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SOUTHWEST METROPOLITAN
COUNTY, TEXAS
COURTHOUSE

Rediscovering History:

Courthouse Renovation Project Could Bring Back Original Look

By JUANELL JONES

Marble walls. Hardwood floors. Antique lighting. Solid wood doors and frames.

The year was 1916, and the three-story brick building featuring beautiful marble slab walls and stair rails had just been completed, standing sentry in the center of the town square in Tahoka. In the 87 years since that time, the Lynn County Courthouse has served the citizens of Lynn County well, housing county offices and providing a unique historical aspect to the county that celebrated its 100th birthday this year.

County officials and county residents are justifiably proud of their courthouse that still boasts the unique marble slab walls and stair rails. Through the years, however, keeping true to the historical design of an almost 90-year-old building while keeping pace with the computer age — not to mention the headaches of increasing electrical needs and heating/cooling of the maze of offices in the large antiquated building — has created a hornets nest of problems for county officials.

Problem solving through the years has, through necessity, addressed current needs of the offices housed in the courthouse. And, sometimes the quest for incorporating modern conveniences such as electrical and phone lines, air conditioning systems, fax lines, internet service, etc., has preempted historical preservation.

Celebrating the county's centennial year has brought historical preservation to the forefront of the minds

tremendous scope — to restore the courthouse back to its historical origins while maintaining viable working space for county business needs, today and in the future.

The project would include not only the offices in the basement and first two floors that are currently being used, but also the third floor of the building that has long been used only as a storage area.

Baker, who assisted with the grant proposal in 1997 that was turned down, believes the larger scope of the new proposal will gain more attention. Representatives of the Texas Historical Commission say there is grant money available, especially for historic preservation/restoration of the courthouses in Texas.

Two representatives of the Texas Historical Commission visited Tahoka recently, touring the courthouse with Baker and Lynn County Judge H.G. Franklin to see firsthand the condition of the building. Lyman Labry, representing the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. (See *Courthouse*, page 3)



A LOOK AT TIMES PAST — Josh Lasserre and Lyman Labry, from the Texas Historical Commission in Austin, visited the Lynn County Courthouse recently, shown here looking through the balcony of the district courtroom, an area of the courthouse no longer open to the public. Both men toured the courthouse with county officials and John Baker, a local architect who is working on a grant proposal for funding for a restoration project. (See story) (LCN PHOTO)

Down another hallway, a door opens onto a long-unused steel spiral staircase leading down into darkness ...

of many, including Lynn County officials. Grant proposals for limited renovations at the courthouse have been submitted in the past (most recently in 1997, which was declined), but commissioners this year are taking a more serious approach to the issue.

In an October meeting, commissioners gave a nod of approval for John Baker, a local architect who is interested in the preservation of the historical courthouse, to write a grant proposal for a restoration project of



THE Lynn County News



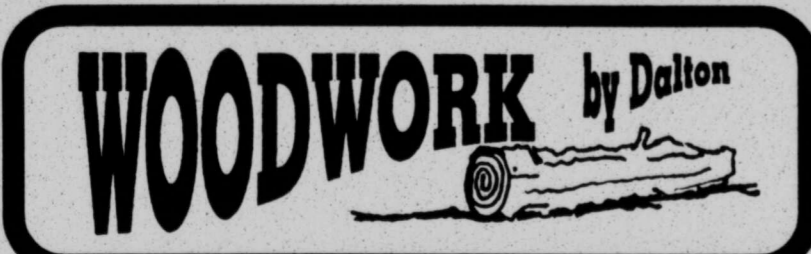
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TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2003

6 PAGES

50¢



THANKSGIVING, according to Grolier's Encyclopedia, "originated in three days of prayer and feasting by the Plymouth colonists in 1621, although an earlier thanksgiving was offered in prayer alone by members of the Berkeley plantation near present-day Charles City, VA on Dec. 4, 1619."

Well, I certainly agree that prayers of thanksgiving for all the good things we have in life are appropriate. Prayers are great. But prayers with turkey and dressing and hot rolls are even greater, and I guess those folks in Plymouth felt the same way when they decided to include feasting.

Those people who just prayed on Dec. 4, 1621, had no idea that exactly 307 years later I would be born, and that while I might stumble occasionally in prayer, I can feast effortlessly.

President George Washington first proclaimed Thanksgiving Day a national holiday, and it was first observed on Nov. 26, 1789.

President Abraham Lincoln made it an annual holiday to be observed on the last Thursday in November, President Franklin Roosevelt moved it back a week, and then Congress in 1942 changed it to be celebrated on the fourth Thursday of each November.

That was another of Congress' mistakes. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day are three holidays which are too close together. There's not much can be done about Christmas and New Year's (unless you are Chinese, who start their new year some other time which I can't remember). So Thanksgiving could easily have been set up for March or one of those other months when not much is going on.

It's a little better in Canada, where Thanksgiving is officially celebrated on the second Monday in October.



THIRD FLOOR STAIRWELL — John Baker points out something of interest to Lyman Labry, Judge H.G. Franklin and Josh Lasserre in the third floor stairwell of the courthouse. Public access to the top floor has been closed for many years, and much of the space remains in original condition. Few interior repairs or painting has been done in years, but the marble stair railings and wall slabs remain in good condition. (LCN PHOTO)

Officers At El Paso Capture O'Donnell Robbery Suspects

Two Lamesa teenagers suspected in the Nov. 16 robbery of Allsup's in O'Donnell were captured without resistance last Friday at El Paso, as they attempted to cross the border into Mexico.

Charged with aggravated robbery were Brandon Matthew Smith, 18, and Misty Dawn Nunn, also 18. The couple, accused of taking \$96 at gunpoint, pointing a shotgun at a clerk, were scheduled to be returned to Lynn County later this week, Lynn County sheriff's officers said Tuesday.

An Amarillo man stopped by Tahoka Police last week in a stolen car has been released to Hall County authorities. George Harlie Gibbs, 62, has been charged with burglary in Memphis. A Tahoka police officer stopped the 1998 Chevrolet Metro after being alerted by officers in Post that the vehicle was headed west and they had pursued it to the county line.

An 18-year-old Odessa man was arrested by Tahoka Police early Thursday morning in a pickup parked on the east side of Town and Country convenience store. An officer who checked out the man learned that he was wanted on outstanding warrants from Lubbock and Midland, including two burglary charges. He was jailed here and held for the other jurisdictions.

Pete Heide Penner of Seminole told police that someone had stolen three ladders owned by him from inside the chapel at Nevils Cemetery between Nov. 15 and Wednesday, Nov. 19. An extension ladder was valued at \$280 and two stepladders were valued at \$80 each.

A Tahoka woman told police that her life had been threatened by her ex-husband, and he kept on phoning her. Police advised her to get a protective order against him.

IDEC

4th: Open House
10:00 am-4:00 pm
Lynn County Appraisal District
1636 Ave. J, Tahoka

15th: Christmas Concert
6:30-7:30 pm
Tahoka High School Band and Choir
THS Auditorium

19th: Open House
9:00 am-3:00 pm
First National Bank of Tahoka
1601 S. 1st, Tahoka

19th: Open House
9:00 am-3:00 pm
Wilson State Bank - Wilson and Tahoka
Mr. & Mrs. Claus at Wilson location 9-1

24th: Christmas Eve Services
6:00 pm
First United Methodist Church
1801 Ave. J, Tahoka

Contact THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS,
561-4888, Fax 561-6308, to be placed
on the December events calendar.
Any event in the county open
to the public may be
placed on the calendar.

Smith Announces For Re-Election As District Attorney

Ricky B. Smith, District Attorney of the 106th Judicial District, this week announces his candidacy for re-election to that office, which serves Dawson, Gaines, Garza and Lynn counties.



RICKY B. SMITH

In making his announcement, Smith says, "My wife, Theda, and I were born and raised in west Texas. We raised our four children on our place just south of O'Donnell. We are the proud grandparents of six grandchildren and we have another on the way. We know how important it is to keep our communities as safe as possible from crime.

"I received my bachelor's degree from Tarleton State University and my law degree from Baylor University. I am a member of the State Bar of Texas, the College of the State Bar of Texas, and board certified in criminal law.

"Serving as your District Attorney has been an honor and a privilege. I have always believed that the office is yours and that you trust me with it. I have worked hard to keep that trust. Most mornings I am in the office by 6:30 a.m. and it's often past 5 p.m. when I close for the day. My door has always been open for you to come in if you need anything from me. Officers throughout the district know they can call me at any time of the day or night if they need help.

"I have a very fine group of people working with me. Together, we have worked to make sure that the citizens of the 106th Judicial District receive top-notch, professional prosecution from the District Attorney's office.

"Theda and I are thankful for the opportunity you have given us to work for you. We sincerely appreciate you and hope that you will continue to support us," Smith concluded. (PAID POL. ANNOUNCEMENT)

Filing Period Opens Dec. 2 For Primaries

Tuesday, Dec. 2 is the first day for filing for local county and district offices in the upcoming Republican and Democratic Primary elections. In Lynn County, six local positions will be on the ballots, including the offices of District Attorney, County Attorney, Tax Assessor, Sheriff, and Precinct 1 and 3 Commissioner seats. All positions are four-year terms. There is a filing fee for candidates, which went up from \$600 to \$750 this year for all offices (except Justice of the Peace, which has no positions open on this year's ballot). Interested candidates may file at the Lynn County Clerk's Office at the county courthouse, during regular business hours. The filing period ends Jan. 3.

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THANKFUL

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and advertisers.

We wish everyone a ...

Happy Thanksgiving

from The Lynn County News staff

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TASTING TEA - The Lynn County Extension Education Association hosted their annual "Home for the Holidays" tasting tea and program on Nov. 20. Shown here at the event are, from left, Mary Lee Claiborne, Barbara Morton of Corpus Christi, Winona Orr, Jan Orr, Betty Harston, Diann Reynolds, and Beth Huffaker, with Jackie Stephens standing in the back.

Obituaries

Grace Kiser

Services for Mrs. Grace Kiser, 88, of Tahoka, were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 25, 2003 at the First United Methodist Church of Tahoka with Reverend Marvin Gregory officiating. Interment followed in Nevels Memorial Cemetery, under the direction of White Funeral Home of Tahoka.

She died Saturday, November 22, 2003 in Tahoka.

Mrs. Kiser was born in Tahoka, Texas on August 9, 1915, to the late Mr. and Mrs. Will James and Essie Bellah Montgomery. She married Paul Kiser on June 9, 1944 in Tahoka. She graduated from Tahoka High School in 1933 and Texas Tech University in 1937. She taught school for seven years in Sylvester, Monahans and Bronte until she became a homemaker in 1944. Mrs. Kiser was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Tahoka.

Survivors include her husband of Tahoka; one son, Kim Kiser of Tahoka; two daughters, Pat Gattis of Tahoka, and Mary Beth Schneider of Hendersonville, TN; two sisters, Marietta Montgomery and Lois White, both of Tahoka; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Lynnwood Assisted Living Center in Tahoka.

Joe Antu

Rosary services for Joe Antu, 40, of Tahoka were held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 24, 2003 at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Tahoka. Mass was held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 25, at St. Jude's Catholic Church with Father Edwardo Teo officiating. Interment followed in the Nevels Memorial Cemetery, under the direction of White Funeral Home in Tahoka.

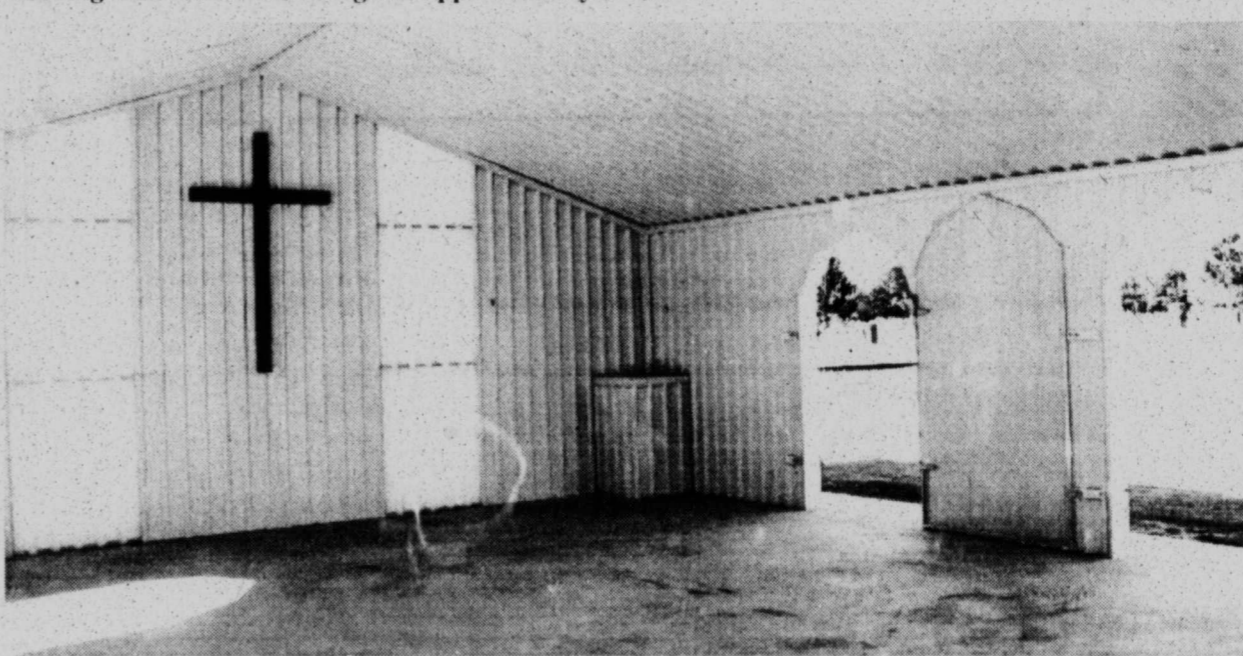
He died Saturday, November 22, 2003 in Lubbock, Texas.

Antu was born January 10, 1963 in Tahoka, Texas to Mr. and Mrs. John and Janie Aleman Antu. He graduated from Tahoka High School in 1981. Antu was a lifelong resident of Tahoka and a member of the Catholic Church.

Survivors include his parents, John and Janie of Tahoka; two sons, Justin Antu of San Antonio, and Jeremy Antu of Tahoka; one daughter, Jessica Antu of Tahoka; five brothers, Johnny Antu of Lamesa, Jesse Antu of Plainview, Jimmy Antu of Beeville, James Antu of Ft. Worth, and Gerald Antu of Arlington; six sisters, Romelia Ybarra of Plainview, Pauline Romero of New Mexico,



CHAPEL COMPLETED AT CEMETERY - The City of Tahoka recently completed the Chapel at Nevels Memorial Cemetery in Tahoka, for use by all citizens for gravesite services. The Chapel is open at all times, and has plexiglass doors that may be closed on the sides during inclement weather. A wooden cross is featured on the back wall (see photo below), and the chapel tower boasts a bell with a cross on top. Cost of the metal building with concrete flooring was approximately \$20,000. (LCN PHOTOS)



Senior Citizens MENU

December 1-5

Monday - BBQ chicken, butter beans, spinach, coleslaw, cornbread, sugar cookie

Tuesday - Roast beef, brown gravy, peas & carrots, toast or bread, fruit salad

Wednesday - Meatloaf, new potatoes with sauce, broccoli, celery sticks, wheat roll, lemon cake

Thursday - Mexican beef and potato stew, mixed vegetables, pina colada pudding, flour tortilla

Friday - Brisket or chopped beef, new potatoes, okra & tomatoes, biscuits, apricots, frosted cake-chocolate

Thinking is the activity I love best, and writing is simply thinking through my fingers. -Isaac Asimov

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Nov. 19	72	32	
Nov. 20	77	38	
Nov. 21	80	40	
Nov. 22	79	43	
Nov. 23	41	31	
Nov. 24	51	22	
Total Precip. in Nov.: 0.62"			
Total Precip. to date: 12.96"			

OPEN HOUSE

The Staff of Lynn County Appraisal District invites everyone to their **Christmas Open House**

Thursday, Dec. 4th from 10 am until 4 pm
1636 Ave. 1 in Tahoka
(Open throughout the lunch hour too)

Give Thanks...

During this time of Thanksgiving, we at First National Bank of Tahoka wish to express our gratitude for our bountiful blessings, for the wonderful community in which we are so fortunate to live, and for the opportunity to continue to serve our customers.

FN

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

Mary Rangel of Plainview, Flora Resendez of Seagraves, Elma Manriquez of Lamesa, and Leticia Benitez of San Diego, CA.; and one grandson.



George Michael Spears

Services for George Michael Spears, 61, of Austin were held at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, 2003 in the Cook-Walden/Forest Oaks Chapel. Graveside services followed in the family cemetery.

Spears died Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2003.

He was born May 17, 1942 in Lynn County to Lottie and Thomas Watson Spears of Tahoka, now deceased. He served in the U.S. Army, and worked as a roughneck in the West Texas oil fields. He traveled to Trinidad, Singapore, Asia and Syria working in the oilfields. During the War of Desert Storm, he traveled to Kuwait to help put out oil fires. Among his professional accomplishments were offshore drilling and working in West and South Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. He was employed by E.O. G. Resources as a Division Drilling Superintendent.

Survivors include his wife, Frances; a son, George Michael Spears Jr. of Las Vegas; two daughters, Terri Bagley of Carrollton and Leah Spears Power of Austin; a brother, Larry of Bandera; three sisters, Linda Timmons of Beeville, Patsy Williams of Andrews, and Bonnie Bairrington of Las Vegas; and six grandchildren.

The Lynn County News

Tahoka, Texas 79373
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News from the Tahoka Care Center

Residents at Tahoka Care Center would like to thank Cecil Dorman for the pecans donated to the facility.

We would like to welcome back Gonzalo Amaro after a short stay at the hospital. Also, our deepest sympathy to the family of Dorothy Pearce, she will be missed.

Residents celebrating birthdays this month are John McLelland, Doris Locke and Gonzalo Amaro. Residents birthday party will be held Tuesday, November 25 at the facility.

Once again Tahoka Care Center is inviting family and friends to join us for a Thanksgiving meal Tuesday, November 25 at 11:30 a.m.

If you would like to volunteer your time or make a donation please contact Josie at 998-5018. Also, thanks to the Church of Christ for the Thanksgiving meal given to our residents.

Funds Still Needed For "Christmas For Kids"

Very little funding has come in for this year's Lynn County "Christmas For Kids" program, according to County Treasurer Janet Porterfield, who heads up the program that provides Christmas gifts for needy children in the county.

"Compared to previous years, we have had very little funding come in this year," she said. "As of Monday, we have a total of \$590, including memorials, and so far we have 140 children signed up for the program," she added.

She did say that more people have signed up this year for "adopting" children for Christmas gifts, but that anyone planning to adopt should do so by Dec. 6.

Dec. 6 is also the last sign up date for "Christmas For Kids," at 10 a.m. in the courthouse basement courtroom (use west entrance).

To sign up the parent or guardian will need to show a WIC, Medicaid or Food Stamp card.

Order your **MARY KAY** PRODUCTS from **Cindy Shirley Alvarado**
NEW PHONE: 561-5381

Husbands: call for special occasion or Christmas gift baskets!

Happy Thanksgiving!
We will be closed Wednesday through Friday for Thanksgiving - Open Monday.

Santa Claus is coming to PJ's!
BRING THE KIDS FRIDAY, DEC. 5TH from 4:30-6:30 pm
PHOTO PACKAGES AVAILABLE.

PJ's Deli and Bakery
1515 SOUTH FIRST STREET • TAHOKA
561-6507

Courthouse

(continued from page 1)
and Josh Lasserre, P. of Visionaries in Pre community Heritage De sion, spent several ho ing, looking into al crannies and seeing of the public have no many years - includ

Dust has filtered beautiful marble sla railings leading up of the courthouse, b that gray-green striat visible. Hardwood neath the feet, and g from the walls in t west side of the b clawfoot bathtub sit room a short hallw room that is believ used to sequester j Four small closets of room, which must h sort of barracks-ty tions for the people were not allowed to ing.

Down another opens onto a long-r al staircase leading ness. At one time scended to a small r into the district co juries could enter without being acces lic.

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Around on the third floor, steel ba ing the test of time, the ghosts of those v imprisoned in th Scratched on the sid to be a solid steel w; years past, includi crudely drawn skul

Boxes of cou stored near the old mor has it that some on the marble wall are bloodstains fr Deputy Sheriff F.E. According to an acc 13, 1936 issue of News, Redwine w own pistol as he v place prisoner Elm jail cell. Banks w from the deputy sh several times as pri cell (who could no heard Redwine beg shoot, even as the l

Nobody saw l down two flights o floor above the ba his exit into the ga

Holiday St. Saturday
Let us show your child's Christmas spirit!

All c There is necessary Please com bring it (16th & Ho If you have a

Child's Name _____
Child's Name _____
Child's Name _____
Child's Name _____
Parent's Name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____
In Case of E contact _____
Does your c should be av _____
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Have a B

Courthouse Renovation ...

(continued from page 1)

and Josh Lasserre, Program Director of Visionaries in Preservation, Community Heritage Development Division, spent several hours in the building, looking into all the nooks and crannies and seeing areas that most of the public have not seen in a good many years — including the top floor.

Dust has filtered down onto the beautiful marble slab walls and stair railings leading up to the third level of the courthouse, but the beauty of that gray-green striated marble is still visible. Hardwood floors creak beneath the feet, and green paint peels from the walls in the rooms on the west side of the building. An old clawfoot bathtub sits in a small bathroom a short hallway down from a room that is believed to have been used to sequester juries overnight. Four small closets open into the dusty room, which must have housed some sort of barracks-type accommodations for the people of the jury who were not allowed to leave the building.

Down another hallway, a door opens onto a long-unused steel spiral staircase leading down into darkness. At one time, the stairs descended to a small room that opened into the district courtroom, so that juries could enter the courtroom without being accessible to the public.

Standing in the silence of the third floor, one can almost envision the juries traipsing up and down those stairs, hanging their coats in the closets and standing at the windows in the jury room, looking down on the town as they considered the decisions they were being asked to make.

Around on the east side of the third floor, steel bars are still standing the test of time, perhaps keeping the ghosts of those who broke the law imprisoned in the small cells. Scratched on the side of what appears to be a solid steel wall is graffiti from years past, including names, and a crudely drawn skull and crossbones.

Boxes of county records are stored near the old jail cells, and rumor has it that some discolored stains on the marble wall nearest the old jail are bloodstains from the slaying of Deputy Sheriff F.E. Redwine in 1936. According to an account in the March 13, 1936 issue of *The Lynn County News*, Redwine was shot with his own pistol as he was attempting to place prisoner Elmo Banks, 43, in the jail cell. Banks wrested the pistol from the deputy sheriff and shot him several times as prisoners in the back cell (who could not see the incident) heard Redwine begging Banks not to shoot, even as the firing continued.

Nobody saw Banks as he ran down two flights of stairs to the first floor above the basement and made his exit into the gathering darkness.

Courthouse Restoration Project:

What: To restore the Lynn County Courthouse, built in 1916, back to its original look, while incorporating the needs of county offices today and in the future.

How: Seeking grant funding from the Texas Historical Commission through the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program.

Cost Estimate: Unavailable at this time, but could be approximately \$2 million. The county would be required to put up matching funds of 15%, of which half could be in-kind for labor, equipment, etc.

How can citizens help?

- (1) Come tour the courthouse — see the possibilities. Call County Judge H.G. Franklin at 561-4222 for an appointment.
- (2) Get behind the project — bring early-day photos of the interior of the courthouse to Judge Franklin, who will have the photos scanned and returned.
- (3) Begin thinking of fund-raising ideas for the county's cost-share, if the grant should be awarded.

Somebody saw his form, however, as he fled across the public square into the open country southward. A huge manhunt began and Banks was caught two days later. He was subsequently convicted of murder and sentenced to death. According to the March 20, 1936 LCN, this was the first death penalty sentenced in the history of Lynn County, and the sentence was brought in after the jury had been out only 16 minutes.

If only they could speak, the walls of the Lynn County Courthouse have witnessed much of the county's history spanning the 87 years since it was built. It is the goal of John Baker and county officials to restore the courthouse to its historical origins, but the cost won't be cheap.

"We don't know yet what kind of figures we are looking at, but it will be high," said Judge H.G. Franklin. "John is wanting to turn in this grant proposal by January, and I'm not sure when the grant funding decisions are made. Even if we get it, this is a long ways down the road. We just want people here to start thinking about the possibilities and to get behind this project," he explained.

Franklin said the grant funding would require matching funds of 15 percent from the county, half of which could be in-kind (labor, equipment, etc.).

"We are excited about the possibilities. We want to be as true historically as possible to the original design of the building, but at the same time incorporate the needs of the current county offices. It's a challenge, but the people [from the Texas Historical Commission] out of Austin have lots of good ideas and John, as an architect, has lots of ideas too. If we can get grant funding for this, I hope the people of Lynn County can

get behind this project and help us come up with matching funds," said the judge.

Judge Franklin also invited Lynn County residents who are interested in the history of the building to contact him at his office, 561-4222, for a tour of the building. He said he would take appointments for tours for anyone who would like to see the courthouse.

"I want our citizens to see what a historical building we have here, and to see the possibilities of restoring this beautiful building," said the judge.

He also asks area citizens who may have interior pictures of the courthouse, especially in the earlier days, to share those photos with them.

"Mr. Labry from the Texas Historical Commission is very interested in seeing any photos that show the courthouse as it was originally, and if anyone has photos we could borrow for a couple of days, then we could get those photos scanned and returned back to them. It would be a great help in this project, and we encourage anyone who believes they may have such photos to take the time to look through their scrapbooks or files. It would be very much appreciated," Franklin said.

Rural Tourism Grant Meeting Set In Slaton

The Texas Department of Agriculture will be hosting an informational meeting at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Slaton Chamber of Commerce to discuss TDA's new matching fund reimbursement program designed to promote rural tourism. The matching fund reimbursement program is part of TDA's new Texas Yes! initiative, a broad-based marketing campaign designed to spotlight and promote rural Texas.

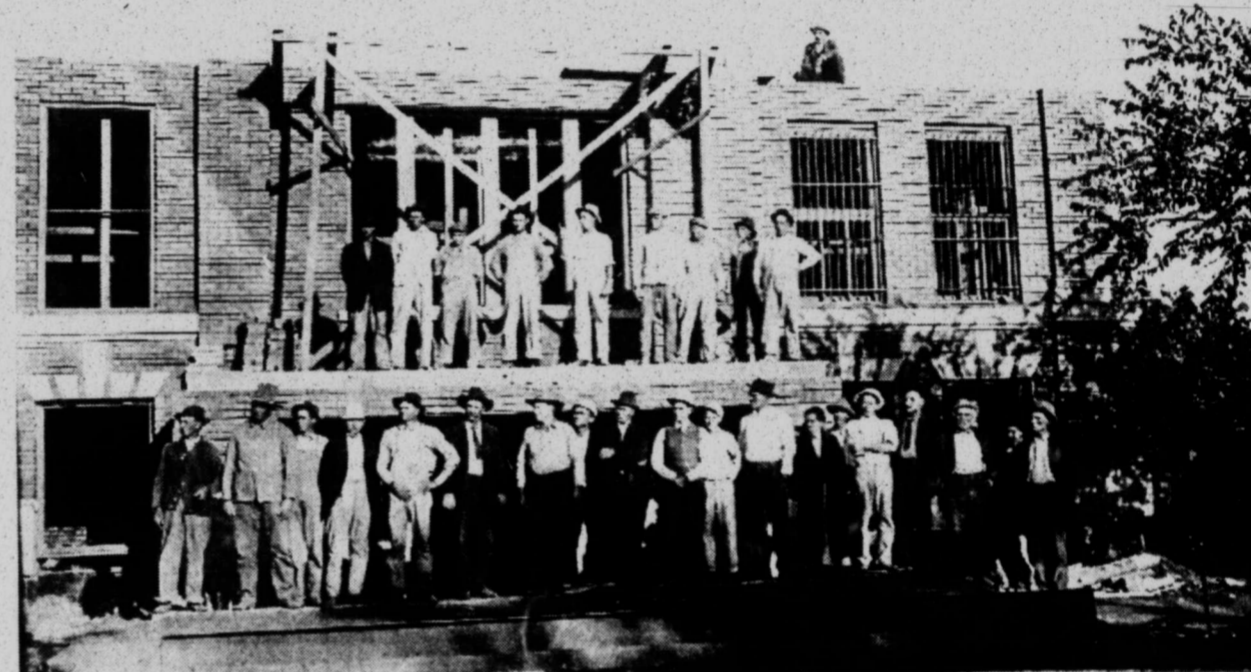
The Slaton Chamber of Commerce is located at 200 W. Garza in Slaton. Participants from Garza, Kent, Lubbock and Lynn counties are encouraged to attend.

The matching fund program is open to rural communities that have joined Texas Yes! There is no cost to join the program, which offers benefits such as the use of the Texas Yes! logo on marketing materials and promotional items and timely information on seminars, workshops and other educational and promotional opportunities for rural communities.

TDA Rural Economic Development Specialist Sheila Martin will be on hand at the informational meeting to provide an overview of Texas Yes! and the matching fund program, including eligibility requirements, proposal submissions, guidelines, rules and application deadlines. Pro-



SEQUESTERING JURIES — This room in the top floor of the courthouse is believed to have been used to sequester juries. Shown here, the four doors opening on the right open to closet space, and the door in the far right corner opens to a short hallway leading to a bathroom. An old clawfoot bathtub still remains there. Most of the top floor still has the original hardwood floors and green-painted walls. A steel spiral staircase leads down from a hall entry near this room, to allow juries access to the courtroom while remaining inaccessible to the public. (LCN PHOTO)



BUILDING THE COURTHOUSE — This photo, copied from a display at the Pioneer Museum, shows the Lynn County Courthouse under construction in 1916. No one was identified in the photo.

posals will be evaluated competitively and limited to \$15,000 in reimbursable match for the first year in support of promotional activities related to rural tourism.

"This is a great opportunity to be involved in a new program that can have immediate and positive benefits," said Michael Muska, TDA's director for Texas Yes!.

For additional details on the Texas Yes! program, go to www.TexasYes.org or call (866) 4TEX-YES (483-9937).

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561-1777
561-1771

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Happy Thanksgiving! Open Thanksgiving Day
Special Turkey & Dressing Dinner ... \$5.50

BREAKFAST SPECIAL 2 Eggs, Choice of Meat, Hashbrowns and Toast 6-11 AM	\$3.25	HOMEMADE BISCUITS & GRAVY Choice of Meat	\$2.99
Beef or Chicken Gyros With Fries - \$4.95	\$3.25	CHORIZO With Potato & Eggs	\$1.35
PITA SANDWICH	\$3.25	10" Breakfast BURRITOS start at	\$1.35

HAMBURGER Quarter Lb. \$1.50

IN WILSON

Holiday Festival for Children

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Saturday, Dec. 13th • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Let us share the good news of Jesus' birth with your child while you enjoy Christmas shopping!

• Christmas Crafts • Music • Games • Lunch

All children, ages 3 and older, are welcome. There is **NO CHARGE**, however, pre-registration is necessary in order to have sufficient supplies on hand. Please complete the registration form below and mail or bring it by St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 136, (16th & Houston), Wilson, Tx 79381 by December 4, 2003. If you have any questions, please call the church, 628-6471.

REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name _____ Age _____
 Child's Name _____ Age _____
 Child's Name _____ Age _____
 Child's Name _____ Age _____

Parent's Name _____
 Address _____
 Home Phone _____ Mobile _____
 In Case of Emergency, contact _____ Phone _____

Does your child(ren) have any health problems or allergies we should be aware of? If so, please list: _____

If someone other than yourself will be picking your child up, please list name and some form of identification (i.e. driver's license #, password, etc.) _____

Have a Blessed Christmas Season!

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Unique Apparel, Jewelry, Gifts and More
(Handpicked by me for you)

Open **THANKSGIVING DAY 2:00 to 6:00**

Leave the men to the football game and come shop with me.

****Free X-mas Tee to first 15 shoppers on TG Day****

Now thru Christmas:
 Open Wednesdays 1:00 to 6:00
 Fridays 1:00 to 6:00

Or by chance, if I'm home, you're welcome to stop in.

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Mistle Kahl

NOV 26 2003



Local Youth Win At District 4-H Food Show

Eight Lynn County 4-H members competed recently at the District 4-H Food Show in Levelland. 4-H'ers from the 20-county area around Lubbock competed in three age divisions to showcase their talents and knowledge of food and nutrition.

In the Junior I Division, Harley Reynolds placed first in Nutritious Snacks, Sarah Freitag placed third in Fruit and Vegetable, Kenzie Angeley placed third in Main Dish, and also participating was Audree Williams.

In Junior II Division, Benjamin Freitag placed first in Fruit and Vegetable, Trevor Gickhorn placed first in Nutritious Snacks, Jynna Askew placed second in Bread and Cereal, and Graham Henley placed third in Main Dishes.

At the District event, members prepare a dish in a specific category and go through an interview with judges. They must know the food groups and food pyramid, basic servings, important nutrients in their dish, steps used to prepare the dish and other learning experiences.

"This project not only teaches young people the importance of healthy eating and food safety but it also helps them with their public speaking skills," said Bryan Reynolds, County Agent for Lynn County.

"These 4-H'ers did extremely well at the District Food Show. We had more 4-H'ers in the top three placings in the Junior I and Junior II age divisions than any other county in our district," said Reynolds.

"4-H Leader Sheri Gickhorn worked for weeks with these members and their dedication and hard work paid off at the District Show," Reynolds stated.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

is available at the following locations in Tahoka:

- Lynn County News office
- Thriftway
- Tahoka Drug
- Town & Country Convenience Store



NEIGHBORLY EFFORT - Lynn County farmers came to the aid of Bill Bueermann of Tahoka last week, to help him get his cotton out of the field. Twenty-four men and women offered helping hands, bringing 14 cotton strippers, 5 module builders and 2 boll buggies to Bueermann's land, harvesting approximately 430 acres last Wednesday.

Lynn County Area Cotton Bale Count

Bale Count as reported by the following area gins on Tuesday this week:

New Home Coop-Lakeview	22,500
Wilson Coop Gin-Wilson	11,205
Farmers Coop Assn. #1-Tahoka	10,000
Farmers Coop Gin-O'Donnell	7,245
Wells Coop Gin	6,400
Woolam Gin-O'Donnell	5,518
Grassland Coop Gin	535
Dempsey Gin	226
TOTAL	63,629

(Bale counts will be reported weekly until harvest is completed)

Lynnwood Happenings

Lynnwood Assisted Living Center
Betty Ehlers, Activity Director

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. We at Lynnwood wish to thank the community for the Thanksgiving meal sent to us Sunday night; we really enjoyed it.

On November 16 we celebrated our second anniversary with an open house. We honored Margaret Stone's family with a plaque for the big screen T.V. they donated to Lynnwood. We really enjoy it and we have movie time every week and enjoy popcorn and coke just like the real movies. We had the quilt drawing at the end and Gloria Williams won the quilt. We want to thank Mrs. Pybus for donating the quilt to us and the money raised will be used for crafts and special activities which the residents really enjoy.

On Thursday, November 20 we had our Thanksgiving meal at Lynnwood. Charlie Stice, Glenda Whitley, Tim Stice, and George Norwood provided wonderful music afterwards. We want to thank them for coming as it was very good music and had everyone wanting to get up and dance.

We at Lynnwood want to extend our sympathy to the family of Ross Smith and to Clara Ragland's family. They will be greatly missed. Also to the family of Stella Mae Pierce.

We are happy to have two new residents, Mr. W.P. Scott and Mr. Woodrow Bishop of Post. We welcome them and invite their family and friends to come anytime to see them.

Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

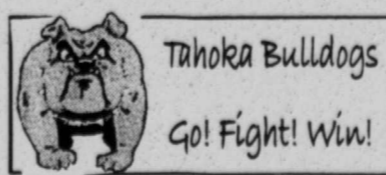
Tahoka School Menu

December 1-5
Breakfast

Monday-Pop tart, juice
Tuesday-Sausage biscuit, juice
Wednesday-Cinnamon toast w/ fruit cup
Thursday-Banana muffin, juice
Friday-Pancake on a stick, juice

Lunch

Monday-Popcorn chicken, grilled cheese sandwich, PBJ sandwich, shaker salad, carrot w/ ranch, pineapple chunks, pudding
Tuesday-Pepperoni pizza, ham & cheese sandwich, PBJ sandwich, Caesar Turkey salad, buffalo fries, apple sauce, pears
Wednesday-Cheeseburger, beef soft taco, PBJ sandwich, shaker salad, lettuce, tomato & pickle, chips, peaches
Thursday-Rib on bun, sloppy joe on bun, PBJ sandwich, ceasar ham salad, tossed salad, apple crisp, choice of fruit
Friday-BLT chicken sandwich, bean & cheese burrito, PBJ sandwich, shaker sandwich, broccoli w/ranch, chocolate pudding, apple slices



Lynn County Commissioners Have Routine Meeting

Lynn County Commissioners met in routine session Monday morning, and corrected the minutes from the Nov. 10 minutes to show the trade-in prices for the maintainers that were purchased by three of the four precincts: Precinct 2 purchase price was \$164,000 with a trade-in of \$59,403 and a five-year 5000 repurchase price of \$95,000, for a total cost bid of \$9,597; Precinct 1 purchase price was \$164,000 with a trade-in of \$36,570 and a 5 year 5000 repurchase price of \$95,000 for a total cost bid of \$32,430; and Precinct 4 purchase price was \$164,000 with a trade-in of \$55,403 and a 5 year 5000 repurchase price of \$95,000 for a total cost bid of \$13,597.

In other business, commissioners heard a presentation by Gary Ward, representing Vertex, who gave a report on the Bureau of Prisons program which is a federal reimbursement program for counties housing INS prisoners. He asked commissioners to consider a contract with Vertex; but no action was taken.

Lena Cloe, Lynn County Victim Assistant Coordinator, sought permission from the county to submit for

another grant that funds her department, which commissioners approved unanimously. Since its inception, the county program has been funded with grants instead of local funding.

Melvin Eaker, representing Gary Bowers and Mills, presented a request to conduct the county's 2003 financial audit, but commissioners took no action on the request.

Commissioners did approve a contract for the Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) program, which is a program set up by the Attorney General's office for victims to have direct access regarding information about the people who committed the crimes against them.

The information would be available through a computer program available in the Sheriff's Office here. Sheriff Bob Wilson reported on his department's activities, and monthly bills were approved.

All four commissioners were present for the three-hour meeting, including Don Morton, Don Blair, J.T. Miller and Mike Braddock, as well as County Judge H.G. Franklin, who presided, and others.

Wilson School Menu

December 1-5
Breakfast

Monday-Breakfast pizza, juice
Tuesday-Egg, sausage cheese bake, juice
Wednesday-Sausage pancake on stick, juice
Thursday-Egg, sausage, toast, juice
Friday-Donut, juice

Lunch

Monglay-Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, fries, fruit
Tuesday-Enchilada casserole, rice, beans, fruit
Wednesday-6-12 Salad bar or hot pocket, salad, carrot sticks, fruit, PK- 5 Hot pocket, salad carrot sticks, fruit
Thursday-Chicken nuggets, mash potatoes, green beans, rolls, fruit
Friday-Pizza, salad, carrot sticks, fruit

The WILSON News

by Carol Yowell • 628-6392

e-mail: cayowell@yahoo.com

BBQ DINNER/AUCTION

The Wilson Livestock Association is having its annual BBQ Dinner and Auction on December 7th at the Wilson ISD cafeteria. This event helps raise money for local FA and 4-H members to pay for premiums at the local and county stock shows. The meal will start at 11 a.m. and will be served until 1 p.m. or until we run out of food. The auction will start at 12:30 p.m. Don't miss your chance to pick up some last minute Christmas presents or stocking stuffers and to help our local kids in representing our community with their animals. If you have an item to donate, please call Ben Cozart at 628-6201 or Roxanne Evans at 628-6539 for pick-up. Hope to see you there!

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County Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, December 4th

9:30-10:30 a.m.

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NOTICE

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The Quality Housing Authority to prepare an Monday, January 05, 2004 Authority will hold a publ Plan. The meeting will ta located at 1400 Ave K

The draft plans and al the Administration office o of 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on 1

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FOR SALE - 2 BR, 2 bath, living room, den, kitchen, utility room. Good location at 1907 N. 7th. Phone A.J. Jester. 561-4803. 48-tfc

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Card of Thanks

Thanks to all those who helped gather our crop on Wednesday, November 19. It is very moving to know that friends and family left their own fields for a day to help us. Thanks to Taylor Tractor.

A special thanks to the Lions Club, PJ's and Barbara Ehlers for providing food for the group. May God bless each of you.

Bill and Wayla Bueermann
48-1tp

Band Boosters would like to take this time to thank all those that worked, brought, donated, and provided goods for the bake sale. Special thanks to Steve Sanders at Thriftway, Allen Elrod - always there to help at the last minute, Robbie and De'Aun Autry, and Donna Willis. Once again, thanks for the communities support for our kids and the 3-D Band program.

Rhonda McNeely
Band Booster, Vice-President
48-1tp

The family of Omega Uzzle would like to express our deepest appreciation to all who called, visited, sent cards, phone calls, flowers, food and all other acts of kindness shown to our family during and after Mother's illness.

A special thank you to the employees and staff at Tahoka Care Center. Their care and concern for Mother was beyond the call of duty. God bless each one at the Care Center. Thanks to the EMS in June for their care of Mother and a thank you to Lynn Co. Hospital and Dr. Freitag for their excellent care they extended to Mother in June.

Our thanks to First United Methodist Church for the delicious meal served to our family. Our appreciation to Gene Wisdom and Marvin Gregory and grandson Dennis Noblett for the memorial services.

We are fortunate to live in such a caring and loving community.
God bless you all.

Omega Uzzle family
Lee and Judy Holden and family
Bob and Terry Noblett and family
Neal and Sharon Essary and family
Mark and Saunya Bishop and family
48-1tc

We are very grateful for the many kindnesses shown us during Mother's illness and death. The flowers, memorials, visits, prayers, food and cards meant more than words can say. A special thanks to the personnel of Lynnwood. We will always treasure your caring and love. May God bless each of you.

Wanda & Ernie Taggart
Ronnie & Kathleen Ragland
Sharon & Robert Smith
48-1tp



Notice

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Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ON AGENCY PLANS
January 05, 2004 at 5:00 p.m.
The Center For Housing and Community Development
1400 Avenue K

The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 requires the Tahoka Housing Authority to prepare an Annual Plan covering operations of the Public Housing Program. On Monday, January 05, 2004, at 5:00 p.m. the Board of Commissioners for the Tahoka Housing Authority will hold a public meeting to receive comments on the Housing Authority's Annual Plan. The meeting will take place at The Center For Housing and Community Development located at 1400 Ave. K.

The draft plans and all supporting documentation are available to the public for viewing at the Administration office of the Housing Authority, located at 1400 Avenue K, during the hours of 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Monday-Thursday and 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Friday.

Bill Miller
Executive Director
Tahoka Housing Authority
47-2tc

PRINTING PICTURES? Glossy photo paper available at the Lynn County News office, 1617 Main. Open 9-5, Monday-Thursday, 9-4 Friday (closed 12-1 for lunch). 561-4888.

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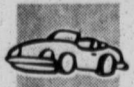
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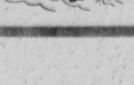
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Serving Our Country

Lynn County residents are proud of the men and women serving in our country's armed forces. Listed here are those from or related to those from Lynn County. Submit information/photos to The Lynn County News, PO Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373 or e-mail to lcn@lano.net.

PFC Amanda Bruton is stationed in Iraq with the U.S. Army. She was due to leave on board the helicopter that crashed near Baghdad on November 1, but it was filled to capacity before it came her turn to board, so she was scheduled for a later flight. Her room mate, another lady soldier, was aboard the doomed copter and was one of those killed.

Amanda is now home on official leave and visiting with her father, Harlan Bruton, and her grandparents, Jim and Dorothy Smith, all of New Home. She will also spend some time with her mother, Donna Miller, of Weatherford, before returning to Iraq following her leave.

Amanda says that daylight travel in Iraq is mostly done by convoy, it being safer with armed American soldiers serving as guards. She was in one convoy which was attacked by



PFC BRUTON IN IRAQ—PFC Amanda K. Bruton, with the U.S. Army in Iraq, is shown here with an Iraqi family. Photo was taken earlier this year near her base outside of Baghdad.

insurgents and an American officer was killed by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Amanda is one of some 130,000 American troops now serving in Iraq, and her unit is due to be rotated back to the states in March or April, 2004. She entered the U.S. Army on a four-year enlistment in early 2002, and has been in Iraq since March, 2003.

Navy Seaman Recruit James R. Williamson, son of Cynthia D. Barnes of Tahoka, and Michael K. Williamson of Red Rock, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Williamson completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, fire fighting, water safety and survival, and ship-board and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations". This exercise gives recruits the key skills and confidence they need to graduate and take to the fleet. "Battle Stations" has been designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

Williamson is a 2002 graduate of Bastrop High School of Bastrop, Texas.

A Gift to the AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY MEMORIAL PROGRAM strikes a blow against cancer

New Home School Menu

December 1-5
Breakfast

Monday-Donut
Tuesday-Breakfast pizza
Wednesday-French toast sticks
Thursday-Rice Krispy bar
Friday-Biscuit/sausage

Lunch

Monday-Steak fingers, French fries, lettuce/tomato, fruit cup, texas toast
Tuesday-Beety Nachos, lettuce/tomato, pinto beans, orange half, hot sauce
Wednesday-Pizza, lettuce/tomato, corn banana pudding
Thursday-Popcorn chicken, whipped potatoes, green beans, applesauce, hot rolls
Friday-Chili cheese dog, tator tots, chili beans, cobbler

New Home Leopards
Go! Fight! Win!

The New Home News
by Karon Durham • 924-7448

There will be a Red Ribbon Round Table Christmas raffle Dec. 4-16 for a chance to win a large surprise-filled stocking. Tickets are \$1 each, and may be purchased from Mrs. Durham or a high school Round Table member.

New Home Schools had an ice cream and cookie party for the students who brought socks for the Women's Protective Services during Red Ribbon Week. Students collected 116 pairs of socks. The students were asked to guess the amount of socks collected for a prize. The prizes were stuffed into a new sock and the winners included Mark Overman, 1st, Adrian Villarreal, 2nd, in grades 7-12, and an elementary tie between Leah Gustafson, Kade Sherwood and Chelsi Rodriguez. Door prizes were also given away. The theme of Socking It To Drugs will be continued throughout the year with the students. Red Ribbon Week is a time to encourage the students to live positive lifestyles and teach them the value of saying No to drugs. If you would ever like to help with any Red Ribbon Week activity please see Mrs. Durham.

New Home 2nd and 3rd grade classes went on a field trip to the Lynn County Library and Tahoka Pioneer Museum on Nov. 10.

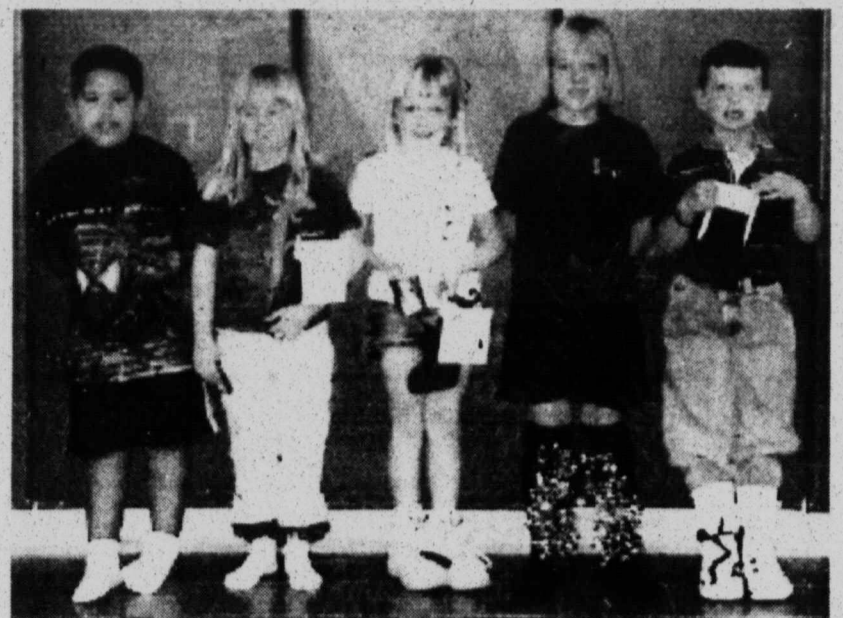
New Home Student Council held an assembly on Veterans Day for 7-12 grades. A New Home teacher, Betty O'Rourke, also a U.S. Veteran, spoke at the assembly.

Betty O'Rourke and her husband Dennis live south of New Home on the Spirit Horse Ranch. They have two daughters, Katie and Meghan. Following is a biography of CDR Betty O'Rourke of her years in military service.

CDR Betty O'Rourke joined the United States Marine Corps in February 1978 and reported to Officer Candidate School in Quantico, VA in June, 1978. She was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in August 1978, and reported to The Basic School, also in Quantico. In April 1979, she completed the Admin Officer Course at MCRD, Parris Island, and was designated as a 0180, Adjutant.

In May 1979, she reported to 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, CA. For the next three years, she served in various billets, including Assistant Group Adjutant, H&S Battalion Administrative Officer, and H&S Company Commanding Officer.

CDR O'Rourke left active duty in August 1982 to pursue degrees in Nursing and Theology at the University of San Francisco. Upon arrival in San Francisco, she affiliated with a Marine Reserve unit, VMA 133, located at NAS Alameda. She



SOCK IT TO DRUGS—During Red Ribbon Week students could enter the creative sock contest at New Home ISD on Nov. 22. Pictured are the winners of K-2 creative sock contest: (left to right) 1st grade: Jo Adam Vasquez, Kindergarten: Leah Gustafson, 1st grade: Kaylan Lehman, 2nd grade: Lindsey Burenheide, Kindergarten: Cole Parton.

New Home ISD mid-term exam schedule is as follows:

Thursday, Dec. 18:
8:00-8:25 - Study time
8:30-9:45 - 2nd Period Exam
9:45-10:00 - Break
10:00-11:15 - 4th Period Exam
11:15-11:45 - Lunch
11:45-12:00 - Study time
12:00-1:15 - 6th Period Exam
1:15-1:30 - Break
1:30-2:45 - 8th Period Exam
3:10 - Dismissal
Friday, Dec. 19:
8:00-8:30 - Study time
8:30-9:45 - 1st Period Exam
9:45-10:00 - Break
10:00-11:15 - 3rd Period Exam
11:15-11:45 - Lunch
11:45-12:00 - Study time
12:00-1:15 - 5th Period Exam
1:15 - Early Dismissal for Christmas

Students will be released from the cafeteria at 7:55. They are to go to 2nd period class on Thursday, and 1st period on Friday. Those arriving at school before the first test time are to go to the first period test and study. Those finishing the test early should bring something to study or a book to read. During Break students should move to the next testing room and take care of personal needs. Students are not to leave your room under any circumstances until the testing time is over. Examination sheets will be handed out Monday, Dec. 15.

On the Calendar: Dec. 1, Meadow at New Home; Dec. 2, Host Loop; Dec. 4, Stocking Raffle; Dec. 4-6, Borden Co Tourney.

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