

News Briefs

Masonic Lodge Hosting Mesquite Smoked Ham Sale

The Seminole Masonic Lodge and Order of the Eastern Star is hosting their annual fall mesquite smoked ham sale, according to information provided by the organization to the *Seminole Sentinel*.  
Ham orders are currently being taken for the project, which will see proceeds benefiting the Bob Lewis Mission and Seminole Lodge College Scholarship fund.  
The cost is \$35 per ham, and the order deadline has been set for Oct. 17.  
Hams may be picked up on Saturday, Oct. 27, after 5 p.m. at the Seminole Masonic Lodge, located at 305 N.W. 5th St.  
To order a ham, or for more information, contact Nadine Wilson at (432) 209-6017, Linda Norris (432) 788-7664, or David Lozano at (575) 602-1832.

Local Sorority to Host Potato Bake November 9th

Members of the Xi Alpha Beta Eta sorority will be hosting their annual Potato Bake on Friday, Nov. 9, at the Gaines County Civic Building.  
The fund raising event, which will be held from 5 to 8 p.m., will cost \$8 per person.  
Patrons will be able to enjoy a baked potato meal with their choice of toppings (chili, cheese, broccoli, etc.) salad, dessert and a drink.

Two GED Testing Dates Remain for 2012 Calendar Yr.

Officials with the Seminole Independent School District have announced their 2012 General Educational Development (GED) testing schedule for the upcoming calendar year.  
The dates for testing with the school district are as follows:  
• November 3 and December 1  
Persons interested in participating in the testing process must provide the following items:  
\* Two forms of identification (driver's license or government issued photo identification, and social security card) We cannot accept school identification cards.  
\* Letter from a certified teacher or an adult education center indicating that you have passed the required pretest; and  
\* evaluation fee (\$65 for initial testing or \$10 for each retest)  
If you would like to register, please call Becky Ottaberry, Chief Examiner, at (432) 201-0408.  
More information can be found at [www.seminoleisd.net](http://www.seminoleisd.net) by clicking Seminole GED Testing Center under quick links.

# Area K2 Raid Nets Big

## \$88,000 in Synthetic Marijuana Seized by Hobbs PD

HOBBS, N.M. -- An undercover operation by members of the Hobbs (N.M.) Police Dept. resulted in the recovery of approximately \$88,000 in "Spice" or "K2," a type of synthetic cannabis which has been linked to numerous health and criminal issues, both regionally and nationwide.  
"In the past week HPD Officers have arrested two persons for DWI due to them being impaired by Spice," said Chris McCall, Interim Chief of Police for the HPD in a press release received by the *Sentinel* late Friday. "Also in the past week two juveniles have suffered adverse health reactions after smoking Spice."



**SEIZED K2**  
An estimated \$88,000 in seized K2 or Spice was recently taken from two Hobbs, N.M. smokeshops, according to Hobbs Police Dept. officials late last week.

at two local stores in order to obtain search warrants.  
Up in Smoke located at 220 East Marland and Smokers Outlet located at 521 North Dal Paso were the targets of the investigation. The search of Up in Smoke yielded a large quantity of Spice with an estimated retail value of approximately \$88,000.  
Upon Officer's return to Smokers Outlet with a search warrant, almost all of the Spice products that had been observed in the business early in the day had been removed from the store.  
McCall said: "These stores are using loopholes to deal these drugs to our youth and citizens and are reaping huge profits from it. The Hobbs Police Department is not going to continue to stand by and watch as these establishments continue to harm our community. The dangers that are posed to our community from these synthetic drugs are too great. These products are sold in retail shops commonly known as smoke shops. The name of the business establishment alone would indicate there is no intent for these products to be sold as incense."  
J.J. Murphy, Hobbs City Manager stated "as public servants, we have a duty to protect our children and rid our community of this poison. The Hobbs City Commission and I are committed to providing our police department the manpower and resources necessary to make Hobbs a safer."

This story was initially published Monday morning, at 10:45 a.m., at [SeminoleSentinel.com](http://SeminoleSentinel.com)

As a response, a team of HPD Patrol Officers recognized the problem, developed a plan and made undercover purchases

# NRCS, FWS Reach Agreement to Extend Conservation Efforts

TEMPLE -- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Dave White and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Director Dan Ashe have recently announced an agreement that will provide long-term regulatory predictability for up to 30 years to Texas farmers, ranchers and forest landowners participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) initiative.  
Participants voluntarily implement proven conservation practices designed to protect wildlife habitat and species, such as the lesser-prairie chicken, on private lands.  
"This agreement will change the way we manage at-risk species on private lands," said NRCS Texas State Conservationist Salvador Salinas. "It will provide landowners with a mechanism to keep working lands in production while complying with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and will facilitate restoration of habitat for at-risk species. It also will help Texas farmers and ranchers rest a little easier knowing their operations are protected for the long term and that they are contributing to conserving vital natural resources."  
"The American conservation movement has called for a new approach in species conservation," federal, state and wildlife experts jointly identified at-risk or listed species that would benefit from targeted habitat restoration investments on private lands. Using the best available science, these wildlife experts prioritized restoration actions on a large regional scale to focus assistance most cost effectively.  
WLFW attempts to remove uncertainty from the ESA for farmers, ranchers and forest landowners by converting the potential for regulation into proactive, voluntary

to manage and restore high-priority habitats for seven specific wildlife species across the country. The species are greater sage-grouse, New England cottontail, bog turtle, golden-winged warbler, gopher tortoise, lesser prairie-chicken and the Southwestern willow flycatcher. NRCS, FWS and numerous state and local entities are partnering to implement WLFW. NRCS, FWS and numerous state and local entities such as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Pheasants Forever, Playa Lakes Joint Venture and many others are partnering to implement WLFW in Helping People Help the Land.  
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer Texas With this agreement, farmers, ranchers and forest landowners who implement and voluntarily agree to maintain the proven conservation practices in WLFW will have addressed the related ESA regulatory responsibilities for up to 30 years. These landowners will be able to operate their farms and ranches as agreed upon, providing economic benefits and species conservation simultaneously.  
Under the WLFW partnership, federal, state and wildlife experts jointly identified at-risk or listed species that would benefit from targeted habitat restoration investments on private lands. Using the best available science, these wildlife experts prioritized restoration actions on a large regional scale to focus assistance most cost effectively.  
WLFW attempts to remove uncertainty from the ESA for farmers, ranchers and forest landowners by converting the potential for regulation into proactive, voluntary

approach that provides incentives and assistance to landowners who improve species habitat.  
NRCS or one of its partners will visit the farmer or rancher's property to run an initial assessment and work with the landowner to develop a conservation plan that fits his or her needs and desires. The conservation plan identifies a core set of proven conservation practices that will benefit the species.  
NRCS sets aside financial assistance to implement the recommended conservation practices. During FY12, Texas NRCS obligated \$662,000 for LPCI on 32,000 acres.  
The federal government will grant farmers, ranchers and forest landowners regulatory predictability in return for voluntarily making wildlife habitat improvements on their private agricultural and forest lands.  
Participating producers must adhere to the requirements of each conservation practice during the term of their contract, which can last from one to 15 years. If landowners would like to receive regulatory predictability for up to 30 years, they must maintain the conservation practices as outlined in the NRCS and FWS agreement.  
For more information about Working Lands for Wildlife, please visit [www.tx.usda.gov](http://www.tx.usda.gov).



**CONSERVATION OF LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN**  
Officials with the NRCS and FWS recently reached an agreement for conservation efforts for the Lesser Prairie Chicken.

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The *Seminole Sentinel* strives to bring you the best in local news, social, and sports coverage for, Seminole, Gaines County and the surrounding area, in a timely manner.  
With that in mind, there will be certain times that there will be limitations to news stories, letters to the editor and briefs, and their appearance in our publication to you.  
The *Sentinel* does reserve the right to edit and restrict pre-produced stories and information for space limitations, editorial purposes, and time restrictions.  
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**"TRUNKS-2-TREAT"**  
Join Us Halloween Evening  
October 31  
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM  
For  
Treats from our Car Trunks  
&  
Free BBQ Sandwich, Chips, & Lemonade  
**Where?**  
First United Methodist Church  
Parking Lot  
304 SW Avenue B  
Seminole, Texas  
**Public is Invited!**

**Trunk or Treat**

October 28th  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
**Westside Church of Christ**  
201 NW 23rd Street

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF SAFE HOLIDAY FUN!  
ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Trick or Treating
- Hot Dogs
- Jolly Jumper