

cher;
Rate

garding payment
ity bills at school
discussed, with
g to have all util-
directly to the dis-
individuals who
housing to reim-
t for their utility

ISD bus routes
d as hazardous
no lights or
ing on Hwy. 87.
ved a resolution
tes west of Hwy.

ey Schneider in-
that nearly all
tion projects in
as well as at the
lot have been
that the mainte-
the final stages
e school for stu-
at Mr. Luera has
ition of Director
and Transporta-
arity Pyron has
n aide at the sec-

Clay Burns and
ovided informa-
their campuses,
the student and
books were pre-
ard.

regular board
cheduled for Sept.

u -- it
!

ness

L
m
-3729

RUSS

i, August 27,
his meeting
that will be

rate shown below
ds another public

ing fiscal
for each of

Year
90.00
60.00
86.00
560.00

State Revenue
Per Student
\$ 5,971.00

\$ 6,543.00
\$ 6,513.00

r
.00
.00
727/100
92
21

s or older or of
d, may not be
roperty value.

in election is
of 1.170341.

ered with or
cept of the

10

10

email us at: LynnCoNews@poka.com

LYNN COUNTY COURTHOUSE



Courthouse built in 1916

THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2007 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903

VOLUME 104, NUMBER 34

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2007

8 PAGES PLUS INSERT

50¢

What's Inside

- **\$7,700 in Scholarships At Harvest Festival** - pg. 2
- **Obituary** - pg. 2
- Joe M. Vasquez
- **Singers Wanted for Starz Contest** - pg. 2
- **Tahoka VFD Gets New Fire Truck** - pg. 3
- **Back To School Night** - pg. 3
- **Princess Contest offers Savings Bonds** - pg. 5
- **HPWD Proposes Reduced Tax Rate** - pg. 6
- **WISD Prohibits Student Cell Phones** - pg. 8

BACK TO Class

See information on Lynn County schools:

- **Tahoka ISD** - pg. 4
- Virtual Classroom
- Sixth Grade Moves to TMS
- Football Schedule
- **New Home ISD** - pg. 5
- Pre-K Program is New
- Football Schedule
- **O'Donnell ISD** - pg. 6
- Laptops for Jr. High
- Football Schedule
- **Wilson ISD** - pg. 8
- Mustang Baseball offered
- Football Schedule

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Aug. 15	91	68	
Aug. 16	92	69	
Aug. 17	79	69	
Aug. 18	86	68	0.89"
Aug. 19	93	67	0.02"
Aug. 20	91	69	
Aug. 21	84	69	
Total Precipitation Aug.:			3.15"
Total Precipitation July:			1.43"
Total Precipitation June:			3.38"
Total Precipitation May:			5.57"
Total Precipitation Apr.:			1.15"
Total Precipitation Mar.:			4.22"
Total Precipitation Feb.:			0.36"
Total Precipitation Jan.:			1.39"
Total Precip. Year to Date:			20.65"

Lynn County News

P.O. Box 1170 • Tahoka, TX 79373

Phone: 806-561-4888
Fax: 806-561-6308

E-mail address:
LynnCoNews@poka.com

office hours

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)



New staff at Tahoka ISD ... Pictured here are several new staff members at Tahoka ISD, seated from left, Brooke Sanford (BCIS/Coach), Stevi Huffaker (8th Grade Math), and Regina Resendez (High School English); and standing in back, Jesse Garza (High School Math/Coach) and his wife, Shelby Garza (District Counselor), Jay Whitefield (High School History/Coach), and Craig Harris (High School History/Coach). Not pictured is the new Ag teacher, Slate May; Assistant Band Director Johnathan Smith; Deborah Harr, 6th/7th Science; and Day Care Providers Susie Garcia and D'Lynn Gill. (LCN PHOTO)

Check Forgeries Reported In County

Recent incidents of forged checks passed at Allsup's in Tahoka and O'Donnell are being investigated after reports were received by Tahoka Police and Lynn County Sheriff's Dept. last week.

Checks in the amount of \$132.78 and \$52.50 were passed in Tahoka and a check for \$46.98 was passed at O'Donnell, all about a month ago.

Two persons recently indicted by a 106th District Grand Jury have been arrested. They are Randy S. Garcia, 36, of Slaton, indicted for assault/family violence, and Juan Moreno Gutierrez III, 32, of Tahoka, indicted for failure to stop and render aid and aggravated assault.

The body of a Casey Stovall, 35, of Lubbock, was discovered Monday in a vehicle parked at Slide Rd. and County Rd. K in Lynn County. Justice of the Peace Ginger Henry ruled death by self-inflicted gunshot wound.

A Tahoka woman advised police that she had recently learned that her two small children had been sexually assaulted about three years ago by a

suspect she named. Investigation is continuing.

Lynn County jail was holding 46 inmates this week, with 16 brought in during the last week. Of the total, 10 were held for Garza County and three for Gaines County.

Those most recently arrested were jailed for public intoxication, driving while license invalid, tampering with evidence, driving while intoxicated, failure to identify fugitive with false information (warrant), expired drivers license plus failure to appear, and criminal mischief.

Lynn County Harvest Festival

FOR BOOTH RENTAL
CALL 561-4440

- Queen/King Contest
- Princess Contest
- Starz Singing Contest
- Classic Car Show

SEPT. 22



Class of 2006 Legacy ...

The Tahoka High School Class of 2006 commissioned this new statue in front of the high school, featuring THS lit on three sides in fiber optics. John Wilson, of W&D Construction and Design Inc., designed and built the statue. (LCN PHOTO)

City Proposes Same Tax Rate

Tahoka City Council met in special session Monday night, Aug. 20, proposing to keep the property tax rate for next year at the same rate, with no increase from the previous year. The city tax rate is just over 74-cents per \$100 of property value, at \$74703. A notice is printed in this issue of *The News* detailing the proposal, although it is listed as a tax increase because the rate will bring in more tax revenue dollars than the previous year. That's because of increased property values within the taxing entity.

Total appraised value of all property in the City of Tahoka is \$71,740,610, up more than \$8 million from the previous year's value of \$63,579,100. According to figures in the comparison of residence homestead values, the average taxable value of a residence homestead at \$35,298 last year is now valued at \$40,613 and the homeowner would pay \$39.70 more in property taxes.

City council members voting for the proposal included Clara Calvillo, Rudy Fuentes, Jeff Martin and Ray Don Box. Councilwoman Amy Preston, who was serving as Acting Mayor at the meeting during the absence of Mayor Mike Mensch, did not vote.

Two public hearings on the issue have been scheduled for Aug. 30 and Sept. 4, at 5:30 p.m. at Tahoka City Hall.

In other business at the meeting, council members voted to change the position of City/County Library Director Claudia Guin to a full-time position, with library hours to change accordingly, effective Oct. 1, 2007. Part-time library assistant is Wanita Kelley. City Administrator Jerry Webster noted that the city and county have agreed to share equally in funding the salary for the city/county library position. New library hours will be printed in *The News* before becoming effective on Oct. 1.



Eagle Coach is World Champion in Field Events

Steve Patridge, track and field coach at O'Donnell ISD, set a national record in discus at the Senior Olympic Games this summer, and shattered the world record in shot put at the Master's State Championship competition. He threw the shot-put 53.9-1/2 ft. in Dallas at the Master's, and threw the discus 50.3 ft. at the Senior Olympic Games. He planned to compete in the senior games at Lubbock in August.

woodwork by dalton

LOTTA TAHOKUM, my friend whose relationship to me is sort of like that of Harvey the Rabbit to James Stewart in the 1950 movie, came by and told me she had been reading that the Japanese believe a person's personality is largely determined by his (or her) blood type.

"What type blood do you have?" she asked me.

"Well, it's mostly red, with too much sugar in it, and it gets really tired sometimes from all that running around inside me," I said.

"No, silly," she said, "I mean what type, like A, B, O or whatever, negative or positive—and don't say something stupid like Z positive, because you positively try to keep zee blood inside you at all times."

Chastened, I told her I thought I was type A—"maybe not positive, but pretty sure."

Anyway, she showed me a chart which some Japanese think provides clues to one's personality based on blood type. For example, the chart says Type A people tend to be conservative, introverted, reserved, patient and punctual, and perfectionists. Those are their best traits. The worst traits of Type A persons are: obsessive, stubborn, too self conscious and uptight. Famous Type A people listed included George H.W. Bush, O.J. Simpson, Britney Spears, Alan Alda, Adolf Hitler, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon and Jet Li.

The problem with the chart is that all of the types have both good and bad traits, so how are you going to judge which ones are dominant? Type Os, for example, show good traits of being ambitious, athletic, self-confident and natural leaders, but also tend to have worst traits of arrogance, vanity, insensitive and ruthless. And the famous examples given included Al Capone, Gerald Ford, Mikhail Gorbachev, Queen Elizabeth II, John Lennon, Elvis Presley and Ronald Reagan.

So I believe the idea that blood type has anything to do with personality is dumb, except that everyone needs some type of blood in order to have any personality at all.

I guess I don't know much about blood, anyway. Lotta asked me to explain the words "plasma" and "corpuscle." I told her I have a new plasma television set, and I thought a Corpuscle was some kind of late model Chevrolet.



Annika Says Hello... Annika Christl from Germany, says hi to friends in Tahoka. Annika was an exchange student last year at Tahoka High School. Skylar and Kami Owens of Tahoka spent three weeks in Altdorf Germany (near Nürnberg), Annika's hometown. This photo was taken at the entrance of the Castle where Annika's parents were married. Pictured from left are Kami, Annika, Skylar, and Annika's little sister, Sara.

\$7,700 In Scholarships Offered At County Harvest Festival

Students in Tahoka, Wilson, New Home and O'Donnell high schools have an opportunity to win a total of \$7,700 in scholarships at the 2007 Lynn County Harvest Festival, with King and Queen contests open to boys and girls who reside in Lynn County. The Harvest Festival Queen's Contest is sponsoring \$4,200 in scholarships, and the King's Contest is sponsoring \$3,500 in scholarships.

Interested students should contact the contest co-chairmen, Karen Huffaker at 561-4302 or Starr Bray at 561-6161 in Tahoka, or in O'Donnell contact Susan Dorman. Karen Huffaker may also be reached on her cell phone at 549-6594, or by email at khuffaker@tahoka.esc17.net.

Signups for the Queen and King contest will open Aug. 22, and deadline to enter will be Sept. 4, in order for candidates to have time to sell their tickets. The tickets this year are also new, offering all cash prizes. Tickets are \$1 chances to win one of three prizes - \$1000, \$500, or \$300. Both King and Queen candidates may earn \$100 cash for every 400 tickets they sell.

This year's Harvest Festival Queen will win a \$2,500 scholarship. The first runner-up will receive a \$1,200 scholarship, and

the second runner-up will receive a \$500 scholarship. Any high school girl living in Lynn County may be a contestant (unless married, pregnant or a mother). The contest involves interviews with judges who will base their decisions on personality, poise, appearance, and intelligence. To be a finalist, a candidate must sell at least 250 tickets, but the winners are chosen solely by judges from among those finalists.

The King contest offers a \$2,000 scholarship to the winner, a \$1,000 scholarship to the first runner-up, and a \$500 scholarship to the second runner-up. King candidates will also sell tickets, and must sell 250 tickets to be considered a finalist in the contest. Lynn County businessmen/women will judge this contest, with candidates to present a community service project proposal of their choice, to the panel of judges. The candidates do not have to actually perform a community service, but would present a proposal of what they would like to see done in their community.

Singers Wanted For Starz Contest at Harvest Festival

Singing talent can pay off big at the Lynn County Harvest Festival in Tahoka, where contestants are wanted for the Lynn County Starz Contest. Cash prizes are being offered, and the contest is open to anyone.

The Lynn County Starz Contest, sponsored by the Harvest Festival Committee, is offering cash prizes for the top three singers in both adult and youth categories. The adult category, which is ages 16 and older, will offer a first place prize of \$400 cash, a second place prize of \$300, and third place prize of \$100. In the youth category (ages 15 and younger), the top three winners will win savings bonds worth \$400, \$300, and \$100.

Contestants will perform at the Lynn County Harvest Festival on Saturday, Sept. 22, at the courthouse square in Tahoka, with performers to sing live (with taped/CD accompaniment) in front of the crowd. The Starz contest begins at 5 p.m. Non-local judges will choose the winners.

To enter the Starz contest, a contestant must either sell 50 Harvest Festival tickets (for a chance to win one of three prizes, \$1000 cash, \$500 cash, or \$300 cash), or if they prefer, a candidate can pay a \$50 entry fee instead of selling the 50 tickets.

For more information, or entry forms, contact Susan Tipton at the Lynn County Clerk's Office, 806-561-4750. She can also be reached by email at susanlynn@door.net.

Gospel Jamboree Set in Wilson This Saturday

Wilson's annual community-wide Gospel Jamboree will be held on Saturday, August 25 at 6 p.m. on the lawn of First Baptist Church in Wilson. The event is hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church and First Baptist Church of Wilson.

Entertainers from around the area will showcase their talent and St. John's Youth will present a puppet show. Free hamburgers with all the trimmings and dessert will be served. All ages are invited. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. For more information, call 628-6333.

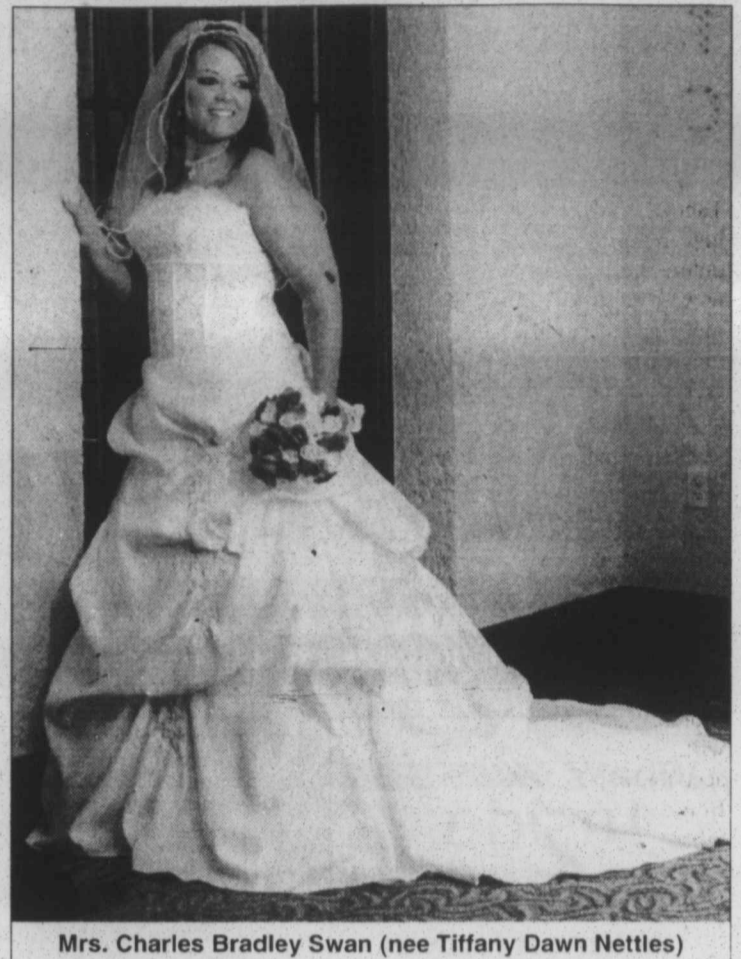
Obituaries

Joe M. Vasquez

Services for Joe M. Vasquez were held Friday, August 10, 2007 at St. Pius Catholic Church in O'Donnell. He died Monday, August 6, 2007 in Plainview.

He was born November 13, 1969 to Juan and Lupita Vasquez of O'Donnell.

Survivors include his parents; three brothers, Javier Vasquez of Seguin, Juan Vasquez Jr. of Plainview and Jorge of O'Donnell; three sisters, Janie Vasquez of San Antonio, Linda Rosales of O'Donnell and Christina Longoria of Lubbock; 23 nieces and nephews and three great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, Julian Vasquez, Sr.



Mrs. Charles Bradley Swan (nee Tiffany Dawn Nettles)

Nettles-Swan Vows Exchanged

Tiffany Dawn Nettles of New Home and Charles Bradley Swan of Anton were united in marriage at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 10, 2007 at the New Home Baptist Church in New Home. Bro. Ray Perryman of Shallowater officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Alan and Sharee Nettles of New Home, and the granddaughter of Diana Nettles and the late Harold Nettles, Melvin Barley and the late Mary Barley and Ruth Moon. The groom is the son of Charlie and Chloe Swan, and the grandson of Weldon and Connie Swan and Zade and Dorothy Hooper.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore a white royal satin strapless wedding gown with a scalloped neckline embellished with silver beading and embroidered lace on a fitted bodice. The gown featured a dropped waist skirt and train decorated with silver pickups and silver beaded appliques at each pickup. She wore a jeweled tiara with a veil attached, and carried a bouquet of white and fuchsia roses with pearls and ribbon.

Serving as maid of honor was Keely Nettles of New Home, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were

Kaci Wied, Stephanie Kieth, and Heather Anderson, all of New Home, and Julie Montgomery and Mandy Pritchard of Lubbock.

Jarrod Swan, brother of the groom, of Anton, served as best man. Groomsman were cousins of the groom, Clayton Swan of Lubbock, Clint Stephenson and Cory Stephenson, both of Anton, and Jordan Blount and Jerrod Keff, of Lubbock.

Ushers were Brandon Nettles, brother of the bride, of Lubbock, Ross Fillingim, Keaton Askew, both of New Home, Riley Barnett of Tahoka, and Colter Blount of Anton. Flower girls were Ann Marie Powell, cousin of the bride, of Corpus Christi, and Sterlin Richardson of Lubbock. Serving as candle lighters were Nicole Taylor of New Home, and McKinzie Smith, cousin of the groom of San Angelo. Ring bearer was Bryce Nettles, nephew of the bride, of Lubbock. Kelly Fillingim of New Home registered guests.

A reception followed at the Merket Alumni Center at Texas Tech University. Following a wedding trip to Puerta Vallarta, Mexico, the couple will reside in Anton.

A Century 1907-2007 of Excellence

First National Bank - 1921
(Photo courtesy Tahoka Pioneer Museum)

2007 is a banner year for First National Bank of Tahoka.

We are celebrating our 100th year
of serving the citizens of this area!

We look forward to continuing a tradition of stability and service, and we sincerely appreciate you, our valued customers!

Celebrating
100
years
1907-2007

First National Bank of Tahoka
Member FDIC
Phone 806 / 561-4511

Care TO BE Aware

HEALTH NEWS FROM LYNN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
by Joey Quintana, RN, DON • Jeanie Stone, EMT-I, EMS Director

WHERE ARE YOU?

Imagine yourself being called in the middle of the night to an area that you may or may not be familiar with by a person needing help. You have an address, but since it's dark and you are not familiar with the area, you're not sure where to go. Add to that the urgency of the call. After all, that person said they needed help. Maybe they said what kind of help they needed. Or maybe they were too upset or panicked to be able to give that information. But, hey, no problem, you have the address, right? You arrive in the area, start looking for the address only to realize, **there are no addresses on the houses!**

These are situations EMS, firefighters and police deal with all the time. Most of the time, firefighters can look for smoke, but obviously, this is not a good sign.

Emergency workers want to be able to find you as soon as possible. Putting your address on your home is the homeowner's or resident's responsibility. Some people have their house numbers painted on the curb. While these are visible during the day, they are very difficult to see at night. Whether you have numbers put on your home or do it yourself, here

are a few suggestions to make it easier for us to find you:

- Use numbers that are big enough to be seen from the street
- Place the numbers in an area where the view from the street will not be obstructed by a pole or plants
- Use numbers made from a material or paint that will reflect light at night

If you are unable to put your address on your home, there are other ways you can help us find your home. If possible, *always* turn on your porch light and have someone wait outside. When they see the emergency vehicle approaching, they can wave their arms and flag us down. Even if no one is outside, we'll be looking for that porch light. Especially late at night, when all of the other houses on a block are dark except yours. The house that has all the lights on may be the one waiting for us. Most delayed response times are due to difficulty in locating a patient's address.

Help us find you. Please take these simple steps and make sure your address is visible. Remember, the sooner we find your home, the sooner help arrives for you or your family member.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

News • Advertising • Printing • Office Supplies

PHONE (806) 561-4888 • FAX (806) 561-6308 • TAHOKA, TEXAS

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: lc11tahoka@poka.com OR LynnCoNews@poka.com. Periodical postage paid at Tahoka, Texas 79373. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Lynn County News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373.

Tah Get

A new Tahoka Fire Department vehicle meeting. The new vehicle is replacing the old truck, incorporating equipment well.

Cost of \$122,325, a down payment from Fire Department. Monthly payments will also be accounted for from donation bills.

"Right Donation \$1600 a month to make the new Tahoka City Webster. The fund to get where we're sooner," he Webster out 1100 v and all inc fire depart bill. Only

STOP

Aaron McCleskey the birth of on Saturday 7:09 p.m. Center, he ozs, and w He has one brother, Bl

Grand Delbert Mc Alton and Nelda grandparen and Ja of Fredrick

Tipton From Leader

Lynn Tipton was tion cerem Leadership Association Leadership which takes plete, instr their roles i government skills like in cation, dev skills and with such to ship and the proactive ag the third ye held, and er

Tipton and know through he 2006-07 Le very benef county, and with other c make her ov stronger. T history incl tor for Regi trict Clerks 06), Lynn C nator and c County Cer she is a Lyr fare Board i the Lynn C and past Ro

The T Counties organization county gov Texas. Its L serves as an for county c

City-C

561-4050 • (In the U
M
11:00 am-1
Saturd
Tahoka
561-5339 • F
OPEN: Fri

Have Computer, Can Travel...

Virtual Classroom Program Offers Access For TISD Students

by JUANELL JONES

Stock shows, athletic competitions, student conventions – all of these activities are good for students and provide new opportunities for learning and lifelong values. But what of the classwork the students are missing while they are gone? And what happens when an illness prevents a student from attending classes for several days?

The answer is a virtual classroom – a computer technology that hooks up students with their teachers and classwork. This does not mean that the local teacher is out of the equation. In fact, very much the opposite, as the teacher is in control of the information sent to students. All it requires is computer access and a willingness to complete assignments.

Tahoka Independent School District implemented the new virtual classroom program last year, allowing teachers to incorporate the new teaching tool as much – or as little – as they desired. Several teachers embraced the new teaching tool with enthusiasm, and it is expected that the tool will be used extensively this year as well.

James Crawford, Technology Director at TISD, is the brains behind installing the new technology at the local school, and he says that Tahoka ISD is one of only two school districts in the South Plains area that offer such technology.

"To my knowledge, Tahoka and Littlefield are the only school districts offering this type of technology," said Crawford. He set up the program to allow teachers to put student assignments on the computer, which in turn "flows out" to all students in the class. The student gets the document online, on a computer wherever he/she desires to access it, and completes the required assignment, all online. The student then sends the document back to the teacher (there are filters in place to only allow the teacher access to the document), who then reviews it, grades it, and if desired, sends it back to the student.

"It's not an email program – there are no student emails

through the school system,"

Crawford is quick to point out. "The programs necessary to manage and oversee student email systems are very expensive, as federal law requires filters, and there are just too many issues to deal with. This virtual classroom allows information to flow only from the teacher to individual students. The students don't have access to each other, and their information only returns to the teacher," he explained.

He is quick to credit the actions of the administration and school board at Tahoka ISD for allowing him to implement the new virtual classroom technology. "If not for the support of the school board and administrators, we would not have any of this – they absolutely gave me 100% backing for implementing this program, and I have the utmost respect for all of them. They are genuine in wanting to do their best for our students," Crawford said.

Cost wise, the two programs Crawford uses for the virtual classroom initiative was relatively inexpensive for the district. "It costs about 50-cents per student per year to manage the program, and with 600 students that's \$300. And there was a one-time \$1600 start-up cost, with a renewal fee of less than \$300 annually. For less than \$600 a year, we can give access to all students all the time – that's technology money that is well-spent," he said.

It's not his objective, however, to replace classroom time with the virtual classroom. "It is not my objective, ever, to have a student not go to school," emphasizes Crawford. "But I do want our students to have the same opportunities, technology-wise, as the richer school districts, and many colleges and universities offer this type of



James Crawford
Technology Director
Tahoka ISD

classroom access. And when a student has to be away from the classroom, this program allows confidential access to teaching assignments for a student to keep up with his classwork," he added.

THS Theatre/Speech teacher Jessica Crabb said the new virtual classroom was very helpful to her students last year. "I started using the virtual classroom for my speech class," she explained. "I have a unit I teach on creating Persuasive PowerPoint presentations. The students were required to do a couple of week's worth of activities on the computer, and this tool was extremely helpful to me in keeping up with what they were working on. The students were able to submit their work to me online, and this saved me so much time. It also allowed students to be introduced to more technology," she said.

Crawford not only installed the virtual classroom, he also oversees and manages it daily – along with overseeing all of the technology programs, hardware and software repairs, and computer technology for the entire school district in classrooms from pre-kindergarten through the high school level, as well as all administrative offices. Tahoka ISD has close to 500 computers, and Crawford can "remote" into any of them at any given time.

It's a mind-boggling job for most, to keep up with the upgrades, repairs, and software/hardware issues for one computer, let alone for hundreds of

computers. Crawford, a former farmer and rancher, says he taught himself the ins-and-outs of the computer world. He was a technology director at Stamford before he came to Tahoka.

"I learned it all from the seat of a tractor and the saddle of a horse," he insists. "I farmed and ranched for 26 years before I did this. That's all you have time to think while you're sitting there, and that's what I did. If you get hungry enough to learn it, you'll do it," he says with a grin. "Of course, sometimes it's just 'black magic' – there's just no explaining how some technology works," he laughs.

Crawford says he feels teachers will implement the program more and more at Tahoka ISD as they learn how the virtual classroom program works. "The students knew instantly what to do with it – some of the teachers did and some need a little time to get adjusted. I am very pleased with our staff using the program. I check in on the log for the program, and can see who is using the virtual classroom. On average during the last school year, there were 2-15 students using it nightly, and about 2-10 teachers accessing it as well," he said.

He says administrators can implement the program as well, to allow teachers to turn in their lesson plans.

Technology for school districts is growing daily, with almost limitless capabilities. "Within another year, all student TAKS testing may be done online. I have done several tests with the state online regarding the TAKS test, and this is something that is coming in the future. We've got a lot of schools who have never done online testing in ESC 17, but our kids will already be familiar with online work," he added.

The virtual classroom program at Tahoka ISD is preparing students for the technology of the future, as well as providing them the capability to keep up with classwork when outside of the classroom. For any school system, that's good news – for a Class AA rural school district, it is commendable that administrators and trustees are providing Tahoka ISD students with the opportunity to access such technology.

Tahoka ISD

Web address: www.tahoka.esc17.net

Administrators:

Superintendent: Jimmy Parker
High School Principal: Troy Hinds
Middle School Principal: Tom Thomas
Elementary Principal: James Baker
Asst. Elem. Principal: Alecia Hancock
Testing Coord./Curriculum Director: Jenni McLelland

New Staff:

Slate May - Ag teacher
Craig Harris - High School History/Coach
Jesse Garza - High School Math/Coach
Shelby Garza - District Counselor
Deborah Harr - 6th & 7th Science
Johnathan Smith - Assistant Band Director
Stevi Huffaker - 8th Grade Math
Brooke Sanford - BCIS/Coach
Jay Whitefield - High School History/Coach
Regina Resendez - High School English
Susie Garcia - Day Care Provider
D'Lynn (Stone) Gill - Day Care Provider



Tahoka ISD Board of Trustees:

Math Bartley - President *(8 yrs)
Joe Calvillo - Vice President (12 yrs)
Jimmy Dorman (4 yrs)
Frank McLelland (5 yrs)
Kent Kahl (3 yrs)
Antonio Garcia (1st yr)

*Number of years as trustee

TISD Ready for students:

Sixth Grade Students Now At Tahoka Middle School

A new school year begins Monday, Aug. 27 at Tahoka Independent School District. Sixth grade students at TISD will no longer have classes on the elementary campus, instead moving across the street this year to join the middle school campus. And, a new art class is being offered to high school students this year, taught by theater arts teacher Jessica Crabb.

Middle school students (grades 6-8) should have received their student schedules in mid-August, according to Principal Tom Thomas. "Adjustments to schedules will be made during the first week of school, and registration packets will also be handed out on the first day of school," said Thomas.

High school students should have picked up their registration packets Aug. 14-15. Several forms within those packets must be completed and returned to the school

by Aug. 24, according to THS Principal Troy Hinds.

Hinds is excited about another new school year beginning. "Our teachers work together so well, and we're going to be able to offer a new art class this year for our students. We still believe our college credit classes are very important, and we're really going to push UIL academics again – we've got a bunch of young kids that are real excited about that after doing so well last year. Our TAKS scores from last year were so good – we did very well compared to everyone else," said Hinds.

Back-to-school night will be tonight (Thursday), with activities scheduled from 6-7 p.m. at both the elementary campus and middle school campus. Elementary students and parents may visit classrooms and the south playground where hot dogs will be served, and middle school activities will be at their campus.

2007 THS Varsity Bulldog Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug 18	Ralls scrimmage	Home	TBA
Aug 24	Crosbyton scrimm.	Away	TBA
Aug 31	Sundown	Home	7:30
Sep 7	Shallowater	Away	7:30
Sep 14	O'Donnell	Home	7:30
Sep 21	Seagraves**	Home	7:30
Sep 28	Floydada	Away	7:30
Oct 5	OPEN		
Oct 12	Slaton*	Away	7:30
Oct 19	Idalou*	Home	7:30
Oct 26	Post*	Away	7:30
Nov 2	Denver City*	Home	7:30
Nov 9	Roosevelt*	Away	7:30

* District Game ** Homecoming

MDA Fundraiser Set In Brownfield

The 1st Annual Muscular Dystrophy Concert featuring Kenny Maines, of the Legendary Maines Brothers Band, and Lamesa's Nikki Lee will be held August 25 at the Coleman Park Amphitheatre in Brownfield, starting at 6:00 p.m.

Admission is free, donations will be accepted to benefit the MDA. Also appearing will be Buddy Holly's niece, Sherry Holly and the former Buddy Holly band member, Tinker Carlen. Karla Todd, former Cactus Theatre performer, will appear as well as Lynn Alexander and the 8 Second Ride Band.

There will be a chance to win a Texas Tech autographed football and a Texas Tech Bob Knight Autographed Basketball as well as other unique items.

Bring blankets and/or lawn chairs. For more information please call (806) 637-7844.

Need an Invitation?

If you need an invitation for a Baby Shower, Wedding, Anniversary, Birthday Party or anything else, come by the Lynn County News office and let us help you! We have all colors of paper to choose from and can help you customize your invitations... all at a low price.

For example: 50 Baby Shower post cards is \$12.50.



THE Lynn County News

1617 Main Street in Tahoka • 561-4888



The honor of your presence is requested at the marriage of
Wanda Elise Hoban
and
Samuel James Smith
on Saturday, the tenth of December
two thousand and six
at seven o'clock in the evening
First Christian Church
1811 Main Street
Brownfield, Texas

Check out the City of Tahoka's Website!



Find out more about the City of Tahoka by visiting their computer website at www.tahokatx.com

The site has information about city government, officials, churches, city services, health services and more!

BACK TO SCHOOL Night

For all Tahoka Elementary Students

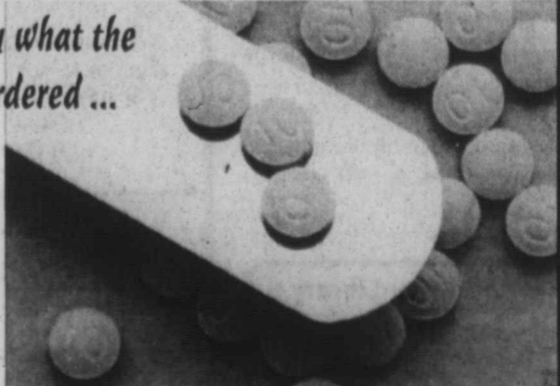
TONIGHT! Thursday, Aug. 23 from 6-7 pm
AT THE TAHOKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SOUTH PLAYGROUND (next to the Cafeteria)

Come FIND your classroom, MEET your TEACHER and put away school supplies • Get your TICKET for FREE Hot Dogs in your Classroom (donated by Atmos Energy) • Enjoy a FREE Snowcone by First Baptist Youth • CHEER with the THS CHEERLEADERS • Check out the FIRE TRUCK with the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. • Softball Signups • Visit with 4-H • Check out PJ's booth • Pride Corp will be selling T-SHIRTS • and MUCH MORE!

SPONSORED BY PRIDE CORP • 561-4584 • Please no food or drink inside the school.

Precisely what the doctor ordered...

Trust our knowledge & experience to fill your prescriptions with accuracy.



Family-owned since 1923

1610 Main in Tahoka **Tahoka Drug** Phone 561-4041

Mustang Baseball Offered At Wilson ISD This Year

A new athletic program will be offered at Wilson Independent School District this year. An "out-law schedule" - not UIL alignment - in baseball will be offered, to offer an alternative spring sport for Wilson athletes.

Superintendent Mike Jones said the school conducted a survey of students and staff to determine if baseball or softball would be a sport that students were interested in participating - and the survey said: baseball.

"Several years ago Wilson offered a baseball program with an outlaw schedule - maybe nine years ago or so," said Supt. Jones. "We're going to try it again this year. Cody Sandlin, who is head football coach, will head the baseball program as well. We're excited about offering a baseball program at Wilson," he added.

School starts Aug. 27 for Wilson ISD students. A portion of campus that has been closed off due to fire damage is expected to begin seeing a facelift soon as school begins. The three-classroom junior high building was damaged in an early-morning fire last July, and remained closed through the 2006-07 school year.

The school district hired an architectural firm in the spring, refined the drawings, and hired a construction manager in July. Construction crews are expected to begin the renovation of the building in September, and the extensive remodeling project should be finished by the end of the semester.

"We anticipate moving in no later than the end of the semester," the superintendent said. "The project includes new classrooms and new restrooms, and we are also adding two new restrooms in the cafeteria, and may consider adding a walk-in freezer."

Junior high classes have been conducted in two classrooms in the high school building and three classrooms in the elementary building. "No one has complained - all our staff has been very accommodating to share space, but we will be glad to get the new classrooms completed," said Jones.

The Mustangs play a six-man football schedule, opening Aug. 31 at Plainview Christian. They will host Sands on Sept. 7, and Homecoming is slated for Sept. 21, hosting Klondike.



Mustang Cheerleaders ... Varsity cheerleaders at Wilson High School are (in back) Xia Rios and Kim Pena, and (seated) Stacie Marquez and Jenna Autry.



Wilson Jr. High Cheerleaders ... Junior high spirit leaders at Wilson ISD are shown here, standing from left, Jenny Atchison, Trista Matthews, Laura Joiner, Lacy Caballero; and seated, Brittany Atchison, Kaitlin Garcia (mascot), and Jennifer Joiner.

2007 Wilson Mustang Varsity Football Schedule

Aug. 24	Klondike (SCR)	There	6:00
Aug. 31	Plainview Christian	There	4:00
Sept. 7	Sands	Here	7:30
Sept. 14	Guthrie	There	7:30
Sept. 21	**Klondike	Here	7:30
Sept. 28	Benjamin	There	7:30
Oct. 5	Plainview Christian	Here	7:30
Oct. 12	*Southland	Here	7:30
Oct. 19	OPEN		
Oct. 26	*Cotton Center	There	7:30
Nov. 2	*Amherst	There	7:30
Nov. 9	*Whitharal	Here	7:30

**Homecoming
*District

2007 Wilson Mustang Junior High Football

Aug. 31	OPEN		
Sept. 6	Sands	Here	5:30
Sept. 13	Plainview Christian	There	4:00
Sept. 20	** Klondike	Here	5:30
Sept. 28	Benjamin	There	5:30
Oct. 4	OPEN		
Oct. 11	*Southland	There	5:00
Oct. 18	Lazbuddie	There	5:00
Oct. 25	*Cotton Center	Here	5:00
Nov. 1	*Amherst	There	5:00
Nov. 8	*Whitharal	Here	5:00

Notice of Vote on Tax Rate

The Lynn County Commissioner's Court conducted public hearings on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the County of Lynn from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by

7.05 percent (7.05%) on Aug. 20, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

The Lynn County Commissioner's Court is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on **Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2007 at 9:00 A.M. at the County Judge's Office in the Lynn County Courthouse, Tahoka, Texas.**

Wilson ISD

www.wilson.esc17.net

Administrator:
Superintendent/Principal:
Mike Jones

Wilson ISD Board of Trustees:

Clyde Wilke - President *(8 yrs)
Janie Rios - Vice President (4 yrs)
Oscar Ortega - Secretary (1 yr)
Ricky Cross (2 yrs)
Casey Donald (1st yr)
Danny Mendez (1st yr)
Israel Ramirez (1st yr)
*Number of years as trustee

New Staff:
Angela Burton - Special Ed/Asst. Coach
John Edward Lopez - HS Social Studies/Asst. Coach
Candice Moczysgemba - MS Social Studies
Michael O'Donnell - HS Science/Asst. Coach



Mike Jones
WISD Superintendent since July 2000

Wilson ISD Trustees Prohibit Student Cell Phones In Class

The Wilson ISD Board of Trustees met in a called meeting last Thursday, Aug. 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wilson School library, discussing budget and tax rate issues, and student policies regarding cell phones on campus.

Trustees authorized Superintendent Mike Jones to have the Lynn County News publish a proposed Maintenance and Operations tax rate of \$1.04 and set the Interest and Sinking tax rate to be published at .10727, for a proposed total tax levy of \$1.14727. A public hearing on the tax rate/budget was set for 7 p.m. Aug. 27.

In other business, the board reviewed the employee handbook and student handbook. Trustees approved the Student Code of Conduct and accepted a recommendation from administration to prohibit students possessing cell phones during the school day. Students will need to leave their cell phones in their locker or car during the school day. Superintendent Jones said this recommendation was put forth to take away the distraction to instruction that cell phones have become.

"We don't want to have students 'texting' each other during class or playing downloaded games. We have, in the past, allowed cell phones, but students were told to leave them turned off during the school day and we have had students that failed to follow those rules. Even the state does not allow students to have cell phones in classrooms during testing since students across the state have been caught 'texting' answers on state exams," the superintendent explained.

Cell phones will be confiscated and given to the principal, and parents or students may be charged \$15 for the return of the cell phone. Students may face other disciplinary measures such as detention and may have their cell phone disposed of with proper notification beforehand.

"I will continue to notify a parent the first time a cell phone is taken up. The next time the fee will be assessed. If a student cell phone is taken up a third time it will be permanently disposed of," said Jones.

Students are also not allowed to wear the roller tennis shoes to school as a safety issue for the student and others. Superintendent Jones also reminds parents to please have their children to leave MP3 or CD players and other personal electronic media at home. Unless a student has been given permission by a teacher to use it in class for a project or a coach has allowed students to bring them on

athletic field trips after school hours, they should be left at home.

The board approved the Wilson ISD contribution to the Lynn County Appraisal District for tax collections and operations, and approved a change to the school calendar to move a bad weather day to May 5, 2008 to avoid a conflict with the revised state testing calendar.

Superintendent Jones gave a report on the reduction in local funding and how that would impact Wilson ISD this year. "Wilson ISD will lose approximately \$100,000 in local taxes from the tax rate being compressed by .33 cents. The state is not making up that shortfall in the funding formula. I may have to recommend adopting a rate exceeding the rollback rate next August to make up that shortfall. We cannot run a school district or any business for that matter with a deficit in revenue funding. We have already reduced staff over the years and we need each of the current talented caring teachers and staff to meet the needs of our students and the expectations of the entire Wilson community," said Jones.

All trustees except Ricky Cross were present at the meeting. The next board meeting will be held on Monday, August 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. The public is welcome to attend.

WISD Open House, Meet The Mustangs Set Tuesday Night

The Wilson School has slated an Open House on Tuesday, August 28, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Parents may come by and meet their child's teachers.

Following the Open House the Mustang Booster Club will be hosting a "Meet the Mustangs" at 7:00 p.m. at the football stadium. After the introduction of the cheerleaders, football players, and sponsors/coaches, all parents and students are invited to enjoy a free hot dog supper provided by Kevin Larperter with Atmos Energy.

"The Mustang Booster Club wishes to thank Atmos Energy and Mr. Larperter for their gracious donation," said a club member.



St. John Lutheran To Host Prayer Walk

St. John Lutheran Church in Wilson will host a prayer walk at Wilson ISD on Sunday, August 26 at 2:00 PM.

"The congregation invites everyone to join us as we walk around the school and cover it in prayer for the new school year which begins the next day," stated Tonda Freitag, Parish Lay Minister.

For further information, contact Mrs. Freitag at 998-4928.

Wilson SCHOOL MENU

August 27-31
Breakfast

- Monday: Cinnamon ?
- Tuesday: Pancake
- Wednesday: Baked eggs
- Thursday: Donuts
- Friday: Mustang McMuffin Lunch
- Monday: Sub sandwiches, baked chips, lettuce, tomato, pickles and fruit
- Tuesday: Chicken Nuggets, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, fruit
- Wednesday: Pizza, salad, baby carrots, ranch dressing, fruit
- Thursday: Hamburger w/ all the trimmings, fries, cake
- Friday: Chalupas, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, applesauce

SEND THEM ...



Order a Student Subscription to The Lynn County News!

All student subscriptions are for nine months and run from **September 1 to May 27**. Cost is just \$21.00 anywhere in the U.S.

To order, send payment and student's name and address to **The Lynn County News, Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373** or come by the office at **1617 Main Street in Tahoka.**

LYNN C
Wha
I
• Cotl
Bike
• Obil
- Mell
- J.W
- Bria
- Patr
• Clas
Har
• Tah
in Ji
• WIS
Tax
• TISI
Tax
• Gos
• OIS
\$1.1
W
ev
in t
Lyr
Coul
Nev
Foot
Exte
I
The
w
M
Dea
adve
Tuesday
We
Date
Aug. 22
Aug. 23
Aug. 24
Aug. 25
Aug. 26
Aug. 27
Aug. 28
Total Pre
Total Pre
Total Pre
Total Pre
Total Pre
Total Pre
Total Pre
Total Pre
Lynn
P.O. Box
Phon
Fa
E-mail
LynnC
on
he
Open
9:0
(Ope
CLC
(Drop