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- Obituaries pg. 2 - Edward Eugene Miller - Elias Paniagua Jr.
- TISD to provide Covid-19 rapid testing for students, staff - pg. 2
- Homeowner discovers person in garage, traps woman there - pg. 3
- Bryant Sears named new **Emergency Director - pg. 4**
- Area News pg. 4 · Hemp insurance program

EARLY DEADLINE FOR NEXT WEEK'S CHRISTMAS ISSUE

The deadline for news/ads for the Lynn County News Christmas edition is:

2 pm Monday, Dec. 21

The Christmas edition will be mailed out on Tuesday, Dec. 22

Happy State Bank to acquire FNB Tahoka

Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas

(LCN PHOTO by JUANELL JONES)

In a joint statement, J. Pat Hickman, chairman of Happy State Bank, and Frederick B. Hegi, Jr., chairman of First National Bank of Tahoka, announced that Happy State Bank is acquiring, through a merger, First National Bank of Tahoka. The bank holds approximately \$56 million in total assets and has one location in Tahoka.

"We are very excited about expanding the Happy footprint further into the South Plains," said Hickman. "FNB Tahoka is a great bank with great bankers. They care about and serve their community so very well. We look forward to building on their great reputation."

The Hegi family has been actively involved with the bank and community for the past 91 years," commented Hegi. "Given our roots in Lynn County and those of the other bank directors, it was very important to turn the ownership over to an organization who also has deep West Texas roots and is actively involved in the agricultural industry. Happy State Bank and its leadership have a great respect for the industry and demonstrate a strong desire



FNB to change hands ... After 113 years as an independent bank, First National Bank of Tahoka is going to merge with Happy State Bank, with the transaction expected to close in the coming months.

to support local schools, hospitals, farmers and small businesses. We could not be more pleased."

A Hometown Christmas! The Christmas spirit was full of joy for citizens who gathered on Main Street in downtown Tahoka Saturday night, for the Hometown Christmas Festival. More than 300 participants attended for an evening of fun, food, entertainment,

shopping and a drive-by from Santa.

Serving Lynn County since 1903

Happy State Bank President and CEO Mikel Williamson added, "Tahoka is such a great community, and this is a fantastic opportunity for both banks. We can't wait to welcome FNB Tahoka and its customers to the Happy family."

"During my tenure as president of First National Bank of Tahoka, I have watched Happy State Bank grow from humble beginnings to a strong, highly respected organization with a presence throughout the Panhandle and beyond," said John

Krey, president of First National Bank of Tahoka. "Every community in which Happy State Bank is located has benefited from its leadership and community support. With its size and strong capital position, Happy State Bank will be able to bring products and services not previously available to our customers in Tahoka and all of Lynn County, which needs and deserves the best. Continue to look for those familiar faces when you visit the bank."

As a result of the transaction, Happy will assume First National Bank of Tahoka's approximately \$12 million in loans and \$50 million

in deposits, increasing its total assets to roughly \$5.6 billion and growing its location count to 61 branches in 45 Texas communities. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2021, pending bank regulatory and shareholder approval.

email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

Happy State Bank was founded in 1908 in Happy, Texas and today is headquartered in Amarillo. Happy State Bank offers a broad range of financial services and products through its current network of bank branches in 45 communities across the Texas Panhandle, South Plains, Austin, Central Texas and the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

COVID UPDATE:

DEC. 14 SPPHD UPDATE:

The South Plains Public Health District provided the following information of COVID-19 cases:

Lynn County total cases: 462 (27 new cases confirmed) 88 Active - 370 Recovered - 4 Deaths

What's

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Dec 8	72	35	
Dec 9	76	33	0.06"
Dec 10	76	32	
Dec 11	62	28	
Dec 12	53	27	
Dec 13	42	22	
Dec 14	50	20	

on date reported, for the previous 24-hr period) **Total Precip for Jan:** 0.58" **Total Precip for Feb:** 0.48" **Total Precip for Mar** 2.56" 0.02" **Total Precip for Apr: Total Precip for May** 2.58 2.32" **Total Precip for June Total Precip for July:** 0.46" **Total Precip for Aug** 0.75" **Total Precip for Sept** 0.24" **Total Precip for Oct:** 0.77 **Total Precip for Nov:** 0.14 **Total Precip for Dec:** 0.06



One chapter ending ...

Susan Tipton retiring after 23 years as County Clerk

he is the keeper of county records, and has provided citizens with a wealth of information and overseen elections in the county for more than 23 years through her duties at the Lynn County Clerk's office. Now, however, Susan Tipton is ready for a new chapter in her life and is retiring at the end of 2020. Lynn County citizens are invited to a retirement reception in her honor on Monday, Dec. 28, from 2-4 p.m. in the County Courtroom (first floor) of the Lynn County Courthouse.

Tipton has served faithfully and with great dedication to her duties as the County Clerk as well as the Election Administrator for Lynn County, but prior to being elected to the position she also worked in other county offices, and actually has a total of 30 years of county

Prior to her employment with the county, Tipton worked for 10 years at Tahoka ISD, including 6 years as a Physical Education instruction in grades K-6, and 4 years as an instructional aide for Special Education and Title I. She also worked as a Teller for 2 years at Bluebonnet Savings and Loan.

She first began her service to the county on Jan. 1, 1991 in the

County Treasurer's office, where she served as Deputy Treasurer for Janet Porterfield for four years. She then transferred to the Tax Assessor/Collector's office and worked for Sherry Pearce for 18 months.

"At that time, County Clerk Ima Robinson wanted me to work for her, as she was retiring in June of 1997. I worked as her deputy for six months and then was appointed by the Commissioner's Court as the County Clerk," Tipton said.

"In 1998, I won my first election and have been blessed to be the Clerk for the last 23-1/2 years. Ms. Robinson told me to always greet everyone at the counter as they were there for a reason and this

(See TIPTON RETIRING, page 6)



10.96

Total Precip. for 2020:

you

Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.

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

PUBLISHER / NEWS EDITOR ADVERTISING MANAGER

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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 LUNCH MENU

December 21-25

Monday: Creamy mushroom steak, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots, pears

Tuesday: Turkey pot pie, corn, tossed salad, ambrosia Wednesday: Lasagna, garlic bread, brussel sprouts, pears Thursday & Friday: Closed for Christmas



bituaries



Edward Eugene Miller

Edward Eugene Miller of Coleman, Texas, passed away on Monday, December 7, 2020 at the age of 86. He was born September 30, 1934, in Tell, Childress County, Texas, the fourth of eight children to Roy Lee Miller and Eva Gertie (Lindsey) Miller. The family moved to Lynn County, Texas in 1938.

In 1954 Ed was climbing poles and installing telephones throughout the Tahoka, O'Donnell area. That was the year that he made the acquaintance of his future wife, Martha Pearl Cooley, of Dawson County, Texas. Ed installed a telephone in Pearl's house and since he did not have a telephone, he would climb a pole and hook up to the wires so he could talk to his future bride at night while they were dating. In September of that year, with their two best friends, they drove across the state line to Oklahoma, and were married in Hollis, Harmon County.

You are invited to a Retirement Reception honoring

Lynn County Clerk Susan Tipton

for her 23-1/2 years of service to Lynn County

2:00-4:00 p.m. Monday, December 28, 2020

in the County Courtroom of the Lynn County Courthouse

1501 South 1st Street • Tahoka, Texas

their youngest son Gregory Lee was born there in 1967. They were owners of Miller Electric, an oilfield service company, and in the mid-1970s, Miller Farm Services, an agricultural trucking company. Ed continued to run ily. Miller Farm Services until 2018.

Ed and Pearl were very blessed with the friendships they made working in the cotton hauling and grain harvest business over many years in West Texas and South Texas. In the early 1990s they purchased a small ranch in Coleman County and made their residence there for the rest of their lives.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Pearl and his siblings, R. L., Wilford, Jack, and J.T.

Those left to cherish Ed's memory are his son Gary Miller (wife Paula) of Midland, Texas; Jeana Miller Newman of Coleman, and Gregory Miller of Lakeway, Texas; his sisters, Sue Shill of Gruver, and Donna Brooks (husband Neely), of Tahoka, and his brother Milton Miller (wife Geneva), also of Tahoka. Ed is also survived by his grandchildren Vanessa Reitzer (husband Chris); Jonathan Adams (wife Brandy); . I. Austin Miller; Laken Miller; Shelby Newman and Hudson Miller, and by his greatgrandchildren Dylan Adams, Maxwell Adams, Gavin Adams, and Marley Miller.

Viewing was held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 12, 2020 at Stevens Funeral Home, 400 W. Pecan Street, Coleman, ther John Rathinam officiat-Ed and Pearl lived in Texas. There was also a view-Tahoka where their first child, ing from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 Gary Edward, was born in a.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at the 1955; Jeana Ruth followed in First Baptist Church, 1701 Av-1959. They relocated to Big enue K, Tahoka, Texas. Grave- 1968, in Slaton to the late Spring, Texas in 1965, and side services were held at 1:00 Elias Sr. and Gregoria Pani-

p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020 at Nevels Cemetery in Tahoka, Texas. Services are entrusted to Stevens Funeral Home in Coleman.

Remembrances, condolences, and messages of comfort can be expressed to the family at www.livingmemorials.com. Stevens Funeral Home is honored to serve the Miller fam-

To protect each other from the COVID-19 infection, we ask that you comply with the CDC Social Distancing Guidelines as well as Governor Greg Abbott's request that a face covering be utilized.

Funerals are currently a public event being held during the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic. When you attend a public event, you are acknowledging risk of ex-



Elias Paniagua

Viewing and visitation for Elias Paniagua Jr., 52, of Tahoka was held Thursday, December 10, 2020 with a rosary at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Calvillo Funeral Home. Graveside services were held at 12:00 p.m., Friday, December 11, 2020 at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park with Faing. Mr. Paniagua was called to be with the Lord, Sunday,

December 6, 2020. He was born on July 21, agua. He married Luz Martinez on February 13, 2010 in Lubbock. Elias was Catholic. He enjoyed cooking, espe cially when it came to bar-bqueuing. Listening to Tejano music and working on cars were things he enjoyed in his spare time. However, Elias's greatest joy in life was spending time with his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents Elias Sr. and

Gregoria Paniagua. Survivors include his wife Luz M. Paniagua; two sons Jediah Velasquez and Julian Villa both of Tahoka; eight daughters Melissa Paniagua, Laura Paniagua and Elia Paniagua, all of Lubbock, Andreana Martinez, Juliana Juarez and Koriana Juarez, all quez and Abrianna Velasquez of Dallas; six grandchildren.

Tahoka ISD to provide Covid-19 rapid testing for students, staff Independent of 98.5%. These tests are sig-Tahoka School District now has the nificantly more accurate than

Christmas tunes ... Sawyer May, daughter of Slate

and Kaci May, sang a couple of fun Christmas songs for the

crowd that gathered for the Hometown Christmas Festival in

capability to provide rapid the previous generation of testing for COVID-19 for rapid antigen tests, according staff and students on campus to information provided to the here. Superintendent Dick school district. Van Hoose said that the free testing will be administered to students that attend onby the school nurse for those campus instruction and to the who may be exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.

downtown Tahoka Saturday night.

a program with the Texas Education Agency with a focus under 18 years of age. There on health and safety to help is no charge for testing. The keep schools safe and open tests are administered by the for on-campus instruction by strategically deploying rapid ley," he explained. COVID testing resources," said Supt. Van Hoose.

"School systems are provided flexibility to use Abbott provided by the state and federal government. Schools can use the tests as an additional screening tool in some cases to prevent the virus from coming on campus and to respond quickly by removing an individual before they can spread COVID on campus," he added.

The test kits are administered with a nasal swab (to the shallow front of the nostrils only) and have a result within 15 minutes. According to the superintendent, an analysis showed that the BinaxNOW test has a sensitivity (true positive rate) of 97.1% and a specificity (true negative rate)

both of Tahoka; four brothers Pete Paniagua and Sam Paniagua, both of Lubbock, Marcelino Paniagua of Lansing, of Big Springs, Mireya Velas- Michigan and Jesse Paniagua

(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

"The tests are available district employees," explained Supt. Van Hoose. "These tests "Tahoka ISD entered into are optional and require a consent form for any student school nurse, RN Kirby Hat-

"Should parents need more information about testing, please contact the nurse at the Tahoka Elementary Laboratories Binax NOW tests campus," the superintendent



Take me home! ... This is one of the dogs available for adoption at the Tahoka Animal Shelter, which is offering free adoption through the end of the year.

Free dog/cat adoptions at local shelter

The Tahoka Animal Shelter will offer free adoptions for cats and dogs from now until Jan. 1, for anyone wanting to adopt a pet. The adoption will include a voucher to have the animal spayed or neutered at no cost to the adoption family.

If interested, call the Tahoka Animal Shelter at 806-201-2894 for more information.

Save a life for Christmas!

Lynn County Eagle of Honor Dedicated September 11, 2019 Lynn County Courthouse Grounds, Tahoka, Tx.

Please consider the Lynn County Eagle of Honor/ **Veterans Memorial for your** year-end giving to help purchase flags to be flown year round and also help with flowers for memorial holidays. Donations can be made to the Eagle of Honor Project at FirstBank & Trust, P.O. Box 1550, Tahoka, TX. 79373.

Your donation is greatly appreciated and please continue praying for our Veterans, our active duty/ reserve's and our Country.



Phebe K Warner Calendars

Get your 2021 Commemorative Calendar featuring photos of the historical renovation of the Lynn County Courthouse \$10 each Call or text Suzanne Baker at 806-577-3059 to get by mail or pick one up at these

locations: Lynn County Courthouse, Lynn County News, Tahoka Drug, Tahoka City Hall, City/ County Library, and The Home Place in Tahoka

LynnCoN

by JUAN that son rage an until lay could a dence in end. At

Dec. 12 9-1-1 8 Sheriff said th person, like a his gara on CR had shu locked the gar the inc the per would which Two d scene, withou damag reporte De

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Homeowner discovers person in garage, traps woman there until officers arrive

rage and trapped them there until law enforcement officers

At 9:46 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, a homeowner called 9-1-1 at the Lynn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) and tion. said that he could hear one like a female, coming from his garage in a rural residence on CR 6. He reported that he had shut the garage door and locked the door that led from the garage to the house to trap the person inside the garage would have access to his shop which contained his guns. reported.

Deer on the road were the cause of two traffic accidents in the county last week.

A homeowner discovered 9 to LCSO reported they had that someone was in their ga- just struck a deer in a Ford Focus on US 380 and CR O. The vehicle required towing, and could arrive, at a rural resi- a LCSO deputy provided the dence in the county last week- three adults in the vehicle a ride to the Terry County line, and assisting motorists. where a Terry County deputy

The next morning, at 9:27 person, whose voice sounded a.m. Dec. 10, a van was reported in the median a couple miles south of Tahoka on US 87. Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept., Lynn County EMS, and were reported and the vehicle was towed from the scene.

A caller told LCSO that scene, and arrested the female door and yelling at the callwithout incident. No property er's residence on FM 1317 at County warrant. Michael B. the location. Fillingim, 44, was arrested on

A caller at 11:20 p.m. Dec. a second-degree felony warrant for Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

> Other calls during the week involved welfare concerns, reports of reckless drivers, domestic disturbances,

Tahoka Police responded picked them up to assist in to a domestic disturbance in getting them to their destina- the 1100 block of N. 7th at 5:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, and after receiving a consent to search at the scene they arrested 24-year-old Isiah Vega. Several charges were pending on Tuesday morning, including felony charges of two THC LCSO all arrived at the scene, vape pens, assault domestic, and discovered that the van criminal mischief, possession the individual, but said that had struck a deer. No injuries of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and endangerment to children.

A man was criminally Two deputies arrived at the his son was banging on his trespassed from entering the arrested the son on a Lynn ment with another person at

Police responded to the



FNB gives to senior citizens ... As part of "Giving Tuesday," a global movement that inspires generosity, First National Bank of Tahoka is donating \$1000 to the Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center. Pictured here are Abel Castro from FNB, and Sandra Norwood, from the Senior Citizens Center. The Senior Citizens Center provides healthy noon meals on weekdays for senior citizens in Lynn County, available either by curbside pickup or by delivery. "Giving Tuesday" was created in 2012 as a day that encourages people to do good.

1700 block of N. 4th and Ave. L at 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, to assist with traffic con-Allsup's convenience store trol while the Tahoka Volunin Tahoka on Dec 10, at the teer Fire Dept. responded to damage or missing items were 1:55 a.m. Dec. 10, and after request of a store employee, a report of possible smoke some investigating deputies after he was involved in argu- coming from the attic of a residence. According to Fire Chief Bryan Reynolds, an electrical short had caused a small fire to start smoldering in the attic, and the VFD

> Police responded to several other calls during the week, including a man reporting a female stalking him, civil matters, welfare concerns, assisting EMS, domestic disturbances, and phone call harassment/scam.

quickly extinguished the fire.

Current charges for those incarcerated at Lynn County Jail during the past week included one for tamper/fabricate physical evidence, one for assault with a deadly weapon, one for possession of marijuana, one for driving while intoxicated, and one for public

intoxication.

Two from area make **ASU Dean's List**

Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, has announced the students achieving the Dean's List designation for the 2020 fall semester, including two from Lynn County - Colbin Briley, and Mi-Jeanne Van Der Bank, both of O'Donnell.

To be eligible for the ASU Dean's List, full-time undergraduate students must maintain a 3.25 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Angelo State University, founded in 1928, is a thriving four-year public school in Texas, and is part of the Texas Tech University System with campuses across the state.



Lady Bulldogs get 53-33 win

The Tahoka High School Lady Bulldogs had four players scoring in double figures in last Tuesday night's 53-33 win over Patton Springs, hosted here.

Top scorer for Tahoka was Marisol Morin with 16 points. Brooklyn Harris added 11 points, and Zoie Garvin and Kaycee Swinford each had 10 points for the night.

"I am extremely proud of the way the girls came out and played. We finally were able to put it all together defensively and offensively. Still things to clean up and improve on, but this game shows what these girls are capable of. Excited to see them build off of this win," said Coach Jared Alderson.

The Lady Bulldogs played at Hale Center on Friday, Dec. 11, with Hale Center winning 85-34. Kaycee Swinford led scoring with 11 points, and Brooklyn Harris had 10.

"We played hard, but just let pressure get to us and dug too deep of a hole to climb out of at any point. Definitely a lesson learned for a young team still coming together and learning," said the coach.

On Saturday, Dec. 12, the Lady Bulldogs played Lamesa, who won 44-31. Zoie Garvin had 11 points to lead scoring for Tahoka, and Brooklyn Harris added 9.

"I couldn't be more proud of the way the girls bounced back from a rough night in Hale Center the night before. This is one of the best games the girls have played, just fell short on our free throws that could have drastically changed this outcome. This team plays extremely hard for four quarters, regardless of the situation. That is going to serve us well for this final stretch before Christmas Break and into District play," said Coach Alderson.

Tahoka was scheduled to play at Lorenzo on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and then will host Slaton on Dec. 18 and Olton on Dec. 19, and travel to New Deal on Dec. 21.



In appreciation ... Board members of the Tahoka Economic Development Corporation presented Bill Schoeman a plaque in appreciation of his work over the past 3 years as chairman of the TEDC Board. Those present were (left to right) Joe Craig, Monica Stephens, Bill Schoeman, David Partlow, Heather Jester, and Al Garrett, (not pictured is Ray Box). Mr. Garrett was elected as the new Chairman of TEDC.

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These local firms are sponsoring this **FARM NEWS:**

AgTexas Farm Credit Services Travis Ferguson and Mike Metzig

Capital Farm Credit

Farmers Co-op Association No. 1

FirstBank & Trust Karl McDonald

Lynn County Farm Bureau

Lynn County Area Gins

BALE COUNT (reported 12-15-20)

Texas Star Coop Gin66,09	98
New Home Coop, Lakeview 45,96	69
Wells Coop Gin 22,13	15
Farmers Coop #1, Tahoka . 15,1	79
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell 11,9	10
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell 10,25	55
Garlyn Gin5,84	40
TOTAL BALES 177,36	56

Did you know?

The cruise liner, QE2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.

The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.

The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).

There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."

Bryant Sears named new Emergency Director for county, and Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

by JUANELL JONES

Bryant Sears has been named the new Emergency Management Director of Lynn County, and will also serve as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer here. Lynn County Commissioners took unanimous action to appoint Sears to head the emergency management office for Lynn County, during Monday morning's regular session held at the courthouse. Sears was appointed Chief Juvenile Probation Officer by the Lynn County Juvenile Board on Dec. 1, with a tentative start date of Jan. 4.

He was also appointed to serve on the Criminal Justice Advisory Council as a board member at the South Plains Association of Government.

Sears is coming to Tahoka from Morton, where he has served as Cochran County's Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for the past 16 years, since 2004. Prior to his position there, he served as Chaplain at Girls Town. He earned his bachelor's degree

for 30 years, earning his at degree **Baptist** Theological Seminary, and serving as a youth minister and pastor in various locations. He and his wife Shirley will be moving to

Tahoka for the position here.

"I am looking forward to being a part of the community in Tahoka," Sears told The News. "This feels like home to me. I love the community atmosphere, and this is just a good opportunity for me to help serve the community as the emergency management director, as well as working with juveniles in the probation

Sears is filling both positions here due to the retirement of Bill Schoemann. Commissioners accepted Shoemann's resignation at Monday's meeting as well.

other business, commissioners approved the installation of a fiber optic line for the Lynn County Show

at Tarleton State University, Barn, for internet service to and has also been a minister the facility, since it is likely that this year's county stock Southwestern show sale will be a virtual online sale due to Covid-19 precautions.

Commissioners

awarded the committee's recommendation for a certified engineer/engineering for the 2021-22 Community Development Fund Grant (CDBG) application to the Texas Dept. of Agriculture, for water.

Sheriff Wanda Mason reported on her department's activities, and commissioners approved updates to interlocal with agreements counties for housing inmates.

Monthly bills approved, and the session adjourned at 10:20 a.m. County Judge Mike Braddock led the meeting, with all four commissioners present including Matt Woodley, John Hawthorne, Don Blair and Larry Durham, as well as other county officials.



Gold Star award... Braxton Beck was recognized at the District 2 Gold Star Banquet on November 23, 2020. Braxton has been a member of Lynn County 4-H for 7 years and a county ambassador since 2019. He has participated in robotics since 2nd grade and was crowned Grand Champion Junior Robotics team at the 2018 State Fair of Texas with his brothers. He also competes in food and nutrition, consumer decision making, and various speaking events, and he loves serving others at Carpenter's Kitchen. He enjoys farming in real life and virtually, and he wants to be a farmer one day. He is a sophomore at New Home ISD and is the son of Andy and Lyneil Beck.

AREA NEWS

Hemp insurance program expanded to include Texas

LAMESA - Hemp growers in Texas will soon be eligible for Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The federal agency recently announced it is expanding the pilot hemp MPCI program to several more states, including Texas. The expansion and other improvements to the plan are effective for the

Through MPCI, farmers are covered against loss of yield on hemp grown for fiber, grain or cannabidiol (CBD) oil.

Eligible farmers must have at least one year of history producing the crop and have a contract for the sale of the insured hemp. In addition, the minimum acreage requirement is five acres for CBD and 20 acres for grain and fiber. Hemp does not qualify for replant payments or prevented

plant payments under MPCI

- from the Lamesa Press-Reporter

Bulldogs get three in win column

The Tahoka Bulldogs added three wins to their record during the past week, beating Patton Springs, Hale Center, and Lubbock Homeschool Titans.

Last Tuesday, Dec. 8, Tahoka outscored Patton Springs to win 48-34, with Jonathan Renteria leading scoring with 12, and Branyn Fluellen adding 10 for the night. Rebounding leaders were Bryson Stone with 10, and Cason Resendez 8.

"The game against Wilson was a good game to help us get our legs back under us after a long twoweek break while the entire school was in quarantine. We hustled and played good enough defense to hold them to 34 points while out rebounding them 37 to 26," said Coach Lonnie Burnam.

"On Friday, Dec. 11, the Dogs traveled to Hale Center where we had to elevate our play against a tough team. The Bulldogs prevailed by a score of 40-36. It was a close game the entire time and the Bulldogs continued to fight and scratch our way to the

win column." said the coach. Scoring leaders the Bulldogs were Cason Resendez 15, Branyn Fluellen 8, and Bryson Stone 7. Cason Resendez also led the team in rebounds with 9.

"On Saturday, Bulldogs played a home game against the always tough Lubbock Homeschool Titans, here in Tahoka. The Bulldogs came away with our third win in a row, beating the Titans 55-50," said Coach Burnam.

Cason Resendez led the scoring with 18, and Branyn Fluellen had 10. Rebounding leaders for the Bulldogs were Branyn Fluellen 9, and Jonathan Renteria 8

"At the end of the week the Bulldogs are showing great improvement while realizing the need for continued improvement to get to the point that will allow us to make a playoff run. The team is ready, willing and able to make their mark and add to the great tradition of Tahoka Bulldog Basketball," said the coach.

All clinics will be closed Christmas Day. Emergency room open 24 Hours

st Track Clinic

"For when you need to be seen today"

Monday-Friday 7:00 AM-6:00 PM No appointment needed

2600 Lockwood · Suite C Tahoka

806-561-4802

Healthcare closef to

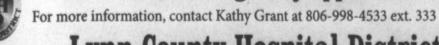
HMME

You can give a gift that will keep on giving ... now and for generations to come.



A Foundation gift is a permanent investment benefitting Lynn County Hospital District. The LCHD Foundation, created in 2018, is a 501c3 designated fund that will enhance Lynn County communities and citizens and their medical needs at Lynn County Hospital District. Please consider the LCHD Foundation for your year-end giving.

Donations can be made to the LCHD Foundation at P.O. Box 1310, Tahoka, TX. 79373. Your donation is greatly appreciated.



Healthcare

HOME

Lynn County Hospital District 2600 Lockwood, Tahoka • 998-4533

Family Wellness Clinic

1809 LOCKWOOD · Tahoka CLINIC HOURS: MON.- THURS. & FRI. • 8:00 -5:00 TUES. - WEDS. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. SATURDAY CLINIC 8:00-NOON

Shannon Hammonds FNP-C Dr. Jarrett Ross MD

Anais Molina FNP-C **Christopher Leach MD**

For appointment call 806-998-4604

709 4th Street in O'Donnell • 806-428-3211 Clinic Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00-5:00

GRIENGSAK CHOWPAKNAM MD, MBA, FAAP

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Call 561-4888 by NOON Tuesday

DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ADS IS NOON TUESDAYS

NOTICE

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY **INTO FIELDS**

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Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code. Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the Southern High Plains Caprock Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of Andrews, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Garza, Hockley, Howard, Kent, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum Counties and portions of Borden and Midland Counties hereby notified are that Texas Boll Weevil **Eradication Foundation** personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning December 21, 2020.

All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry treatment expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone.

risk, To mitigate beekeepers should notify the Foundation of beehive locations near cotton fields. The Foundation will monitor treatments in these locations where bees are present to ensure the security of hives.

For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas **Boll Weevil Eradication** Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

Phebe K Warner Calendars

Get your 2021 Commemorative Calendar featuring photos of the historical renovation of the **Lynn County** Courthouse \$10 each Call or text Suzanne Baker at 806-577-3059 to get by mail

locations: Lynn County Courthouse, Lynn County News, Tahoka Drug, Tahoka City Hall, City/ County Library, and The Home Place in Tahoka

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on Nov. 9, 2020

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FEB. 7, 2021

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Anyone who burns

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for the offense of "Violate

County Order-Burn Ban".

CARD OF THANKS

for the calls, texts, and messages for the loss of our love one, Porfirio Garcia. He was definitely one-of-a-kind and a special husband, dad, and grandpa to each one of us. We will definitely cherish the moments and the memories we spent with him. We would especially like to thank Combest Funeral Home & staff, Father John of St. Jude Catholic Church, the Lady of Guadalupanas of St. Jude Catholic Church for Rosary service, Sherry Tilley, Pam Miller for the casseroles, Larry Hagood, Mike & Julia Allen, Manuel & Carmen Arriazola, Johnny & Mary Antu, Simon Peter García & family, Lyntegar Electric Co for the flowers, and especially Jon Luna & staff for the wonderful meal prepared for after the service. This last week has been difficult but with continued prayers, we will soon find comfort in our loss.

Once again, thank you for everything.

Love The Garcia Family Lola Garcia. Manuel & Alicia Garcia. Paul & Louisa Bernal, David & Susie Garcia, Jesus & Melanie Moya & the rest of the grandchildren.

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Susan Tipton retiring ...

(Continued from page 1)

was their Courthouse. This has always been our motto. I have been lucky to have one Chief Deputy, Lessia Clem, throughout the years. She went to work for me the day I took office and has been with me all these years. I cannot believe she has put up with me all this time!" said Tipton with a laugh.

She has seen many changes, mostly due to the onset of computerized processing, and has met many citizens of the county through her office.

"We got our first computer in 1998 and began entering our daily work on software. We recently had to go paperless as we have run out of space. We now have work stations for the public and can print off any document they want to purchase," she explained.

"I have met so many wonderful people in Lynn County and consider them as family. New Home, Wilson, O'Donnell and Tahoka citizens are the best around. Working with their city and school leaders has enabled me to reach out at any time and ask for help if needed. I am very proud of the working relationship my office has with each entity in Lynn County," said Tipton.

She recalls that during her early years that there were two people whom she believes influenced her the most while serving as Lynn County Clerk - County Judge J.F. Brandon and Attorney Harold Green.

"They were both honest and forthright with me whenever I needed advice. I knew they would not sugar-coat the answer I was searching for. I went to them many times for answers and will always respect them and their place in Lynn County," she stated.

Serving as the Election Administrator for Lynn County involved many long hours in addition to her duties as county clerk, making sure the ballots were ordered and ready for all general elections held in the county, and officiating over ballots by mail, overseeing election officials at all polling locations, and all other election issues. In many cases, her office also handled the Early Voting process not only for general elections, but also for some city and school elections as well. On Election Day each year, her day started very early to ensure that all polling locations in the county were prepared for the 12-hour voting day, and ensuring that all ballots were tallied after the polls closed.

The 2020 election year, with the impact of Covid-19 safety precautions, was a difficult year in particular, she said.

"Having done elections for the last 23-1/2 years is a job I probably will not miss. The 'hanging chads' were nothing compared to what is happening in 2020," stated Tipton.

"Most of the elections were calm and unremarkable. As Election Administrator I never stated my personal choice and I asked my staff to do the same. I felt that we needed to be unbiased and keep our opinions to ourselves so the people would trust us to do our best job. It is a huge responsibility and took up 60% of our time during elections.

"The best thing to come out of doing elections is to meet all the voters that came to early vote and put faces to their names. Again, we have the best people right here in Lynn County! I cannot praise my election workers enough. This year was the hardest. They were all troopers and did their best. Thanks to grants received by the county, my workers were well prepared to meet the public during this 2020 election," she stated.

She was also dedicated to educating the public about election laws and voting process, and volunteered through civic organizations and school settings to share such informa-

"Through my membership in Rotary and visiting schools, I was able to inform more people about the voting process. Voting is the basis of our democracy and everyone needs to exercise their right to vote," she stated.

She does recall some of the humorous moments that she was willing to share.

"I remember once we were having trouble with the elevator. Judge Brandon asked me to go up to the second floor and send the elevator down to the first. I jumped on the elevator to ride it down, not realizing he was cutting it off. I was stuck there for about 15 minutes before they figured out where I was - not fun for someone with mild claustrophobia! However, the Judge got a good laugh!" she said with a smile.

Then there was the season of the bat invasion of the

"In the early 2000's we had bats nesting on the third floor. They built a nest on the first floor near my office and would swarm down from the upper floors every morning and evening. I carried a badminton racket around to keep them from my head. They terrified me! Each evening they would swarm toward the North doors thinking they were open to go outside and then fly around the courthouse. After they were gone we had owls roosting on the top of the courthouse. They always left something on the sidewalks for us each morning! Ugh!" she remembers with a wry smile.

When the oil and gas boom struck in 2011-2013, the courthouse was a very busy place, inundated with landmen seeking property information.

"I met many interesting land people. This was a very busy time for our office. We told them about our courthouse ghost 'Sarah,' and anytime something went wrong, Sarah was blamed for it. Some believed she would flip pages and leave messages for them," she said with a grin.

Tipton said she will miss the people at the courthouse, and greeting citizens and others, but she encourages all citizens to visit the Lynn County Courthouse.

"I am so proud of our community and the wonderful people who make up Lynn County. I take it very seriously to be the keeper of all the history for Lynn County in all the documents that are filed in my office. I would encourage everyone to visit and see what each office does on a daily basis. After all, the citizens own



Checking the records ... County Clerk Susan Tipton has spent years as the keeper of the county records. She is pictured above, in 2012, and below with Chief Deputy Clerk Lessia Clem in 2003.



the ones that put us into office. Please know that our doors are always open for you to come

"I have been blessed to work with great Commissioners through my years of service. They have to make tough decisions and some are not always favorable, but they always consider what is best for the citizens and employees of Lynn County," she said.

"Growing up, my Mom was my biggest cheerleader! She always encouraged me to tackle any job and give it my best. She said to ask questions so you could learn more. That is what I have encouraged my staff to do as well as any customer. No question is dumb it just shows you want to learn

"I cannot wait to see what God has in store for me. I am excited but sad. This has been a huge part of my life for a very long time. I am very confident that Karen Stickland (whom commissioners appointed to

this Courthouse and you are fill the County Clerk position when Tipton retires) will do an awesome job and with Lessia Clem beside her to guide her along. Go introduce yourself and visit the Courthouse. It belongs to you! God Bless!," Tipton said.

Note: There may be last-minute cancellations and changes, from these schedules.

Dec. - opponent, JVG, JVB, VG, VB

19 - Lbk Titans, VB 1:00

21 - at New Deal, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30 **New Home**

18 - Ralls, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00 19 - at Farwell, JVG 10:00, VG 11:15

O'Donnell

18 - at Grady, G 6:30 18 - at Coahoma, bB 5:30

19 - Garden City, bGB 2:00

21 - at Sands, bB 12:00

18 - Southcrest, VG, VB 6 pm



Up in The Air ... Reagan Fiedler (#30 for New Home) catches an inbound pass late in the game to preserve the win against Littlefield at the New Home gym this past Saturday. The NH Leopards took the win, 55-50, over the Wildcats. (LCN PHOTO by Gary Jones)

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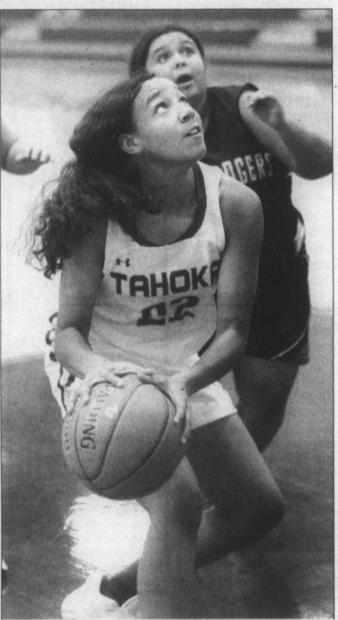
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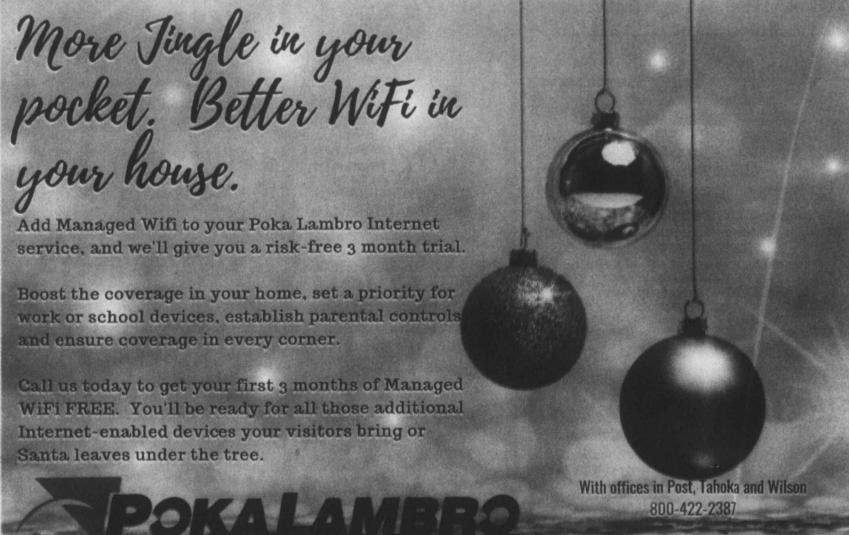
Dec 17

Dec 20



Intensity ... Brooklyn Harris (#22) looks to put a shot up under the goal for the Lady Bulldogs, in last Tuesday's hoop action hosting Patton Springs. Brooklyn, a freshman, scored 11 points, and was one of four Lady Bulldogs scoring in double figures for the 53-33 win. (LCN PHOTO by Gary Jones)

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