

LYNN COUNTY COURTHOUSE



Courthouse built in 1918

# THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2011 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 45

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011

6 PAGES PLUS INSERT

50¢

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## Book Sale to begin Nov. 14

The City/County Library Book Sale will be held Nov. 14-19, according to Director Claudia Guin. The Book Sale will offer many items for 25-cents, and will be located in the small room adjacent to the library inside the Life Enrichment Center.

## Lynn County Area BALE COUNT

(reported 11-8-11)

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union.....	18,541
New Home Coop, Lakeview.....	14,124
Wells Coop Gin.....	7,361
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell.....	5,436
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell.....	1,919
Grassland Coop Gin.....	986
Close City Gin, Post.....	293
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>48,660</b>

## Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov. 2	60	51	
Nov. 3	57	29	(1st Freeze)
Nov. 4	66	28	
Nov. 5	76	35	
Nov. 6	72	41	
Nov. 7	78	41	0.17"
Nov. 8	61	41	

Precipitation for Jan:	0.01"
Precipitation for Feb:	0.66"
Precipitation for Mar:	0.07"
Precipitation for Apr:	0.00"
Precipitation for May:	0.05"
Precipitation for June:	0.30"
Precipitation for July:	0.21"
Precipitation for Aug:	0.53"
Precipitation for Sept:	1.08"
Precipitation for Oct:	0.85"
<b>Total Precip. for 2011:</b>	<b>3.76"</b>

## Lynn County News

P.O. Box 1170 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
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[LynnCoNews@poka.com](mailto:LynnCoNews@poka.com)

News Office: 1617 Main Street  
in Tahoka

Open Monday - Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
(Open During Lunch Hour)

CLOSED FRIDAYS  
(Drop Box available by front door)

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays



## Liggins to run at State cross country meet

Tahoka High School senior Brittney Liggins qualified for the UIL State Cross Country Meet last weekend, after taking 8th place in the Regional cross country girls two-mile event with a time of 12:48. She advances to the state meet this Saturday, and is scheduled to run at 11:40 a.m. at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock.

Liggins, daughter of John and Joey Miller of Tahoka, is familiar with state competitions, taking a 3rd and 4th place medal in the UIL Class 1A State Track Meet in Austin last spring, in the 300m and 100m hurdles. She is apparently a good long-distance runner as well, as she heads to the State Cross Country Meet this weekend.

Liggins placed second in district to advance to the regional meet.



BRITTNEY LIGGINS

Two other THS cross country athletes, Paige Rossiter and Kordell Baker, also competed in the regional cross country event, but did not advance to the state competition in Round Rock.

## woodwork

by dalton wood



LAST WEEKEND was the semi-annual transition from one time to another, but although I am several days late, it's still not too late for my usual pitch for the state government to quit changing the stupid clocks twice a year, and just leave it one way or the other.

The Texas Legislature has ignored my suggestion for several years, so I doubt they will do anything so sensible any time soon. But it would sure be nice not to have to mess with our clocks twice a year for no valid reason that I can think of. It originally was set up to save daylight time (and, I suppose, more electric power) during World War II, an ancient conflict fought during the youth of people now mostly deceased or writing newspaper columns.

I just wish they would leave it alone, and I don't really care if it stays on standard or daylight time. An alternative would be to move to Arizona, which stays on the same time all year.

Actually, I wish some kind of law would be passed allowing everyone (who wants the option) to set the clock back 40 years, when life was better for most of us (at least health-wise), except maybe for those who would not yet be born.

Okay, so we had our chance and mostly blew it. But I still wish the government would leave our clocks alone.

I may ask the Lynn County commissioners to pass an ordinance making the official time in the county just 30 minutes earlier than it was before last Sunday.

That kind of ordinance would probably get us mentioned on Good Morning America.

...

FLAW IN the Woodwork: Since the above paragraphs were first written, I saw on TV that Daylight Savings Time actually started during World War I. That's even further back than I can remember. Wasn't that the war that James Cagney danced around in? For those who don't recognize the name of Cagney, he was a movie star who played George M. Cohen in *Yankee Doodle Dandy*. Ask your parents or consult Google.

## Nine suspects named in recent indictments

Nine persons recently indicted by 106th District grand juries have reported in to the Lynn County sheriff's department, and have either posted bond or remain in jail on felony charges. Included are:

Joseph Paul Vega, 20, Tahoka, charged with tampering with or fabricating physical evidence/possession of a controlled substance.

John Bogle, 44, and Shawn Parks, 40, both of Lubbock, both charged with theft of copper (or alloy) tubing.

Marcus Dwayne Ford, 33, Lubbock, driving while intoxicated with a child passenger.

Antonio Hernandez, 32, O'Donnell, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.

Jimmy Don Porterfield, 50, Tahoka, DWI third offense or more.

Brett Gibson, 37, Post, DWI second offense or more.

Melissa Ramirez, 38, Tahoka, credit card abuse.

Sheila May, 41, Midland, forgery of a financial instrument.

Sheriff's officers this week were

investigating reports of a burglary and a theft.

On Nov. 3 a residence northeast of Wilson, just inside the county line, was burglarized, with a kiln worth \$1,000 the most valuable item stolen. Also missing were gold-plated silverware valued at \$100, and an air compressor and jewelry box for which no value was estimated. Entry was gained by kicking in a door.

A fence charger valued at \$650 was reported on Nov. 4 as stolen from a pasture northwest of Tahoka. The owner lives west of Wilson.

A Tahoka woman last week filed a complaint with police against her former employer, alleging that he cursed her in front of customers and other employees. The complaint was sent to Tahoka Municipal Court.

Last Wednesday Halee Brewer of Tahoka advised police that the tail light on her 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe had been broken out by persons unknown to her. Police who viewed the damage also were unable to determine when and where the light was broken.

## Candidate filing period delayed; now set for Nov. 28-Dec. 15

The filing period for candidates interested in filing for the Republican and Democratic Primaries, including six Lynn County offices, has been delayed from the original opening date of Nov. 12, and is now set to open on Monday, Nov. 28, according to information received this week from the Lynn County Clerk's Office. Not only is the filing date delayed (originally set Nov. 12-Dec. 12), but the time period is actually shortened by about a week, now set for Nov. 28-Dec. 15.

The filing date was changed last Friday, Nov. 4, when a three-judge panel in San Antonio issued an order that significantly alters deadlines for candidate filing and other county election procedures for the upcoming March 2012 primary elections.

Although the court order is the result of legal challenges to Texas' legislative and congressional redistricting plans adopted by the 82nd Legislature earlier this year, it affects county offices as well. There are numerous plaintiffs in the ongoing case, Shannon Perez et al. vs. State of Texas.

Local county offices on the ballot in the March Primary elections include

the positions of Sheriff, County Attorney, Tax Assessor/Collector, and Commissioners for Precincts 1 and 3, as well as the unexpired term for County Treasurer. Filing fee is \$750. Potential candidates must first come to the Lynn County Clerk's office to file their appointment of a campaign treasurer, and then must file as a candidate for the office with: the respective county party chairman of the party in which they choose to run. The Lynn County Republican Party Chairman is John Baker, phone 789-1257, and the Lynn County Democratic Party Chairman is Rosalinda Gutierrez, phone 561-2233 or 559-5258. Terms of office for county offices are for four years, and the unexpired term for treasurer is for two years.

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

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

## STATE MARCHING CONTEST



The Tahoka 3-D Band was named 10th in the State UIL Class 1A Marching Contest, pictured performing here during Monday morning's preliminary round at San Antonio's Alamodome. The 10th place ranking did not earn a berth in the state finals competition that night. The Tahoka High School Band, under the direction of Carroll Rhodes and Johnathan Smith, has earned several marching trophies on their way to the state contest, including third place at Area UIL Marching Contest, Superior at the Region 16 UIL Marching Contest and Plainview Outstanding Festival, and Outstanding 1A Band at the Lubbock Marching Festival.



State Contest Photos by Rachel Lehman



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

**Put us to work ...** The Tahoka First Baptist Church Middle School Youth Group is seeking odd jobs in an effort to raise funds to provide Christmas gifts for the incarcerated at the Post Unit Youth Detention Center. Pictured here from left are, leaders Brenda and Shi Dotson, Ian Cobb, Braden Cook, Colton Stice, Alfredo Martinez, Johnny Rosas, Trace Cook, Isaac Arriazola, Jared Green and leader, Seth Hawthorne. Other youth included in the group but not pictured are Slade Brown, Grant Tekell, Christian Aleman, Britt Lockaby, Chris Earnest, Hadley Reynolds and Grant Garvin. For more information, contact the group's leaders, Brenda and Shi Dotson at 806-998-4364 or Seth Hawthorne at 806-789-2642.

### FBC youth group seeks odd jobs to raise funds

The First Baptist Church Middle School (7th and 8th grade boys) Youth Group is looking for odd jobs on a mission to provide a gift for each of the 60 youth that are incarcerated in the Post Unit Youth Detention Center. The FBC youth are looking for any kind of work including raking leaves to cleaning up alleyways to mowing lawns.

"We don't want the donations to be given to us, we want to work for it and earn the money," said Alfredo Martinez, an active youth member.

The deadline to earn money for their mission is December 11, to allow enough time for them to go shopping and to put the Christmas Packets together. The Youth Group will deliver the packets themselves to the Post Unit as part of their mission.

"These boys are eager to work and be able to reach out to the youth in Post," said one of their leaders.

Please contact Youth Leaders, Shi and Brenda Dotson at 806-998-4364, leave message if no answer, or Seth Hawthorne at 806-789-2642, for any odd jobs for the group.

### Phebe K. Warner CLUB NEWS

Phebe K. Warner Club met Oct. 25 at the home of Pat Park with Bennie Carter and Cindy Leverett co-hosting. Nancy Guilliams, 1st Vice-President presided over the meeting in the absence of Deloris Short, President. Bettye Green, one of four Silver Haired Legislators who serves the 28th District representing the South Plains area, presented the program.

Phebe K. Club will honor Veteran's Day by placing American flags on veterans' graves at the Tahoka Cemetery

### Few vote in amendment election

Few Lynn County voters marked ballots in the Constitutional Amendment Election on Tuesday, with 161 voting on election day and 34 marking ballots during the early voting period. Statewide, voters approved 7 of 10 propositions, voting against #4, #7 and #8.

### LETTER to the EDITOR

#### Thanks for Health Fair

Dear Editor,  
On behalf of the students and staff at Tahoka Elementary, I would like to say thank you to Julia Allen and the Lynn County Hospital District for planning and coordinating our school health fair in October. All of our students attended the fair and received valuable information about good safety practices and staying healthy.

It is wonderful to live in a community that supports and cares enough about our children to take time out of their day to provide this invaluable service to our school.

Thanks again for a wonderful health fair and we look forward to next year.

Sincerely,  
Carol Miller, RN  
Tahoka ISD School Nurse

on Wednesday, Nov. 9. Veterans Day is Friday, Nov. 11.

Phebe K. will meet Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 4:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. Rebecca Ingle will show a film of "The Bent Prop" organization rescuing Jimmy Doyle's aircraft that went down in the Pacific Islands during WW II.

Visitors are always welcome and the public is invited.

### Obituaries



#### Gregoria Paniagua

Gregoria M. Paniagua, 77, of Tahoka died on Friday, November 4, 2011 at Vista Care Hospice. Services were held at 3:00 pm Monday, November 7, 2011 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Tahoka with Father Edwardo Teo officiating. Burial was at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park under the direction of Calvillo Funeral Home.

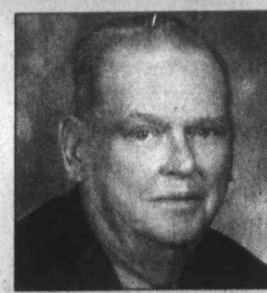
She was born March 12, 1934 in Chriesman to Magdaleno and Martina Martinez. She married Elias Paniagua on February 2, 1952 in Bryan. He preceded her in death on July 1, 2003. She was a homemaker and a member of St. Jude Catholic Church.

She is preceded in death by her husband, and two brothers, Angel Martinez and Paul Martinez.

Survivors include five sons, Pete Paniagua, Ausencio Paniagua, Elias Paniagua, all of Lubbock, Marcelino Paniagua of Lansing MI, and Jesse Paniagua of Dallas; one brother, Lorenzo Martinez of Bryan; five sisters, Sofia Estrada of Slaton, Juanita Benavides of Tahoka, Margaret Baca of Bryan, Tomasa Gonzales of Dallas, Lupe Simmons of Moffett; 10 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren.

#### Shop at Home!

All Lynn County merchants appreciate your business.



#### Marvin James

Services for Marvin Louis James, 82, of Brownfield were held at 10 a.m. Monday, November 7, 2011 at Calvary Baptist Church with Rev. Claude Cone and Rev. Steve Carter officiating. Burial was at the City of Lubbock Cemetery at 3:00 p.m. under the direction of Brownfield Funeral Home. He died on Friday, November 4, 2011 in Brownfield.

He was born October 14, 1929 in Lynn County to Morris L. and Leah Mary James. He graduated from Wilson High School and then attended Texas Tech University. He was a U.S. Army Veteran serving in Korea. He was honorably discharged as a sergeant. He married Juanita Ruth Coursey on May 13, 1951 in Lubbock. He and his family moved to Terry County in 1973. He farmed in Lynn, Lubbock, Yoakum and Terry Counties. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Pamela Ruth James; a granddaughter, Alex Brown; great-grandson, Brennan Perryman; and a sister, Rita Lois Miles.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Ruth; four daughters, Cyndi James-Clayton of Truth or Consequences, N.M., Vicki Ashbrook and husband Charles of Tahoka, Nancy Burris and husband Terry of Wellman and Jeanne Brown and husband Johnny Mac of Wellman; two sons, Gary James and wife Debra of Eunice, N.M. and Ron James and wife Jane of Leveland; 21 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

THE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF  
*Deen McDonald*  
WILL CELEBRATE HER *80<sup>th</sup> Birthday*  
**SATURDAY, NOV. 12 FROM 2:00-4:00 P.M.**  
**AT THE LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER**  
1617 MAIN STREET IN TAHOKA  
*Friends and family are invited. No gifts, please.*

## ATTEND CHURCH IN LYNN COUNTY

**TAHOKA**  
**St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church**  
South 4th & Ave. M • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4436  
PASTOR: REV. EDUARDO TEO  
DEACON: FRANCISCO AGUILAR  
Mass - 9:30 a.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Wed. & Thur.  
Rosary - 7 p.m. Tues.  
CCE Class/Confirmation Instruct. - 7 p.m. Wed.

**Draw First United Methodist Church**  
(established 1907)  
P.O. Box 496 • O'Donnell, TX 79351  
Phone (806) 428-3357  
or Fern Barnes (806) 327-5583  
PASTOR: REV. MONTY BARNETT  
Sunday Morning Worship - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday School following

**TAHOKA**  
**Church of Christ**  
2320 Lockwood • Box 1177 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4060 • email: tcoc@poka.com  
PULPIT MINISTER: STEVEN BONNER  
YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER: ANDY BREWER  
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Fellowship & Devotion - Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church**  
1801 Ave. J • Box 500  
Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4503  
email: functahoka@poka.com  
PASTOR: VERNON BAKER  
SUNDAYS: Praise Worship - 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m.  
TUESDAYS: Branded Ministries - 6:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAYS: Youth - 6:30 p.m.

**Grassland Nazarene Church**  
2885 CR 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 327-5656, 327-5655  
PASTOR: Rev. James Miller  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.  
Youth and Adults:  
Wednesdays - 7 p.m.

**Where Are You?**  
READ GENESIS 3:1-9  
*The Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"*  
Genesis 3:9 (NRSV)  
My wife and I find homes for retired racing greyhounds. The agency we work with requires that families taking the dogs have a fenced yard because these hounds have never been allowed to roam freely. If they get outside unattended, they can become disoriented and run. Since these dogs can reach a speed of 40 miles per hour in three strides, they can easily become lost.  
One day after I had fetched our mail, I did not close the fence gate properly. Later when I let our adopted hound outside, he found the gate open and rushed through it. I ran to the street calling his name, but he was nowhere in sight. I jumped into my car and followed the route we usually take on our daily walk. I called for him, feeling desperate. Finally, I spotted him, nosing in some shrubs. My dog looked glad to see me, and I was certainly glad to see him!  
Like our fence and gate that protect our dog, God provides boundaries for us for our protection. When we overstep these bounds, we are not more free; we are simply in more danger. When we cross God's boundaries, when we wander or run away, God comes looking for us, calling our name. And God rejoices when we return.  
*Thought for the Day*  
God comes looking for us when we wander away.  
*Prayer: Loving God, when we wander beyond the boundaries you set, may we hear your voice calling us home. Amen.*  
John J. Desjarlais (Illinois, U.S.A.) ... from *The Upper Room* (www.upperroom.org)

**NEW HOME BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Corner of Fourth & Smith  
*"Serving the Lord for 100 Years"*  
SERVICES:  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm  
Wed. Youth/Children's Activities ..... 7:00 pm  
Pastor: Calvin Gray

**Mark your calendar!**  
DECEMBER 3 • 5:00-8:00 PM  
Spaghetti Supper & Silent Auction  
benefiting the  
Lynn Long Family

**Show your colors!**  
Fly the American Flag to show your pride in our nation.

**Driving to Mexico?**  
Be sure and get proper auto insurance to cover your vehicle while driving there!  
**Call KENT for Mexico auto insurance!**  
*R. W. Fenton Insurance Agency*  
**Call Us For ALL Your Insurance Needs!**  
**561-4884**  
OR 759-1131 MOBILE  
1603 Avenue J in Tahoka

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

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

**New Home United Methodist Church**  
350 N. Main  
New Home, TX 79363  
(806) 924-7549  
PASTOR: BOB POWELL  
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Youth Activities

**Tahoka Trinity Church**  
1925 Lockwood • Box 1168 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
Phone (806) 561-5317  
PASTOR: PERRY SHUFFIELD  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.  
Youth - Sundays at 7 p.m.  
For a ride to Sunday School or Church, call 561-5317

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

**First Baptist Church**  
1701 Ave. K • Box 1547 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4557 • www.fbctahoka.org  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
SNL (Youth) - 6:00 p.m. Sunday  
Activities For All Ages - Call For Complete Schedule  
*There's A Place For Me at FBC!*

**Sweet Street Baptist Church**  
1300 Avenue J • Box 751 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-5310  
PASTOR: LYNN LONG  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
(A Bible Study Class for all ages)  
Morning Worship - 10:55 a.m.  
(Uplifting Music - Message from God's Word)  
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.  
(Praise & Worship - Gospel Message)  
Wednesday Night - 7 p.m.  
(Prayer & Bible Study, Children & Youth Ministries)  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

**New Home Church of Christ**  
St. address • Box 188 • New Home, TX 79383  
(806) 924-7579  
MINISTER: VICTOR ELLISON  
Bible Class - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service - 6:00 p.m.  
Mid-Week Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

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## Adolph Chapa wins final football contest

Adolph Chapa won \$20 in the Lynn County News' Football Contest for the final week of regular football play. Sponsors for the last contest included Fenton Insurance, Lynn County News, West Texas Agriplex and Wildcat Manufacturing.

The News appreciates everyone who participated in this year's contest, and every entry in the 10-week contest was entered in the grand prize drawing held Tuesday at the News Office. Ramon Quintero won the grand prize drawing for the 32-inch flat screen television donated by Fenton Insurance.

## Parents invited to "bullying" presentation next Thursday at Tahoka Housing Center

Tahoka ISD invites parents of students to a special presentation by nationally known speaker and educator Dr. Eric Cupp, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17 at the Tahoka Housing Authority Center, located at 1400 Ave. K.

Dr. Cupp will speak on topics including "What is bullying?", "Why bullies bully?" and "How to help your child deal with a bully."

Hot dogs and other refreshments will be served. The bullying session is for parents only, and childcare will be provided at the school for those that need it.

For more info, contact any Tahoka ISD campus office.

## Christmas dinner for single adults offered at FUMC

Alone this Christmas? First United Methodist Church of Tahoka invites all adults who will be alone this Christmas to a Christmas Day Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 25 at 12:00 noon at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

The meat will be provided and guests are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

For more info contact the church office at 561-4503.

We're a lot more than just a pharmacy!

With greeting cards; boxes of candy; baby gift items like soft cuddly teddy bears and blanket bears; sweet smelling candles and potpourri; beautiful crosses and photo frames; plus perfumes and lotions for her and cologne for him ...

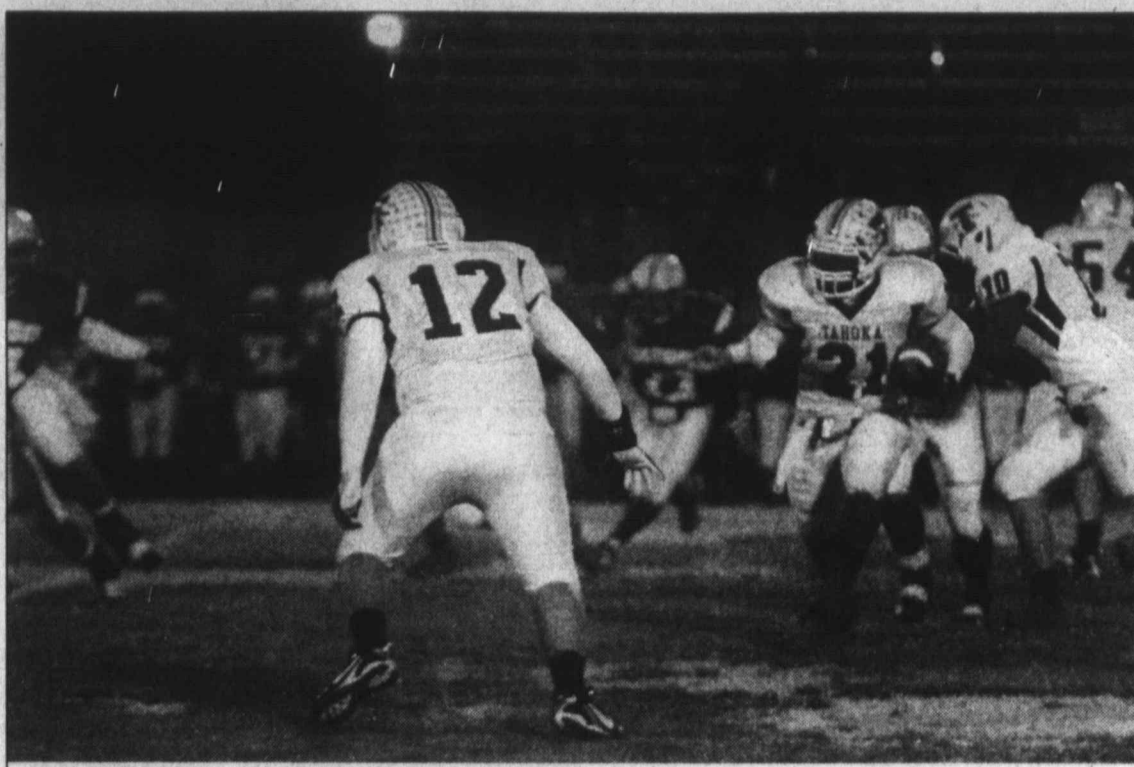
as well as all your pharmacy items like vitamins, bandages, over-the-counter and prescription drugs and always a friendly smile and helpful, courteous service!

**Tahoka Drug**

1610 Main in Tahoka • 561-4041

### The Lynn County News

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



**Top runner ...** Ke'Shawn Hood (21) was the leading rusher in Tahoka's last game of the season at Olton Friday, gaining 126 yards and scoring two touchdowns. Other Bulldogs in the picture above include Cristian Ramirez (12), Preston Hammonds (10) and Logan Tekell (54). (PHOTO by Rachel Lehman)

## In Lynn County, 9.4 percent of all income comes from Social Security, says experts

By Bill Bishop & Roberto Gallardo

About the Authors: Bill Bishop is co-editor of *The Daily Yonder* (<http://www.dailyyonder.com/>), an online publication covering rural America, published by the Center for Rural Strategies (<http://www.ruralstrategies.org/>). Dr. Roberto Gallardo is a research associate with the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University (<http://srdc.msstate.edu/>). This study was made possible with a grant from the National Academy of Social Insurance.

If Lynn County residents didn't receive their monthly payments from the Social Security Administration, 9.4 percent of total personal income in the county would be lost, a total of \$15,490,952 in 2009.

Lynn County is more dependent on Social Security payments than is the rest of the country. Nationally, 5.5 percent of total personal income in 2009 came from Social Security payments. In Texas, 4.3 percent of all income comes from these payments.

In Lynn County, 1,260 people receive some form of Social Security payment, either an old age pension, a survivor benefit or a disability check, according to the Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Social Security beneficiaries represent 22.2 percent of the total county population.

In rural counties such as Lynn and counties with smaller cities, Social Security payments constitute a much larger chunk of the local economy than in urban areas. A greater percentage of people in rural America receive these payments than in urban counties, and so rural counties have higher average payments per resident.

"In many rural places, Social Security is a very critical element of the local economic base," said Peter Nelson, a geographer at Middlebury College in Vermont. "It's less important to a place like Los Angeles because there is so much additional economic activity going on there."

Total Social Security payments in Lynn County amounted to \$2,730 per person in 2009. The national average was \$2,199 per person, and in Texas it was \$1,694.

Social Security payments in Lynn County have been changing as a proportion of total income. These payments amounted to 4.2 percent of total income in 1970, 8.6 percent in 1980, 6.8 percent in 1990, 9.0 percent in 2000 and 9.4 percent in 2009.

Social Security payments are particularly important to rural counties and small cities because the money is largely spent in the community. "The seniors who get these payments are primarily going to spend their money locally," said Mark Partridge, a rural economist at Ohio State University. "And they are a key reason why some communities are still viable. If this money dried up, there wouldn't be a lot of these small towns."

Social Security payments amount to 5 percent of the total income in urban counties. In counties with small cities, these payments amount to 8.2 percent of total income, and in rural counties such as Lynn County, Social Security totals 9.3 percent of all personal income. More than one out of five Americans living in small cities and rural counties received some kind of Social Security check in 2009.

Judith Stallmann, an econo-

mist at the University of Missouri, explained that Social Security payments help generate the sales that keep a rural business afloat.

"We find that Social Security income can be the difference between success and failure for some local businesses," Stallmann said. "If you took away, say, 10 percent of the demand, would that local business be able to remain open? Often it's that 10 percent that keeps them going. Social Security is providing that margin."

Social Security payments go to those over the age of 62 who have filed for benefits, to survivors of insured workers and to those with disabilities. The program is mainly funded by payroll taxes. In Lynn County, 69.4 per-

cent of recipients were retirees in 2009, 15.1 percent were survivors and 15.5 percent were disabled.

Changes to Social Security are being discussed in Congress, which is looking for ways to balance the larger federal budget. If benefits are cut — or if the eligibility age is increased — rural counties and small cities would be disproportionately affected, according to Peter Nelson.

"Cuts would have a bigger negative impact on rural places, absolutely," Middlebury's Professor Nelson said. "They are more dependent on Social Security."

*Research Note: Data included in this story comes from the federal Bureau for Economic Analysis and the Social Security Administration. The figures in this story are from 2009, unless otherwise noted.*

## Bulldogs lose to Olton in final season game

The Tahoka Bulldogs closed out their 2011 football season with a 45-15 loss at Olton Friday, winding up 5-5 for the year after winning the first five games of the season.

The 15 points, representing two 3-yard touchdown runs by Ke'Shawn Hood, a 2-point run by Trai Smith and an extra point kick by Cristian Ramirez, was the lowest total of the season for the Bulldogs.

Olton took a 7-0 first quarter lead on a 4-yard run by Billy Ross and added three more touchdowns in the second quarter, two on pass plays, to go up 28-0 before Hood scored his first TD just before halftime.

In the third, Olton added a field goal, and in the fourth, Hood scored again early, but the Mustangs scored twice more on long runs late in the quarter.

Hood gained 136 yards on 18 carries for Tahoka, and Smith rushed for 93, also on 18 carries.

Kordell Baker caught all four of QB Zach Garcia's completions, totaling 35 yards.

### GAME AT A GLANCE

TAHOKA		OLTON
17	first downs	23
229	yds. rushing	195
35	yds. passing	271
4-14-0	completed by	21-36-0
2-26	punts, avg.	2-26
5	fumbles lost	2
7-60	penalties	6-65

## The Lynn County News

is available at the following locations in Tahoka:

- Lynn County News office
- Thriftway
- Tahoka Drug
- Stripes Convenience Store
- Jolly Time Restaurant

## Hochheim Prairie Insurance unveils new logo

In celebration of its upcoming 120 year anniversary, Hochheim Prairie Insurance unveiled a new corporate logo during its annual agent conference on October 9 and 10 in San Antonio, Texas. The agent conference was attended by 225 representatives of agencies appointed with Hochheim Prairie Insurance across the state including Chad Lowdermilk from Sandra Stringer Agency of Tahoka.

"The new design proudly embraces the company's unique name, connecting it to 120 years of history and heritage. The addition of the lone star emphasizes the company's exclusively Texas focus," says Dave Talbert, president.

Serving Texans since 1892, Hochheim Prairie Insurance is the state's second largest farm mutual insurance company. As a mutual insurance company, Hochheim Prairie's policyholders are also its owners. Families who insure their home with Hochheim Prairie become members of the association.

Local representation of the members is accomplished through branches, which hold annual meetings across the state. The company annually returns thousands of dollars to its branches to benefit the community as the members see fit. For more information, visit [hpfi.com](http://hpfi.com) or Hochheim Prairie Insurance on Facebook.



**Thanksgiving Brisket**  
Feeds 18-20 people • Whole, Sliced or Shredded

Pick up Nov. 19 between 1-4 pm at N. 1st & Ave. K (The Masonic Lodge)

**\$25** All proceeds benefit the TAHOKA LODGE 1041 SCHOLARSHIP FUND for local THS seniors

Call Leighton Knox: 806-327-5201 or Randy Byram: 806-224-7776

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE**

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING**  
NOVEMBER 17, 2011 AT 6:00 P.M.  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: FELLOWSHIP HALL

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:  
BEING A TEAM CAPTAIN  
SERVING ON THE COMMITTEE  
GETTING YOUR BUSINESS INVOLVED  
BEING ON A TEAM  
MORE INFORMATION

WE WILL TALK ABOUT THE PLANS FOR THE 2012 RELAY FOR LIFE, WHERE THE MONEY GOES, AND HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED!

DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT RYAN RIOS AT 806-831-7495 OR KEITH B. PATRICK AT 806-239-6628 OR [KEITH.PATRICK@CANCER.ORG](mailto:KEITH.PATRICK@CANCER.ORG).

Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.®

RelayForLife.org | 1.800.227.2345

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**Clowning around ...** These two clowns are part of the drum line in the Tahoka 3-D Band, who enjoyed clowning around in the halftime show last Friday night after Halloween, when the Bulldogs traveled to Olton for their final game of the season. Carroll Rhodes, director, has established a tradition of Halloween costume fun for the 3-D Band members, and fans get a kick out of seeing the band march in costumes.

## Community invited to Nov. 17 meeting about Relay For Life

American Cancer Society Relay For Life representatives invite area citizens to an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17 in the fellowship hall of First Baptist Church of Tahoka. The ACS is seeking interested citizens to serve on the Relay For Life committee as well as team captains and other positions in the event. Dinner will be provided.

"We will talk about the plans for the 2012 Relay For Life, where the money goes, and how you can be involved," said Keith B. Patrick, ACS representative.

Information will be provided about what is involved in

being a team captain, serving on the Relay For Life committee, getting your business/organization involved, being on a team, and other related information.

For more information, contact Patrick at 806-239-6628, or Ryan Rios at 806-831-7495. Patrick may also be reached by email at Keith.Patrick@cancer.org.

### DONATIONS

to the Lynn County Hospital District EMS are greatly appreciated.

LCRD EMS, Box 1310, Tahoka, Tx

## Non-insurable Crop Disaster Program deadline nears

Lynn County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director, Rodney Schoppa urges producers who want to purchase coverage through the Non-insurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) to do so before the sales closing date of December 1, 2011.

NAP provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields/grazing loss, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to normal disasters.

The following crops have a NAP application closing date of Dec. 1, 2011: grazing and forage/hay on native and improved grass, honey, potatoes, radishes, grapes and cranberries.

"Purchasing a crop insurance policy is an easy way for producers to practice risk management," said Schoppa. "The 2011 crop year has proved that natural disasters can directly affect the profitability and recovery of ag operations," he said.

In order to meet eligibility requirements for NAP, crops must be non-insurable, commercially-produced agricultural commodity crops for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available. In the event of a natural disaster, NAP covers the amount of loss greater than 50 percent of the expected production based on the approved yield and reported acreage.

Eligible producers can apply for coverage using form CCC-471, "Application for Coverage." Producers must file the application and service fee by the Dec. 1st deadline. The service fee is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

For more information on sales closing dates and NAP, contact the Lynn County FSA office at 806-998-4501.



**Safety first ...** Lyntegar Electric Cooperative employees showed Tahoka Elementary children the dangers of electricity and how to be safe during the Oct. 27 Health Fair sponsored by Lynn County Hospital District. Several local agencies manned booths at the elementary school for the Health Fair, providing information about safety and good health practices.

## TxDOT removing nighttime truck speed limit signs

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has begun work to remove the 65-mile per hour nighttime speed limit and all truck speed limit signs on Lubbock District roadways.

House Bill 1353, which took effect on September 1, eliminated the 65-mile per hour nighttime speed limit and all truck speed limits on Texas roadways. TxDOT awarded maintenance contracts in August for the removal of the signs.

"Recently, contractors began removing 950 nighttime and 1050 truck and truck nighttime speed signs in the Lubbock District's 17 county area," said Doug Eichorst, P.E., Lubbock District Engineer. "This should be a relatively fast moving operation and we anticipate that it will take approximately four weeks to remove all the signs in

our district."

Work crews began the sign removals in the district's northern counties (Hale, Swisher and Castro) and will work their way south. Motorists are asked to drive with caution through the various work zones, be on the lookout for workers and avoid distractions for their own safety and the safety of the workers, Eichorst added.

HB 1353 legislation has also allowed TxDOT to create a 75-mile per hour speed limit on any state highway found to be reasonable and safe through a speed study. TxDOT will be reviewing existing 70-mile per hour speed limits to determine where a 75-mile per hour speed limit may be safely posted. The complete evaluation of the state highway system and posting of all new 75-mile per hour speed limits should be complete by early 2013.

## Sudden infant death syndrome a silent, but preventable, killer

Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) is the silent killer that haunts every parent's nightmare. Fortunately, since 1992, research shows there's been a 50% decline in the rate of SIDS cases due to heightened awareness of the need for babies to sleep on their backs rather than on their stomachs. Unfortunately, there are still about 4,500 babies under age 1 who die unexpectedly in their sleep each year.

The most shocking part? Most of the babies who die of SIDS have no apparent health problems, says Katie Sanders, M.S.N., RN, assistant professor of nursing at Texas A&M Health Science Center.

Rarely is there an underlying disorder that can be identified, but 90 percent of these deaths are likely preventable by implementing safe sleep practices. As scary as this silent killer may be, education is the key to risk reduction and prevention, Sanders says.

At its 2011 national conference, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released new recommendations for safe sleeping practices. The AAP continues its prior recommendations that infants should always be placed on their backs to sleep, on a firm surface.

"Following the conference, the AAP recommends breastfeeding, as there has been a demonstrated reduction in SIDS rates among babies who are breastfed," Sanders says. "Routine immunizations can reduce the incidence of SIDS by 50 percent, and avoid bumper pads in the crib as they can potentially suffocate or entrap an infant."

Additional AAP recommendations include using cribs free of soft bedding, pillows and toys; do not use car seats for routine sleeping; use pacifiers for naps and nighttime sleeping; and do not smoke during pregnancy.

**TAHOKA LAKE PASTURE**  
PRESERVATION • EDUCATION • CONSERVATION • ECO TOURISM •  
This Lynn County Landmark and the hills surrounding it are a part of Lynn County heritage... yours and your children's heritage.  
Consider finding ways to participate in The J.C. Calm Foundation's effort to protect it. Plan a group guided tour or just call to make individual plans for a come-see.  
Contact CLYDE MAY at 806-327-5434 or 1-888-568-7301  
leave a message and we'll call back.  
A smaller percentage than usual of cranes have settled in for the winter. Salt Cedar and Mesquite are popping out of the ground by the tons!

*Want a South Plains lender that pays you back?*

**Senior Citizen MENU**  
NOVEMBER 14-18  
Monday: Chicken & dumplings, tomato & red onion salad, crackers, bananas & strawberries  
Tuesday: Chalupas, Spanish rice, red beans, lettuce & tomato, vanilla pudding  
Wednesday: Sausage & potato casserole, sweet peas, rolls, fruit cocktail cake  
Thursday: Steak fingers, white gravy, mashed potatoes, squash & tomato, wheat bread, brownies  
Friday: Homemade chicken noodle soup, salad, cornbread, pears  
Reminders & Activities:  
• BINGO will be held November 17 at 10 a.m. at Wilson City Hall. Come and join the fun and win prizes!  
• If you have a vehicle that you would consider donating, or selling cheap, contact Bianca at 561-5264.

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We're paying our customers an additional \$50 million!

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We recently returned \$50 million in cash, in addition to the \$32 million cash paid this spring. That equals \$82 million distributed this year alone, a reduction of more than 1.60 percent in our average customer's interest rate. We have returned more than \$400 million through our patronage program in recent years. Join a lender who gives money back!

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TEXAS' LARGEST RURAL LENDER

**Concerned About Bullying?**

Tahoka ISD would like to invite parents to a special presentation by nationally known speaker and educator

**Dr. Eric Cupp**  
as he presents on topics such as:  
What is bullying?  
Why bullies bully  
and  
How to help your child deal with a bully

**When: Thursday, November 17, 2011**  
**Where: Tahoka Housing Authority Center**  
1400 AVE. K  
**Time: 6:00 pm**

Hotdogs and other refreshments will be served  
**PLEASE CONTACT ANY TISD CAMPUS FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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