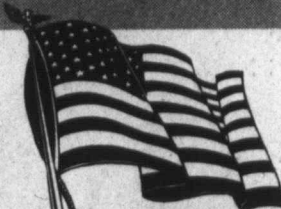


LYNN COUNTY COURTHOUSE



THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2011 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Serving Lynn County since 1903

50¢

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 18

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2011

8 PAGES PLUS INSERT

What's Inside

- **Letter to Editor** - pg. 2
- Thankful for LCHD
- **Legislation seen as threat to Lynn County Hospital** - pg. 3
- **Woodwork** by Dalton - pg. 5
- **Senior 4-H team wins first at contest** - pg. 6

The Tahoka Lady Bulldogs Softball Team

#4 in TCGA State Softball Pool District Champions (drew a bye for Bi-District) will play Perrin-Whitt in the Area playoffs Friday, May 6 in Abilene at 7:30 at ACU's field - 1 game only -

Tahoka ISD to dismiss early Friday

Tahoka ISD will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. and buses will run at 2:35 p.m. on Friday, May 6, to allow everyone an opportunity to get to the softball game in Abilene.

Happy Mother's Day Sunday, May 8

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Apr. 27	68	46	
Apr. 28	80	39	
Apr. 29	97	42	
Apr. 30	78	55	
May 1	54	49	0.05"
May 2	64	42	
May 3	73	36	
Precipitation for Jan:			0.01"
Precipitation for Feb:			0.66"
Precipitation for Mar:			0.07"
Precipitation for Apr:			0.00"
Total Precip. for 2011:			0.74"

Lynn County News

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Open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Open During Lunch Hour)

CLOSED FRIDAYS (Drop Box available by front door)

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays

Hospital benefit auction set here Saturday evening

All area residents are invited to the 31st Annual Lynn County Hospital District auction and fish fry this Saturday, May 7, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Lynn County Show Barn on South 9th Street in Tahoka. The annual fund-raising event for the hospital, sponsored by Tahoka Rotary Club, was renamed as the Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction last year, in honor of Tomlinson's longtime service to the hospital as a director.

Rotary members say there is still time to donate an item for the auction, by calling any Rotary Club member to pick up the item, or call Julia Allen at the hospital at 998-4533 ext. 333.

Admission to the event is free, but a \$1 donation will buy a door prize ticket to be eligible for the many door prizes that will be given away. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase, with five chances to win including a \$300 Southwest Airlines ticket, two \$50 gasoline gift certificates from Witt Butane, and two \$50 Visa gift cards.

Auction items donated thus far by area citizens and businesses include a Dell laptop computer, a 50-inch flat screen HDTV, Ipod, and an Amazon Kindle e-reader, as well as home and garden items, home décor, tools, baked goods, and more. A quilt, handmade by 101-year-old Trudy Schuknecht of

Tahoka, will be up for auction, and trip packages to Ruidoso, NM and San Antonio will also be auctioned.

The Silent Auction tables, featuring items to be purchased by handwritten bids, will be conducted from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m.

An All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry will be served beginning at approximately 5:30 p.m., at a cost of \$6 per plate. Members of the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department generously offer their services in preparing the fried fish, hush puppies, fried potatoes/onions and coleslaw for the evening, and hospital directors and staff members serve the meal. Phebe K. Warner club members will sell homemade ice cream, and Lynn County 4-H youth will have drinks available at the concession stand. All proceeds benefit the hospital.

The main event of the evening will be the live auction of items donated by area merchants and individuals. The live auction begins at 6:00 p.m. and continues until all items are sold, usually closing at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Lots of interesting items have been donated for the auction, and area residents are invited to come out for an evening of fun while supporting their local hospital.



Still quilting, still giving, at 101 ... Trudy Schuknecht, 101, works on finishing the hem of a quilt she is making for the Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction that will be held this Saturday evening. Schuknecht says she had the quilt top put together but only started hand-quilting it last Monday, which happened to be her 101st birthday. "I worked on it all week to get it quilted, and today (Monday) I am hemming the edges. I should be finished with it this afternoon and I will get it over to the hospital," she said. She has been making and donating quilts to the annual auction since the event began 31 years ago. This year's quilt features a floral print outlined in a solid green. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)



State competitors ... These Tahoka High School FCCLA students presented projects at the State FCCLA Conference in Houston recently. They are, top row from left, Dastine White and Tempest White; middle row, Gabriella Pando and McKenzie Forsythe; and in front, Virginia Lopez and Selena Tello. (See story, page 8.)

Two jailed here after confrontation

Two 19-year-old Tahoka men were jailed on charges of public intoxication Sunday after a confrontation, first with a citizen, then with police officers called to the scene. One of the men was also charged with resisting arrest after struggling with two officers trying to get him into a patrol car.

Twenty persons were being held in Lynn County jail this week, with two of those held for Andrews County. Six were added to the list during the last week, mostly on charges related to driving. Two were charged with driving while intoxicated. Five were charged with driving while license invalid, one with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, one expired drivers license, one for speeding. Other charges included unregistered motorboat, and failure to maintain financial record or

prepare annual report.

In April, 224 calls were processed by dispatchers at the Lynn County sheriff's office. These included 107 call for the county, 78 for City of Tahoka, six for O'Donnell, 22 ambulance calls, and 11 fire alarms, according to Chief Dispatcher Luis Vasquez.

Athletic Banquet is slated Monday

The Tahoka High School Athletic Banquet, hosted by the Bulldog Booster Club, will be held Monday, May 9 at 7 p.m. in The Center for Housing and Community Development at 1400 Ave. K in Tahoka.

Tickets are \$10, and may be purchased at the door or in advance from Michelle Williams, 928-8269.

Early voting continues this week

Early voting continues through May 10 for marking ballots in the May 14 city, school and hospital board elections.

In the Lynn County Hospital District election for two directors, early voting will be held in the basement courtroom at the Lynn County Courthouse during regular business hours.

Early voting for the Wilson city election will be conducted at Wilson City Hall during regular business hours (8-12, 1-3 pm) with two additional 12-hour early voting days on May 3 and May 5, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

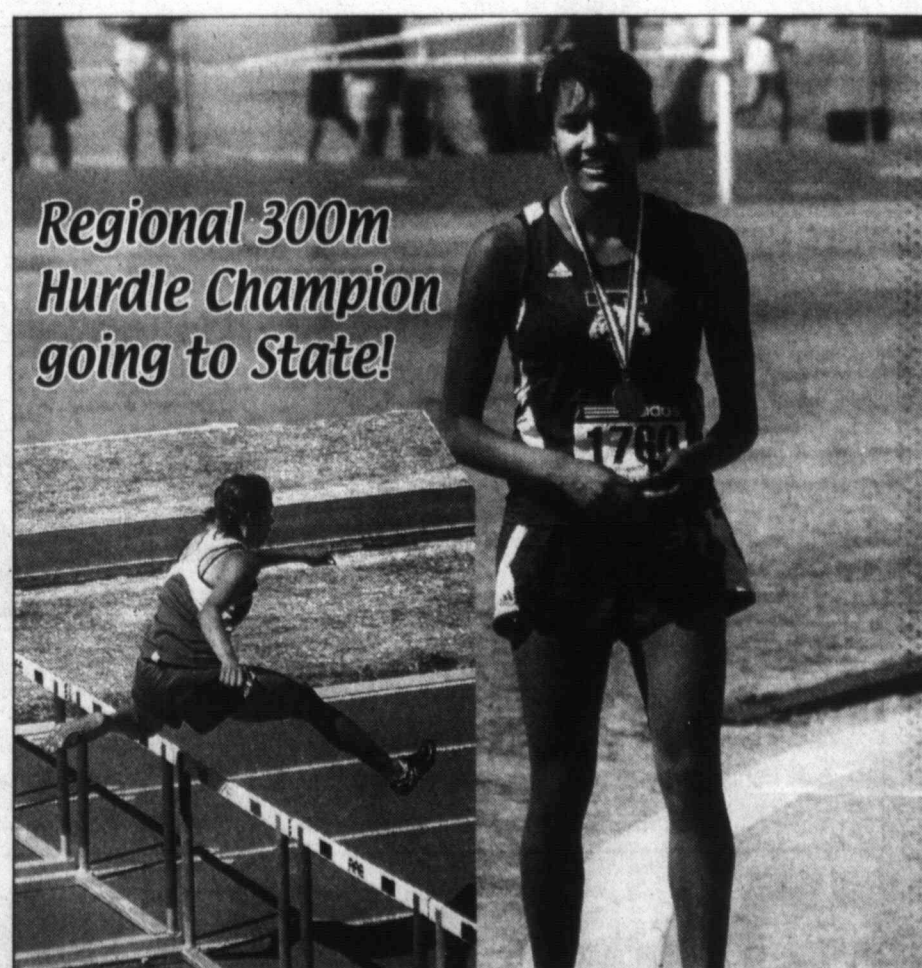
For the Wilson ISD election for two trustees, early voting will be held at the WISD Elementary Office, from 1-4 p.m. Monday, May 2, and from 9 a.m.-12

noon and 1:00-3:30 p.m. May 3-10 during weekdays.

In the O'Donnell City Council election for three council seats, early voting will be held May 2-10 during regular business hours at City Hall, with two additional 12-hour early voting days on May 5 and May 6, from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

For the O'Donnell ISD election for two trustees, early voting will be conducted at the OISD Administration Office, May 2-10, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays.

In Tahoka, both the city and school elections have been canceled, as well as the New Home city election, with uncontested candidates to be declared elected.



Regional 300m Hurdle Champion going to State!

Brittney Liggins of Tahoka is going to the state track meet in two events, after winning at the regional meet this week. She was the regional champion in 300m hurdles (46.48 seconds), and placed second in 100m hurdles (16.24 seconds), and will compete in both events in Austin at the Class 1A State meet May 13-14.



Gemstones and Crystal's ... Grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremonies were held Monday, May 2, 2011 for Gemstones & Crystal's located at 1660 Main Street (Corner of Main and Lockwood) in Tahoka. A variety of purses, jewelry, candles, rhinestone flip flops and much more are available. Pictured in back from left are Susan Tipton, Shelley Rosas, Julia Allen, Martha DeLeon, John Krey, Christie Olivvan and Ray Box. In front are Jay Forsythe and his wife, Crystal, who is owner of the store, with City Administrator Jerry Webster. The store is open 2-6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and 9-2 Saturdays. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)



DONATIONS to the Lynn County Hospital District EMS are greatly appreciated.

LCHE EMS, Box 1310, Tahoka, Tx

Public invited to book review Tuesday by Carol Headrick

The public is invited to attend a special event on May 10, at 4:00 p.m., when Carol Headrick will present a review of a book titled *The Autobiography of Beverly Sills*. She is a professional, formerly of Tahoka.

Music will be provided by a group led by Vivian McAfee. The event will be held in the fellowship hall at the First Baptist Church in Tahoka, hosted by the Phebe K. Warner Club.

LETTER to the EDITOR

Thankful for LCHD

April 21, 2011 began as an ordinary day, getting ready to go to work. But around 06:30 in the morning I started to experience some symptoms, from sweating and shoulder pains to nausea that my husband felt could not be ignored. He immediately drove us to the Lynn County Hospital emergency room. From the moment we rang the bell at the ER to the time I was transported to the ER in Lubbock I was provided with excellent care by the ER staff and the Nurse Practitioner. Shannon was so calm and caring that I had no added anxieties to deal with. Shannon and the staff at the ER had correctly assessed and had initiated treatment and planned for the care that possibly saved my life.

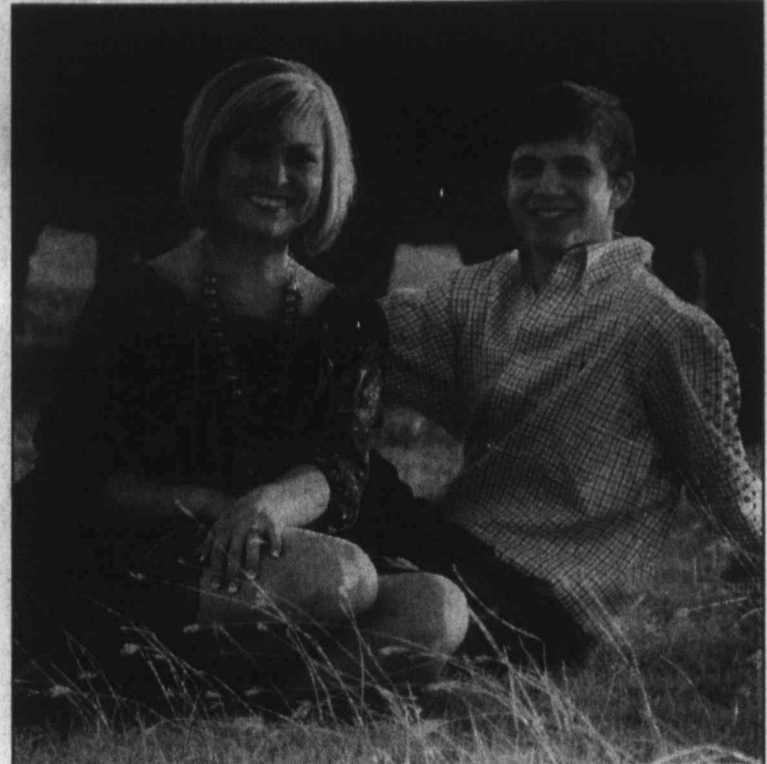
I was told all the names of the staff but I hope you understand why on this morning, I can't remember names, but I can remember the care you provided. One person in particular, the ER aide, appeared to be my guardian angel, as she held my cold hands with her warm hands and spoke in a soft voice telling me you will be alright and with a soothing tone she said keep the faith. The ER's staff calmness and nurturing manner allayed my fears and anxiety.

The ambulance drive to Lubbock was an adventure and Ginger drives a mean ambulance. The two young folks with me in the back of the ambulance, even though they were new to this work were very calm and professional. Lynn County Hospital is to be commended for the ER staff who provided fine care and who were very professional. I realize the ER staff is simply doing their job as health care professions but they made this person feel very appreciative of their caring and nurturing professional work.

My husband Ricardo and I chose to come to Tahoka almost five years ago and we are very glad we did.

Lynn County Hospital ER staff of the morning of April 21, 2011, you know who you are, so pat yourself in the back and remember that the Martinez family is very appreciative that you do what you do.

Dolores N. Martinez



MACY MIRES and TRAVIS BEGLEY

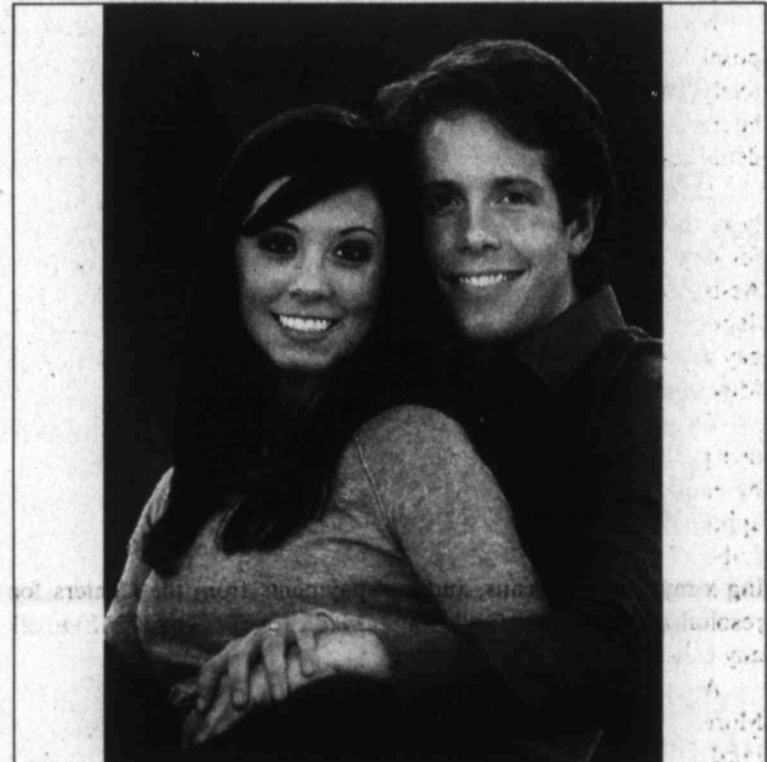
Mires-Begley engagement announced

Travis and Kay Mires of O'Donnell announce the engagement of their daughter, Macy, to Travis Begley, son of Michael and Tracy Dawson of Plainview and Eric Begley of Goodwell, Okla.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Bowen and Sheila Stephens of Plains and Francis Mires of O'Donnell and the late Harold Mires. She is a 2008 graduate of O'Donnell High School and is a junior majoring in agriculture communication at Texas Tech University.

Begley is the grandson of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Palmer of Ponca City, OK and Chris Begley of Goodwell, OK and the late Jack Begley, and Murray Don and Barbara Dawson of Byers. He is a 2009 graduate of Plainview High School and is a junior majoring in animal science at Texas Tech.

The couple plans to marry June 11, 2011 in O'Donnell.



LAUREN MARIE SMITH and DAVID KIDWELL

Couple announces engagement

Randy and Pat Smith of Ropesville announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Marie Smith, to David Kidwell, son of Tom and Vicki Kidwell of Lubbock.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of John and Patsy Smith and the late A.L. and Hazel Bevers, all of Ropesville. She is a 2005 graduate of Ropes High School and will graduate May 2011 from Texas Tech University with a Bachelors of Science in English and Secondary Education. She will be employed by Valley Mills I.S.D. as a secondary English teacher and the head girls track coach and assistant girls basketball coach this fall.

Kidwell is the grandson of Jess and Barbara Ellis of Lubbock and the late W.T. and Esta Mae Kidwell of Tahoka. He is a 2003 graduate of Monterey High School, a 2007 graduate of Texas Tech University and will graduate in May 2011 from Texas Tech HSC School of Medicine and will begin his residency at Scott and White Memorial Hospital in Temple this summer.

The couple plans to marry June 18, 2011 at the First Baptist Church, Lubbock.

Still sassy at 75!

Happy Birthday, Mom
... WE LOVE YOU!
Ramiro, Michelle & Breklyn

The Lynn County News
Tahoka, Texas 79373

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Pam Elrod Typesetting/Bookkeeping

Don't miss the Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction this Saturday!

Lots of items will be up for bid at the auction...

... including this Men's Citizens Eco-Drive gold and silver watch and an Amazon Kindle e-Reader with gray leather cover ... both donated by First National Bank of Tahoka.

Don't miss out on all the fun at the festival, starting at 5:30 p.m. Saturday at the Lynn County Show Barn.

The Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department will be cooking fried fish dinners for only \$6.

All proceeds from the event benefit our local hospital.

The Hospital benefit is sponsored by the Tahoka Rotary Club.

FNB OFFERS FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE, INCLUDING:

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- Home Mortgage Loans for purchase or improvements
- Bank by Mail
- Direct Deposit

HOURS: Lobby - 9:00-3:00 Monday-Friday; Drive-Thru - 9:00-6:00 Monday-Friday

First National Bank of Tahoka
1601 South 1st Street in Tahoka ♦ 806 / 561-4511
www.fnbtahoka.com ♦ Member FDIC. ♦ 24-hr. Bank by Phone: 561-BANK (2265)

Support your local hospital ... attend the **Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction** 5:30 p.m. Saturday at the county showbarn

Adopt a Pet!
Check with the Lynn County Animal Shelter about adoptable pets.

Lynn County Animal Shelter
Abbey Elrod, Director
806-561-4056

Show your colors!
Fly the American Flag to show your pride in our nation.

Shop at Home!
All Lynn County merchants appreciate your business.

JOLLY TIME
Pizza & More
561-4616
2220 LOCKWOOD, TAHOKA

Great gifts for Mom!
MOTHER'S DAY IS THIS SUNDAY!

FREE DELIVERY on Friday & Saturday ... Open this Saturday until 2:00 pm

Choose from • Jewelry & Crosses • Hanging Baskets • Potted Plants • and more!

Don't forget ... we have flowers for any occasion.

Designs & Daisies
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HOURS: 9:00-5:30 Monday-Thursday, 9:00-5:00 Friday
1501 Ave. J, Tahoka ♦ 561-5829 ♦ designs@poka.com

OPEN Mother's Day SUNDAY, MAY 8

SUNDAY'S SPECIAL: POT ROAST ...
with Green Beans & Carrots, Mashed Potatoes, Crescent Roll and a Salad

... all for **\$6.99** only

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County gets \$87,380 ... Lynn County will get a check for \$87,380 from the Texas Department of Rural Affairs Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, as a 25% matching grant for a FEMA grant of \$232,545 to repair roads in the county damaged by flooding last July caused by Hurricane Alex. Last Thursday, Lynn County Judge H.G. Franklin and his secretary, Kaaren Huffaker, met with the grant coordinator, Mary A. Smith (left), of Grantworks, and Alvin Lopez (right), Regional Coordinator with the Texas Dept. of Rural Affairs, to discuss the process of reporting how the funds are used. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Legislation seen as threat to Lynn County Hospital

Legislation proposed and contemplated in Congress is a major threat to the finances of rural hospitals, including Lynn County Hospital, according to administrator Jim Morris, who reported to the hospital board last Thursday on a recent meeting of Texas rural hospital officials, which he attended.

Morris detailed some proposals that he said would negatively affect rural hospitals, and later issued a prepared statement detailing some of the threats.

The board voted unanimously to increase the room deposit for new residents of Lynnwood Assisted Living and to make the deposits non-refundable to help pay for room repairs, effective May 1.

The board also approved a new policy for use of cell phones by employees, medical staff re-appointments for a group of Lubbock radiologists for reading x-rays and cat scans, and a resolution to designate funds for any construction projects.

Attending the meeting were Morris, board president Jerry Ford and members Jannis Horwood, Victoria Baker, James Craig, Frances Truehart and Nancy Guillems. Absent was member Cal Huffaker.

Morris issued the following analysis of the threat of legislation to rural hospitals, noting that he attended a conference of the Texas Organization of Rural Community Hospitals (TORCH):

"Healthcare (particularly

rural healthcare) is facing some of the biggest challenges and threats from legislators ever experienced. It was reported that the Congressional Budgetary Office has recommended to Congress to end Critical Access Hospital cost reimbursement. A Critical Access Hospital (CAH) is a hospital that is certified to receive cost-based reimbursement from Medicare. The reimbursement that CAHs receive is intended to improve their financial performance and thereby reduce hospital closures.

"Lynn County Hospital District converted to Critical Access Hospital status in 2004. As of Sept. 2010 there were 1320 CAHs throughout the nation. Advocacy groups such as TORCH, American Hospital Association and the Texas Hospital Association are protesting the CBO's recommendation and have pointed out that all payments from the Centers for Medicare Services (CMS) to all facilities with 50 beds or fewer which includes all CAHs make up less than 2% of the overall CMS budget. These advocacy groups are saying to the CBO that they should clean up the 98% and leave the 2% alone. This may not be politically expedient because the 98% represents all of the largest hospitals in the nation from 50 beds and up and includes the nation's largest hospital and healthcare systems.

"The feds are tinkering with the criteria for designation of

Community praise service set Sunday night

A community-wide praise and worship service and prayer for rain will be held at First Baptist Church of Tahoka Sunday night, May 8, with everyone invited to attend. The service begins at 6 p.m.

A praise and worship group will lead singing, and the message will be brought by Rev. Ernest Hopkins, a pastor from First Baptist Church in Shallowater.

Tuesday church services offered in New Home

Tuesday night church services are offered in New Home at the New Home Baptist Church beginning at 6:30 p.m. "These services are geared toward the Hispanic speaking people of our area," stated the pastor.

Services include a meal, live music by Principio Nuevo and the Word of God.

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) and Medically Underserved Areas (MUA). Lynn County is designated as a HPSA.

"Another threat is the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), which is a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This is a 15-member panel appointed by the president and subject to Senate confirmation and will be the primary mechanism for cutting Medicare spending. Some of IPAB's critics say that it takes the duty of cutting Medicare reimbursement out of Congress' hands and is basically a transfer of power from the legislative to the executive branch. Other critics state that this legislation specifies that any recommendations IPAB makes about Medicare spending automatically become law. Congress can only override IPAB with a three-fifths vote or they can pass their own Medicare plan that meets the same spending target.

"In addition, there is NO administrative process for doctors or citizens to challenge the IPAB board's decisions. Critics point out that IPAB is even more blatantly unconstitutional than the individual mandate, as its power



Tahoka Major All-Star Team ... The Tahoka Majors All-Star team placed 2nd in the Hale Center Tri-County Tournament, defeating Petersburg, Lockney, Hale Center, Abernathy and Slaton. Tahoka lost in the championship game to Floydada, 28-24. The Major All-Star team also participated in the Cooper All-Star tournament, placing 3rd, defeating Plainview. Pictured in back from left are Coach Christa Atzbach, Grant Tekell, Isaac Arriazola, Brit Lockaby, and Kevin White; and in front, Brayden Castillon, Bryce Turner, Colton Stice, and Alfredo Martinez. Not pictured are Brennon Castillon and Coach Warren Baker.



Tahoka Minor All-Star Team ... The Tahoka Minors All-Star team, coached by Drew Stone and Scotty Ollvan, competed in the Hale Center Tri-County All-Star tournament March 31-April 2, defeating Lockney, and the Cooper All-Star Tournament April 9-10, defeating Plainview. They are, from left, Aaron Ollvan, Cameron Tekell, Braden Stone, Matthew Cunningham, Peyton Lowdermilk, Nicholas Arce, and not pictured, Mason Walker, John Stone, and Bryson Resendez.

sounds legislative in nature — its declarations would have the force of law — and therefore cannot legitimately be delegated to an executive entity. Even more

critics point out that this is the device whereby we will see rationing and the so-called "death panels" which was aggressively denied before the legislation be-

came law. The IPAB Board is required to implement its first proposals in 2015 with its first report being produced by July 2014."

Come support your local hospital by attending the

31st Annual Lynn County Hospital District BILLY TOMLINSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BENEFIT AUCTION

sponsored by the Tahoka Rotary Club

Live Auction!

begins at 6:00

Bid on Trip packages!
◆ Ruidoso ◆ San Antonio

Auction items include: Kindle e-Reader • Jewelry • iPod • 50 inch HDTV • Dell Laptop and much, much more!

Homemade Ice Cream

Food & Drinks

Raffle tickets!
FIVE CHANCES TO WIN ...
◆ \$300 from Southwest Airlines
◆ Two - \$50 in gas from Witt Butane
◆ Two - \$50 Visa gift cards

Door Prizes!

Silent Auction 5:30-7:30

All-You-Can-Eat \$6 FISH FRY!

prepared by the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept.

Saturday, May 7th

5:30-8:00 p.m.

Lynn County Show Barn

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE LYNN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

If you wish to DONATE any items, please call Julia Allen, 998-4533, ext. 333.

Peyton Joyce Jolly

was born Thursday, April 14, 2011 to Bobby Jr. and Traci Jolly of Tahoka

She weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz., was 20.5" long and has an older sister, Bayle Jolly of Tahoka.

GRANDPARENTS: Bobby Sr. and the late Peggy Jolly of Tahoka; Jimmie Reed of Brownwood; Thomas and the late Joyce Probst of Fort Davis.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Refugia "Cuca" Perez 1909-2000

Happy Mother's Day, Mom... 11 years has just gone by, but still missing you a lot.

They say there is a reason They say that time will heal But neither time nor reason Will change the way we feel.

For no one knows the heartache That lies behind our smiles No one knows how many times We have broken down and cried.

We want to tell you something So there won't be any doubt You're so wonderful to think of But so hard to be without.

We cannot bring the old days back When we were all together The family chain is broken now But memories live forever.

May 14th is Mom's 11th birthday in heaven ... with our broken hearts we celebrate. We all love you, Mom, and miss you a lot -- to mom's friends and family, "Thank You" and we will forever be grateful.

Mrs. Refugia Perez family
Anna Perez
Angie & Pete Gutierrez
Rosalinda & Alex Garcia
Amber Miranda,
and all your Grandkids and Great-Grandkids

Sunday is Mother's Day!

NEW selection of:

- ♥ Jewelry
- ♥ Fresh Flowers
- ♥ Blooming Plants
- ♥ Hanging Baskets and more!

Teleflora's Fitcher Perfect Bouquet ... for MOM!

MasterCard & Visa Accepted

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8 p.m.

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Purchase



Let's watch it on a big screen TV ... This 50-inch HDTV will really bring a big picture into someone's living room, and it's going to be available at Saturday's Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction. The TV is donated by Huffaker Law, Walker-Solomon Insurance Agency and Lynn County Abstract & Title Co. Pictured from left are Lane Tekell, Rebekah Filley, W. Calloway Huffaker, Joe Torres, Shannon Lawson, Tommye Nance, Brenda Dotson, Griselda Lopez and Teresia Simpson. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

U.S. Treasury to "retire" paper check Social Security, other federal benefits

Washington, D.C. — The U.S. Department of the Treasury is retiring the paper Social Security check for millions of baby boomers and others applying for federal benefits, a move that will save taxpayers \$1 billion over the next 10 years. Beginning May 1, 2011, anyone newly applying for Social Security, Veterans Affairs or other federal benefits will need to choose an electronic payment method — paper checks will no longer be an option. People currently receiving their federal benefits by paper check must switch to direct deposit by March 1, 2013.

"More than 18 million baby boomers are expected to reach retirement age during the next five years, with 10,000 people a day becoming eligible for Social Security benefits," said Treasurer of the United States Rosie Rios. "It costs 92 cents more to issue a payment by paper check than by direct deposit. We are retiring the Social Security

paper check option in favor of electronic payments because it is the right thing to do for benefit recipients and American taxpayers alike."

The Treasury Department published a final rule in December 2010, to gradually eliminate paper checks for federal benefit payments. In addition to the taxpayer savings, electronic payments are safer and more convenient than paper checks. Last year alone, more than 540,000 Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) paper checks were reported lost or stolen and had to be replaced.

The Treasury Department's Go Direct® public education campaign provides information to Americans about the change to how federal benefit payments are being delivered and makes it easy for current check recipients to switch online at www.GoDirect.org or by calling a toll-free helpline.

People newly applying for

federal benefits on or after May 1, 2011, must choose an electronic payment option at the time they sign up for their benefits. If they wish to direct their money into a bank or credit union account, they will want to have the following information on hand at the time they apply for their benefits:

- Financial institution's routing transit number (often found on a personal check)
- Account type — checking or saving
- Account number (often found on a personal check)

People who prefer receiving their payments on a prepaid debit card or who do not have an account at a financial institution can receive a Direct Express Debit MasterCard card. For more information, visit www.GoDirect.org.

March 1, 2013: Current check recipients must switch to electronic payments before March 1, 2013. Switching from checks to direct deposit is fast, easy and free at www.GoDirect.org, by calling the U.S. Treasury Electronic Payment Solu-

Pre-registration set May 11 at TISD

Pre-registration for the 2011-2012 school year at Tahoka Independent School District will be held Wednesday, May 11 for children entering kindergarten and pre-kindergarten. Parents of 4-year-olds and 5-year-olds must pre-register their children from 12:30-2:30 p.m. on May 11 in the elementary gym. The children must be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2011 for pre-kindergarten, or 5-year-olds by Sept. 1, 2011 for kindergarten.

Parents must bring the child's certified birth certificate, updated immunization records and Social Security card, as well as the parent/guardian's income tax forms or W2s for 2010. All documentation must be provided on the registration date. Incomplete packets will not be viewed until completed.

"It is critical that everyone with children entering pre-k or kindergarten in the Tahoka ISD come to the pre-registration, or call the elementary office at 561-4350 or 561-4233," said a school representative.

tion Center's toll-free helpline at 1-800-333-1795, or by speaking with a bank or credit union representative.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will continue to receive their money as usual on their payment day. No action is required.

Tahoka SCHOOL MENU

May 9-13
BREAKFAST
Monday: Breakfast Pizza
Tuesday: Muffin
Wednesday: French toast stick
Thursday: Kellogg's Jump Start Express
Friday: Bagels

LUNCH
Monday: Chicken fajitas, refried beans, corn, orange smiles, pudding cup
Tuesday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, roll, strawberry short-cake
Wednesday: Meat & bean chalupa, Spanish rice, lettuce/tomatoes, applesauce
Thursday: Sub sandwich, trimmings, tots, carrots w/ ranch, brownie
Friday: Pizza, corn, salad, peach cup

Great finish ... Tahoka High School boy's baseball ended their season at home against Hermleigh last Friday evening. In this picture, Sabino "Peanut" Perez pitches the first half of the 5th Inning to finish the game which Tahoka won 25-2. With the win, the Bulldogs even their district record at 6-6 and their overall record at 11-11.

(LCN PHOTO by Mark Wuensche)

Senior Citizen MENU

MAY 9-13
Monday: Cheese quesadillas, Mexican rice, red beans, lettuce/tomato, pears
Tuesday: Braised ribs, oven fried potatoes & onions, sauerkraut, bread, cake
Wednesday: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, carrot & raisin salad, biscuits, rice pudding
Thursday: Beef roast w/ brown gravy, potatoes, carrots & onions, mixed green salad, rolls, Jell-o
Friday: Soup & salad day, chicken salad & egg salad, tomato soup/crackers, rocky road pudding

Reminders and Activities:

- Mark your calendars and make plans to play BINGO on Thursday, May 26. We will begin at approximately 1:30 and we will play 12 games. We have terrific prizes to give away!
- The Center has gently used medical equipment to lend out. For more information contact the Center at 561-5264.
- The Center has initiated a new program called "Feed Our

Community." We have 10-day lunch ticket for a suggested donation 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 person or it can be donated and the Center will pick the person.

- Weekly domino nights are continuing each Monday evening at 6:00 p.m.
- Timeless Treasures Cooks are still available for \$12 each at the Center, Lynn County News, Huffaker Law Office, Virginia's Beauty Salon, and City/County Library.
- Remember that the aluminum recycle bin is located across from the City Warehouse. The aluminum cans continue to belong to the Center.



DONATIONS to the Lynn County Hospital District EMS are greatly appreciated.

LCED EMS, Box 1510, Tahoka, Tx

Great Mother's Day gifts available here!

gemstone & Crystal's

1660 MAIN STREET IN TAHOKA
(Corner of Main & Lockwood)

- * Purses * Jewelry
- * Rhinestone Flip Flops
- * Candles * And More!

OPEN: 2:00-6:00 pm MON/WED/THURS/FRI - 9:00 am-2:00 pm SATURDAYS

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

The Community of O'Donnell is having a Cinco De Mayo Celebration at the City Park, May 7, 2011.

We will have over 20 Vendors with food, crafts, and games. The Vendors are from Seminole, Wilson, Lamesa, Tahoka, Lubbock and O'Donnell.

We also have D.J. Debbie D that will start playing her music at noon.

Performers will be Da Krazy Pimpz from Eagle Pass, TX, Melissa Padilla y La Nueva Juventud from Lamesa, TX, The Party Band from Clovis, NM, And Ballet Folklorico "Fiesta del Sol"

Also featuring Solitos Car Club from Lubbock, TX

The events will start at 10:00am until Midnight.

April 29, 2011 is the deadline to reserve your space for a booth.

The cost for a booth is \$35.00 without electricity \$50.00 with electricity

For more information contact:
 Scotty Martinez (Mayor) - (806) 201 - 0268
 Carmen Mendieta - (806) 283 - 8379
 Joseph Luera - (806) 928 - 3057
 Lydia Casarez - (806) 759 - 3001
 Liz Casarez - (806) 928 - 3426

Pre-Registration For 2011-2012

PRE-KINDERGARTEN (4 YEAR-OLDS) and KINDERGARTEN (5 YEAR-OLDS)

Wednesday, May 11, 2011 12:30-2:30 P.M.

TAHOKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Elementary Gym

PARENTS MUST BRING:

- Certified Birth Certificate
- Updated Immunization Records
- Social Security Card
- Income Tax or W2 for 2010

Please remember that students who register for Pre-Kindergarten must be 4 years old and Kindergarten must be 5 years old by September 1, 2011.

It is critical that everyone in the Tahoka ISD come to the pre-registration or call the Elementary Office at 561-4350 or 561-4233.

****It is important that all documentation be provided on the registration date. Incomplete packets will not be viewed until it is complete.

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561 or 759 1603 Av

Loans available for renewable energy system improvements

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack invites agricultural producers and rural small businesses to apply for loans and grants to implement renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.

"Biofuels and other renewable energy sources present an enormous economic opportunity for rural America and the rest of the nation," Vilsack said.

"We're pleased to offer this funding availability to those who are interested in identifying and implementing projects that will conserve energy," said Paco Valentin, Texas State Director of USDA Rural Development. "Projects funded through Rural Development's REAP program reduce our dependence on foreign resources and help Americans become more energy-sufficient."

USDA is providing funding for up to \$61 million in guaranteed loans and \$42 million in grants through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). Funds are available to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses develop renewable energy systems, including assistance to fuel station owners to install flexible fuel pumps that will offer Americans more renewable energy options. In addition, funding is available for energy efficiency improvements and studies to determine the feasibility of renewable energy systems.

Recently, USDA issued a rule to clarify that the definition of renewable energy systems in REAP includes flexible fuel pumps, sometimes referred to as "blender pumps." This clarification is intended to provide fuel station owners with incentives to install flexible fuel pumps that will offer Americans more renewable energy options. The Obama administration has set a goal of installing 10,000 flexible fuel pumps nationwide within 5 years.

The rule also makes the following clarifications:

- Grants are available for audits of energy improvements and studies to determine the feasibility of renewable energy systems; and
- Agricultural producers in non-rural areas are eligible for REAP assistance. Small businesses must still be located in rural areas. This clarification makes REAP eligibility requirements consistent with those of other USDA energy programs.

Under REAP, local businesses receive assistance to deploy wind, solar and other forms of renewable energy.

The deadline for submitting

woodwork

by dalton

IF YOU HAPPEN to be reading this on Thursday, the day the newspaper is dated, today is Cinco de Mayo, 5th of May, and when it's capitalized like that, it means a celebration of the Mexican defeat of French troops at the Battle of Puebla in 1862.

But I'm having a little difficulty with that, since I seem to recall reading that Lubbock (and maybe everywhere, for all I know) celebrated Cinco de Mayo this year on April 30 and May 1.

I don't remember reading why they did that, but I'm sure there's a good reason. I guess that would have been Uno de Mayo and whatever the Spanish words are for April 30, because my Spanish is very limited.

A lot of folks who live here grew up speaking both Spanish and English and are comfortable conversing in either language, and I envy people who can do that. Despite being around Spanish-speaking people most of my life, I still don't know much Spanish.

For reasons not clear even to me, I studied German for two years in college, and retained some of it. I know a little German (yeah, a short guy who sells sausages in Slaton), but my command of Spanish is sort of limited.

Of course, I'm very familiar with some Spanish words, like Amarillo, San Angelo, enchilada, taco and hacienda. I once bought a handbook of Tex-Mex phrases, and the only thing I learned was how to say in Spanish "What time does the bus leave for Eagle Pass?" I have since forgotten all those words, but I was very proud to know the entire phrase at one time.

The reason I can't remember it now is that I didn't use it much. It was really hard to work into a conversation.

completed REAP applications for renewable energy and energy efficiency improvement programs is June 15. For renewable energy feasibility studies, energy audits and renewable energy development assistance grants, the deadline to apply is June 30. For information on how to apply for assistance, contact the USDA Rural Development Texas State office at 254-742-9780, or see page 20943 of the April 14 Federal Register, <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2011/pdf/2011-8456.pdf>.

Our Daily Bread Diner

1515 S. 1st Street
561-2277

OPEN FOR
Mother's Day
Sunday, May 8th
(Closed Saturdays)



Fun at Lynnwood ... Angie Hall brought children from her Home of Hearts Daycare program to Lynnwood Independent & Assisted Living Center for an Easter egg hunt and to sing songs for the residents. Pictured are, in back from left, Jaxon Hall, Lizzie Cook, Cason Curry, Kylee Chapa, Talan Dotson, and Averi Duncan; and sitting in front, Kyla Pierce, Kutler Martin, Cambrie Long, Colt Terrell, and Dylin Duncan.



Food for the needy ... Tahoka Church of Christ and the South Plains Food Bank work together to give food to residents in Lynn County. "To qualify for food, all we need is a photo ID and a utility bill with your physical address, no PO Box addresses are accepted," stated a spokesperson. Residents from Tahoka, Wilson and New Home come to Tahoka monthly to get food boxes. The next date for Tahoka will be May 26, at 11:15 a.m. O'Donnell residents may contact the O'Donnell First Baptist Church for dates and times of food distribution in their area. Pictured from left, a SPFB employee, Yolanda Aleman, and Ray Box load vehicles with boxes of food. Also distributing boxes but not pictured was Jack Scott. Tahoka Church of Christ also distributes Bibles to each person receiving food. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

ATTEND CHURCH IN LYNN COUNTY

Sweet Street Baptist Church

1300 Avenue J • Box 751 • Tahoka, TX 79373
(806) 561-5310

PASTOR: LYNN LONG
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
(A Bible Study Class for all ages)
Morning Worship - 10:55 a.m.
(Uplifting Music - Message from God's Word)
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
(Praise & Worship - Gospel Message)
Wednesday Night - 7 p.m.
(Prayer & Bible Study, Children & Youth Ministries)
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

New Home United Methodist Church

350 N. Main
New Home, TX 79383
(806) 924-7549

PASTOR: RICK WOLFE
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Youth Activities

St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church

South 4th & Ave. M • Tahoka, TX 79373
(806) 561-4436

PASTOR: REV. EDUARDO TEO
DEACON: FRANCISCO AGUILAR
Mass - 9:30 a.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Wed. & Thur.
Rosary - 7 p.m. Tues.
CCE Class/Confirmation Instruct. - 7 p.m. Wed.

Draw First United Methodist Church

(established 1907)

P.O. Box 496 • O'Donnell, TX 79381
Phone (806) 428-3357
or Fern Barnes (806) 327-5583

PASTOR: REV. MONTY BARNETT
Sunday Morning Worship - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School following

Wilson St. Paul Lutheran Church

18th & Houston St. • Box 136 • Wilson, TX 79381
(806) 629-6471 • www.stpaulwilson.com

PASTOR: DAVID W. ROHDE
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Divine Service - 10:15 a.m.
"Where Christ Serves People"

Bring your mother to church for Mother's Day!

Tahoka Trinity Church

1925 Lockwood • Box 1168 • Tahoka, TX 79373
Phone (806) 561-5317

PASTOR: PERRY SHUFFIELD
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
Youth - Sundays at 7 p.m.
For a ride to Sunday School or Church, call 561-5317

Wilson First Baptist Church

1403 13th St. • Box 67 • Wilson, TX 79381
(806) 628-6333

PASTOR: BILLY FARMER
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training - 5 p.m. Sunday
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Fellowship Meal & Classes for all ages
• Bible Study & Prayer Mtg • Youth

Wilson St. John Lutheran Church

13th & Dickson • Wilson, TX 79381
(806) 628-6573

Sharing Christ's message of forgiveness and salvation with our community and beyond.
LEADERS: REV. LESLIE LEWIS
TONDA FREITAG, PLM
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 11:15 a.m.

Grassland Nazarene Church

2885 CR 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373
(806) 327-5656, 327-5655

PASTOR: Rev. James Miller
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
Youth and Adults:
Wednesdays - 7 p.m.

New Home Church of Christ

St. address • Box 188 • New Home, TX 79383
(806) 924-7579

MINISTER: VICTOR ELLISON
Bible Class - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service - 6:00 p.m.
Mid-Week Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

TAHOKA Church of Christ

2320 Lockwood • Box 1177 • Tahoka, TX 79373
(806) 561-4060 • email: tcoc@poka.com

INTERIM MINISTER: STEVE BONNER
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.
Bible Classes - Wednesday 6:30 p.m.



1801 Ave. J • Box 500
Tahoka, TX 79373
(806) 561-4503
email: functahoka@poka.com
PASTOR: VERNON BAKER
SUNDAYS: Praise Worship - 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m.
TUESDAYS: Branded Ministries - 6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS: Youth - 6:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church

1701 Ave. K • Box 1547 • Tahoka, TX 79373
(806) 561-4557 • www.fbctahoka.org

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship Service - 6 p.m.
Activities For All Ages -
Call For Complete Schedule
There's A Place For Me at FBC!

Mothering

READ ISAIAH 66:10-13
Thus says the Lord, "... As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."
-Isaiah 66:13 (NRSV)

In 2000, I gave birth to my fourth child. Later that year, I was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer that had taken my mother's life a few years earlier. I was devastated and in need of motherly care. During my cancer treatments, I made an interesting discovery: Not all mothers raise children. My pastor, family, co-workers, and friends were mothers to me. My Sunday school class and the men's group at our church mothered me by taking care of needs I didn't know I had. I saw the mothering instincts of my children as they looked after me and prayed for me. My church family mothered my children when I was unable to do it myself. My father and my husband were like mother hens, lavishing me with love and much disinfectant to protect my vulnerable immune system.

The best mothering of all came from God. Like a mother, God guided me through a difficult time. God was with me through all the people who mothered me. As I enter into another year of remission from cancer, I give thanks daily for God's mothering.

Prayer: Thank you, God, for being with us when we need motherly love. Amen.
Cindy Shaver (Tennessee) ... from *The Upper Room*

NEW HOME BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Fourth & Smith
"Serving the Lord for 100 Years"
SERVICES:
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm
Wed. Youth/Children's Activities 7:00 pm
Pastor: Calvin Gray

O'Donnell First Baptist Church

701 Standefor • O'Donnell, TX 79351
(806) 428-3236
PASTOR: SCOTT HENSLEY
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship:
10:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7 p.m.

Driving to Mexico?

Be sure and get proper auto insurance to cover your vehicle while driving there!



Call KENT for Mexico auto insurance!

R.W. Fenton Insurance Agency

Call Us For ALL Your Insurance Needs!

561-4884
OR 759-1131 MOBILE

1603 Avenue J in Tahoka



First place team ... Lynn County Senior 4-H Team livestock judges (from left) Harley Reynolds, Haley Lehman, Jonathan Nieman, Jesse Terry, Haylee Brewer, and Karter Long, won first place overall at the South Plains District 4-H Livestock Judging Contest.

Senior 4-H team wins first at 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

Nineteen Lynn County 4-H members competed recently at the South Plains District 4-H Livestock Judging Contest at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, with Lynn County's Senior 4-H team taking first place overall and claiming several individual awards as well.

Senior 4-H Team members included Jonathan Nieman, Karter Long, Haley Lehman, Harley Reynolds, Haylee Brewer, and Jesse Terry. In addition to overall, the team placed first in beef and sheep, and was second in swine and reasons. Individually, Jonathan Nieman was second, Harley Reynolds was third and Haley Lehman was fourth. These 4-H members will represent Lynn County and District 2 at Texas 4-H Roundup in June at Texas A&M University in College Station.

The Intermediate Teams representing Lynn County also

did well, placing first and ninth overall. Team members included Alyssa Barton, Kristyn Edwards, Coy Mercer, Hadley Reynolds, Dane Rivas, Jessie Calvillo, Colton Taylor, Braden Cook, Trace Cook and Kohl Angeley. Dane Rivas was high individual overall. Kohl Angeley was sixth and Jessie Calvillo was ninth high individual.

The Junior Team from Lynn County was represented by Jett Ballard, Ashlyn Ballard and Hayden Smith. The team placed second overall. Jett Ballard was sixth and Hayden Smith was seventh high individual.

"We are extremely proud of all of our 4-H members," stated Bryan Reynolds, County Extension Agent with Texas AgriLife Extension Service for Lynn County. "All teams from Lynn County placed in the top ten which is an outstanding accomplishment for these young people," said Reynolds.

Gustafson wins Gold and Silver in District 4-H Fashion Show contest

Lea Gustafson, daughter of Randy and Tori Gustafson of New Home, earned a first place gold medal with her Fashion Storyboard at the South Plains District 4-H Fashion Show and Fashion Storyboard contest in April.

The 4-H Fashion Storyboard is an industry-inspired method of displaying of original designs. The best storyboards create vivid visual images that are interesting and appealing to viewers. The storyboard "tells the story" of the designer's idea. The storyboard includes original illustrations and flats, as well as additional materials such as photos from the internet or magazines, paper, fabric swatches, patterns, etc., that have influenced the unique design. This year's theme was Fire, Water, Earth or Wind.

The purpose of the Fashion Storyboard contest is to give 4-H members an opportunity to create a storyboard of their original design. It also provides the members an opportunity to gain knowledge of the career responsibilities of a fashion designer and illustrator, enhance creativity and originality, and develop visual communication skills. More than 65 fashion storyboard entries from 4-H members across the South Plains (20 counties) were submitted.

More than 80 4-H members from the South Plains participated in the 2011 South Plains District 4-H Fashion Show at Abernathy Elementary School on Tuesday, April 12. Lea Gustafson represented Lynn County 4-H and earned a second place silver medal in the Intermediate Division/Construction Dressy category by sewing and modeling a periwinkle sleeveless knit top, with bow accent, and a periwinkle and white floral print skirt.

Youth participants who enter the 4-H Fashion Show competition and modeling events have completed a 4-H clothing project, which is the equivalent of a 3-hour study of clothing and textiles, personal care and consumer buying. The purpose of the District 4-H Fashion Show is to showcase skills and knowledge learned from the 4-H clothing project. During the interview and judging event, a panel of judges presents questions to each 4-H member about his or her garment that he or she constructed or purchased. After the individual interviews, the contestants participate in a fashion show and awards ceremony.

"If your child is interested in 4-H, contact the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Lynn County for more information, 561-4562," said Amy Baugh.



Gold medal ... Lea Gustafson, daughter of Randy and Tori Gustafson of New Home, earned a first place gold medal with her Fashion Storyboard at the South Plains District 4-H Fashion Show and Fashion Storyboard contest, and a second place silver medal in the Intermediate Division/Construction Dressy category by sewing and modeling a periwinkle sleeveless knit top, with bow accent, and a periwinkle and white floral print skirt.

Job fair slated for Post/Garza County

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with WorkForce Solutions, will host a job fair on May 17th. The event was designed by the Post Area Chamber of Commerce three years ago as a response to the demand of area businesses needing full-time, part-time and seasonal employees.

The job fair will be held from noon - 3:00 pm on Tuesday, May 17th. The event location is 131 E. Main Street in Post. Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility, Caprock Heirloom, McDonalds and WorkForce Solutions are a few businesses that will be available to discuss possible employment. Recruiters from some branches of the service will also be available.

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting registration from area employers wishing to highlight their employment opportunities. Employers from Post and surrounding communities are

encouraged to participate. Registration for Post Area Chamber Members is free-of-charge. Non-members will pay a nominal \$25 registration fee. The job fair is free to all job seekers and those wishing to be recruited to a better job.

Each registered employer will receive booth space, an exhibit table and refreshments will be served.

To register as an employer, contact the Post Area Chamber of Commerce at 495-3461.

Adopt me, please!



When you are looking for a pet, check with the Lynn County Animal Shelter located at S. 2nd and Ave. H. 806-561-4056

GET MOM A HANGING BASKET FOR MOTHER'S DAY!
 2429 Ave. L • TAHOKA
Full Bloom
 * Hudman's Greenhouse in Tahoka!
OPEN:
 Thurs. & Fri. 5 pm til dark
 Saturday 9 am-3 pm
 561-4224 • Julia Allen

Complete selection of **Gift Items**
 Starting at under \$5 -- perfect for secret pals, birthdays, baby showers, and special occasions!
STOP IN AND SEE OUR FRAMES, CROSSES, CANDLES, PERFUMES, LOTIONS & MORE!
 BABY & BRIDAL REGISTRY • FREE GIFT WRAP with PURCHASE
 Remember, your prescription card plan requires you to pay the same co-pay at ALL pharmacies ... so, when choosing your pharmacist, make your choice based on our friendly, knowledgeable staff and hometown convenience!
 FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1923
TAHOKA DRUG • 561-4041 • 1610 Main, Tahoka



Junior/Intermediate competitors ... These Lynn County 4-H Intermediate and Junior Team members did well at the South Plains District 4-H Livestock Judging Contest. Intermediate judges pictured in the back row are Jessie Cavillo, Colton Taylor, Hadley Reynolds, Kristyn Edwards and Alyssa Barton. In front is the Junior Team: Ashlyn Ballard, Jett Ballard, and Hayden Smith. Not pictured are Coy Mercer, Dane Rivas, Braden Cook, Trace Cook and Kohl Angeley.

Order Food From "Provider's Pantry"

"The Provider's Pantry" food ministry, under the direction of Tahoka Trinity Church, will be accepting monthly food orders at Tahoka Trinity Church on Friday, May 13th from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Orders using Lone Star cards will also be taken at this time. Food boxes ranging from \$10-\$30 are available. This will be the last date to pay and place orders for the month and no orders will be taken after 6:00 p.m.

Distribution of food boxes will be Saturday, May 21st,

from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the Tahoka Trinity Church, 1925 Lockwood. For more information, contact Polly Smullen at 786-5349 or Charlene Williams at 759-4565.

Wilson ISD MENU

May 9-13
Monday: BFK pizza
Tuesday: Blueberry muffin
Wednesday: French toast
Thursday: Biscuit, sausage, gravy
Friday: Burritos

LUNCH
Monday: Chicken fajitas, rice, refried beans, fruit chocolate pudding
Tuesday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, corn, steam broccoli, Texas toast, peaches
Wednesday: Chicken nugget, potatoes/gravy, green beans, roll, Jell-o
Thursday: Enchilada casserole, refried beans, salad, cinnamon apple
Friday: Sausage wrap, pinto beans, baked chips, pineapple-orange salad

MAY 16-27 Menu will be Manager's Choice

God's Clothes Closet
 OPEN at 9:00 am every 1st & 3rd SATURDAY of the month for those needing clothing.
TAHOKA CHURCH OF CHRIST
 2320 Lockwood
 (Donations accepted any time in the outside bins.)

Pre-Registration For 2011-2012 for Wilson ISD
 Pre-Kindergarten (4 Year-Olds) and Kindergarten (5 Year-Olds)
Friday, May 13, 2011 9:00 A.M.
at the WILSON SCHOOL LIBRARY
 PARENTS MUST BRING:
 • Certified Birth Certificate • Updated Immunization Records
 • Social Security Card • Income Tax or W2 for 2010
 Please remember that students who register for Pre-Kindergarten must be 4 years old and for Kindergarten must be 5 years old by September 1, 2011.
 It is critical that everyone in the Wilson ISD come to the pre-registration or call the Elementary Office: 628-6261, ext. 105.

WILSON Independent School District
 is NOW accepting Transfers.
WHAT CAN WE OFFER your child?
 • Individual attention for your child
 • Small Classes
 • Recognized School District
 • Caring Educators
 • Safe School Environment
 • Dual Credit Courses
 • More Opportunities for participation
 • Extracurricular Activities
 • Bus Transportation will be available
 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!

It's time to order your **Graduation Invitations!**
 We can make your invitations unique just for you!
 Come check out our samples and inexpensive pricing ... for all kinds of invitations!

CLASS OF 2011
 TAHOKA HIGH SCHOOL
 NAME OF STUDENT
 Prices range from 65¢ to \$1.15 each, depending on choice of card.*
 *Additional \$10 set-up fee not included in price, customers must supply their own photos.
The Lynn County News
 1617 Main Street in Tahoka • 806-561-4888
 Fax 806-561-6308 or E-mail: LynnCoNews@Poka.Com • Open Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:30

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by NOON Tuesday

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

Notice

Let's meet now. -- J. 18-1tp

WANT TO PURCHASE minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: P.O. Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201. 6-52tp

For Sale

FOR SALE: Two cemetery lots together in the new part (Nevels) of the Tahoka Cemetery. Call 806-544-8058. 18-4tp

COTTONSEED FOR SALE: \$10-\$25 per bag. Call Robert Smith at 561-4215 or 252-3884. 17-2tc

Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE: Three bedroom, 2 bath, custom built in 1996. Move in ready. \$179,500. 2529 N. 1st Street in Tahoka. Call (806) 632-0854. 14-ftc

WILDFIRE DANGER AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Texans face extreme wildfire danger. Be cautious about outdoor activities that might cause sparks or fires. Sparks can easily escape from burning trash. Avoid using welding or grinding equipment near dry weeds and grass. Avoid parking vehicles in tall, dry grass and weeds. Weeds and grass could be ignited by hot catalytic converters. Crush cigarettes in an ashtray and make sure they are really out.

Humans cause more than 90 percent of all wildfires. Do not weld or cut without a spotter, a water source and a shovel. Keep lawn mowers and agricultural equipment in proper working condition and avoid rocks and other materials which might cause a spark. **To report suspicious activities,** call the Arson Hotline at 888-501-3850. If possible, safely obtain an accurate description of the person and/or vehicle (including the license number) before calling the hotline.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH THREATS OF WILDFIRE SMOKE?

According to the Texas Dept. of State Health Services, smoke from wildfires can pose a serious health threat, especially for those with chronic heart or lung disease. Children and older adults are also at greater risk. Smoke from wildfires is a mixture of gases and fine particles from burning trees and plants. It can hurt your eyes, irritate your respiratory system and worsen symptoms from pre-existing conditions. If your home is located in an area affected by wildfires, keep the windows and doors of your home shut and limit outdoor activities as much as possible. Wear a protective mask outside, and keep your airways moist by drinking plenty of water. To help relieve dryness, breathe through a warm, wet cloth.

For Rent

ROOMS FOR RENT at The Bunkhouse. Call 928-1579. 18-2tc

PECANS FOR SALE

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3 lb. bags - \$25

Call Joy & Jimmy Bragg at 465-3665 or Sue Tekell at 561-4719

CHECK THESE OUT:

1807 S. 2nd - Tahoka: Larger brick home with 1944 sq. feet, 3/12 new carpet, new roof, newly refinished hardwood floors, 1 year old central heat and air, 1 year old kitchen range with lots of storage, 80 sq. foot home has more storage area, storage and a smaller home could have extra income potential. Property also features water well, detached double carport with 2 storage rooms, separate workshop, cinderblock cellar and mature landscaping on a large lot. **SOLD**

1721 S. 1st - Tahoka: **NOW REDUCED!** Charming 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.

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Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 2319 N. 3rd - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Kid's night stand, chest of drawers, booster seats, water sprinklers, lots of household miscellaneous items. 18-1tc

MOVING SALE

2415 N. 2nd St.
(Dean Bartley)

FRIDAY
8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
8:00 a.m. to Noon

Miscellaneous items. 18-1tc

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Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mobilite, LLC proposes to construct a telecommunications tower on the west side of FM 179 between CR-11 and CR-13, southwest of New Home, in Lynn County, Texas. The proposed lattice tower will be approximately 310 feet in height. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the effect the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to Erin Heinemann of Aarcher, Inc. at eheinemann@aarcherinc.com, telephone number (443) 243-3383, 200 Rufe Snow North, Suite 103, Keller, TX 76248. 18-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

Wilson Independent School District is offering the following property for sale:

Two story house and lots located at 1311 Green Street. The property will be sold in as is condition.

Minimum bid is \$12,000.00. Sealed bids will be accepted from the date of this notice until 4:00 p.m. May 18, 2011. Bids are to be received by Business Manager, Tami Bolyard, at P.O. Box 9, Wilson, Texas 79381, or may be delivered to the Wilson ISD central office. Additional information may be obtained from the Business Manager. Bids to be opened at the Wilson ISD Trustees regular meeting May 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

The Wilson ISD Board reserves the right to refuse or accept any or all bids. All required proceeds, taxes and fees will be due at closing. 17-3tc

Judi Fillingim

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jdfillingim@texasre.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SELECTION OF COUNTY DEPOSITORY FOR LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Lynn County Texas will, at its regular May 9, 2011 meeting, select a County Depository of funds for the public funds of Lynn County, Texas, as well as all departments of said County, for and until sixty (60) days after the time fixed by law for the selection of a Depository, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 2544 to 2550, inclusive of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas. Any banking corporation, association or individual banker of Lynn County, Texas desiring to be designated and/or selected as such depository shall make and deliver to the county Judge of Lynn County an application applying for such funds, stating the amount of paid up capital stock and permanent surplus of said bank, together with a statement showing the financial condition of said bank at the date of application, which shall be delivered to the County Judge of Lynn County on or before 9:00 a.m. on the day of the regular May 9, 2011 meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Lynn County, Texas. Said application shall also be accompanied by a certified check for not less than one-half of one percent of Lynn county's revenue for the year 2011 as a term of good faith on the part of said bank, corporation, or individual banker, that if said bank, association or individual banker if accepted and/or selected as County Depository it will enter into the bond and/or bonds provided therefore by law.

Said application, so filed with the County Judge of Lynn County, Texas and prepared as required by the laws of the State of Texas, will be considered by the Commissioners' Court of Lynn County, at 9:00 a.m. on May 9, 2011 and County Depository selected in accordance with the Laws of the State of Texas.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 18th day of April, 2011

/s/ H.G. Franklin
Lynn County Judge,
Lynn County, Texas
16-3tc

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James Craig - Attorney at Law

James Craig Attorney

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Regional competitors ... These Tahoka High School FCCLA students competed in the regional conference in Odessa. They are, from left, Joanna Saldana, Jacob Rodriguez, Selena Tello, Virginia Lopez, Gabriella Pando, Carl Rodriguez, McKenzie Forsythe, Dastine White, and Tempest White.

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Memorials and donations made to the
Lynn County Pioneers

1600 S. 3rd • P. O. Box 223 • Tahoka, Tx 79373
will benefit our local senior citizens center.

Support our town
and county
... shop locally!

Lynn County Appraisal District Provides Public Information and ASSISTANCE

This is the time of year the Lynn County Appraisal District sends notices of appraised value. Lynn County notices will be mailed by May 10, 2011. Property owners will be mailed a notice as a result of any of the following circumstances affecting real property: if the 2011 proposed value is at least \$1000 more than the 2010 certified value; if the property owner has filed a timely rendition; if 2011 is the first year the property is listed in the appraisal records; if the property changed ownership during 2010; or if the property is a producing mineral interest. Notices will also be mailed to owners of taxable furniture, fixtures; machinery, equipment, vehicles, and inventory used in a trade or business.

Property owners who have questions, or want to discuss the value placed on their property should contact the appraisal district office. The legal deadline for filing a timely protest is thirty days from the date of your notice. Those who receive a notice in Lynn County have until June 9, 2011 to file a protest. If you believe the proposed market value of your property is incorrect, be sure to contact the appraisal district prior to your deadline. It is important to ask questions or call to our attention unusual facts about your property as soon as possible. In the case of value questions, property owners are urged to present conclusive evidence regarding the true market value of their property. Such evidence consists of closing statements, listing agreements, fee appraisals, income and expense statements, pictures, and surveys. Our goal is to treat all property owners in a fair and equitable manner; and this can best be accomplished when you provide evidence to us about your property as soon as possible.

The following publication is required by Section 41.70 of the Texas Property Tax Code.

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or appraised value of your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affects you.

INFORMAL REVIEW

You may call (806) 561-5477 to discuss your protest with a CAD employee and try to come to a settlement without meeting with the ARB.

REVIEW BY THE APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD

If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The CAD might ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any written material intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for

the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. In certain protests where the owner has submitted an independent appraisal before the hearing, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at 1615 Main Street, Tahoka, Texas.

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

REVIEW BY THE DISTRICT COURT OR AN ARBITRATOR OR SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases originating in certain counties, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal with the applicable filing fee.

TAX PAYMENT

You must pay either the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

MORE INFORMATION

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at Lynn CAD, 1615 Main Street, Tahoka, TX 79373, (806) 561-5477. You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

USUAL DEADLINE

On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

SPECIAL DEADLINES

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the

notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.

High Plains Water Conservation District Board consider public comments on amendments

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 Board of Directors held an April 19 work session to review, discuss, and consider public comments received on its initial draft rules amendments.

The Board received recommendations from General Manager Jim Conkright at the work session on moving forward with the rules amendments and responding to public comments. The recommendations included the following:

- Raise the proposed annual allowable production rate to 1.75 acre-feet per contiguous acre (21 inches per contiguous acre per year) and then lower the allowable production rate incrementally over a four-year period.

- Eliminate the designation of high decline areas within the district. As a result, the proposed moratorium on drilling and the five percent production reduction in areas exceeding the allowable decline rate are eliminated as well.

- Refine language regarding contiguous controlled acres.

- Add option for "water banking" to allow the option of carrying forward an amount of water left over from the previous year's allowable production rate.

- Allow additional time to comply with District rules.

The District staff is working to proceed as recommended and will develop rules amendments for the Board to review and discuss at the May 17 Board meeting.

The District is amending its rules to implement the "50/50" management goal adopted by the District. The "50/50" management goal refers to the desired future condition that has been established on a regional basis for the Ogallala Aquifer that at least 50 percent of the groundwater in the aquifer will still be available in 50 years.

"After attendance at the public meetings and review of the public comments on the initial draft rules amendments, several areas of concern were identified and revisions are being made to the next set of rules to address those issues," Conkright said.

The current timeline for rules development will result in a revised set of rules available for public review and comment on or about May 17.

The Water District will hold two public hearings on June 9 to receive comments about the revised set of draft rules amendments, with one hearing in the northern area of the District and the other hearing in the southern area of the District. Once determined, the times and locations of the two public hearings will be made available to area news media, and will be posted to the District's web site at www.hpwd.com. Written comments on the revised set of rules will be accepted at the District's Lubbock office until 5:00 p.m. on June 30.

"The High Plains Water Conservation District Board of Directors appreciates the public input it has received regarding these rule revisions. We encourage area residents to look over the next set of draft rules, when available, and offer any comments that they might have," Conkright said.

Created in 1951 by local residents and the State Legislature, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District is charged with conserving, preserving, protecting, and preventing waste of groundwater in a 16-county service area.

Additional information about the rules amendments is available by contacting the High Plains Water District at (806) 762-0181 or on-line at www.hpwd.com.

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May 7 - Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction (Fun/Food Fest)

Sept 24 - Lynn County Harvest Festival

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Lynn County Farm Bureau

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Regional competitors ... These Tahoka High School FCCLA students competed in the regional conference in Odessa. They are, from left, Joanna Saldana, Jacob Rodriguez, Selena Tello, Virginia Lopez, Gabriella Pando, Cari Rodriguez, McKenzie Forsythe, Dastine White, and Tempest White.

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1600 S. 3rd • P. O. Box 223 • Tahoka, Tx 79373
will benefit our local senior citizens center.

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and county
... shop locally!

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- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affects you.

INFORMAL REVIEW

You may call (806) 561-5477 to discuss your protest with a CAD employee and try to come to a settlement without meeting with the ARB.

REVIEW BY THE APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD

If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The CAD might ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any written material intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for

the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. In certain protests where the owner has submitted an independent appraisal before the hearing, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at 1615 Main Street, Tahoka, Texas.

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

REVIEW BY THE DISTRICT COURT OR AN ARBITRATOR OR SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases originating in certain counties, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal with the applicable filing fee.

TAX PAYMENT

You must pay either the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

MORE INFORMATION

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at Lynn CAD, 1615 Main Street, Tahoka, TX 79373, (806) 561-5477. You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

USUAL DEADLINE

On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

SPECIAL DEADLINES

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the

notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.

High Plains Water Conservation District Board consider public comments on amendments

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 Board of Directors held an April 19 work session to review, discuss, and consider public comments received on its initial draft rules amendments.

The Board received recommendations from General Manager Jim Conkwright at the work session on moving forward with the rules amendments and responding to public comments. The recommendations included the following:

- Raise the proposed annual allowable production rate to 1.75 acre-feet per contiguous acre (21 inches per contiguous acre per year) and then lower the allowable production rate incrementally over a four-year period.

- Eliminate the designation of high decline areas within the district. As a result, the proposed moratorium on drilling and the five percent production reduction in areas exceeding the allowable decline rate are eliminated as well.

- Refine language regarding contiguous controlled acres.

- Add option for "water banking" to allow the option of carrying forward an amount of water left over from the previous year's allowable production rate.

- Allow additional time to comply with District rules.

The District staff is working to proceed as recommended and will develop rules amendments for the Board to review and discuss at the May 17 Board meeting.

The District is amending its rules to implement the "50/50" management goal adopted by the District. The "50/50" management goal refers to the desired future condition that has been established on a regional basis for the Ogallala Aquifer that at least 50 percent of the groundwater in the aquifer will still be available in 50 years.

"After attendance at the public meetings and review of the public comments on the initial draft rules amendments, several areas of concern were identified and revisions are being made to the next set of rules to address those issues," Conkwright said.

The current timeline for rules development will result in a revised set of rules available for public review and comment on or about May 17.

The Water District will hold two public hearings on June 9 to receive comments about the revised set of draft rules amendments, with one hearing in the northern area of the District and the other hearing in the southern area of the District. Once determined, the times and locations of the two public hearings will be made available to area news media, and will be posted to the District's web site at www.hpwd.com. Written comments on the revised set of rules will be accepted at the District's Lubbock office until 5:00 p.m. on June 30.

"The High Plains Water District Board of Directors appreciates the public input it has received regarding these rule revisions. We encourage area residents to look over the next set of draft rules, when available, and offer any comments that they might have," Conkwright said.

Created in 1951 by local residents and the State Legislature, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District is charged with conserving, preserving, protecting, and preventing waste of groundwater in a 16-county service area.

Additional information about the rules amendments is available by contacting the High Plains Water District at (806) 762-0181 or on-line at www.hpwd.com.

Support our nation!
Fly the American Flag

Mark your Calendars:

May 7 - Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction (Fun/Food Fest)

Sept 24 - Lynn County Harvest Festival

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