Bull riding tour back in Hobbs

Keynote Speaker Christopher Kennedy Lawford meetsmetry during PDAP’s 30th anniversary banquet Thursday night at the Lea County Event Center.

WAYNE MCCLEERY/NEWS-SUN

PDAP marks 30th anniversary

Speaker tells audience about his moment of grace

ALMA OLIVAS-POSADAS

The Palm Drug Abuse Program of Lea County celebrated 30 years of service Thursday.

Approximately 300 people attended a banquet at the Lea County Event Center in which PDAP staff, board members were recognized for their service with the non-profit organization whose purpose is helping individuals live a life free of substance abuse.

The keynote speaker of the night was Christopher Kennedy Lawford, who battled drug and substance abuse for many years and has been sober for about 20 years.

Lawford is an author, writer, lawyer, activist and public speaker who travels throughout the world sharing his experience of battling and surviving addiction.

He told the crowd there is no enough knowledge about recovery and shared his story about growing up in a family where drugs and drinking were normal.

“I was born in a family where alcohol doesn’t run, it gallops,” he said.

After using drugs at a young age, Lawford said he went through many rehabs and led a life of illegal earnings to prescribe him legal narcotics to fodder his addiction. Lawford said he clearly didn’t understand his problem and was just confused about making

He started his recovery journey

“This will be hard, some say it will be too hard,” he said. “But as my uncle President Kennedy said about our commitment to go to the moon we don’t do those things because they are easy, we do them because they are hard!”

Lawford said his decision to change has helped break the addiction chain in his family.

“I have three children who only know me as a father; I do not wish to repeat that. I have broken the chain of addiction in my family and learned how to be a committed and present father,” said Lawford.

He added that he has a lifetime of trying to be what it is and found himself.

Lawford said he has found peace and has been married for 32 years and has been sober for 20 years.

He said a moment of grace came on Feb. 17, 1986 in Boston, after he made a move to leave the addiction narrative.

“I was dying on the inside, but as long as the remnants was looking good, we were good.” Lawford said.

He noted a moment of grace came on Feb. 17, 1986 in Boston, after he moved to leave the addiction narrative.

He remembers it was the coldest night in Boston, but it was the right

2012 CBR circuit as the riders stopped in Bossier City La. on Jan. 12 and had a two-night performance in Jackson, Tenn. on Jan. 14. Cody Teel, the 2012 PRCA bull riding world champion, has a commanding lead in the round-wise CBR standings after sweeping the CBR’s first two stops.

“The guy is the guy.” Hedeman said of Teel’s ability, “but he’s the reigning world champion.

Teel rode all three of his bulls during a chilly performance in Vittoria, which gave him an 85-point

ride on California Bull in the final round. He won the Louisiana Tour with 1890 point (100 on off the final round).

The two-year-old Kountze, Texas native leads the standings with 503.5 points for the overall tour. NMJC’s Joey Barlow, won four of the defending champion of the Hobbs CBR event as he won the average on Feb. 8. He leads the 2012 CBR champion in the championship round.

He tied eventual 2012 CBR champion

Bull Riding Tour back in Hobbs

SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY kicks off the New Year’s Night of Stars with a Saturday performance of the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra at 7 p.m. Feb. 11 at Tydings Auditorium. For more information, call Eunice Chamber at 394-2755.

Bullcaptured aspens photography contest.

WINNING Photos can be seen in the Cloudcroft. His photo won honorable men’s.