

LYNN COUNTY COURTHOUSE



Courthouse built in 1916

THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2007 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903

VOLUME 105, NUMBER 5

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2008

8 PAGES PLUS INSERT

50¢

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Grandparents - 1 Week left to get your pictures in!



Kaidance Rodriguez
 Sylvia Rodriguez, Tony Calvillo,
 Larry & Kim Wall
 (2007 Brag Pages)

The Valentine Brag Pages will be in the February 14 issue of The Lynn County News and you can have your grandchildren's photos published for only \$8 each picture.

Deadline is Thursday, Feb. 7.

Bale Count

1/29/2008

Texas Star Gin, Wilson/Union	122,840
New Home Coop, Lakeview	73,828
Woolam Gin, O'Donnell	51,202
Farmers Coop Assn. #1 Tahoka	50,400
Farmers Coop, O'Donnell	40,171
Wells Coop Gin	35,444
Grassland Coop Gin	19,348
Close City Gin, Post	17,179
TOTAL	411,412

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Jan. 23	53	20	
Jan. 24	31	22	
Jan. 25	60	22	Trace Rain
Jan. 26	66	26	
Jan. 27	69	35	
Jan. 28	74	41	
Jan. 29	49	41	
Total Precipitation Jan.			0"
Total Precip. Year to Date:			0"

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

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 in Tahoka

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(Open During Lunch Hour)

CLOSED FRIDAYS

(Drop Box available by front door)



On the record-breaking trail ... Tahoka senior Ty Cloe is breaking records again at powerlifting meets, shown here at Big Spring, where he lifted a total of 1815 pounds in squat, bench press and dead lift competition - already surpassing the current state record as well as his own state record-breaking lift of 1725 pounds that won him the state championship last year. Cloe was named Outstanding Lifter at the last two competitions. And Cloe is not the only Tahoka powerlifter earning medals, as the boys team placed first overall out of 9 teams at the Big Spring Meet. Cloe, D.J. Torres and Jacob Stevens all won first place medals in their weight-class divisions; Joell Lowdermilk, Allen Henderson and Sabino Perez earned second place medals; and Jacob Bingham and Tanner Hall had 4th place medals. Jamie Bingham placed 10th.

Five Surrender After Indictments

Five persons indicted by 106th District grand jury last week have either been arrested or posted bond on the charges. Those already appearing on the charges are:

Randy Carter, 20, of Tahoka, accused of burglary of a habitation.

Richard Andrew Garcia, 19, of Tahoka, evading arrest.

Carlos Gonzales, 46, of O'Donnell, driving while intoxicated with two or more previous convictions.

Victoria Leeann Robledo, 20, of Lubbock, aggravated assault.

Hart Lee Childers, 20, of Lubbock, aggravated assault.

Tahoka Police last Friday were called to the scene of an altercation involving two women outside a convenience store, and in the subsequent investigation encountered two different males who were wanted on outstanding

warrants. Those two were arrested, including one on warrants to revoke probation on resisting arrest and another warrant for theft from Kerr County. The other man was wanted on an application to revoke probation for evading arrest plus a Kerr County warrant for non-payment of child support.

Four persons were jailed in Lynn County during the last week, bringing the total jail population to 38, with 16 of these held for Lubbock County.

Two of the four were arrested for driving while intoxicated. One person was jailed on an application to revoke probation on conviction for evading arrest, plus a charge from Kerr County for failure to provide child support. One was arrested on eight Class C misdemeanor warrants from Dawson County and a warrant from Dawson County on unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Voting Boxes Consolidated For March Primary Elections

Several Lynn County voting boxes will be consolidated for the 2008 Primary Elections, county commissioners determined at their Monday morning meeting. Voting boxes 1 and 5, 2 and 8, 3 and 10, and 4 and 11 will be consolidated for the March 4 elections, with polling locations to be printed in *The News* for all voting boxes prior to the election. Additionally, commissioners voted to permanently relocate voting boxes 1 and 14, both of which traditionally had polling locations inside the Lynn County Courthouse. Voting Box 1 will be relocated from the Courthouse to the Life Enrichment Center in Tahoka, and Voting Box 14 will be moved to the Tahoka Housing Authority Center. The relocation removes all polling locations from the courthouse building, which commissioners believe will allow better access for voters.

In other business, County Judge H.G. Franklin informed commissioners that Lynn County did not receive any of the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation program Round V Fund-

No Money For Lynn County: Local Courthouse Renovation Project Denied Funding

by JUANELL JONES

Fourteen courthouse restoration projects in Texas were approved for funding in a recent round of funding awards, but Lynn County's \$3.5 million project was not one of the awardees, county officials were notified Friday. It does not mean the project is dead in the water, but it does mean the project will be put on hold until the next

round of funding in 18 months, when the project can be considered again. "Originally, they said only about eight projects out of the 47 would be funded, and then they decided to put a cap of \$5 million on any one project, and that increased the awards to 14 projects. Unfortunately, Lynn County was not one of those funded," said Judge Franklin. "Of course I am disappointed, but I was told that we were very close to the top of the cutoff line, and that if any of those who were approved for funding decide to turn it down ... there is a possibility that in a month or so we could get a chance for funds. If not, of course, then we have to wait for the next round of funding awards in 18 months. We won't give up," he added.

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Lynn County Judge H.G. Franklin

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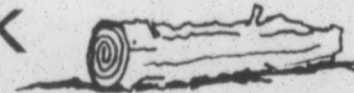
Lynn County Judge H.G. Franklin attended a presentation session representing Lynn County in the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program in Austin, where he said there were 47 courthouse projects vying for a limited amount of funding in the Round V Funding Awards.

"Originally, they said only about eight projects out of the 47 would be funded, and then they decided to put a cap of \$5 million on any one project, and that increased the awards to 14 projects. Unfortunately, Lynn County was not one of those funded," said Judge Franklin. "Of course I am disappointed, but I was told that we were very close to the top of the cutoff line, and that if any of those who were approved for funding decide to turn it

The preservation/renovation plan to restore the Lynn County Courthouse has been approved by the Texas Historical Commission Courthouse Preservation Program, which is a major step in the process. But that approval only gets a project eligible to apply for the funding. The next step is actually two rounds of funding - one for the planning grant (which would involve an architectural firm detailing the steps in the renovation plan), and another round of funding for the actual building grant. Lynn County officials had already selected Komatsu Architects in anticipation of the planning stage, but the architectural plans will now be put on hold because the funding was not awarded.

The amount of funding for the Courthouse Preservation Program is determined by the Texas Legislature, and can vary in each round.

woodwork
by dalton



IF YOU THINK nobody really pays much attention to what you do around the office, consider this: In a New York office of 23 people, a guy died at his desk and nobody noticed until five days later that he really wasn't doing much.

The clipping sent to us recently said this 51-year-old proofreader apparently had a heart attack on Monday and was still at his desk (and I do mean still) Saturday when a janitor asked him what he was doing working on the weekend. An examination indicated he had been dead for five days.

Well, it probably was a heart attack. The story said he was proofreading material for a medical journal at the time, so he could have been bored to death.

I always heard that New Yorkers tend to mind their own business and are not usually as outgoing and friendly as folks around here, but gee, I'd like to think that even if I worked in a New York office, someone would notice before I had been dead for five days at my desk.

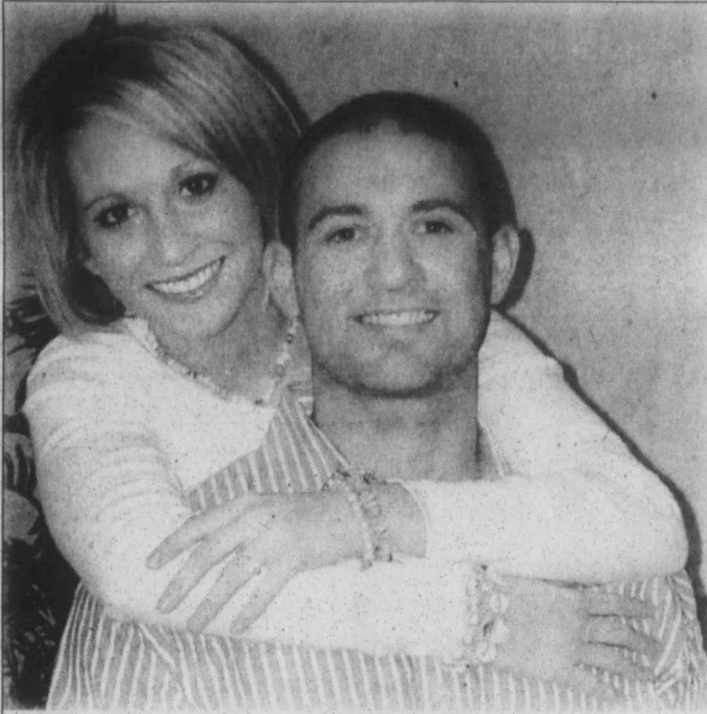
Of course, there are always some workers around most offices who always appear to be dead at their desks.

HOW MUCH Big Brotherism will people put up with? That's a question posed by columnist Walter Williams who recently wrote that California is considering a law which would allow some government employee at a central location to set the thermostat on home heating and air conditioning to assure that people won't waste too much energy.

Under the proposal, any new AC/heating systems installed in homes would have to be controlled by a special thermostat, which the homeowner could not adjust. The individual resident couldn't override the controls, either, for any reason.

The idea is to prevent misuse of energy and avoid brownouts or energy crises. It would create a position called an "energy czar" who dictates how warm or how cold you are going to be.

We already have one of those at my house, called a wife. She sets the thermostat where she wants it, no matter how cold I get. I can't change it, because I never have figured out how the thing works; it's complicated. I tried once, and never could decide if the numbers it showed were the current temperature, what it will switch to three hours later, or what I wanted it to be right then.



LINDSAY PRESTON and BRENT PARIS
Couple To Wed In July

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Preston of Tahoka and Mr. and Mrs. Pug Paris of Seagraves announce the engagement of their children, Lindsay Preston and Brent Paris.

Lindsay, a 2004 graduate of Tahoka High School, will graduate from Texas Tech University in August with a BA in Marketing. Brent, a 1999 graduate of Seagraves High School, received a BS in Kinesiology with a minor in History from Sul Ross State University in 2005. He is currently the head baseball coach in Colorado City, Texas, where he has been teaching and coaching for the past three years.

The couple plans to marry July 5, 2008 in Tahoka.

Joint Meeting Brings County Taxing Entities To The Table

A joint meeting held last week brought representatives from most of the taxing entities within Lynn County to the table, including Lynn County Hospital District, Lynn County Commissioners, and city and school boards from Tahoka, Wilson, New Home and O'Donnell. The meeting, held at The Center for Housing and Community Development in Tahoka on Jan. 22, was for the purpose of sharing ideas and fostering better communications between the local taxing entities.

It was the second such meeting of its kind, first held as a joint meeting between the City of Tahoka and Lynn County several months ago. From that meeting came the idea of opening communications between all of the taxing entities within the county to discuss concerns, ideas, and possibilities of sharing property, personnel and/or equipment in certain situations.

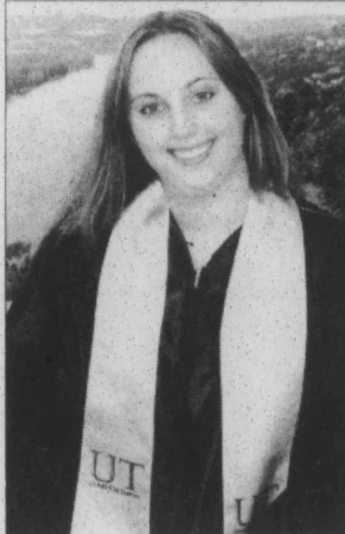
Lynn County Judge H.G. Franklin and Tahoka City Attorney Cal Huffaker led the informal joint session. No formal action can be taken at the joint sessions by any of the taxing entities, as the sessions are merely informational and open to fostering ideas or discussing projects that may affect more than one taxing entity.

"At this meeting, we discussed such things as proposed usage and fees for the new landfill owned by the City of Tahoka, the county courthouse renovation project, and the possibilities of wind energy development in the county," Huffaker told *The News*. "We also discussed whether this type of joint meeting is beneficial and whether to continue holding them, and the group decided to hold quarterly meetings, with the next meeting to be set some time in April," he added.

"The types of things the group will be discussing would be, for instance, whether certain

types of sewer system equipment owned by one city could be shared by other city entities, and the feasibility of sharing other equipment, personnel or property. Any of these types of discussions have the possibility of saving taxpayer money, and would be open to discussion at these joint meetings," said Huffaker.

Notice of the next meeting will be sent to all the local taxing entities' main offices, which then each have the responsibility of informing their board members of the meeting time.



LANA JONES

Lana Jones Earns Degree From UT

Lana Jones received her Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology with a minor in Business Foundations from The University of Texas at Austin, during commencement ceremonies held in December 2007.

Jones is a 2003 graduate of Tahoka High School, and the daughter of Gary and Juanell Jones of Tahoka.

She is currently employed at The University of Texas Accounting Department.



MR. AND MRS. A.C. FILLINGIM

Fillingims Celebrate 60th Anniversary

A.C. and Betty Fillingim, Jr. of New Home celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008 with a dinner at The Center in Tahoka. The celebration was hosted by their children, Wayne and Barbara Fillingim of Brownfield, Kenny and Carol Fillingim of Lubbock, Jimmy and Tara Fillingim of Hamlin, and Steve and Cheryl Mason of Midland. Fillingim and the former Betty Jean Parr married January 25, 1948 in Lynn County. They have 10 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Superintendent's Contract Renewed at New Home ISD

New Home Independent School District Board of Trustees renewed Superintendent Leland Zant's contract at their January board meeting, extending the contract by one year at a salary of \$69,000.

Crutcher Makes WTC Dean's List

Kaleb Crutcher made the Dean's Honor List for the fall semester at Western Texas College in Snyder. To make the Dean's Honor List a Western Texas College student must be enrolled for a minimum of 15 hours and maintain a 3.5-3.9 GPA. Crutcher, enrolled in the Golf Technology and Landscape Management program, had a 3.81 GPA.

He is the son of Darryl and Regina Crutcher and the grandson of John and Pearl Crutcher and Fern Crutcher. He graduated from O'Donnell High School.

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VOTE for Sammy McCrary on MARCH 4 for DISTRICT ATTORNEY

I've been prosecuting cases for you in this district for over 10 years. During that time, I've handled over 1000 felony cases. As your assistant district attorney, I have helped remove hundreds of criminals from our communities, including many child molesters, murderers, rapists and drug dealers. I've tried and won dozens of trials before juries in this district and I've argued and won numerous criminal cases before the Texas Appellate Courts. I'm also the only candidate Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Criminal Law.

If elected, I will continue to work hard to keep our communities safe. Please promote me to District Attorney so that I may continue working for you. Vote Sammy McCrary for District Attorney.

Pol. Ad. paid for by Sammy M. McCrary

Phebe K. Warner CLUB NEWS

Phebe K. Warner Club met January 22 in the home of Deloris Short with eight members and a guest present.

Lena Cloe, project director of the Lynn County Victim Assistance program, told the members of the many services offered to victims of crime. This program makes every effort to see to it that the victim's rights are upheld, transportation is provided for counseling and they offer assistance in completing the Crime Victims Compensation Application... just a few of the services provided for the communities of Lynn County and beyond.

"Phebe K. Warner club admires and supports Lena's diligent work with this program and the Child's Welfare Board program. Donations such as blankets and toiletries are always needed and welcomed," added a spokesperson.

Barbara White, president, reported the new courthouse Christmas ornaments will sell for \$20. The District meeting will be held March 22 in Tahoka at the Life Enrichment Center.

Their next meeting will be February 12, an earlier time, at 2:30 at Lynnwood Assisted Living Center with members providing prizes and playing bingo with the residents.

REGISTER and Vote!

You must be registered to vote 30 days prior to any election.

Register at the Lynn County Courthouse Tax Office.

DONATIONS to Lynn County Hospital District EMS are greatly appreciated!
PO Box 1310, Tahoka, Tx 79373

Community Survey To Include Other Towns in Lynn County

Residents in New Home, Wilson and O'Donnell and rural areas of Lynn County will receive a survey form in the mail in the next few days that will help determine community needs. The one-page, front-and-back form is the same one mailed to Tahoka residents recently, and will have lists of concerns that may be checked. No signature or name is required on the form, and a return envelope is provided.

The Tahoka Church of Christ is conducting the survey, and the forms will be returned to them. "We want to help members of our local communities in Lynn County deal with challenges of everyday life through support groups, counseling or training seminars," explained Ron Fant, minister. "In order to accomplish this, we want to know what concerns community members may have."

Fant said the surveys returned to the church from the Tahoka mailout indicated several needs within the community, with the biggest perceived needs being: (1) financial management, (2) care for family members, and (3) care of aging parents.

"We have decided to send the survey to all of the towns within the county. We cannot help each other unless we talk to each other. Your church affiliation, or lack of one, is not the issue. Our desire is to offer tools that may help us all," added Fant.

Anyone who failed to get a survey may pick up one at the Lynn County News, Tahoka Drug, or the Tahoka Church of Christ.

For more information, contact Ron Fant at the Church of Christ, phone 561-4060.

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(806) 561-5482 • (806) 778-5520 cell • E-mail: gail1954@poka.com
Web page: www.beautipage.com/gail_quisenberry

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• Luxurious spa treatments • Relaxation • Quality "girl friend time"

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\$1 for one page, 50¢ extra pages

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The Lynn County News

Tahoka, Texas 79373

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NEWS STAFF

E-MAIL: LynnCoNews@poka.com
Juanell Jones News Editor
Vondell Elliott Managing Editor
Pam Elrod Typesetting/Bookkeeping

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Helm is on the way... Kyra Helm has the ball here for the Lady Bulldogs as Tahoka beat Post Tuesday night to stay in second place in the district behind Slaton.

THS Basketball Games To Broadcast Online

Tahoka Athletic Director Drew Stone announced that the varsity basketball games against Denver City Friday night, Feb. 1, will be broadcast live online at www.highschoolsportspage.com. The broadcast will begin at approximately 6:25 p.m.

Stone stated that the broadcast will be audio only and will be archived. "This is a trial run to see how much interest this will bring to fans unable to attend the game," said Stone.

For more information, contact Drew Stone at 561-4538.

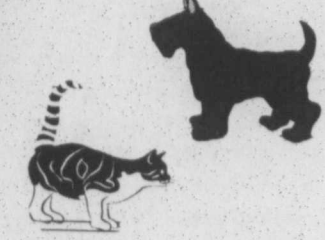
Diabetes Classes Begin in Tahoka On February 19

To help people learn more about managing diabetes, Texas AgriLife Extension Service (formerly Texas Cooperative Extension) in Lynn County is offering a diabetes education program called "Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes." The lessons cover topics such as basic nutrition, meal planning, understanding food labels, carbohydrate counting, medicines, exercise, using glucose meters, and preventing long term complications.

"Helping teach the diabetes management classes is one of the most rewarding experiences I have in my job," says Baugh. "Those who participate in the classes are extremely appreciative of the information and resources, and by the end of the program we have become good friends. We have a lot of fun!" laughs Baugh. "After learning how their favorite foods can fit into their meal plans, most people find that having diabetes not as difficult or as much of a sacrifice as they initially thought," says Baugh.

For more information on living with diabetes and how to better manage diabetes, plan to attend the Do Well, Be Well With Diabetes series of classes - Tuesdays, February 19, 26, March 4 and 11, 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., at Lynnwood Assisted Living, 1801 Country Club Rd., Tahoka. The class is open to the public. There is no cost to participate in the program. Family members of individuals who have diabetes, youth, and parents of children who have diabetes are also welcome.

For more information contact Amy Baugh, Lynn County Extension Agent, 561-4562.



Rabies Clinic Set Here Feb. 2

A Rabies/Vaccination Clinic for dogs and cats will be offered Saturday, Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Tahoka Mini Park (behind City Hall). Penny C. Kelso, D.V.M., with Animal House Calls, will provide the services.

Rabies shots will be \$8 each, for cats or dogs, and other vaccines as well as other services will be available. Distemper vaccine, Parvo vaccine, and worming shots will be \$8 each.

For more information, call Animal House Calls at 749-7387.

OBITUARIES



PHALBA WOODS

Phalba Woods

Graveside services for Phalba Woods, 97, of Slaton, formerly of Tahoka, will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, January 31, 2008 at the Nevels Memorial Cemetery in Tahoka, under the direction of White Funeral Home of Tahoka. The family will greet friends from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. today (Thursday) at the White Funeral Home in Tahoka.

Mrs. Woods died January 28, 2008 in Lubbock. She was born September 5, 1910 to D.D. and Cournealies Deans Johnson. Phalba married C.N. Woods in 1929 in Tahoka and he preceded her in death in 1988. Mr. and Mrs. Woods were the owners of Woods Jewelry until they retired in 1987. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Tahoka.

She was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

Those left to cherish her memory are her niece Joyce Hamilton of Andrews; many other nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

Memorials may be made to Gods Learning Channel at P.O. Box 61000, Midland, Texas 79711-1000.



RUBY GEORGE CASEBEER

Ruby George Casebeer

Services for Ruby George Casebeer, 81, of Brownfield were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28 at Calvary Baptist Church in Brownfield with Rev. Steve Carter officiating. Burial followed in Nevels Cemetery in Tahoka.

She died Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008 in Brownfield. She was born July 18, 1926 in Hobart, OK to Arlie and Belle Romines. She moved to Brownfield in 1953. She was a waitress at the Village Grill Plaza and Green Hut Restaurants. She then attended South Plains College where she received an Associate Degree in Library Science. She was the Librarian at Colonial Heights Elementary School for 26 years retiring in 1984. She married Earl George, who preceded her in death in 1992. Ruby then married Clarence Casebeer, July 12, 1997 in Odessa. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. She was a member of the Retired Teachers Association and former member of the Extension Homemakers Club. She was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include her husband Clarence Casebeer of Brownfield; four daughters, Diann Hunter and husband Darell of McAllester, OK, Paula Crabtree-Lancaster and husband Ronnie of Brownfield, Sharon Ray and husband Fred of Odessa, and Rachele George of Brownfield; one son, Robert George of Big Spring; five sisters, Peggy Spaug of Lubbock, Thelma Raindl of Tahoka, Lou Meador of Washington, Lois Sellers of Midland and Judy Moore of California; 20 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren; three step children, Eddie Casebeer and wife Ann of Colorado City, Carla Hansen and husband Rick of Kismet, KS, and Delores Lueraand and husband Joel of Ft. Stockton.

The family suggests memorials to Calvary Baptist Church Library or the Building Fund.

Senior Citizens MENU

Feb. 4-8

Monday: Chicken or Ham Quesadillas, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Pears

Tuesday: Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Harvest Beets, Homemade Rolls, Lemon Cake

Wednesday: Polish Sausage, Steamed Cabbage, Ranch Style Beans, Biscuits, Banana Pudding

Thursday: Chicken and Dumplings, Corn, Cornbread, Brownies

Friday: Oven Roasted Brisket, Au Gratin Potatoes, Fried Squash, Bread, Gingerbread

Mark your calendar for
Lynn County Hospital's Fun/Food Fest
Saturday, April 12, 2008
at Lynn County Show Barn!
sponsored by Tahoka Rotary Club

The Lynn County News encourages you to attend church this Sunday!

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Wilson couple on "Today" Show ... Newlyweds Brady and Candice Cross of Wilson made an appearance on the Today Show in Rockefeller Plaza on Dec. 26th while honeymooning in New York City. The couple talked on camera with the weatherman filling in for Al Roker and met Matt Lauer. The weatherman said the couple caught his attention because they were "Just Married" and still holding their sign together. The sign was made and presented to them at their rehearsal dinner by Candice's dad, Randy Moczygemba of New Braunfels.

Volunteer and help others -- it will do your heart good!

Super Bowl Sale!

12 Pack Cans --
Coca Cola & Dr Pepper
3 for \$10

2-liter
Coca Cola or Dr Pepper
5 for \$5

Prices effective January 31-February 6, 2008

Tahoka's
THRIFTWAY

O'DONNELL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2007

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,250,786	\$ 88,160	\$ 1,338,946
State Program Revenues	3,094,524	232,513	3,327,037
Federal Program Revenues	175,904	1,208,805	1,384,709
Total Revenues	4,521,214	1,529,478	6,050,692
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
Instruction	1,715,266	884,575	2,599,841
Instructional Resources & Media Services	56,101	2,000	58,101
Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	481	--	481
Instructional Leadership	--	11,666	11,666
School Leadership	230,430	1,000	231,430
Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	77,434	29,057	106,491
Health Services	28,854	1,000	29,854
Student (Pupil) Transportation	285,754	448	286,202
Food Services	236,686	6,195	242,881
Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	262,704	--	262,704
General Administration	306,483	3,334	309,817
Facilities Maintenance and Operations	657,443	1,568	659,011
Security and Monitoring Services	2,920	--	2,920
Data Processing Services	96,309	--	96,309
Debt Service:			
Debt Service - Principal on Long-Term Debt	38,760	100,000	138,760
Debt Service - Interest on Long-Term Debt	1,934	27,750	29,684
Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	--	716	716
Capital Outlay:			
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	19,588	--	19,588
Intergovernmental:			
Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	9,000	449,471	458,471
Total Expenditures	4,026,147	1,518,780	5,544,927
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	495,067	10,698	505,765
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Sale of Real and Personal Property	435	--	435
Transfers In	120,464	44,262	164,726
Transfers Out (Use)	(120,464)	(44,262)	(164,726)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	435	--	435
Net Change in Fund Balances	495,502	10,698	506,200
Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	1,096,442	79,152	1,175,594
Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 1,591,944	\$ 89,850	\$ 1,681,794

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OISD Board Takes No Action To Extend Superintendent's Contract

The O'Donnell Independent School District Board of Trustees met last Thursday night to conduct their annual evaluation of the superintendent and to consider his contract, among other agenda items. While the board voted unanimously to amend the superintendent's current 2007-2010 contract to allow mileage for all business-related travel outside the school district's boundaries, they did not take any action to extend Supt. Rodney Schneider's employment contract or change the salary package.

Trustees met in closed session for the superintendent's job performance evaluation, and upon returning to open session voted 4-1 to approve the evaluation as presented. Trustee Mark Royce voted against the motion, and trustees Renn Dorman, Stella Arguello, Liz Luera and Cody Furlow voted for the motion to approve the superintendent's evaluation.

Apparently the OISD board of trustees has been conducting meetings with only five of the six current members in attendance in recent months. School boards normally have a seven-member board, but only a quorum of four is required for making decisions at board meetings, according to the Texas Open Meetings Act. At the January board meeting, the board unanimously elected Cody Furlow to serve as secretary of the board, "to replace secretary Monty Hancock, who has not been attending monthly meetings," according to the board report provided to *The News* by Supt. Schneider. Other board officers include Renn Dorman, President, and Mark Royce, Vice-president.

In other business, trustees unanimously approved the district's 2006-07 financial audit as presented by Ms. Karla

Horton from the accounting firm of Wilton, Newberry & Heidel. Supt. Schneider noted in his board report that the audit reflected an increase of the general revenue fund balance of \$495,502 to \$1,591,244 and an increase in the fund balance for all government funds of \$506,200. He also noted that in 2006-07 the district purchased two new buses, built a new bus barn, updated a large portion of the district's technology hardware, completed several major renovation projects including the teacher workroom and carpet in several classrooms, and experienced unprecedented increases in fuel and energy costs.

"We also corrected several salary inequities with new salary schedules, added a district technology coordinator, had two business managers for a fourth of the year, and gave performance bonuses to everyone on staff except the superintendent - not to mention the fact that we were saddled with paying off salaries to former employees," said Schneider. "We did many extraordinary things with relatively the same expenditures of the past, so when I say that I am proud of the fact that we put \$495,502 in the fund balance, I hope you can appreciate the extraordinary effort of the administrative team, faculty and staff that went into making it happen."

Trustees voted to open a dedicated bank account for the student scholarship fund, and monthly bills were paid. There were no personnel recommendations made at the meeting, but Supt. Schneider informed the board that the search for a new head football coach had been narrowed to two candidates.

He also said school employee Jan Brown had announced her intentions to retire

at the end of this school year, which would give her 31 years in the education field, of which 26 years were at O'Donnell. Rose Gonzalez has been hired as an elementary custodian to replace Lydia Ortiz.

Ben Edwards addressed the board during open forum at the beginning of the meeting, expressing an opinion in regards to renovations to the baseball field. Citing safety concerns, Edwards requested the district invest in shaping the current infield to match other fields in the area. The board later gave Supt. Schneider permission to go ahead with maintenance improvements to the baseball field, with a rough estimate of \$11,961 for renovating the field located near Woolam Gin.

The superintendent praised principals Clay Burns and Penny Forbes in the Celebration of Excellence recognition, "for their instrumental role in helping their respective campuses increase student scores on almost every measurable accountability standards we are subjected to by both the state and federal government. They were also instrumental in making sound fiscal decisions on a daily basis that gave us an opportunity to overcome the confusion and chaos resulting from the 2005-06 budget and end 2006-07 on an extremely positive financial note."

The next regular board meeting was set for Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.

Tahoka I.S.D. Lists Honor Roll

Students listed on the Tahoka High School Honor Roll for the third six weeks are as follows. Seniors - Amy Barrera, Kristin Box, Josh Freitag, Marissa Gomez, Bailey Hall, Maegan Hall, Steven Lara, Jessica McLelland, Jacob Stephens and Britt Wuensche. Juniors - Morgan Fisher, Vicente Salinas, Valerie Sosa and Cori Vega. Sophomores - Ben Freitag and A'Leesha Truelove. Freshmen - Kenzie Angeley, Taryn Bishop, Emily Box, Lacey DeVine, Kadi Larpenster, Haley Lockaby, Sabrina Morales, Caleb Renfro, Kaitlyn Reno, Monica Strickland and Patrick Wells.

Middle School Honor Roll students include Taya Bishop, Jori Chapa, Madylin DeLeon, Kristal DeVine, Cort Fisher, Sarah Freitag, Erynn Harris, Smith McLelland and Efrain Ramirez.

Tuesday Night Basketball

JAN. 29, 2008

District 4-2A
TAHOKA vs POST
V-Girls (18-11, 6-2) win 43-27
JV Girls lost 45-28
V-Boys (3-21, 0-6) lost 52-40
JV Boys win 38-31

District 3-1A
O'DONNELL vs PLAINS
V-Girls (18-10, 4-4) win 52-41
JV Girls lost 31-27
V-Boys (2-5) lost 47-28
JV Boys lost 45-30

District 7-IIA
NEW HOME vs ROPES
V-Girls (6-1) win 38-37
JV Girls lost 37-7
V-Boys (12-9, 4-2) lost 45-41
JV Boys lost (score NA)

WILSON vs MEADOW
V-Girls (0-6) lost 66-20
V-Boys (1-5) lost 80-31

District 4-AA Basketball Standings (as of 1-30-08)

GIRLS	
Slaton	7-1
Tahoka	6-2
Denver City	5-3
Idalou	4-4
Post	1-7
Roosevelt	1-7
BOYS	
Idalou	6-0
Denver City	4-2
Post	4-2
Roosevelt	2-4
Slaton	2-4
Tahoka	0-6

Trash Leads to Cash in New Scholarship for Graduating Seniors

The Texas Department of Transportation has upped the ante for college-bound students by introducing a new scholarship award to their existing Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship program.

For this new Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship, TxDOT wants students to write an essay about how to get a litterbag in every car. The essay should focus on a creative and sustainable solution that would encourage Texans to use litterbags and get them in their hands. The winner earns a \$1,000 scholarship.

TxDOT will also continue its traditional scholarship, which consists of a \$3,000 grand prize scholarship and a \$1,000 second-prize scholarship. To qualify for that scholarship money, students must write an essay identifying a specific litter problem at their own school or in their community and the action they took to address it. As sponsor, Raytheon has provided the funds for this year's scholarship program. The scholarships are intended for high-school seniors planning to pursue a two- or four-year degree at a Texas university or college.

Essays must be 300-350 words. Along with their essay(s), students are required to submit a completed application and two letters of recommendation. Students may apply for both the traditional scholarship and the litterbag scholarship, but must complete two separate essays.

To download an application and for complete rules, visit www.DontMessWithTexas.org.



Time to shoot... Antonio Baker takes a shot for the Tahoka Bulldogs, but Post won the game 52-40 Tuesday.



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

By Julia Allen
It's the last week of January 2008. How is your New Year's resolution diet going?

Over 66 percent of adult Americans are considered overweight or obese by recent studies, so it is not surprising to find that weight loss is one of the most popular New Year's resolutions. Setting reasonable goals and staying focused are the two most important factors in sticking with a weight loss program, and the key to the success of our resolution.

Set a date. If you just say you're going to meet your goal sometime this year, that's probably too broad a timeframe. In fact, you may fall into the "I'll-start-my-diet-next-Monday" trap if you leave it too wide open. Instead, mark your calendar for a certain date for each goal that you want to meet.

Meet mini-goals. Make small changes every week and they will add up in time. Here are some examples of weekly changes you could incorporate into mini-goals:

Week One: Drink 8 glasses of water per day.
Week Two: Park the furthest away from the door at work or any store you may be going into.

Week Three: Walk around the block every day. And so on.

Don't go it alone! Tell your friends and family what you want to accomplish and tell them how they can help you (and warn them of what *doesn't* help). Look for a weight loss buddy among your peers who will join you on your journey to weight loss. There is power in numbers, especially when it comes to staying motivated!

Chart your progress. Keep a record of your weight loss and reward yourself when you meet your goals. Chart your progress and for every five pounds you lose, treat yourself to something special. Set your rewards beforehand so you can look forward to them as you are working towards your goals.

Be realistic. Nothing sets you up for failure more than having unrealistic expectations. The best weight loss is slow and steady loss, around one to two pounds a week. Any more than that and it may not be healthy and it probably won't stay off. Most of us took years to gain the weight, so there is no reason why we should expect for it to drop off with a snap of our fingers.

And last but not least:
Take it one day at a time. If you have a bad meal, or a bad day, just remember you can start over. Don't beat yourself up and think it's all over. It took you more than a few days to put on the weight and it will take a few to take it off.

Volunteer and help others -- it will do your heart good!

Your Support and your Vote will be greatly appreciated!

Brian Kingston
for District Attorney

Paid Pol. Adv. Brian Kingston Campaign - 806-428-3671

Shop In Tahoka!

It's in the Mail!

WE ARE EXPANDING OUR SURVEY TO ALL TOWNS IN LYNN COUNTY

The Tahoka Church of Christ wants to **HELP** members of our communities deal with **CHALLENGES OF EVERYDAY LIFE** through support groups, counseling or training seminars. In order to accomplish this, we want to know what **CONCERNS** you may have.

Individuals will receive a **SURVEY** form in the mail in the next few days. Please check the needs that concern you and your family. A return envelope has been provided. Just drop it in the mail. You need not sign it unless you want to. All information is confidential.

There are **MANY NEEDS** IN OUR TOWNS.

We cannot help each other unless we talk to each other. Your church affiliation or lack of one is not the issue. Our desire is to offer tools that may **HELP US ALL**.



Here's your chance to win a new Heating/AC Unit, with installation!

\$50!

A \$50 donation entitles you to a chance to win a Carrier 13 Seer Puroon complete Heating/Air Conditioning System with complete installation from Whitley Mechanical. System will be sized to winner's needs. Prize to be awarded after a minimum of 200 tickets sold. CONTACT THE LYNN COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS • 561-5264 FOR A TICKET!

All proceeds benefit the Lynn County Pioneers (Sr. Citizen's)

Save the Date

New Home Baptist Church have chosen March 30, 2008 as the day they will celebrate their **100th Anniversary**.

Please keep this date open. We want you to be a part of this special occasion. Invitation will follow.

March 2008

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



#1 Team ... The Tahoka High School boys powerlifting team placed first overall out of nine competing teams at the Big Spring Powerlifting Meet on Jan. 26. Team members include, from left, Sabino Perez, Jacob Stevens, Kyle Reno, D.J. Torres, Allen Henderson, Jamie Bingham, Jacob Bingham, Tanner Hall, Ty Cloe and Joell Lowdermilk. Powerlifting coach is Don Hilger.

Tahoka School News

by Tahoka High School Journalism Students

Tahoka Varsity Powerlifting

By Britt Wuensche

The Bulldogs of Tahoka participated at the Big Spring Powerlifting Meet on Saturday, January 26. Ty Cloe, D.J. Torres, and Jacob Stevens placed 1st in their divisions. Joel Lowdermilk, Allen Henderson, and Sabino Perez placed 2nd in their division. Jacob Bingham, and Tanner Hall placed 4th in their divisions. Jamie Bingham took 10th place out of 19 lifters.

Overall, the boys team got 1st place out of 9 teams.

The girls did not compete at this meet.

8th Girls Basketball

8th grade girls lost to Slaton on Jan. 28, 28-37.

Stormee Martin led scoring with 12. April Lam scored 5; Nancy Munoz and Grentchen Henley followed with 4 each.

JV Girls Basketball

By Rebecca Pando

The JV Girls lost to Slaton on Jan. 22. The final score was 24-41. Brooke Inklebarger scored 7 points, and Morgan Lockaby scored 6.

The JV Girls played the Idalou girls on Jan. 25 in Idalou. They won 31-28. Brittany

Garcia scored 13 points for the Lady Dogs. Inklebarger added 8.

Varsity Girls Basketball

By Sarah Calvillo

The Lady Dogs faced Slaton winning 43-41 on Jan. 22. Top scorer was Kyra Helm with 26 points. Other scorers included Corlee Greene, Cori Vega and Jessica McLelland.

The Lady dogs faced Roosevelt on Jan. 18 winning 31-27. Top two scorers were Helm with 15 and Vega with 7 points. Other scorers included Meghan Rivas, McLelland, Brittney Hair and Kenzie Angeley.

The Lady Dogs lost to Denver City 38-54 on Jan. 15. Top scorer was Vega with 12 points.

Fire Ban Remains In Effect Here

Lynn County officials remind county residents that a county-wide fire ban continues to remain in effect, due to the extremely dry weather conditions.

Governor Rick Perry issued a proclamation this week certifying that 152 Texas counties, including Lynn, are currently threatened by extreme fire hazard and directing that all necessary measures, both public and private, be implemented to meet that threat.

"We urge county citizens to use caution and to be aware of fire prevention at all times," said County Judge H.G. Franklin.

Profitability Workshop Set For Feb. 7 Here

A profitability workshop is set for Thursday, February 7 at The Center For Housing & Community Development. The workshop, sponsored by the Lynn County Extension Office, will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude after lunch.

The objective is to help compare potential profitability of relevant crops. Topics will include: expected input costs, expected crop prices, review budgets, demonstrate spreadsheet software, compare breakeven prices for dryland and irrigated crops, and discuss marketing strategies. Texas AgriLife Extension Economists will be on hand to present materials and answer questions.

Sales Tax Revenues Up In December 07

Comptroller Susan Combs announces that the state collected \$1.83 billion in sales tax revenue in December, up 9.1 percent compared to December 2006.

Combs sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their first sales tax allocations of 2008 — \$448.3 million, up 7.3 percent compared to January 2007.

"Since the state's 2008 fiscal year began last September, sales tax collections are up 7.3 percent compared to the same point in fiscal 2007," Combs said. "While increases have moderated compared to those of the past two years, solid sales tax growth continues."

Comptroller Combs sent January sales tax allocations of \$303.2 million to Texas cities, up 7.4 percent compared to January 2007. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$26.8 million, up 5.7 percent compared to last January.

In addition, \$14.8 million went to 124 special purpose taxing districts around the state, up 16.5 percent compared to last January. Ten local transit systems received \$103.4 million in sales tax allocations, up 6.2 percent compared to a year ago.

December state sales tax collections and January allocations to local governments represent sales that occurred in November.

For details of January sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the *Monthly Sales Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports* on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsumcompsum.html.

The Lynn County News encourages you to attend church this Sunday!

These Tahoka Firms Are Sponsoring This FARM NEWS

AgTexas Farm Credit Services

Monty Bedwell and Mike Metzger

First Ag Credit FCS

Clint Robinson
Jason Gandy

Farmers Co-op Association

No. 1

Lynn County Farm Bureau



I'd like to have that... Tahoka's Cori Vega trails a Post player with the ball in Tuesday's 43-27 win for the Lady Bulldogs over Post. Vega led all scorers with 13 points as Tahoka went 18-11 for the season and 6-2 in district, with two games remaining.

Extension Workshops Will Help Producers Examine Cotton Profitability

Producers who want to take a look at profitability scenarios for 2008 and closely examine their financial options should attend at least one of four Texas AgriLife Extension Service cotton profitability workshops, said an Extension economist.

"The first two workshops are slated for Feb. 12 and March 4, at the AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Lubbock," said Jackie Smith, Extension economist based at Lubbock. "We will also have at least two other workshops, set in counties here on the South Plains. Our objective is to provide producers the tools, data and skills to evaluate the potential profitability of alternative crops."

Museum Has New Birds On Display

Tahoka Pioneer Museum has five new quail on display in front of the Tahoka Lake Mural, part of a project to replace all the stuffed animals and birds in the exhibit, which includes prairie dogs, a rattlesnake and the birds.

The quail, fashioned by taxidermist Brett Parker of New Home, were brought to the museum last Wednesday by Eoretta Tekell, board member in charge of the project. They were immediately placed in the display in front of the Tahoka Lake mural painted by the late Bill Craig of Tahoka.

The figures in the display have deteriorated and board members last year decided to replace them. Mrs. Tekell said a Lubbock taxidermist has finished work on a new rattlesnake, soon to be put into the display, and that work on new prairie dogs is about finished.

At last week's quarterly meeting of the board, all officers were re-elected, including Tony Botkin as president, Joe Don Nevill as vice president and Dalton Wood as secretary/treasurer.

"Each participant will receive a hand-out that includes a printed copy of our presentations and selected crop budgets. They will also receive a CD containing Excel crop budgets and breakeven tables, reference files, and a set of Internet links. This will help them use the Excel spreadsheet on their own computer."

The workshops will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration costs \$20 per person, and includes lunch and refreshments.

The workshops are funded by a grant from the Texas State Cotton Support Committee.

"The grant enables us to develop a crop budget projection tool, conduct training workshops, keep the data updated, and then make the tool and information readily available to producers," Smith said.

"The Excel spreadsheets are also designed to allow users to examine the impact of different crop share rental arrangements on landlord and renter's net income."

Extension risk management specialists Jay Yates and Jeff Pate, Lubbock, and Extension cotton marketing specialist John Robinson, College Station, will help conduct the workshops.

Other topics on the agenda include: input price trends and projections for 2008; a farm bill update; basis, cash contracts and forward pricing tools such as short futures and put options. They will also cover margin requirements, margin costs and other advanced pricing tools.

To register, contact Wendy Durrett at 806-746-6101. For more information, contact Smith or Yates at 806-746-6101. County Extension offices will also have information on the latter workshops as they are scheduled, Smith said.

TAHOKA REAL ESTATE

Gerald Huffaker Estate Auction, March 12th

Curb Appeal Unlimited at 2500 N. 1st. Beautiful 3,800 sq. ft. home on corner lot w/ prestigious landscaping, 3 bed/3 bath, 2 lg. living areas, backyard kitchen and bar, tile fence, too many amenities to list!

Factory metal barn, approx. 40x60 w/20 ft. sidewalls, restroom, city water, heating/cooling, office, located on Post Hwy, across from the jail.

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James Fullwood, Broker #0418140, (806) 787-8101.

Grandparents ... send us a photo of your little angels...

... and make your children and grandchildren happy! Send or bring us a cute photo of your grandchild and we'll place it in a box lined with hearts including child's name and grandparents' names

and on **Thursday, Feb. 14**
Your Little Valentine Will Appear In Our Paper!
The cost is only \$800 per block.
Deadline is 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7.

Name Of Grandchild
Name Of Grandparents
Name Of Grandparents

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Sr. Citizen Donation... Huffaker Law Firm, Walker Solomon Insurance Agency, Lynn County Abstract and Title, and Huffaker Farms donated a total of \$275.25 to the Lynn County Senior Citizens this week. Shown at left is Bianca Baker, Director of the Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center, accepting the donation from Cal Huffaker, Danny Preston, Mickey DeLeon, Rebekah Filley, Margaret Crispin, Tommye Nance and Lane Tekell.



Artists of Month ... Wilson Elementary December-January Artists of the Month are, from left, Bryan Pena, Katie Jones, Kalie Hernandez, Bailey Steen, Brook Tyson, Ebby Spencer, and Randee Autry.

Letter To The Editor

Senior Citizens Center Offers Meals, Activities; Gets \$18,000 Grant

I am mere days from celebrating my fifth month anniversary as the new director of our wonderful Senior Citizens Center.

Today was an unexpected surprise. What with the holidays our congregated attendance had been down, but not today. Today not only were many of our regular guests in attendance, but some dear friends who had not been around recently were here. It was a full house and I could not be happier.

For those readers who may not be familiar with our Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center, delicious, as well as nutritional lunches are served on-site daily. The suggested donation for guests 60 and older is \$3.00 and under 60 is \$4.00. Carryouts are available for \$5.00 each for anyone in the community.

Our kitchen angels are Rosa Longoria, Ruth Silvas and Lee Ray. Each day these delightful ladies prepare a lunch selection that is as good as any you will find in one of our local eateries and for a price far less than you will pay elsewhere.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to everyone in Lynn County, whether you are one of our county's charming senior citizens or not, to come and join us any day of the week over the noon hour for a delicious repast and engaging conversation. Actually, I would challenge each of you in Lynn County and the Tahoka community to join us at least once a week for lunch. Your daily donations are vital to our continued good works.

Another integral part of our Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center is our home delivery meal program. Presently, we are delivering lunches Monday through Friday throughout the Tahoka community to approximately 25 homebound persons. These deserving individuals receive a meal each weekday whether we are open or closed. The suggested daily donation is \$3.00.

If you or a member of your family are homebound, I would encourage you to call me at the Center so we can arrange for that person to receive a meal through our home delivery meal program. Our telephone number is 561-5264.

In conjunction with our home delivery meal program, I am pleased to announce that the Texas Department of Agriculture has recently conditionally approved the Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center's application to the Texans Feeding

Texans: Home Delivered Meal Grant program and offered us a grant of \$18,221.98.

These grant funds will be used to directly supplement or extend our existing meal services to homebound persons in Lynn County.

The Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center is also holding its own Biggest Loser Challenge. We began our weekly weigh-in on January 21. We are conducting weekly exercise activities, twice daily on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This first challenge will end in three months and a cash prize will be awarded to the BIGGEST loser.

The cost to join our BIGGEST LOSER CHALLENGE is \$3.00. There is still time to join the challenge, but you do not have to join our challenge to participate in the weekly-exercise activities.

I am hoping too to have some exercise equipment installed in the near future. Come by the Center and join in the fun.

I am also pleased to announce that last month with financial assistance from the South Plains Association of Governments - Area Agency on Aging we purchased and installed two new Royal ranges. The day before the scheduled installation one of the ranges to be replaced went out completely. Our boon could not have come at a better time.

I believe many of you are familiar with the gorgeous quilt our Center raffles each year at the Lynn County Harvest Festival.

If you are not willing to wait for this year's raffle, I invite you to come by the Center and peruse the several beautiful quilts available for immediate purchase. Our dedicated quilting ladies have been very busy.

We are also still selling chances to win a Carrier 13 Seer Puron Complete Heating/Air Conditioning System, which includes furnace coil, condenser, filter base, thermostat and complete installation. A chance costs a \$50 donation and all proceeds benefit our Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center.

We would like to remind local citizens that the center has an ongoing aluminum can recycling program for people in the community to assist our center. There is a dedicated dumpster for aluminum cans on the back side of our building (the side where we accept deliveries), and we encourage any community member to bring us their aluminum cans.

I am excited about the coming year. Our Biggest Loser

Challenge is just the beginning. I plan to schedule more activities throughout the year, which will hopefully have more of you coming in, whatever your age, and not just because of our incredible lunches.

Bianca C. Baker, Director

Neugebauer Introduces Legislation on Repayment of Veterans' Loans

WASHINGTON, DC - On Jan. 28, U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer (TX-19) introduced H.R. 5148; a companion bill to S. 2550, introduced last week by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX). H.R. 5148 would forgive the debt owed to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from men and women who have lost their lives in combat.

"This bill ensures that we honor our fallen heroes by treating the families they left behind honorably while recognizing their tremendous sacrifice on behalf of a nation that is indebted to them," Neugebauer stated.

Current law states that if a member of the armed services is killed in the line of duty and owes the Veterans Administration any outstanding debts, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs must contact the family for collection. Current law does allow the Veterans Affairs Secretary the flexibility to waive the requirement in certain cases. This legislation would end the discre-

tion of the Secretary and establish a standard procedure, clarifying the law. Thus far the VA has attempted to collect over \$56,000 from the families of 22 deceased service members, with the bulk of the money owed in the form of college loans.

"H.R. 5148, the Combat Veterans Debt Elimination Act would correct this injustice to our men and women in uniform who have given the ultimate sacrifice for their nation and wipe clean all debts that fall into this category. The fact that the VA is required to collect debts from grieving parents and spouses is unacceptable. If enacted, this legislation would be retroactive to September 11, 2001. I applaud Senator Hutchison's leadership on this issue and hope that together we can remedy this egregious situation quickly and repair this inequity in the law," Neugebauer concluded.

In December 2007, two accidents occurred in Texas when propane (LPG)-discharging from open, uncapped manual shutoff valves on gas lines-accumulated and ignited inside a residence. In light of these accidents, the Railroad Commission-the agency charged with propane safety-is reminding Texans as well as propane suppliers to check and verify that each LPG gas outlet and manual shutoff valve that is not connected to an appliance, is plugged and capped. Many homeowners may have manual shutoff valves on

propane lines in their homes that are not connected to appliances. These manual shutoff valves, which are equipped with a handle for opening and closing the valve, must additionally have a threaded cap or plug on the end when not connected to an appliance-even though the valve handle is in the closed position. This is required by the state's safety rules because the handle on the manual shutoff valve can be pushed open by a person, mop, pet or any object brushing against it. Once this valve is knocked open, gas can be released, which may result in a fire or explosion.

Chairman Michael L. Williams said, "It is particularly important for anyone moving into a new home to check out any unused gas lines in each room to ensure they are capped and closed on the end with threaded caps or plugs. If you find an uncapped

line, you can go to a hardware store and purchase the caps and plugs and install them yourself. Or you can call your propane supplier or a certified plumber to send someone out to do this for you."

For more information on uncapped LPG gas lines in your home or businesses call toll-free (800) 64-CLEAR (800-642-5327) or visit www.propanesafety.gov for an animated illustration, and click on "Home Safe Home - Propane Safety Tips," and "What if I have a gas line with no appliance attached."

Letters To The Editor -- POLICY --

Our readers are encouraged to express their opinions in Letters to the Editor.

Letters to the Editor are accepted by the Lynn County News in person (1617 Main Street); by mail (P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka 79373); or by fax (806-561-6308).

All letters must be signed with a handwritten signature, and all are subject to editing for length. The editor reserves the right to refuse any letter because of vulgarity or libel issues.

POLITICAL CALENDAR

Political Primary is March 4, 2008
Early voting is February 19-29

(Political advertising paid by the candidates listed)

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

**106th Judicial District
District Attorney
BRIAN KINGSTON
(CANDIDATE)**

**106th Judicial District
District Attorney
SAMMY McCRARY
(CANDIDATE)**

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

**State Representative
District 85
JOE HEFLIN
(INCUMBENT)**

WILSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2007

Data Control Codes	Major Fund	10		Nonmajor Governmental Funds	98 Total Governmental Funds
		General Fund	Debt Service Fund		
Revenues:					
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 887,927	\$ 30,821	\$ 12,885	\$ 931,633
5800	State Program Revenues	1,007,720	15,234	87,434	1,110,388
5900	Federal Program Revenues	5,862		177,831	183,693
5020	Total Revenues	\$ 1,901,509	\$ 46,055	\$ 278,150	\$ 2,225,714
Expenditures:					
0011	Instruction	\$ 794,638		\$ 185,638	\$ 980,276
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services	4,126		9,849	13,975
0013	Curriculum and Staff Development	2,743		3,299	6,042
0021	Instructional Leadership			5,756	5,756
0023	School Leadership	83,068		899	83,967
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	8,342			8,342
0033	Health Services	551			551
0034	Student Transportation	66,224			66,224
0035	Food Services			88,511	88,511
0036	Extracurricular Activities	63,812			63,812
0041	General Administration	224,545		1,645	226,190
0051	Plant Maintenance and Operations	226,983		2,297	229,280
0053	Data Processing Services	39,548			39,548
0071	Principal on Long-Term Debt		25,000		25,000
0072	Interest on Long-Term Debt		18,365		18,365
0073	Bond Issuance Cost and Fees		481		481
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agents/Member Districts of SSA	27,704			27,704
6030	Total Expenditures	\$ 1,542,284	\$ 43,846	\$ 297,894	\$ 1,884,024
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
7912	Sale of Real and Personal Property	\$ 4,400			\$ 4,400
7915	Transfers In			19,744	19,744
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(19,744)			(19,744)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ (15,344)	\$ 0	\$ 19,744	\$ 4,400
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 343,881	\$ 2,209	\$ 0	\$ 346,090
0100	September 1 - Fund Balance	419,701	226,935	0	646,636
3000	August 31 - Fund Balance	\$ 763,582	\$ 229,144	\$ 0	\$ 992,726

Lawn Pre-Emergent

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Call Jim Bob at 781-1565
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CLASSIFIEDS

Call 561-4888 by Noon Tuesday

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ADS IS NOON TUESDAY

Real Estate

HOME FOR SALE: 18 20 S. 2ND ST.
PRICE REDUCED! ... 1200 sq ft, 2 bdrm, 1 bth, utility rm, 2 carport, 2 storage bldg on 2 lots. 806-561-5161 or 806-759-1369. 42-tfc

FOR SALE: former Main St. Express building at 1645 Main, Tahoka. Call 998-5395. 20-tfc

Reduced for Quick Sale ...
2320 N. 3rd - Tahoka:
SELLER IS READY TO SELL! **2 BR/3 B** brick home near school. Features include large closets, large covered patio, storm shelter w/easy access to dbl garage. Low maintenance yard is fenced and has large storage building.

PRICE 2410 N. 3rd - Tahoka:
NOW REDUCED! on this 3 bedroom 3 bath, 1 car garage home, formal dining room, eat in kitchen with butler's pantry, water softener, large living room and glassed-in sun porch. Exterior has 2 storage buildings. This home has many extra features. Showing appointment available by phone. **Let's make a deal!**

Toy Holland, Realtor
438-9245
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2BR, 2B on 2 lots. New appliances, storage building/workshop, horse stalls and tack room. Call 561-9928. 2-3tc

HOME FOR SALE
3,000+ sq. ft. • 3 BR • 3 Bath • NEW master suite • hardwood laminate floors • sun room • office/nursery • 2 car garage • NEW appliances/water heaters/central heating & air • water well • storage building.
806-759-3523
or **806-759-0593**

TEAM TIDWELL
CAPROCK REALTY GROUP
New Listings:
3 bdrm 2 bth home in Tahoka, 1/2 block East of the school, 2 living areas, storm cellar, storage building. Great location! 2012 N. 3rd St. Call for showing.

1621 N Bulldog Blvd (4th St).
2 bedroom 1 bath brick home with 3 outbuildings, beautiful sunny sunroom with free standing wood burning stove. Interior access cellar. On 3 lots. What a bargain!

2311 N 3rd St. 2 bedroom 1 bath home with 2 living areas and a huge pantry. Nice backyard with covered patio and extra enclosed storage area. This home has a 2 car garage with an added storage area that could be made into a 3rd bedroom. This is a must see. 1 Block from the school.

For your private appointment to see any of the homes above, call Jim or Sunny Tidwell at the numbers below.

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Jim (806) 773-1304
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Country Home
10 MILES EAST OF
O'DONNELL ON FM1054.
4 Bedroom, 1-3/4 bath,
2 car garage, backyard
fenced, 12x24 office, large
trees, landscaped 1.14
acres, box car electricity
small door for access.
CALL JACK MINTER
759-5566

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HOUSE FOR SALE
in O'DONNELL
1997 Windcrest manufactured home, approx. 2100 sq. ft., 4 BR, 3 B, 2 living areas w/fireplace, fenced backyard with 27' above ground pool, 2 car carport, close to school.
Call 428-3590 or 789-6627

HOUSE FOR SALE
3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Corner brick fireplace, sprinkler system, in-ground pool, large master w/walk-in closet, new carpet, many updates. 1810 N. 6th St. Call 806-561-4221.
1810 N. 6th St.
Call 806-561-4221

SALE For Sale

SACRIFICE QUEEN orthopedic mattress set. New in wrapper. Only \$129. 806-549-3110.

ALL NEW king mattress & box set. No seconds. FLAME RESISTANT. \$230. 806-549-3110.

ADJUSTABLE BED base and mattress, list \$2770, sell \$1290. NEW. 806-549-3110.

100% BONDED genuine leather sofa/love, in original crate, \$680. Lifetime warr. 806-549-3110.

CHERRY dining table, chairs, china cabinet, mirror finish. ALL NEW. \$570. 806-549-3110.

MAHOGANY bedroom set, 6-pc. solidwood, dovetailed, list \$3250. Sacrifice \$890. 806-549-3110.

SLEEPER SOFA and loveseat with pillows. Wrong color. Worth \$2400, sell \$800. 806-549-3110.

CHENILLE sofa \$399, love \$379, chair \$299. Can separate or \$990 takes all. 806-549-3110.

7455 COTTON STRIPPERS FOR SALE
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at 465-3665 or
Sue Tekell at 561-4719

For Rent

FOR RENT: 3 BR, 2 full bathrooms, large livingroom, large kitchen/dining room w/ kitchen appliances, utility room, double garage, fenced backyard and front yard. 1708 N. 2nd.
For more info call
(512) 995-0696 after
3:30pm M-F; anytime Sat.
and Sun. or leave a number
and call will be returned.

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2618 N.4th Street Tahoka, Tx 79373
C. 806-470-1451 H. 806-561-4728

Autos For Sale

1999 CHEVY TAHOE 4WD. Heated leather seats, chrome grill guard and steps, 133k miles, \$6,200. Call 806-561-4221. 5-tfc

1996 SATURN 4 door, A/C, automatic, stereo, cruise, good tires, runs good. See at 1907 N. 7th, 998-5495. 5-tfc

Card of Thanks

Farewell to Tahoka ... you've been good to me for 37 years and I'll miss this community. Thanks to Dan and Curtis and all of my yard employers over the years. It's time for a change and I'm moving on, but appreciate all the memories. Go Bulldogs!

Junior Mendoza 5-tfc

Make a difference in your world.
Volunteer ... it will do your heart good!

Help Wanted

LCHD is looking for a part-time Dietary employee to work weekends and fill in during the week. Applicant must be an experienced cook. For more details please contact Yolanda Alvarado at 98-4533, ext. 310. 5-tfc

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For consideration please forward your resume to: hr@res-americas.com and leasa.tennix@res-americas.com. Please reference the position title in the subject line of your email.

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reserve your space. 5-2tp

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February is National Women's Heart Health Month.

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by e-mail at:
LynnCoNews@poka.com

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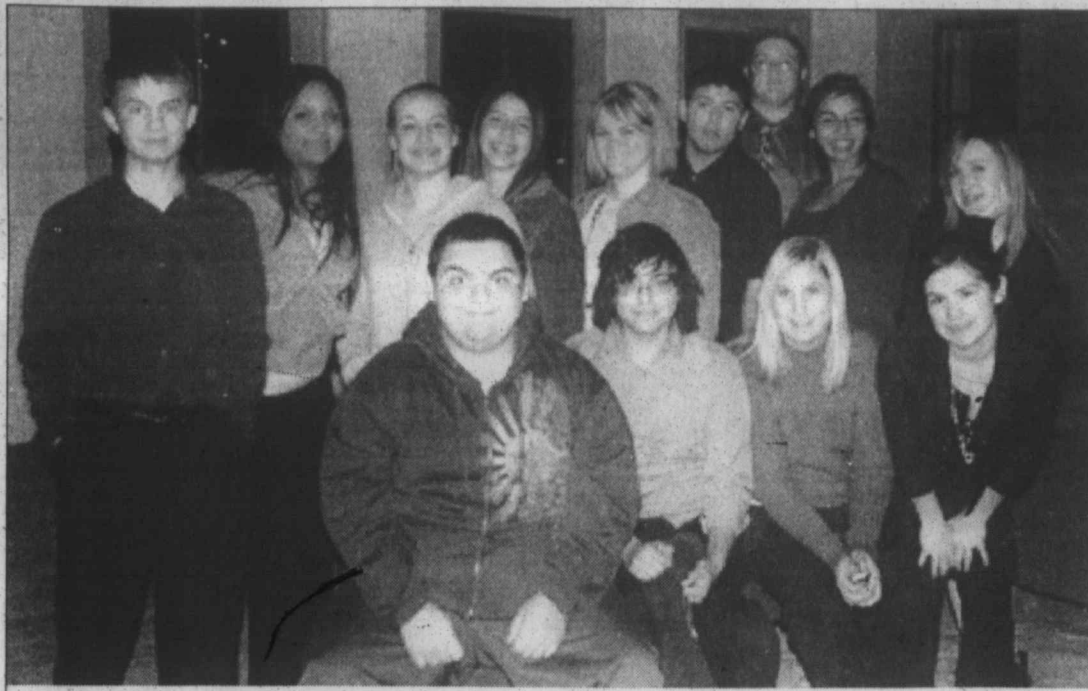
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Outstanding BPA Students ... These Tahoka High School students will participate in the Business Professionals of America 2008 State Leadership Conference in Dallas. They are, standing from left, Michæl Paris, Katherine Colon, Brittani Ford, Brittany Garcia, Jynna Askew, Vicente Salinas, Kyle Larpenfer, Sabrina Morales, and Taryn Bishop; and sitting from left, Jacob Wright, Steven Lara, Caitlynn Martin, and Skyler McCleskey.

Tahoka Students To Participate at BPA State Leadership Conference

BPA (Business Professionals of America) students from Tahoka High School will be attending the Business Professionals of America 2008 State Leadership Conference in Dallas, March 5-8.

Tahoka High School chapter members Steven Lara, Jynna Askew, Katherine Colon, Kyle Larpenfer, Skyler McCleskey, Taryn Bishop, Brittani Ford, Vicente Salinas, Brittany Garcia, and Sabrina Morales will join over 2,000 other conference delegates from across the state to participate in state level business skill competitions, general sessions, and the state officer candidate campaigns and elections. Besides having the opportunity to excel, they will have an opportunity to experience Dallas as they visit the city's exciting sites.

"Students from the Texas Association's Regional Leadership Conference have qualified to participate at the state level conference. The conference emphasizes business workforce education and training which members of the local chapter of Business Professionals of America at Tahoka High School have received," said chapter advisor Shelly Stone, who teaches Desktop Publishing, Accounting, BCIS I, BIMM, and Web Mastering.

State qualifiers from Tahoka include Steven Lara who received 2nd in Fundamental Accounting, Jynna Askew who received 3rd in Basic Office Systems and Procedures, and Katherine Colon who received 3rd in Legal Office Procedures. Also, State Alternates include Kyle Larpenfer who received 3rd in Graphic Design Promotion, Skyler McCleskey who received

3rd in Presentation Management-Individual, Brittani Ford who received 5th in Desktop Publishing, Taryn Bishop who received 6th in Fundamental Word Processing Skills, and Vicente Salinas who received 6th in Fundamentals of XHTML.

Business Professionals of America is a national organization for middle school, high school, and college students preparing for careers in business and office occupations. The organization's activities and programs complement classroom instruction by giving students practical experience through application of the skills learned at school. Business Professionals of America acts as a cohesive agent in the nationwide networking of education and business and industry, and is contributing to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills.

Mark your calendar for
Lynn County Hospital's
Fun/Food Fest
Saturday, April 12, 2008
at Lynn County Show Barn!
sponsored by Tahoka Rotary Club

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Legal Notice

Notice of Sealed Bids

Tahoka Independent School District is accepting Sealed Bids for the following item:

1994 Chevrolet Caprice, 4 Door Sedan

The vehicle may be inspected at the Tahoka ISD Bus Compound located at North 2nd and Avenue E, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Bids will be accepted until Friday, January 31, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. the bids will be opened at this time.

Bids should be sealed and clearly marked Sealed Bid for 1994 Chevrolet. Bids should be sent to: Jimmy Parker, Superintendent
Tahoka ISD, PO Box 1230
2129 N. Main
Tahoka, Texas 79373
806-561-4105

No facsimile bids will be accepted. Bids arriving after the posted deadline will be returned unopened. Tahoka ISD has the right to reject any/or all bids.

Ropes Lasso The Mustangs

The Wilson Mustangs varsity basketball teams played Ropes on Jan. 25, with the Ropes boys winning 69-43, and Ropes girls 77-12 over Wilson's Lady Mustangs.

Top scorer for the Mustangs was Nathan Bassinger with 12 points, and Brandon Bassinger also scored in double figures, tossing in 10 points. Top scorer for the Lady Mustangs was Anastacia Marquez with 7.



Up in the air... Seth Hawthorne (32) goes up for the Tahoka Bulldogs in this action against Post Tuesday night. Other Bulldogs here include Matt Taylor (10) and Britt Wuensche. Post won the game 52-40.

Wilson SCHOOL MENU

February 4-8
Breakfast
Monday: Cinnamon Rolls
Tuesday: Sausage on a stick
Wednesday: Biscuit/ gravy
Thursday: Pancakes
Friday: Eggs, sausage, toast
Lunch
Monday: Hamburgers, trimmings, tots, pudding
Tuesday: Carne Guisadam refried beans, corn, flour tortillas, orange smiles
Wednesday: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, green peas, carrots, fancy gelatin, rolls
Thursday: Chicken and noodles, green beans, fruited gelatin, Texas Toast, frozen yogurt.
Friday: Golden Fish shapes, mac and cheese, salad, Texas toast, Fresh fruit

GRANDPARENTS:
Get Your Pictures Ready!
Our Valentine Brag Page will be in the February 14th issue of The Lynn County News and you can have your grandchildren's photos published for only \$8 each picture.
Deadline is Thursday, Feb. 7.

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WEDDING INVITATIONS

A wedding can be elegant or old-fashioned, unique or traditional.

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The NEW HOME News

Teens for Jeans Campaign

Attention New Home High School teenagers: Aeropostale and nonprofit Do Something have launched the Teens for Jeans campaign to raise awareness of homeless teens.

Through Feb. 10, West Texas residents may bring in any brand of gently worn jeans to Aeropostale in the South Plains Mall for donation to the homeless.

If you are interested in helping with this cause, Karon Durham will collect clean gently worn jeans thru Feb. 8 at New Home ISD and take them to the Aeropostale store in the mall.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

is available at the following locations in Tahoka:

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

NEW HOME INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
AUGUST 31, 2007

DATA CONTROL CODES	10 General Fund	ESEA Title I A. Improving Basic Program	National Breakfast and Lunch Program	50 Debt Service Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS						
1110 Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 203,891	\$ (4,996)	\$ (12,165)	\$ 11,106	\$ (877)	\$ 196,959
1120 Investments - Current	432,053	--	--	--	--	432,053
1200 Property Taxes - Delinquent	16,399	--	--	907	--	17,306
1230 Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes (Credit)	(2,213)	--	--	(26)	--	(2,239)
1240 Due from Other Governments	--	7,741	--	--	877	8,618
1250 Accrued Interest	1,010	--	--	--	--	1,010
1260 Due from Other Funds	--	--	29,005	--	--	29,005
1410 Deferred Expenditures	--	(100)	(2,458)	--	--	(2,558)
1000 Total Assets	\$ 651,140	\$ 2,645	\$ 14,382	\$ 11,987	\$ --	\$ 680,154
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities:						
2110 Accounts Payable	\$ 11,242	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 11,242
2150 Payroll Deductions and Withholdings Payable	2,131	--	--	--	--	2,131
2160 Accrued Wages Payable	44,153	2,420	408	--	--	46,981
2170 Due to Other Funds	29,005	--	--	--	--	29,005
2200 Accrued Expenditures	749	225	5,049	--	--	6,023
2300 Deferred Revenues	14,185	--	--	881	--	15,066
2000 Total Liabilities	\$ 101,465	\$ 2,645	\$ 5,457	\$ 881	\$ --	\$ 110,448
Fund Balances:						
Reserved For:						
3420 Retirement of Long Term Debt	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 11,106	\$ --	\$ 11,106
Unreserved and Undesignated:						
3600 Reported in the General Fund	549,675	--	--	--	--	549,675
3610 Reported in Special Revenue Funds	--	--	8,925	--	--	8,925
3000 Total Fund Balances	\$ 549,675	\$ --	\$ 8,925	\$ 11,106	\$ --	\$ 569,706
4000 Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 651,140	\$ 2,645	\$ 14,382	\$ 11,987	\$ --	\$ 680,154