service -- throughout its designated service area. These supported services include:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge Access to emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in Poka
  - Lambro's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems

    Broadband Internet access service which includes the capability to send data to and receive data

from the Internet, but excludes dial-up service Basic services are offered to all consumers in the Cooperative's service territory at the rates, terms and conditions specified in the Cooperative's tariff on file with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). If you have questions regarding Poka Lambro's services or rates, please call 806-924-7234 or toll free 800-422-2387.

régarding Poka Lambro's services or rates, please call 806-924-7234 or toll free 800-422-2387.

LIFELINE NOTICE: Poka Lambro offers reduced rates to eligible low-income residential consumers under a government assistance program called <u>Lifeline</u>. <u>Lifeline</u> provides monthly discounts to either an eligible customer's phone service (fixed or wireless service) or broadband internet service (fixed or wireless), but not both. Customers who are eligible for Lifeline are also eligible for toll blocking at no charge. To be eligible for Lifeline a customer's annual household income must be at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines for the federal discount, or at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines for the state discount, or a customer must receive benefits from or have a child in the household who receives benefits from at least one of the following programs: Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (state only), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans or Survivors Pension Benefit, National School Lunch program (state only). Lifeline is limited to one discount per household. A household is everyone who lives in the home (including children and people who are not related to the customer) and shares income and household expenses (bills, food, etc.). A customer with Lifeline service may not transfer the Lifeline benefit to any other person. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Poka Lambro at 806-924-7234 or toll free 800-422-2387, or by contacting the Low-income Discount Administrator (LIDA) at 1-866-454-8387 (1-866-4-LITEUP).

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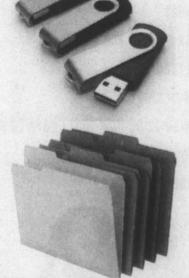
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## **COVID-19 Update**

(Continued from page 1)

essentials, stay out of areas that have many more cases than Lynn County. If you haven't been designated as essential, stay home, save lives," added Baker, who is also the EMS Director for Lynn County Hospital District.

Most businesses in Tahoka are considered essential and remain open, but have closed entries and lobbies to public access and are conducting business by phone or email when possible, or by appointment. Restaurants continue carryout services, and the stores offering groceries and other essential items remain open but are asking customers to respect social distancing.

Governor Abbott is requiring all Texans to stay home unless they are participating in an essential service or activity.

"With COVID-19 spreading across Texas I issued this Executive Order that requires all Texans to stay at home except to provide essential services or do essential things · like go to the grocery store. Now I know this is a great . Before finally being accepted, sacrifice, and we must respond to this challenge with strength and with resolve. By following social distancing practices, we will slow the spread of COVID-19. We will save lives. And we will make it through this challenge together. Thank you, and God bless you all," said Gov. Ab-

The Texas Dept. of State Health Services (DSHS) rec-

ommends these everyday actions to help prevent the spread of any respiratory virus, including COVID-19:

 Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.

· If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

· Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away.

 Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

· Disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often.

· Avoid close contact with people who are sick

· Practice social distancing, staying at least six feet away from others.

· Additionally, the CDC recommends using simple cloth face coverings in public to help slow the spread of the

## Did you know?

J.K. Rowling's original Harry Potter pitch was rejected by 12

· The Japanese term for a Shotgun Wedding is "Dekichatta" kekkon", which literally translates to "oops-we-did-it-

• In order to protest the high tariffs enforced by a U.K. censorship board, a filmmaker sent in a 10 hour "movie" of white paint drying. They had to watch the entire film



New sign ... A new digital sign was erected this week at the LCHD Family Wellness Clinic on Lockwood Street in Tahoka. The LCHD Foundation provided the sign, with a donation from First National Bank of Tahoka paying for half of the cost. The digital sign will allow for Lynn County Hospital District to provide public information as needed.

(LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

#### Texas Senate steps up to help answer **Workforce Commission phone calls**

who are seeking unemploy-

force Commission responds to as many calls as possible fice contacted the TWC first said Patrick.

HOUSTON - Lt. Gov. Dan thing Monday morning, who Patrick announced this week welcomed our help. Senators that members of the Texas agreed to allow their staff Senate - both Democrat and members to volunteer at the Republican - are volunteer- TWC. As of noon Tuesday, ing staffers to assist the Texas almost 200 senate staffers as Workforce Commission in well as staffers in my office answering calls from Texans have volunteered. They will begin training Thursday.

"The President and Con-"Senators that I spoke gress have allocated substanwith this past weekend wanted tial additional resources for to make sure the Texas Work- those who are unemployed as a result of the coronavirus, and we must do all we can to from Texans regarding un- make sure Texans get those employment benefits. My of- resources as soon as possible,"

Did you know?

· One horse can have approximately 15 horsepower. Horsepower is about 746 watts. The term was coined in the late 18th Century.

#### **Area News**

#### Hancock heading back home to OHS

LAMESA - After once starring on the court for the O'Donnell Lady Eagles' basketball program, Allison Hancock is coming home. The 2013 OHS graduate will be returning as her school's new head girls basketball coach, O'Donnell Athletic Director Blake Nichols announced last week

After having 40 applicants for the job, Nichols believes Hancock is the right lady for the position.

"After growing up and then playing ball out here we just felt like that she'd be a good fit with us," said Nichols, who will remain the Eagles' athletic director after filling in as head girls basketball coach this past season.

As a four-year starter for the Lady Eagles, Hancock's a name which O'Donnell fans should remember on the hardwoods. Her final season in that program she helped fuel that school's drive to the regional tournament.

"I've got a lot of memories from back then. One thing which always stands out was our community support. Our people always followed us," Hancock said.

She is excited about returning to O'Donnell.

"This really is neat. It's something which was always in the back of my mind - getting back to O'Donnell some day," Hancock said. "I'll never forget the way that Coach Terry Collins changed everything when we were in high school. Now I'm looking forward to getting the chance to make that same kind of impact."

With nearly everybody coming back from this season's 22-10 playoff ball club, except for four-year starter and all-everything performer Zaelan Gloria, Hancock appears to be inheriting the program at a good time.

Allison's parents, Monty and Gina Hancock, are still residents in O'Donnell, as is one of her brothers, Tanner.

After graduating from West Texas A&M in 2017, Hancock coached her first three seasons at San Saba, as an assistant in cross country, basketball and softball.

- from the Lamesa Press-Reporter

#### Fourth & fifth COVID cases confirmed in Dawson County

LAMESA - A fourth case of COVID-19 virus was confirmed in Dawson County, according to Dawson County Judge Foy O'Brien. The judge said the official word was received from regional health authorities about 12:45 p.m. Wednesday, April 1. He said additional information was not immediately available other than it is a woman who lives in Lamesa but was tested in Lubbock for the virus.

A fifth confirmed case was reported by local authorities Thursday morning, April 2. The latest individual confirmed with the virus is described as a female in her 50s, who lives elsewhere but works in Lamesa and spends several nights a week in Lamesa. However, her case will likely be officially counted as a case for the Texas panhandle county where her permanent residence is located. The woman is quarantining herself locally for the safety of others.

- from the Lamesa Press-Reporter

### **COVID HOTLINE 806-561-2076 AVAILABLE 24 - HOURS A DAY** FOR ANYONE WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT THE DISEASE

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- Why my outside space looks amazing now that I have to stay home and I'm looking for something to do!
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