CAA invest-

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substandard

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 12

The VEIP is a one-time only offer

for this year, for the first 10 qualified

employees who accept it. The VEIP

is available to all Tahoka ISD term

contract employees (those with pro-

fessional teacher contracts or admin-

istrative contracts) who have at least

10 consecutive years of employment

in public education (not necessarily 10

consecutive years with TISD, but any

proved the incentive plan at a special

meeting held Sunday, March 20. There

are 28 teachers/administrators at TISD

who are eligible to participate in the

incentive program, but the \$10,000 in-

centive is only paid to the first 10 who

can make a significant dent in our bud-

get - in fact it is the only place, really.

Payroll costs make up 74.6 percent of

the TISD general fund, with fixed costs

figuring 14.7 percent of the budget and

discretionary costs at only 10.7 per-

cent," Burleson explained. "This is not

a pleasant thing to do, but the incentive

program does offer an opportunity for

some who, for various reasons, may be

considering leaving the district. I don't

know that we will have 10 employees

who want to take advantage of the pro-

"Salary/payroll is the only place we

The TISD Board of Education ap-

6 PAGES PLUS INSERT

What's Inside

- Obituaries pg. 2 - Tori Camille *Baby" Rojo
- Dinner, raffle to benefit HOME program - pg. 3
- 'Day at the Park' to raise funds for THS baseball team - pg. 4
- School news pg. 6

UIL State Executive Committee to consider Tahoka athletic issue

The State Executive Committee of the University Interscholastic League was to convene at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23 in Austin to determine the eligibility of student athletes in several school districts. Included on the agenda is a 9:50 a.m. hearing regarding Tahoka High School: Referral from District 3-1A Executive Committee Decision Regarding Eligibility of a Student Athlete, Section 443, Changing Schools for Athletic Reasons.

According to TISD Supt. Steve Burleson, the issue involves a female student who moved back to Tahoka, and the school she left said she is moving for athletic purposes. The UIL committee will determine whether they agree or disagree. The ruling will be reported in next week's News.

Write-in candidate files at Wilson ISD

A write-in candidate filed for the Wilson Independent School District Board of Trustees election during the last week. Oscar Ortega added his name as a write-in candidate for the election for two trustees. One incumbent, Josh Isham, and candidates Isreal Ramirez, Terri Covington and Kim Steen, will have their names on the WISD ballot, and Ortega's name may be written in by voters in the blank space for a write-in candidate. The election will be held May 14.

39 Mar. 17 90 43 78 54

Mar. 18 Mar. 19 47 48 Mar. 20 52 82 Mar. 21 79 Mar. 22

0.01" Precipitation for Jan: 0.66" Precipitation for Feb: 0.06" Precipitation for Mar: 0.73" Total Precip. for 2011:

Lynn County News

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E-mail address: LynnCoNews@poka.com

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays

Tahoka ISD teachers offered \$10,000 incentive for voluntarily leaving district

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

by JUANELL JONES

It was the first day back from Spring Break when Tahoka ISD teach-

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

ers were brought into the school auditorium to hear Superintendent Steve Burleson give the unwelcome news that TISD, like many other school districts SUPT. BURLESON in Texas, is hav-

ing to consider a reduction in staff due to expected décreases in state funding. Burleson said the school board, however, has unanimously approved a Voluntary Exit Incentive Plan (VEIP) that offers a \$10,000 incentive to the first ten employees willing to voluntarily resign their positions here.

"Tahoka ISD officials are carefully monitoring the work of the Texas Leg-

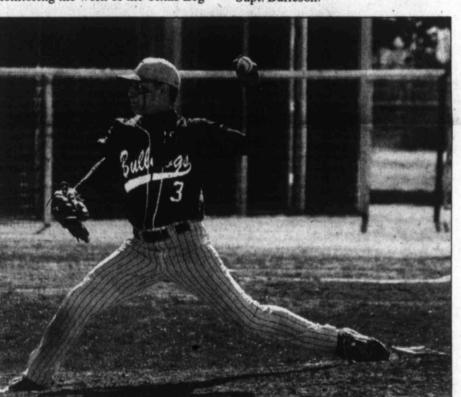
islature regarding the budget shortfall, like the school districts across the state. It is really hard to focus on any specific amount because no one has realistic numbers, however we are being told at this time by state legislators that Tahoka ISD can expect anywhere from a 5 to 15 percent reduction in state funding over the next two to four years. We

If we keep on like we are ... if things stay the same ... then Tahoka ISD will be broke in two years. It's not just this year that the state is cutting funds, it is for the next two years, and we have to make some hard decisions to protect our school. 99 -- FRANK MCLELLAND

public school).

sign up for it.

have discussed the need to reduce staff because of the funding cuts and our declining enrollment. We have looked at our financial needs and concerns for the next two to three years. The first step is to offer our staff some type of incentive to leave our district," said Supt. Burleson.



Southpaw hurler ... John Cantu is pitching here for the Tahoka Bulldogs, who beat Crosbyton 3-2 in a game here last week. The THS baseball team is hosting a "Day at the Park' fundraiser Saturday, including a Hit-a-Thon, Homerun Derby, and an alumni game. Events start at 10 a.m. at the baseball park here. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

Former O'Donnell principal sentenced in indecency cases

Former Sweetwater teacher and O'Donnell principal James Clayton Burns, 38, has been sentenced to two 15-year prison terms after pleading guilty to two counts of indecency with a child. The two terms will run concurrently.

Burns was indicted last year by a Nolan County CLAY BURNS grand jury in Sweetwater on the charges involving two teenage boys in 2002, when he was a Sweetwater teacher. He was principal at O'Donnell from 2006 until resigning in 2010. None of the charges against Burns were related to

his tenure at O'Donnell. During the last week, Tahoka Police investigated two incidents of vandalism to John Deere tractors, arrested two persons on outstanding warrants and chased down a suspect driving at a high rate of speed without lights and evading arrest.

The 29-year-old Tahoka man was issued 17 tickets after he was finally found in a brushy area where he fled on foot after stopping his pickup. One of the charges was driving while intoxi-

Joe Garcia of Tahoka told police someone spray-painted his tractor in the 1300-block of Ave. D between Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. It later was discovered that dirt had been poured into

the oil spout also. In the 1900-block of Ave. D sometime last week, a window was broken out of a tractor owned by Ralph Huffaker of Tahoka. Cost of repairing the window was \$150.

A 27-year-old Lamesa man was arrested in Tahoka Thursday on a Howard County warrant for theft of property, and a 17-year-old

Tahoka was arrested Wednesday on a

warrant for minor in possession. The 17 charges against one person who fled police officers was not a record number, even for the week. One woman with 22 charges against her was among 11 persons jailed here last week. All of the charges were related to driving violations, with nine counts of failure to appear/bail jumping included. Other persons jailed last week were arrested for issuing bad check, driving while license invalid, speeding and failure to appear, minor in possession of tobacco, assault on a public servant plus resisting arrest, assault causing injury/family violence, theft over \$50 and failure to identify/giving false information.

Of the 25 persons in jail, one was held for Andrews County.

ing our staff numbers," he added.

gram, but this is our first step in reduc-

email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

Board President Frank McLelland also addressed the teachers at Monday's forum. "I just want to tell you, we [the Board] think this is the most positive step we can take this year," McLelland said. "It has been a difficult process, but we feel like if you have a choice or say-so, at least this first year, maybe that makes it a little easier to accept. We know this affects people's lives, many of them our friends and relatives, and we are sorry to have to do this," he added.

Trustees John Hawthorne, Cathy Box and Scott Dimak also attended the employee forum.

Teachers have a timeline and certain steps to follow if they want to take advantage of the VEIP. Agreements must be signed on or before May 6.

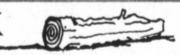
"I want to stress that the VEIP is strictly voluntary," said Supt. Burleson. "No adverse employment action will result for failing to accept the VEIP. An employee does not have to retire with the Teacher Retirement System in order to participate in the VEIP nor is an employee encouraged to do so," he stressed.

"The Voluntary Exit Incentive Plan program is one method often used to generate personnel units for budget planning. The VEIP program provides a 45 day window for the first 10 contracted employees to notify Tahoka ISD of their intent to resign from their cur-

rent position and receive a check for (See Teachers offered, page 2)

woodwork

by dalton



NATIONAL Procrastination Week was March 7-13, last week, and sure enough, I didn't get around to mentioning it until this week. Procrastination is something I am really good at, I also forgot to mention St. Patrick's Day (March 17), so I'm getting those topics off my "Things-To-Do" list this week.

St. Patrick's Day originally was a Roman Catholic holiday, but has become more of a secular celebration of Irish culture, with everybody wearing green and going around saying things like "faith and begorra."

The Chicago River is dyed green every year for St. Patrick's Day. I've never seen it (real people don't go to Chicago). And if you forget to wear something green (as I did) on St. Patrick's Day, you're fair game to be pinched.

In 1983, my wife and I went to Ireland with some other folks from this area, but we never made it to St. Patrick's Cathedral. We chose instead to visit Blarney Castle, site of the famous Blarney Stone.

Blarney Castle was built in the 15th century "for the MacCarthy Chieftains of Munster," according to a website called myguideireland.com. (There's a possible tie-in to St. Patrick here, because I think the tradition of pinching anyone not wearing green was started by the 15th century pervert, Herman Munster).

When Queen Elizabeth I sought to impose her rule on Ireland's chiefs, the Lord of Blarney, Cormac MacCarthy, replied to her demands with flamboyant flattery rather than submission. The queen remarked, "This is all Blarney. He never means what he says nor does what he promises."

That's how the word blarney got its meaning, and for years people have gone to Blarney Castle to kiss the Blarney Stone and supposedly be bestowed with the gift of eloquence.

The Blarney Stone is situated at the very top turret of the castle and to kiss it you have to lie on your back and reach under the battlements to kiss the stone and someone has to hold onto your feet to keep you from falling out of the castle.

Two or three of our group, including Regina Barnes (now Crutcher) of Draw, did kiss the stone. I didn't kiss the stone for a couple of reasons. First, when they said people who kiss the stone would become eloquent, I thought they said "elephant." But mainly I didn't want to climb all the way to the top of that tower just to kiss a rock.

Anyway, just being at the site must have worked its wonders for me. Ever since then, I have been able to talk and write gooder than most people.

Obituaries



Tori Camille "Baby" Rojo

Services for Tori Camille "Baby" Rojo, 14 month old infant daughter of German Rojo Jr. and Tiffany Dominguez of Tahoka, were held on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at 10 a.m. at St. Jude Catholic Church, Tahoka, with Father Edward Teo officiating. Burial was at Nevels Cemetery under the direction of Calvillo Funeral Home. She died on Wednesday March 16, 2011 in Lubbock. She was born on January 6, 2010.

Survivors include, her parents, both of Tahoka; grandparents include German Sr. and Andrea Rojo of Norman Okla-

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Indian

homa, Mary Ann Valverde of Tahoka, Mechelle Torrez and Eugene Montez, both of Tahoka, Mathias and Hortensia Dominguez of Dallas, Remijia Rojo of Mexico, Leonora Valverde of Mathis, Mequila Gomez and Alejandro Renteria both of Draw, Diane Montez of Houston, Rachel and Andy Dominguez of Irving.

Pallbearers were German Rojo Sr., Eugene Montez, D.J. Torrez and Mathias Dominguez.

All-region cagers include Tahoka duo

Tahoka junior Blake Turner and his sister, sophomore Mattie Turner, both were selected on the All-Region Class A basketball teams chosen by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and announced this

Each of the all-star teams included 20 players from all of the Class A teams in Region 1.

Poka Lambro's 60th **Annual Meeting** set for March 31

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is set to host their 60th Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, March 31. The meeting will be held at Poka Lambro's main business office located 11.5 miles north of Tahoka, on US Hwy 87.

Member registration will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. The business meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. One important item of business on the agenda will be the election of directors for the Cooperative.

Other meeting highlights will include the reports of officers and directors and the presentation of Poka Lambro Scholarships. All Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative members are encouraged to attend the meeting. Members may pick up door prize cards when registering at the meeting. Members must be present to win door

For additional information please contact Amy Preston at 1-800-422-2387.

New Home Tumblers compete in New **Deal Tumbling Meet**

Fourteen of the New Home Tumblers competed in their second tumbling meet this school year in New Deal on March 5th. The tumblers did very well representing New Home and brought home many great med-

The following won 1st Place Medals: Celee Smith, Alice Hamilton, Carley Smith, Reagyn Zant, and Connor Smith. 2nd Place Medals: Taylor Smith, Effi Correa, Lexis Hargrove, Kealey Benson, Darby Sherwood, and Lexie Benson. 3rd Place Medals: Samantha Correa, Abby Ehlers and Savannah Correa.





RICKY AND MARITIA HALL

Halls to celebrate 25th anniversary

Ricky and Maritia Hall of Tahoka are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 7, 1986, and in celebration of this special moment, their children, Bailey and Ridge will be throwing them a party with family and friends on Saturday, April 2, 2011. (PAID)

Teachers offered incentives ...

(continued from page 1)

\$10,000 less any taxes. The VEIP creates a safe exit for staff who may want to leave Tahoka ISD or the profession or may be thinking about retiring, and will provide the district with solid data for budget planning," said Supt. Burleson.

Enrollment figures have dropped from 686 students in the 2005-06 year to 604 for the current year. Supt. Burleson told teachers Monday that in addition to looking at reducing staff, the Board is also considering bringing a tax rollback election to the voters. The current \$1.04 property tax rate has been in effect for the past four years, and is the maximum allowed by the state unless voters approve a tax rollback. The maximum allowed in a rollback election is \$1.17, and that is most likely the figure that Tahoka ISD officials are considering.

"If we keep on like we are ... if things stay the same ... then Tahoka ISD will be broke in two years," the Board President told The News. "We are required to keep three months operating capital in our fund balance, and right now we do have enough for about six months operating funds, but if we have to keep going to our fund balance to operate it won't take long to use it. It's not just this year that the state is cutting funds, it is for the next two years, and we have to make some hard decisions to protect our school."

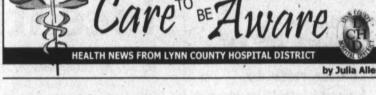
School officials had considered the possibility of a rollback election to bring revenue for some improvements to the school district. Now, they say, the revenue from a rollback election would be used "just to keep the doors open and keep operating."

"We want to still provide the very best education for our students. The students are why we are here each day," said Supt. Burleson. "Our teachers are important because they know and work with each child on an individual basis. We are emphasizing to our staff and the community to be aware of the news out of Austin and ask that you talk to our representatives. The one thing we do know is that in August, close to 600 students will be attending Tahoka ISD schools and we will be here to engage them in rigorous, meaningful instruction just like we have always done," he conclud-

A Gift to the **MEMORIAL PROGRAM**

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



Heart Health Awareness Step 7- Stop Smoking!

Stop smoking is the final step of the American Heart Association's (AHA) new program titled "Life's Simple 7" on their website -- http://mylifecheck. heart.org. The website shares 7 simple steps you can take to make the changes needed in your lifestyle to help. The tools of the website can be used often

New Home

March 28- Apr. 1 BREAKFAST

Monday: Cinnamon roll Tuesday: Tortilla omelet Wednesday: Cinnamon pastry Thursday: Pancake pup Friday: TBA

LUNCH

Monday: Chicken fried steak sandwich, trimmings, peaches Tuesday: Beefy nachos, lettuce/ tomato, pinto beans, applesauce Wednesday: Burrito, lettuce/ tomato, Spanish rice, pineapple

Thursday: Hamburger/cheeseburger, fries, cookie Friday: TBA

Green Memorial Park Cemetery

Green Memorial Park Cemetery will have its annual **DONATION DRIVE** during the month of March.

Funds may be deposited directly to First Bank & Trust or mailed to Green Memorial Park Cemetery, P.O. Box 102, Wilson, Texas 79381.

The board of directors, Servando Benavidez, Oscar Follis, Curtis Gicklhorn, Dennis Moore, and Curtis Wilke, would like to thank each of you for your past contributions and ask for your support to help keep the cemetery neat and attractive.

to help you reach these 7 simple

Step 7: Quit Smoking Smoking is the most im-

portant preventable cause of premature death in the United States. Smokers have a higher risk of developing many chronic disorders, including atherosclerosis - the buildup of fatty substances in the arteries - which can lead to coronary heart disease, heart attack (myocardial infarction) and stroke. Controlling or reversing atherosclerosis is an important part of preventing future heart attack or

It is important to quit smoking because when it acts with the other factors, it greatly increases your risk from those factors, too. Smoking decreases your tolerance for physical activity and increases the tendency for blood to clot. It decreases HDL (good) cholesterol. Your risks increase greatly if you smoke and have a family history of heart disease. Smoking also creates a higher risk for peripheral artery disease and aortic aneurysm. It increases the risk of recurrent coronary heart disease after bypass surgery, too.

Remember you will need motivation and support during the quitting process, people often slip and have a cigarette. It's important not to feel like you failed at quitting; just give it another chance. If you need more support, look for quit-smoking programs through hospitals and many states have hotlines with trained staff to help you with quitting. The AHA website has several helpful tools to get you

One last thing, it's not too early for parents to talk to kids about cigarette smoking. The Center for Disease Control reports that 80% of smokers started before they were 18 years old. Once cigarette smoking is initiated, it can be difficult to stop, even during adolescence. You may say, "Not my child" but statistics show that 3,900 kids under the age of 18 start smoking each day!

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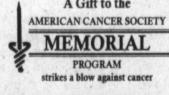
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The Lynn County News



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Please contact the Wilson ISD school secretary if you need additional information at 806-628-6261. We look forward to the 2011-2012 school Year! Wilso prese drama

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Got it ... Brittany Garcia catches a high pitch during last Wednesday's softball game against Crosbyton. Tahoka's Lady Bulldogs won 13-1. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

Wilson Baptist presents Easter drama/music series

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Wilson First Baptist Church will be showing in drama and music the life of Jesus from birth to resurrection, every Sunday morning during the worship hour, now through Easter Sun-

This Sunday, March 27, the topic to be presented is the "Woman at the well" and "Lazarus raised from the dead."

April topics will include --Apr. 3: "Anointing by a sinful woman"; Apr. 10: "Jesus blesses the children"; Apr. 17 (Palm Sunday): "Triumphant entry," "Lord's Supper" and "Jesus washes disciples feet"; and on Easter Sunday, Apr. 24th: three different slide shows: "Prays in the garden," "Crucifixion" and "Raised from the dead."

March 28-Apr 1

BREAKFAST Monday: Donuts Tuesday: Mustang McMuffins

Wednesday: Breakfast pizza Thursday: Eggs, hash brown, Friday: TBA

LUNCH Monday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, corn, tossed salad, garlic

Tuesday: Chicken patty sandwich, tots, western beans, orange smiles Wednesday: Steak fingers, oven fries, gravy, broccoli/

ranch, Texas Toast Thursday: Pizza, salad, banana, cookies Friday: TBA

"Productivity appraisal" may lower the property taxes on your farm, ranch or timberland!

Texas law allows farmers, ranchers and timber growers to pay property taxes based upon the "productivity value" of their land rather than on market value. This means' qualified land is taxed based on its ability to produce crops, livestock or timber-not on its value on the real estate market. And it can mean substantial property tax savings.

When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district before May 1 to take advantage of this benefit on your 2011 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it before May 1. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district

Do you need to reapply annually?

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to do so. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

LYNN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT 1615 Main Street • Tahoka, TX 79373 806-561-5477

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs **Property Tax Assistance Division** P.O. Box 13528 Austin, Texas 78711-3528 or call: (800) 252-9121, Ext. 2

or on the Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/

A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.

Benefit dinner Saturday:

Dinner, raffle to benefit **HOME** mission program

Hands On Mission Evangelism (HOME) is a group of people in Lynn County who are dedicated to spearheading projects that help people with basic housing needs. This Saturday, March 26, the HOME organization is sponsoring a benefit dinner to help raise funds for their projects, and the community is invited to attend. A barbecue brisket dinner with all the trimmings will be served from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at The Center for Housing and Community Development, 1400 Ave. K. in Tahoka. A minimum \$6 donation per plate is requested for the meal.

Live musical entertainment is also planned for the event, as well as an auction of items and baked goods, and drawings for four raffle prizes. Raffle tickets are available from HOME board members and will be available at the dinner, for a \$5 donation each or 5 for \$20 (need not be present to win). Four drawings will be held from the raffle tickets, for four different prizes including the grand prize of a John Deere riding lawn mower. The other prizes are a barbecue grill, a small portable air compressor, and a small portable generator.

All proceeds from the dinner, auction and raffle will benefit the HOME projects, and will be used strictly to purchase materials/tools needed for upcoming projects.

Tickets are available from all HOME board members, including Alton and Angela James (561-2266), Ty Askew, John Wilson, W. Calloway Huffaker (998-4683 office), Frank McLelland, Gloria Moore, Victor Herrera Jr. and Mike Walk-

"Our projects are all about keeping people warm and dry, and basic housing needs. And, we limit our projects to a \$2,000 value, because for the most part we are raising the money ourselves and we want to help as many people as possible," said Frank McLelland, a board member.

In order to offer that help, the HOME group has asked area churches to supply information on the needs of anyone they may be aware of, and applications for a HOME project are available from area churches.

Funding is necessary for any renovation project, but the real strength of the group lies in the individual hearts of the men and women whose desire to lend a helping hand is making a difference in the lives of some local people. Different volunteers assist with different projects, so there is no way to list all who have assisted in the variety of projects already completed, including the Pleasant Grove Church kitchen renovation, replacing windows on a house that was damaged by fire, providing roofing materials for a homeowner who provided the labor to complete the project, and replacing drywall and flooring for a home in the county that was damaged by the July flood waters. HOME has also built handicap ramps at three homes for wheelchair access, and repaired doors for two elderly la-

"We will consider project applications from anyone residing inside the county," said Alton James, who has been spearheading the HOME projects since August 2010. "Anyone can fill out an application, either by calling me at 561-2266, or any other board member, or asking for an application form at most of the churches in Tahoka," he added.

"And, although the HOME group is spearheading these projects, we gratefully accept help from any other volunteers for any project - any and all help is appreciated and essential to any project," said James.

HOME plans to continue their work as long as volunteers are willing and funds allow them to. To volunteer or donate funds, contact one of the board members, or make plans to attend the fundraiser dinner or purchase raffle tickets in support of the group.

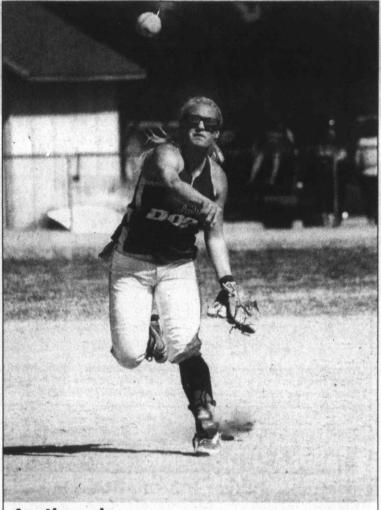
Wilson VFD to hold annual dinner, auction

The Wilson Volunteer Fire Department annual ham and sausage dinner and auction will be held Sunday, April 17, from 11:30-1:00 at the Wilson School Cafeteria. Cost per plate for adults is \$7 and child's plates are \$4.

The fire department will have an Aerocare Flight Raffle. Tickets are \$5 each and only a limited number are available. The drawing will be held that same Sunday following the dinner. The winner gets a flight on Aerocare for two over Lubbock and a giftbag of Aerocare

For more information, contact a WVFD firefighter or go to www.wilsontxfire.com for more

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011 . LYNN COUNTY NEWS . PAGE 3



Another win ... Tahoka's Brittani Ford throws the ball back in during last Wednesday's 13-1 win over Crosbyton. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

Letters To The Editor Policy

Our readers are encouraged to express their opinions in Letters to

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.



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Dealer Inquiries Welcome



Tahoka Little League Last chance to sign up ...

Thursday, March 24th, 6:30 pm at Tahoka High School Gym

Ages 5-14

Players must be 5 and not older than 14 on May 1st in order to register for Little League.

For each participant to be registered, please bring one proof of age document. Please also bring three or more documents that show the address of the legal residence of the parent(s) or court-appointed guardian(s) for the player(s).

BRING BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND PROOF OF RESIDENCY.

Player Information

First name		Last name			
Mailing addre	ess				
City			State Zip code		ode
Home phone			Cell phone		
Birth month	Birth day	Birth year	Age on May 1	Male	Female
	LECT			SEL	FCT

▼ ▼ SHIRT SIZE ▼

Youth Medium >

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Adult Small

Adult Medium >

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Adult X-Large ▶

▼ ▼ LEAGUE ▼ ▼ ◀Tee- Ball 5-6 Years Old \$50.00

■Machine Pitch 7-8 Years Old \$50.00 ◀Minor 9-10 Years Old \$50.00

■Major League 11-12 Years Old \$50.00 ◀ Senior League 13-14 Years Old \$50.00

Parent 1

Phone Check here if you can transport players to away games Please check here if you can help or volunteer NOTE: The adult listed above will be used as Emergency

PLAYER MUST TURN 5 YEARS OF AGE BY MAY 1, 2011. Parents must help out with concession stand this year. If you choose not to, there will be an additional \$20 fee per child.

'Day at the Park' to raise funds for THS baseball team Saturday

A full day of fun is scheduled for Saturday, March 26 at the Tahoka baseball field to raise funds for the Tahoka High School baseball team. A "Day at the Park' is the Bulldog team's first-ever baseball fundraiser, with the fun set to kick off at 10 a.m. with a Hit-a-Thon where participants will pay cents per foot and/or donations for the opportunity to hit.

A Homerun Derby starts at 12 noon, for any participant

ienior Citizens

MARCH 28-APRIL 1

Monday: Homemade vegetable

beef soup, pea salad, jalapeno

Tuesday: Beef enchiladas,

Mexican rice, red beans, lettuce

Wednesday: Beans & ham, oven

fried taters, greens, cornbread,

Thursday: Chicken spaghetti,

vegetable medley, salad, garlic

Friday: Fried talapia, black-

eyed peas, coleslaw, hushpup-

Reminders & Activities:

Monday evenings at 6. Every-

nity" program offers a 10-day

lunch ticket for a suggested do-

nation of \$35. If the individual is

under 60, a ten-day lunch ticket

is \$50. The lunch ticket can be

used for an on-site meal, a take-

out meal, or if eligible, we will

deliver the meal. The ticket can

be purchased for a specific per-

son or it can be donated and the

medical equipment available to

lend out. Please call us at 561-

Center will pick the person. · The Center has gently used

one is invited to join the fun!

Weekly domino nights are

· The "Feed Our Commu-

& tomato, AP&B dessert

cornbread, fruit

tapioca pudding

bread, apple crisp

pies, peach cobbler

wanting to show their skills (prize to the winner). At 2:00 p.m. an alumni game featuring former Tahoka baseball players in competition will be held.

A raffle, t-shirts and sugar cookies, and concession food will be available throughout the

All proceeds will benefit the THS baseball program. The baseball field is located near the Tahoka city pool on South 8th

Tahoka Tumblers compete in New Deal Meet

Twenty-nine of the Tahoka Tumblers competed in their second tumbling meet of the school year in New Deal on March 5th. The tumblers did very well representing Tahoka and brought home many great medals.

The following won 1st Place Medals: Olivia Hammonds, Kaylyn Green, Kenzie Henry, Diego Pena, Axie Allen, Iain DeLeon, Kylie Jolly, Emily Smith, Luke Sullivan, Selah Smith, Kylee Chapa, Jacob Tew, Cagnie Long, Layney Vega, Callie Nevill, and Jo Rosas.

The following won 2nd Place Medals: Evelyn Hardt, Karlie Swinford, Jackqueline Proffitt, Amy Tew, Hope Quintero, Michaela Sullivan, Kaitlynn Smith, Isabella Sauceda, Kaycee Swinford, Carson Henry and Natalie Whitley.

The following won 3rd Place Medals: Ragan Whitley and Morgan Mackey.

Support our town and county ... shop locally!

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There it is ... Tahoka Bulldog baseball players Tino DeLeon, left, and Jamie Bingham are going after a pop fly in a game here last week. (LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

March 28-Apr. 1 BREAKFAST

Monday: Pizza bagel Tuesday: Breakfast muffin Wednesday: Bacon, egg, cheese biscuit Thursday: Donuts Friday: unavailable

LUNCH

Monday: Stuffed baked potato, carrots w/ ranch, fruit cup Tuesday: Oven baked chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, gelatin

Wednesday: Nachos grande, cornbread, lettuce/tomato, orange smiles

Thursday: Pizza, salad, banana, chocolate cake Friday: not available



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by NOON Tuesday

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CHECK THESE OUT: 1807 S. 2nd - Tahoka: Larger brick home with 1944 sq. feet, 3/1/2 new carpet, new roof, newly refinshed hardwood floors, 1 year old central heat and air, 1 year old kitchen range with lots of storage. Smaller 480 sq. foot home has metal roof, 1 bath, kitchen area, storage and carport. Smaller home could have extra income potential. Property also features water well, detached double car-carport with 2 storage rooms, separate workshop, cinderblock cellar and mature

landscaping on a large lot. 1721 S. 1st - Tahoka: NOW REDUCED!

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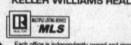
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Charmling 2/1/1 older home - 1100 sq. ft. with hardwood floors, metal roof less than 1 year old, 4 year old central heat and air, new appliances in kitchen. Income potential with hook up for mobile home on property. Large lot surrounded by cinderblock fence. Cute covered patio on back of home. Extra features are detached garage with storage.

Toy Holland, REALTOR 438-9245 KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY





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of miscellaneous.

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YARD SALE: 1925 N. 1st . Saturday 8:00-? Lots of miscellaneous. 12-1tc

MOVING SALE: 1803 Ave. Q · Saturday & Sunday 8:00-? Refrigerator, 3 piece sectional, great condition, hide-a-bed, 2 chairs, lots of miscel-

GARAGE SALE: 1729 N. 4th . Thursday-Sunday 11:00-5:00. Lots of men's and women's clothing from \$1.00 and up, shoes, some miscellaneous

YARD SALE: 1908 N. 5th · Saturday 8:30-? Clothes, decorations, toys, lots

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGESALE: Corner of N. 3rd & Ave. K . Friday & Saturday, 8 am to? Clothing, furniture, fishing boat, golf clubs, lots of miscel-

GARAGE SALE 2401 N. 5th Saturday 8:00-2:00

Electronics, housewares, toys, kids clothes, lots of miscellaneous. 12-1tc

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Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS CAUSE NO. 2011PR0006

ESTATE OF . EMMA JEAN ADAMSON, DECEASED

IN THE COUNTY COURT

LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EMMA JEAN ADAMSON, deceased, were issued March 15, 2011, in Docket No. 2011PR0006; pending in the County Court of Lynn County, Texas, to: JERRY R. WEBB, SR

The residence of such Independent Executrix is Lynn County, Texas. The address for purposes of presenting claims is: 2151 FM 179

O'Donnell, Texas 79351

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated the 15th day of March, 2011. Craig, Terrill, Hale, & Grantham, L.L.P.

> Lubbock, Texas 79424 Phone: (806) 744-3232 Fax: (806) 744-2211 By: /s/Bennett G. Cook

9816 Slide Road, Suite 201

State Bar No. 04721600 **Chasity Thomas** State Bar I.D. No.: 24050152

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Card of Thanks

We would like to thank all of our family, friends, and the communities of Tahoka, O'Donnell, Post and Brownfield as well as our family and friends in the DFW area for your prayers, support, donations and flowers.

It continues to be a difficult time for our family, so please respect our privacy during our time of mourning, but we ask you to continue to pray for us.

The Tori Camille Rojo family, Tiffany Dominguez; Michelle, DJ & Micaela Torrez & Eugene Montez



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Krystin Kelln

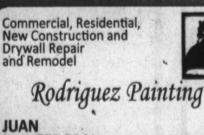
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ELS

LETTER to the EDITOR

Dr. Kelso gives back to community

(Editor's Note: Dr. Penny Kelso, an area veterinarian who provides services through an annual pet clinic here, sent the following note to The Lynn County News, indicating she is going to donate to the Lynn County Hospital District's annual Billy Tomlinson Memorial Benefit Auction on May 7):

Congratulations pet owners of Tahoka! Not only are your 4-legged loved ones now being kept healthy and happy with current vaccinations, worm medicine, and flea, tick and heartworm preventives, but Animal Housecalls is excited to give back to the community proceeds to the Tahoka hospital. Health is often directly related to happiness, be you human or animal!

Congratulations, Tahoka! Sincerely,

Dr. Penny C. Kelso **Animal Housecalls**

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A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home

by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000

and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will

Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owns a home on Jan. 1 and uses it as a primary resi-

dence on that date is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption

to lower school taxes this year...and it doesn't matter if your home

is a house, condominium or mobile home. Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.

Are other exemptions available?

If you're disabled—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the 65 or older or disabled exemptions.

tion, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on

the school property taxes on your home. (The county, city or junior

college may adopt a tax ceiling to lock in 2011 taxes as the highest amount for 65 and older or disabled homeowners.) The age 65

or older homeowners school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving

spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. The age 65 or older home-

owners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also

may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their

If you're a disabled veteran who receives from the Veterans Affairs

(VA)-(1) 100 percent disability compensation due to a service

connected disability and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or a determination of individual unemployability, you are entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of your resi-

Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2010,

you won't need to reapply for 2011 unless your chief appraiser

requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your

present home-or if you've moved to a new home-you'll need to file for an exemption for 2011. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the age 65 or older exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled, you need to file for

When and where should I file?

File applications before May 1 at your appraisal district office. If

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Texas Comptroller Susan Combs Property Tax Assistance Division

Austin, Texas 78711-3528

or call: (800) 252-9121, Ext. 2

Or contact:

P.O. Box 13528

former home's school tax ceiling, to a new home.

dent homestead. A surviving spouse does not qualify.

the disabled person's exemption.

you need more time, contact us at:

be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

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Show Champion ... O'Donnell FFA member Jack Ben Franklin (third from right) showed the Breed Champion at the Hereford Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. He is shown with other family members, from left, Andy Miers, Treva and David Franklin, and Ben Franklin, and to Jack Ben's right are Abby Grace Franklin and Debbie Franklin.

State housing agency awards \$50,000 to SPCAA for GED assistance

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) today announced a \$50,000 award to help a Levelland-based nonprofit organization offering an innovative program, which will help area low-income residents transition toward greater self-sufficiency.

The South Plains Community Action Association will use the award to operate a program assisting residents of Bailey, Cochran, Garza, Hockley, Lamb,

Lynn, Terry, Yoakum, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Hale, King, and Motley counties obtain their General Equivalency Diploma (GED). Assistance includes financial help with transportation and child care, as well as case management to facilitate course completion. The agency anticipates assisting 60 area residents with the award.

The program was previously funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, commonly referred to as the stimulus package, through the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program. However, all ARRA CSBG services were to be provided on or before September 30, 2010, under ARRA guidelines, meaning the community action agency's funding for this initiative ended.

The award is under TDH-CA's CSBG Program and represents a portion of the state's annual allocation from the federal government. The Department set aside this funding specifically to ensure the continuation of 11 highly regarded projects previously funded under ARRA CSBG, including the continuing education program offered by the South Plains Community Action Association.

The CSBG Program assists individuals earning no more than 125 percent of the federal poverty guideline, which equals an annual income of \$27,937 for a family of four. Funding for the program comes from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and supports a variety of direct services in addition to helping maintain the core administrative elements of local partner organizations.

Services supported through the CSBG Program include child care, health and human services, transportation, job training and employment services, housing, substance abuse prevention, migrant worker assistance, and a wide array of related services.

For more information on South Plains Community Action Association and its programs, please contact the agency directly at (806) 894-6104. For more information about the CSBG Program, please contact TDHCA's Community Services Section at (512) 475-3950 or visit the program's Web site at www. tdhca.state.tx.us/cs.htm#csbg.

These Tahoka Firms Are Sponsoring This **AgTexas Farm Credit Services**

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Lynn County or on the Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/ **Farm Bureau**

A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.

Windbreak and hardwood trees

Seedling hardwood trees are still available for purchase at the Lynn Co. SWCD office. Hardwood trees that are available include bur oaks, green ash, and red oaks. These trees sell for \$1.50 each.

Five gallon Afghanistan pines are now available. The trees are four to five feet tall and are \$30.00 each.

The District is now taking orders for one gallon species that will be available at the end of March and April.

To purchase these trees come by the office at 1602 S. 2nd St., or for more information, call Helen at 998-4507 Ext. 3.

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TAHOKA SCHOOL NEWS

by THS Journalism Students

Alvarado places at State Powerlifting By: Danielle Wilborn

Lisa Marie Alvarado competed at the girls state Powerlifting meet March 19. She is a state medalist, placing 5th.

Kyle Reno, Nick Aguirre, and Jamie Bingham competed at the boys regional Powerlifting meet March 12. Reno placed 4th with an overall total of 1,145

Varsity Bulldog Sluggers off to 2-2 start in District play By: Blake Turner

The Varsity Baseball team traveled to Ralls on March 8th to take on the Jack Rabbits in the first district game of the year. It was a tough game and the Bulldogs fell short 11-1. Taylor Abell had two hits in the game and Sabino Perez had one while Tino Deleon scored Tahoka's only run in the 5th inning.

On March 11th the Bulldogs hosted the O'Donnell Eagles for a district battle. The Eagles, however, over powered Tahoka to take the game 15-6, and the Bulldogs fell to 0-2 in district. Zach Garcia led the team with 2 runs in the game and John. Cantu had 3 hits. The Bulldogs had trouble fielding the ball and had 13 errors in the loss.

The Bulldogs were unable to actually get a hit on Wednesday afternoon at Bulldog Ballpark. However, that didn't seem to negatively affect the outcome of the district contest with the Crosbyton Chieftains as Tahoka took the contest 3-2. The Bulldogs made more plays behind senior left-hander John Cantu, and Cantu made the most of it, striking out 10 and going the

distance in second straight outing. The Bulldogs get their first district win and look to continue their success as district play gets under way.

The Bulldogs pulled out a tough one on Monday afternoon in Tahoka as they edged out the Borden County Coyotes by a score of 13-10. Seniot lefty John Cantu did not have his usual control, but he did manage to strike out 12 Coyote batters during the contest. The Tahoka bats were led by junior first baseman Cristian Ramirez who finished the day 3 for 4 with a single, double and a homerun. Ramirez knocked in five runs in the winning effort. With the win, Tahoka improves to 2-2 in district 3-1A play.

JV Baseball

JV baseball beat New Deal on Feb. 21.

They lost in district play to Ralls on March 8, 9-8. Swade Hammonds was pitcher. Caelen Decker hit a triple in the Ralls

"They hit well," Coach James Garret said, "and improved well infield."

Lady Dog Softball By Brittany Garcia

The Lady Bulldog softball team started off their district season at Ralls on Tuesday, March 8. The ladies fell short to the Jackrabbits 13-3.

They continued their season against Lockney, who they defeated 8-2. The girls also beat Crosbyton 13-1. The girls continued their winning streak at New Deal, where Monica Strickland and Brittani Ford each contributed triples and Brittany Garcia added an in park homerun.

The girls rolled over the New Deal lady lions 8-3 on March 19.

JV softball

JV softball lost to Brownfield on March 1, 9-6. Samantha Antuna pitched.

They defeated Ralls 11-9 on March 8. B'anca DeLeon and Antuna pitched. Taya Bishop hit a triple, and Jessica Morin hit a

"They are fundamentally getting better," said Coach Marietta Decker. "They are getting more comfortable in their positions."

They beat Lockney and lost to Crosbyton during spring break.

Girls Golf Compete In Sundown Tournament By Hunter Lowdermilk

The Tahoka Girls golf team competed in the Sundown Tournament on March 21. Stormee Martin got 6th with a score of 105. Nicole Taylor also competed and scored a 121. Caitlynn Martin also competed and scored a 139.

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