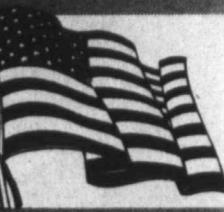




THE Lynn County News

MEMBER 2011 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



VOLUME 108, NUMBER 31

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2011

8 PAGES PLUS INSERT

50¢

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Fun Facts

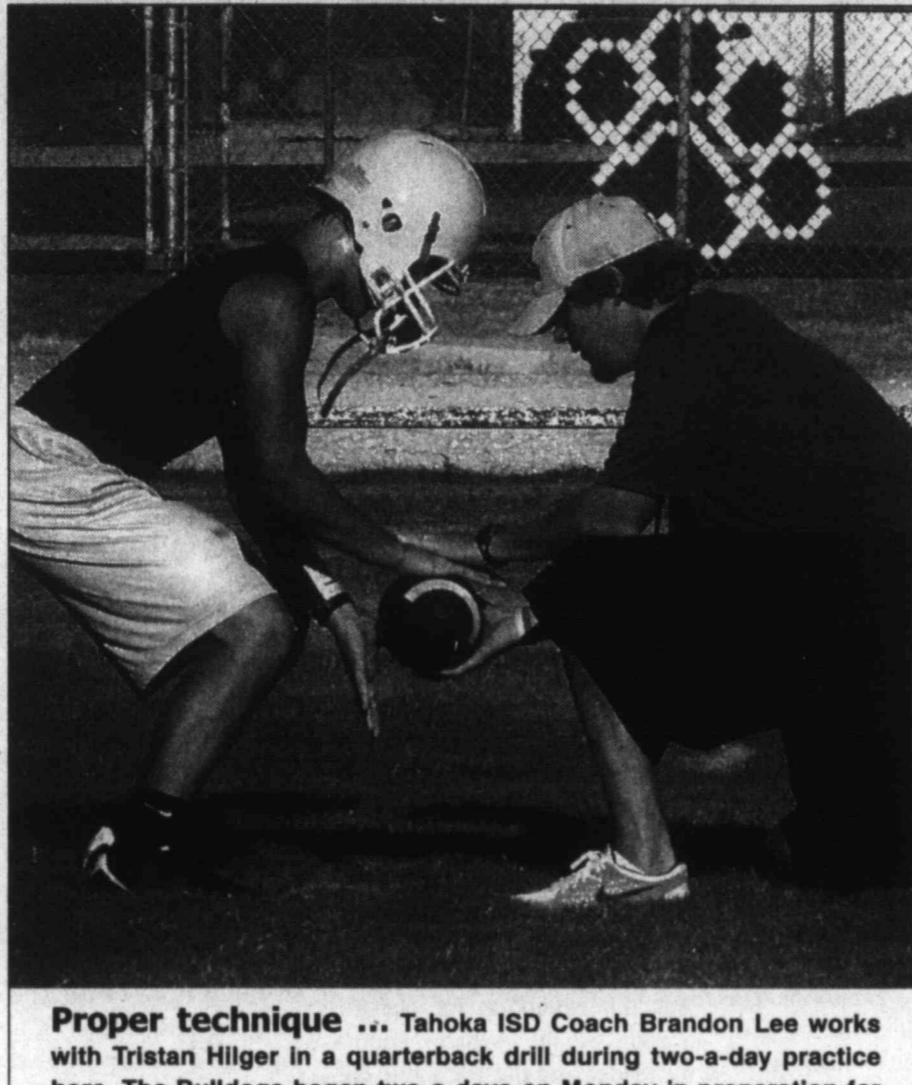
from www.gambino.com

The reason firehouses have circular stairways is from the days of old when the engines were pulled by horses. The horses were stabled on the ground floor and figured out how to walk up straight staircases.

The airplane Buddy Holly died in was the "American Pie." (Thus the name of the Don McLean song.)

When opossums are playing 'possum,' they are not "playing." They actually pass out from sheer terror.

The Main Library at Indiana University sinks over an inch every year because when it was built, engineers failed to take into account the weight of all the books that would occupy the building.



Proper technique ... Tahoka ISD Coach Brandon Lee works with Tristan Hilger in a quarterback drill during two-a-day practice here. The Bulldogs began two-a-days on Monday in preparation for the upcoming season, with 49 athletes signing up for Bulldog teams. The public can get a preview of the Bulldogs this Friday night at 8 p.m., when the team will have an inter-squad Blue/White scrimmage at the Tahoka football field. The Dogs will scrimmage at Farwell on Aug. 12, at 6 p.m.

(LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

TISD Board hires two teachers, approves new redistricting map

The Tahoka ISD Board of Trustees held a public hearing on the redistricting of the school board's five single member districts last Tuesday, July 26. David Backus, the District's attorney, spoke on the redistricting map that was chosen by the redistricting committee. This map met all of the requirements. Tonda Freitag, a member of the redistricting committee, explained that Map "A" was chosen because it caused the least disruption to voters. The board then moved to the regular board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The school board approved Map "A" which was the recommendation of the redistricting committee. This information has been sent to the Department of Justice for approval.

The board approved the hiring of Kami Keaton as a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher. She will be replacing Vanessa Tanguma who resigned. Tammy Shepherd was approved as a high school science teacher.

The school board approved the following contracts with Region 17 Education Service to provide services for the 2011-2012 school year: curriculum services, and the C-Scope professional development.

TxEIS Student Services-\$13,825.00; Curriculum Services-\$14,600.00; C-Scope Contract-\$6,441.00.

The school board approved the Student Handbook for the 2011-2012 School Year as presented by Michael Norman, High School Principal. Norman went over the changes that were required by the 82nd Legislative Session that finished this summer.

Trustees approved the refinishing of the gym floor by Ponder Company from Amarillo. The board discussed the repairs to the Ag Farm and the other claims filed with TASB Insurance.

They told Supt. Steve Burleson to work with TASB insurance company on the claims that had been filed because of wind damage done in June. Andrus Brothers Roofing will remove and install new shingles on the FCCLA building. They will repair the ridge cap on the Day Care facility. This work is being covered by insurance. Trustees discussed the repair to the outside of the field house and told Supt. Burleson to finalize the work on this project.

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

Lynn County Hospital board updated on recent legislative action

Members of Lynn County Hospital board of directors met last Thursday, and heard a report on recent actions of the Texas Legislature related to hospitals.

Administrator Jim Morris, who recently attended a meeting of the Northwest Texas Hospital Assn. in Abilene, told the board that one of the results of legislative action is an 8 per cent cut for providers for Medicaid outpatient visits. Morris reported that although there were several other bills proposed which would hurt hospitals and rural healthcare, most were defeated.

Directors reviewed, discussed and approved the semi-annual Continuous Quality Improvement report, which reviews quality and compliance issues.

Also approved by the board was the hospital's Infection Control Policy and Procedure manual and a swing-bed policy.

All board members were present, including Jannis Horwood, James Craig, Victoria Baker, Nancy Williams, Cal Huffaker, Sharon Isham and Jerry Ford, president.

The Lynn County Harvest Festival is Saturday, Sept. 24
-RESERVE -
BOOTH SPACE NOW:
CALL REBECCA INGLE
806-561-4440

Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
July 27	102	73	59
July 28	101	73	days
July 29	98	73	of
July 30	96	74	70*
July 31	97	74	100*
Aug. 1	100	69	
Aug. 2	103	70	
Precipitation for Jan: 0.01"			
Precipitation for Feb: 0.66"			
Precipitation for Mar: 0.07"			
Precipitation for Apr: 0.00"			
Precipitation for May: 0.05"			
Precipitation for June: 0.30"			
Precipitation for July: 0.21"			
Total Precip. for 2011: 1.30"			

Lynn County News

P.O. Box 1170 • Tahoka, TX 79373

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In Tahoka

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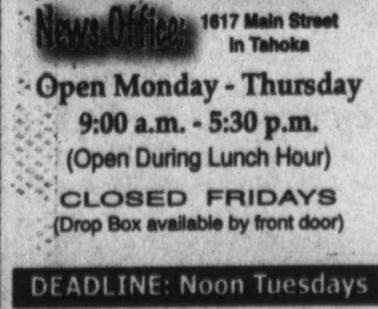
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

(Open During Lunch Hour)

CLOSED FRIDAYS

(Drop Box available by front door)

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays



Body of gunshot victim discovered in county

The body of a 50-year-old former O'Donnell man was found on the right hand side of County Road 37, a mile east of FM 1054 in southeast Lynn County late Sunday afternoon, and the Lynn County Sheriff's Dept. is investigating the case as a homicide, with the assistance of Texas Rangers.

A farmer discovered the body of Robert Balderrama and called officers at 4:45 p.m. The body, with multiple bullet wounds, was found lying next to a vehicle that belonged to his wife, Lydia Balderrama, according to Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin.

Balderrama had been reported missing earlier Sunday, in a call to the Lubbock Police Dept. just after 1 p.m. He is believed to have been a resident of Lubbock, originally from O'Donnell.

According to the sheriff, officers have identified a person of interest in the case, but no arrests had been made as of Tuesday afternoon.

During July, 267 calls were received by the dispatchers at Lynn County Sheriff's Dept., including 129 for the county, 81 for City of Tahoka, 22 for O'Donnell, 24 ambulance calls, and 11 fire alarms.



We like chicken ... These volunteers judged chicken entries in the NAS BBQ/Chili Cook-off held this weekend in Tahoka. Judges included, on the left side of the table, Jolene Barnett, Sandra Laws, and an unidentified man, and on the right side of the table are Russell Barnett, KCBD News Channel 11 Sports Director Pete Christy, and Brandon Moore, weekend sports anchor at KCBD. The woman standing at the head of the table is Jackie Boykin from Goldthwaite, judging coordinator for the BBQ part of the cookoff.

(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

woodwork

by dalton wood



A CITY IN NORTHERN Taiwan, trying to get residents to clean up after their canines, is offering a chance to win gold bars to anyone handing in bags of dog poop.

Our three children, who have a total of seven dogs, possibly could get rich if they lived in New Taipei City, where the waste can be handed in to government officials in exchange for tickets to a lucky draw. The prizes are three gold ingots ranging in worth from about \$450 to \$2,100.

The winners will be named in October, and three citizens will be rolling in dog dooey dough, so to speak.

I wish someone would figure out something to do about the grackles around here. They leave their mark on driveways, vehicles left outside, and even on the side of the houses.

Okay, so the whole subject is a bit unsavory, but all this reminds me of a couple of things.

One was the story of the pigeon that flew back to the nest and announced to his mate, "I just put down a deposit on a new Buick today."

The other was this little ditty we used to sing as youngsters:

"Birdie, birdie, flying high;

Dropped some whitewash in my eye.

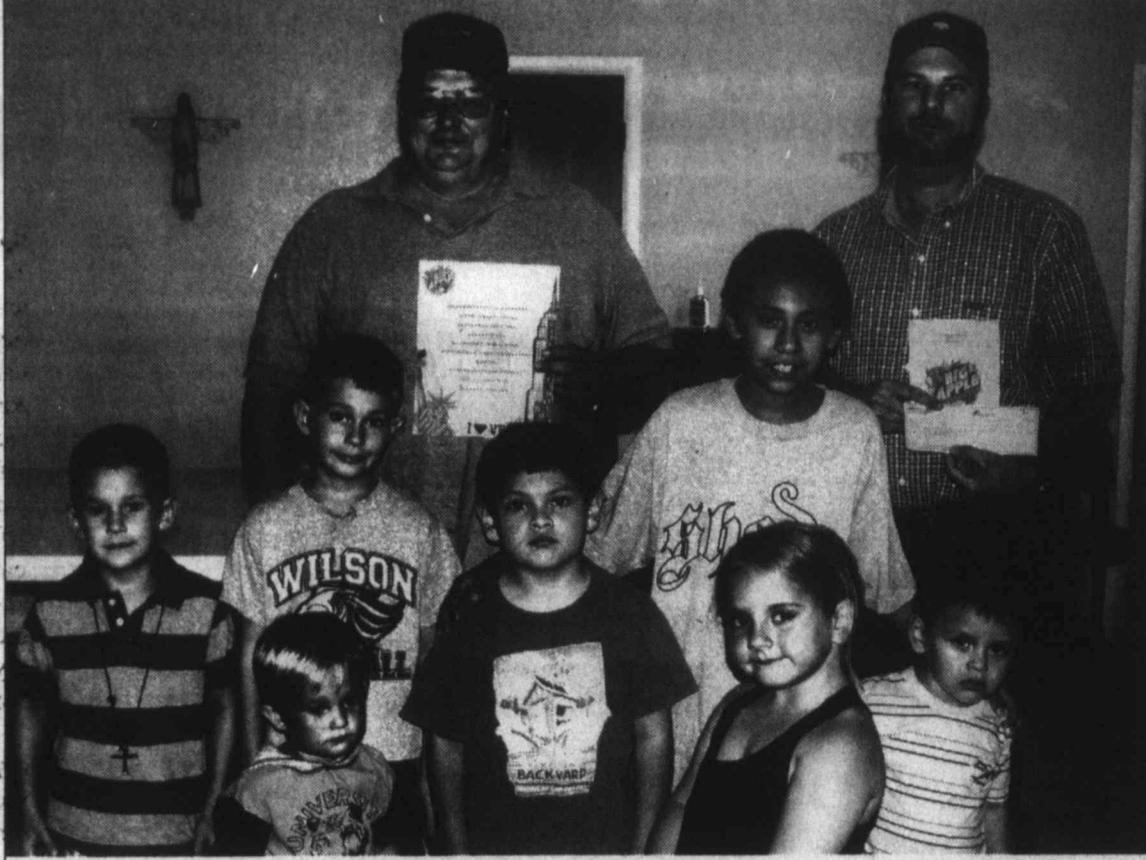
Gee, I'm glad that cows don't fly."

MAYBE IT'S just me, but I thought a tip offered to readers of the Lubbock newspaper's weekly magazine supplement last Sunday about peanut butter was really weird.

The tip offered by a reader was to take a piece of paper towel and place it over the open peanut butter jar after you buy it. Then you replace the lid and turn the jar upside down. When you check it the very next day, said the article, "you will be amazed at how much is absorbed by towel."

The implication is that this is a great thing to do, but no reason is listed for doing it in the first place. Why would you want some of your perfectly good peanut butter to be absorbed in a paper towel? I like peanut butter and would prefer to eat everything in the jar. Are you supposed to throw away the soggy piece of paper towel?

Maybe you're supposed to just eat the piece of paper towel. But I think peanut butter is better on crackers.



Children donate VBS money ... Children who attended Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church of Wilson donated their offering collections totaling \$285.65 to the Wilson Volunteer Fire Dept. to help them pay for the new fire truck they recently purchased to help protect the community. Clyde Wilke (back left) and Dusty Patterson (back right) accepted the money and certificates from the VBS children, and showed them a hands-on demonstration of the new truck. Children pictured include, from left in front row: Jacob Racca, Jaziel Pantoja and Zoey Bartley; and in the middle row, Tyler and Garrett Racca and Tony and David Pantoja. Additional monies are still needed to help pay for the new fire truck, and contributions are accepted at Wilson City Hall. (Photo by Marsha Blackstock)

Meet the lizard that can kill Texas oil production:

Landowner meeting set in O'Donnell regarding endangered species legislation

Submitted by Patsy Sanders

A meeting has been scheduled at O'Donnell High School Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 18 for all interested citizens and landowners. Faye Hardin of Insight Ministries will speak with a message for all landowners and citizens concerned with the Endangered Species legislation. Her message is entitled "Releasing America's Oil Flow."

"Whoever controls the energy controls the nation. Texas and New Mexico have a boom started that could dramatically increase American oil

production—an increase that would significantly help curb gas prices and reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil. Without a miracle, these promising oil land gas fields will never be developed due to the "Endangered Species" and the protection of the dune lizard and prairie chicken. Unless new legislation is passed quickly, the government will succeed in closing off over 800,000 acres of oil and gas producing fields by December 11, 2011 (using federal agencies and environmental groups)," said Hardin.

"We have John Cornyn in the

Senate (Texas) and Steve Pearce in the House of Representatives (New Mexico), fighting for our rights, but without a backlash from grassroots citizens and land owners any further exploration will be off limits."

"As far as I am concerned, it is Godzilla," Texas land commissioner Jerry Paterson told ABC News. ("It's) the biggest threat facing the oil business in memory," said Ben Sheppard, president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association. They believe the small tan-colored, insectivorous lizard will cost the oil industry and surrounding

Obituaries

Steve Lynn Slover

Steve Lynn Slover of DeRidder, LA died on August 25, 2011. He was born on December 28, 1936 to Rufus and Ina Slover in Lynn County.

He was raised in Tahoka and graduated from Tahoka High School in 1953. He was employed by D & H Supermarket in Tahoka and later was an officer for Lubbock Police Department. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and spent 19 months in Germany. He met and married Frances Sailor in Ft. Polk, LA.

Izabella Rayne Vallejo

Pete Vallejo and Felecia Garcia, of Tahoka, announce the birth of their daughter, Izabella Rayne Vallejo, born on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at UMC in Lubbock. She weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. and was 18 inches long. She has two sisters, Danielle and Danaly.

Grandparents are Rachel Corona and Abel Vega, both of Tahoka, and Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Vallejo of Floyada.

communities thousands of jobs. That habitat happens to be right in the heart of Texas oil country.

Paul Wiseman, Midland Reporter-Telegram, reported June 28th, 2011-- This past month a bill to stop the FWS (Fish and Wildlife Service), sponsored by Texas Senator John Cornyn failed in the Senate. This bill was designed to STOP the take-over of land for so called endangered species. According to a Cornyn aide, "the amendment was not called up for consideration by the (senate) majority leader and the EDA bill did not pass because an agreement on amendments could not be reached." The staffer stated that Sen. Cornyn would look for alternative ways to advance the measure. The protection to this 3-inch lizard, prairie chicken and some snails in New Mexico is of major concern. The threat of bringing new and existing oil and gas production in parts of Texas and New Mexico to a screeching halt should concern each and every citizen in our area.

Patsy Sanders, local contact person for the O'Donnell meeting, says, "Obama has declared, 'Oil is a thing of the past.' If that's the case, why are we paying \$5.00 a gallon for gas that cost \$1.64 a gallon when he became president. Matters of this nature must take priority in our praying and raising awareness to stop the government encroachment now!"

"Our government is at war with Christianity and with Seniors. Islam is moving fast and fierce across this land. Only God can save us as a nation. If you believe that God sees and cares about the condition of this nation, you need to come and hear as Faye shares relevant information. Today there are many causes and good works but priorities must come to the forefront. Please join us as we are made aware of measures than can be taken now," she added.

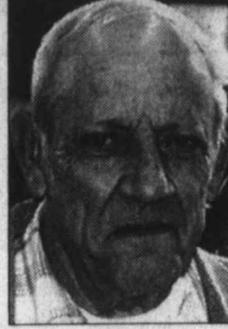
For more information, contact Sanders at 806-482-3861.

Luna, both of San Antonio, and Victoria Lopez of Corpus Christi; 16 grandchildren; and 34 great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Paul's honor may be made to Hospice of Lubbock, 3702-21st Street, Lubbock, TX 79410.

Charlie Boles

Services were pending with Combest Funeral Home in Lubbock for Charlie Boles of New Mexico, formerly of Tahoka. No other information was available at press time.



Leroy Moczygembra

Services for Leroy Moczygembra, 68, of Wilson were held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 30, 2011 in Slaton's St. Joseph Catholic Church with Msgr. Joe James officiating. Internment was at Englewood Cemetery. Rosary for Leroy Moczygembra, 68, of Wilson was held at 7:00 p.m., Friday, July 29, 2011 in Englewood Chapel with Deacon Darris Linder officiating. He died July 28, 2011.

He was born June 2, 1944 in Slaton. He attended school in Tahoka and Wilson. On February 21, 1963, he married Judy Ann Smith in Slaton. They previously lived in Brownwood before returning to Wilson in 1995. He was a cotton farmer until 1985. He owned and operated Mac's Package Store and was assistant manager of Thriftway Grocery in Brownwood.

Leroy was preceded in death by his parents, Leo and Rose Moczygembra; son, Curtis Moczygembra; and sister, Marlene Piwonka.

His survivors include his wife, Judy; son, Ricky and wife, Julie Moczygembra of Wilson; siblings, Francis Hamilton of Breckenridge, Jerry Moczygembra of Wilson and Randy Moczygembra of New Braunfels; grandson, Justin Moczygembra; step-grandson Chris Miller and step-granddaughter, Mari Scott along with 5 step great grandchildren. (PAID)



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WHAT CAN WE OFFER your child?

- Individual Attention for your Child
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- Caring Educators
- Safe School Environment
- Dual Credit Courses
- More Opportunities for Participation
- Extracurricular Activities
- Bus Transportation pick up 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!

The Lynn County News

Tahoka, Texas 79373

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS (usps 323200) is published weekly by Lynn County News, Inc. on Thursday (52 issues per year) at Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas. Office location is 1617 Main, Tahoka. Phone (806) 561-4888. Periodical postage paid at Tahoka, Texas 79373. Postmaster: Send address change to The News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373.

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E-MAIL: LynnCoNews@poka.com

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Vondell Elliott..... Managing Editor

Pam Elrod..... Typesetting/Bookkeeping

Make Education a Priority!

Support our School

Vote "FOR" the Tahoka ISD TRE

KEEP IN MIND:

Homestead taxes for senior citizens (over 65 as of January 1, 2011) are frozen and cannot be increased by the Tax Ratification Election (TRE).

BOTTOM LINE:

The additional \$0.13 (or 13 pennies) that local taxes will be raised will generate an additional \$3 in state funding for every \$1 of increased local taxes.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

The current school finance system is a broken system. The maximum amount of local taxes allowed by the state of Texas is \$1.17 per \$100 valuation. The local tax rate has to be at its maximum capacity in order to receive the maximum amount of state funding allowed. It does not seem right, but that is how the system works!

WHAT WILL IT COST ME?

- A home valued at \$100,000 will pay an additional \$130 a year in school taxes (\$10.83 per month)
- The average Tahoka home is valued at \$33,000 and this home will pay an additional \$44 a year in school taxes (\$3.88 per month)

DID YOU KNOW?

All Lynn County schools (Wilson, New Home, and O'Donnell*) schools are already taxing at \$1.17.

PURPOSE OF THE TAHOKA TRE:

Financial solvency - saving jobs, offering kids the best possible education, and balancing the budget.

WHAT HAS THE DISTRICT DONE TO SAVE MONEY?

- Nine positions have been eliminated over the past three years.
- Further reductions in staff could dramatically impact educational opportunities for students

THE TRUTH ABOUT SCHOOL FINANCE IN TEXAS:

Tahoka ISD must operate on local funds for four consecutive months each year as the state does not pay its portion to the district from November through March. The district needs to have \$3 million dollars in the bank to survive these months. Estimated fund balance as of August 2011 is approximately \$2.7 million. The additional revenue generated from the TRE will make this feasible for the district.

**ELECTION DAY: August 27 at the Life Enrichment Center
EARLY VOTING: August 15-23 at the Lynn County Courthouse**

Political ad paid for by the Make Education a Priority Tahoka PAC, Loretta Tekeli and Carmen Chapa, Treasurers; Jay Dee House, Chair.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

**Support our school,
vote FOR the Tax
Ratification Election**

**O'Donnell FBC group
plans to participate in
Houston Prayer Rally**

Dear Editor,

Schools across Texas are facing tough decisions regarding school financing, and Tahoka is no different. Over the past several years, due to changes in state funding, most school districts in Texas have faced similar Tax Ratification Elections that we in Tahoka are now facing.

Our school board has been doing the same hard work that many of us have been doing on our personal budgets. They have been cutting expenses wherever possible without cutting the quality of the education our children receive. They are diligently curbing expenses and cutting positions wherever they can without decreasing the activities and opportunities being offered to our students. But it's not enough and now they've come to us, the voters, for help.

The proposed tax increase is only \$0.13 per \$100 valuation. That means our school tax rate would go from \$1.04 to \$1.17. On the average Tahoka home of \$33,000, the annual taxes would increase \$42.90. That is only \$3.57 per month!! Aren't our kids worth \$3.57 per month? It's less than \$1 per week.

And if you own a larger home that's valued at \$100,000, your taxes would increase \$130 per year. That's only \$10.83 per month or \$2.50 per week. Aren't our kids worth \$2.50 per week?

For those of you who are age 65 and older, your homestead property taxes would not increase. BUT WE NEED YOUR VOTE!!!! We need you to support our kids as well. We need you to support our school and our community by voting FOR this tax increase.

In recent history around Tahoka, we've come together to raise money for a variety of worthy causes. Raising this money will help our school district in so many ways. And the best part about it is like many fund raising efforts, the state will match each \$1 raised by this tax increase with \$3 of state funding. They want us to show that we're doing our part to help our schools, and then they'll do their part. It's been done across the state in many school districts and now it's our turn to take advantage of this "matching funds" offer.

The future of Tahoka and Lynn County is in our schools and in our kids. It is so important that we all get out and vote on this issue on August 27. We need to vote FOR the proposed Tax Ratification Election so that we're voting FOR our kids and FOR our future. We want our kids and our community to continue to excel and to have the many opportunities that our school offers. We want our teachers and staff to continue to have jobs. Please join me in Making Education a Priority in Tahoka by voting FOR this issue.

Sincerely,
Tonda Freitag

Dear Editor,

It's time to make a stand with our governor - Saturday, August 6th. Our Governor has made a 'bold' stand, and is really getting heat from media and opposition groups ... let's not let him down. A nation is in great need of prayer.

Most are aware that our Governor, Rick Perry, has called a prayer meeting for our nation at Reliant Stadium in Houston for Aug 6th. He is appealing to all who are interested in the outcome of our nation's future to join him as we cry out to God for deliverance. The world gets the message when people gather in great numbers. Prayer is the greatest weapon we have for our nation. Please plan to go if at all possible but if not, then PLEASE gather friends together and join us in this day of fasting and prayer.

First Baptist O'Donnell church bus is providing transportation and the cost of our rooms has been covered by a generous family who cannot go themselves. We need people in our area to be willing to go and be counted in this corporate effort as we pray.

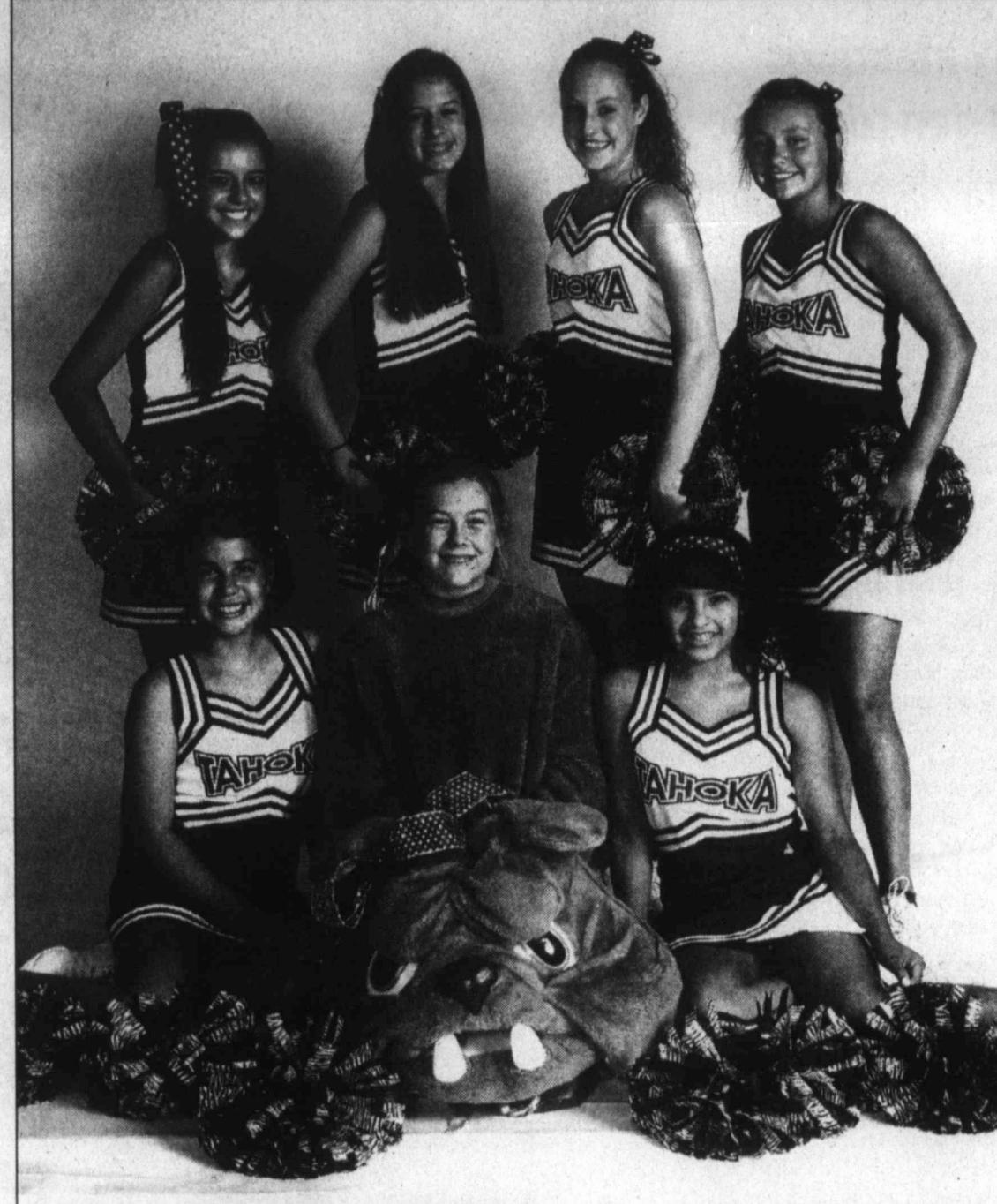
All arrangement will be made as a group but we must know quickly to know room preference and how many rooms. The bus will leave at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, allowing ample time for needed stops, meals and a decent bed time. Saturday will be at Reliant Stadium and we will return same time, 8 a.m., on Sunday, arriving home by around 9:00 p.m. If the ride on the bus concerns you, (it's really rather comfortable and seats 22), gather a car load, but whatever you do - get there and take someone with you.

Call First Baptist Church, 806-428-3236, or Harold and Patsy Sanders, 806-428-3861, to reserve your seat and room. The web site of this prayer meeting is <http://theresponseusa.com/>.

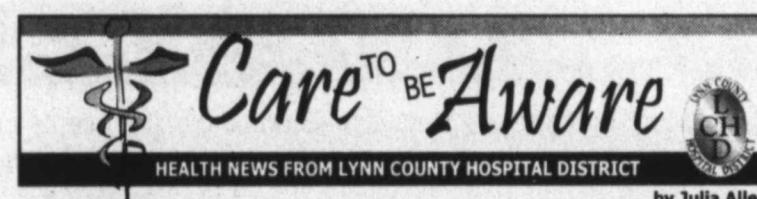
There is free registration so register now and let us know your plans as far as travel. PLEASE call others on your list of friends and family who might desire to TRAVEL WITH our O'Donnell crowd. EVERYONE is more than welcome so long as there is bus room.

Plan now to go and make your stand. If not now ... then when?

Patsy Sanders



Tahoka Middle School Cheerleaders... The 2011-2012 Tahoka Middle School Cheerleaders are top row from left, Miranda DeLeon, Maci Dimak, Hannah Hammonds, and Bayle Jolly. Front row from left, are Andrea Garcez, (Mascot) M'Lin Hill, and Yulissa Villegas.



Immunization Awareness

August has been designated as National Immunization Awareness Month. Why, do you ask, do we need an immunization awareness month? One reason, according to kidshelath.org, is that diseases like measles, mumps and whooping cough are making a comeback as they are brought in from other countries by travelers. These diseases would not spread as quickly if we were immunizing our older children against them.

The problem stems from the fact that for several years health care providers were not required to give children immunizations for these diseases as it was thought they were not at risk for them. If you are a parent of a teenager you should check with your doctor to make

sure they are up to date. Also, some vaccinations are given in a series of shots and your child may not have had the complete series. Without the full course of the vaccine it leaves them unprotected and still at risk. Lastly, some vaccinations require a booster shot every few years to ensure that the level of immunity stays high.

With most schools opening within the next month, now is the time to check out your vaccination records and schedule to get them up-to-date. If you do not have a copy of your record you will need to contact your family doctor to obtain that information. Remember that college students have to have up-to-date shot records also.

Vaccinations are here to protect your child now and also in their future. We all need to remember that these immunizations stay with us a lifetime.

Back-To-School Splash!

Come bring the family and cool off at the

Tahoka City Pool
Wednesday, Aug. 17
from 5:00-7:00 pm
and get FREE school supplies!
(for grades K-5th)

Sponsored by Tahoka churches.
For more info, call 543-8777.

"Thank you to all our judges, and to everyone who came to support the event and listen to music. We will be back again next year so mark your calendars now to attend (and cook) the 8th NAS BBQ & Chili cookoff on July 28-29, 2012. We are starting early to plan for next year's event and entertainment, so if anyone has any suggestions or wants to help in any way, don't hesitate to contact Kim or Kelly Draper, Mike Braddock, or Shiloh Braddock," said a sponsor.



561-4616
2220 Lockwood, Tahoka
Hours: M-Th 11-9 • Fri 10-11-8

Check out our NEW WEBSITE:
jollytimetahoka.com
featuring our Monthly Specials
plus Menu item listings!

Don't forget:
Happy Hour \$1.00 Drinks
2:00-5:00 p.m. DAILY

f
www.facebook.com/jollytimetahoka
Visa/MasterCard/Discover
with \$10 Minimum Purchase

Proposed Redistricting Plan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING of the CITY COUNCIL CITY OF TAHOKA

August 8, 2011 • 6:00 p.m.

Life Enrichment Center, 1717 N. Main, Tahoka, Texas

Notice is provided that the City Council of the CITY OF TAHOKA will hold a public hearing on August 8, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at the Life Enrichment Center, 1717 N. Main, Tahoka, Texas, to offer the public an opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed redistricting plan as provided by the Redistricting Advisory Committee.

Aviso de Audiencia Pública Consejo de la ciudad CIUDAD DE TAHOKA

8 de Agosto de 2011 • 6:00 p.m.

Life Enrichment Center, 1717 N. Main, Tahoka, Texas

Se comunica que el Consejo de la ciudad, Ciudad de Tahoka se reunirá el 8 de Agosto de 2011, a las 6:00 p.m. en Life Enrichment Center, 1717 N. Main, Tahoka, Texas, para dar al público la oportunidad de ofrecer comentarios relativos al plan propuesto para la nueva división en distritos que ha presentado el Comité asesor para la nueva división en distritos.

Let the Children Come
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

at First United Methodist Church of Tahoka, 1801 Ave. J
LICENSED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CHILD CARE SERVICES • CCS PROVIDER

Fall Registration Now Underway!

Accepting children from age 6 weeks to 5 years

PHONE:
561-4529

Stop by for a tour!

We also have an **AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM ...**
for children ages 5-12

Tahoka Middle School supply list given

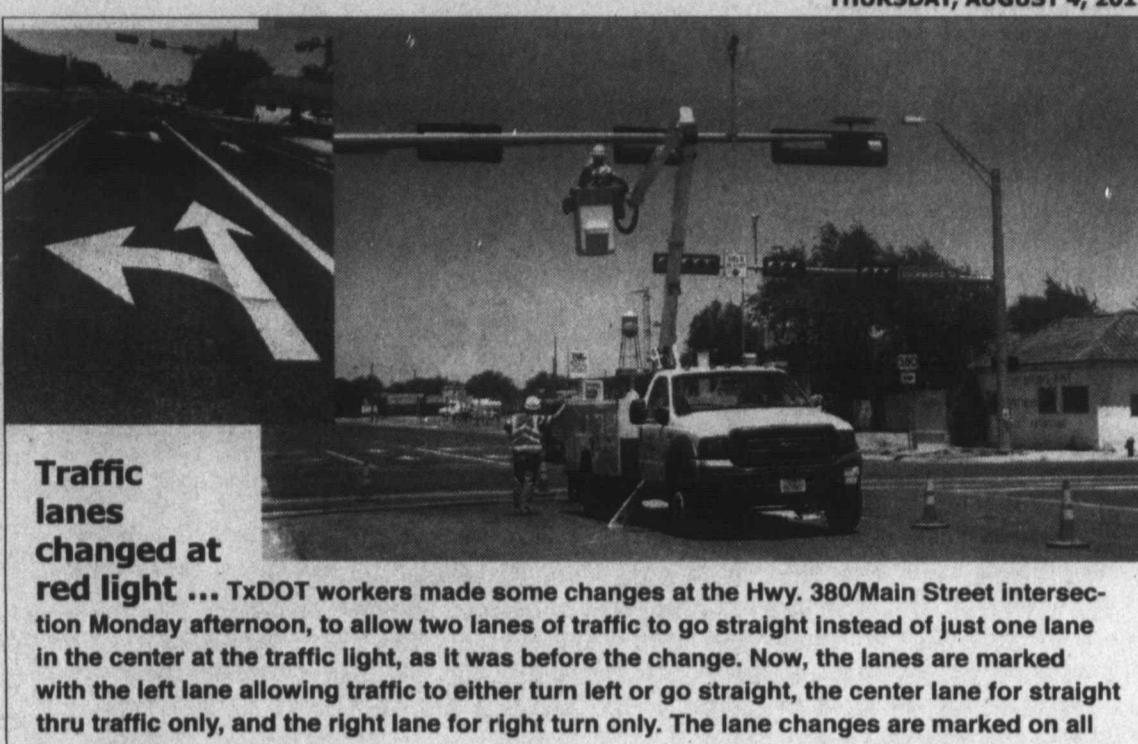
Sixth Grade
 2 packages map colors
 2 boxes crayons
 2 packages markers
 2 packages #2 pencils
 1 package blue or black pens
 2 large erasers
 4 packages notebook paper
 1 pair scissors
 8 glue sticks
 4- 100 page composition notebooks
 1-1 inch binder
 1 set dividers for binder
 1-zippered binder bag
 3-boxes Kleenex
 1-set highlighters

Eighth Grade
 2-2 inch binders
 1- Set of 5 dividers for binder
 1-12-count map colors
 1- pair scissors
 5- glue sticks
 2- red pens/pencils
 2- packages notebook paper
 4- boxes Kleenex
 2- 100 page composition notebooks
 20- plastic sheet protectors
 Highlighters-yellow, orange, pink, green, blue & purple
 2- 70 page spiral notebooks
 Ruler with centimeters & inches
 4- large erasers
 1-zippered binder bag
 1- folder w/ pockets & brads
 1- pair earphones/earbuds

Seventh Grade
 2-packages #2 pencils
 1- package blue or black pens
 2- red pens
 1- box of 24 or more count crayons
 1-12-count map colors
 1- pair scissors
 Ruler with centimeters & inches
 Protractor
 1- 3-inch binder
 8- glue sticks
 1-set highlighters
 2- packages regular ruled notebook paper
 5- folders w/ pockets & brads
 10- plastic sheet protectors
 1-zippered binder bag
 4- 100 page composition notebooks
 1- pair earphones/earbuds
 4- boxes Kleenex

Shop at Home!

All Lynn County merchants appreciate your business.

**Traffic lanes changed at red light ...**

TxDOT workers made some changes at the Hwy. 380/Main Street intersection Monday afternoon, to allow two lanes of traffic to go straight instead of just one lane in the center at the traffic light, as it was before the change. Now, the lanes are marked with the left lane allowing traffic to either turn left or go straight, the center lane for straight thru traffic only, and the right lane for right turn only. The lane changes are marked on all four sides of the intersection.

(LCN PHOTOS by Pam Elrod)

Last call for producers to file AGI forms with the IRS

Lynn County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Rodney Schoppa, reminds producers that they must submit an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) verification consent form (CCC-927 or CCC-928) to the IRS as soon as possible in order to maintain eligibility for 2009 and 2010 program benefits. Failure to do so will result in interruption of program payments.

The consent form authorizes IRS to verify for FSA whether a payment recipient's AGI meets the eligibility requirements for FSA programs. The form be-

came a requirement for payment eligibility beginning with the 2009 crop year, however many program participants have not yet submitted this form for 2009 and 2010 program benefits.

"Producers who fail to file these forms before Sept. 2011 will receive a notice from the National Office stating that the producer is ineligible for 2009 and/or 2010 payments," said Schoppa. "The producer will be responsible for fully refunding all payments received under programs subject to AGI limitations," he said.

IRS requires written consent

from all individuals or legal entities before verification of the average AGI can be provided to USDA. Individuals must submit form CCC-927 and legal entities must submit form CCC-928. Without these forms on file, eligible producers will not receive USDA program payments.

Schoppa further clarifies that these consent forms are required for payments received from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as well as those received through FSA. Completed forms must be returned to the IRS.

For more information on AGI eligibility requirements or the AGI verification process, contact the Lynn County FSA office at 806-998-4501.

TWAF to offer scholarships this fall

The Texas Wildlife Association Foundation (TWAF) and the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc. (SALE) have joined forces to offer five \$10,000 Natural Resource Excellence in Education Scholarships in the fall of 2011. They will be awarded to five freshmen at Texas universities who are majoring in natural resource related field such as agricultural science, wildlife science, forestry, range science, or similar majors.

Completed applications must be postmarked by September 14, 2011, and are available at www.texas-wildlife.org.

Wilson VFD BBQ dinner and raffle set for Aug. 28

Wilson Volunteer Fire Department will hold their annual BBQ dinner and raffle on Sunday, August 28 at the Wilson School Cafeteria, located at 1411 Green Ave. in Wilson. The event will begin at 11:30 a.m. til 1:00 p.m. Adult plates will be \$8 and child plates \$4.

Gun raffle tickets are \$5 each or six for \$25. The following guns to be raffled are; a Beretta Statesman 3901 12-gauge and a Browning BuckMark .22 LR Pistol. Other raffles, \$1 per ticket or six for \$5, include a Ladies Day Out Raffle, that includes Dinner for four at Texas Roadhouse, haircut and style at Sophisticuts Salon and a Scentsy wall warmer with scent; a Tuberville autographed photo raffle, a framed autographed photo of Coach Tuberville donated by the Texas Tech Red Raider Club.

Swimming party, free school supplies offered Aug. 17

Tahoka youth who will be entering grades Kindergarten-fifth grade are invited to a free back-to-school swimming party at the Tahoka City Pool on Wednesday, Aug. 17, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Sponsored by Tahoka churches, the event will also provide refreshments as well as free school supplies for all Tahoka Elementary students.

"We know school supplies are expensive, so we would like to invite your family out to the City Pool for food, fun, swimming, and a bag of school supplies," said Dr. Steven Bonner, minister, Tahoka Church of Christ. Several Tahoka churches are sponsoring the event, Bonner noted. Essential school supplies will be provided.

For more information, call Dr. Bonner at 806-543-8777.

Sales tax holiday is Aug. 19-21

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs says Texas families have a big opportunity to save money when they shop. The state's annual Sales Tax Holiday is scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 19-21.

"On that weekend, shoppers will pay no state or local sales tax on many school supplies, school backpacks and most children's and adults' clothing and shoes priced at less than \$100," Combs said. "The tax break helps out when the kids' back-to-school lists are long and money is short."

This year, Combs predicts shoppers will save \$62.1 million in state and local sales taxes during the Sales Tax Holiday.

The tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999. Currently, the Tax Code sets the holiday for the third Friday, Saturday and Sunday in August.

Lists of apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free can be found on the Comptroller's website at www.texastaxholiday.org.

Residents should call 8-1-1 before digging

The Texas Pipeline Awareness Alliance (TPAA) encourages the public to use Aug. 11 (8/11), as a reminder for residents to Call 8-1-1 prior to any digging project to have underground utility lines marked. Texas law requires a call to 8-1-1 in advance of any digging project to save time and money while keeping people safe and connected. Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, requires a Call to 8-1-1. Safe digging is no accident. For more information, visit www.Pipeline-Safety.org.

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

This notice concerns 2011 property tax rates for LYNN COUNTY for the two taxing entities listed below. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE:

Last year's operating taxes.....\$	34,818.62	78,304.71
Last year's debt taxes.....\$	0	0
Last year's total taxes.....\$	34,818.62	78,304.71
Last year's tax base.....\$	7,635,327.00	10,124,880.00
Last year's total tax rate.....\$	0.456020/ \$100	0.773389/ \$100

THIS YEAR'S EFFECTIVE TAX RATE:

Last year's adjusted taxes.....\$	34,818.62	77,911.90
(after subtracting taxes on lost property)		
+ This year's adjusted tax base.....\$	7,660,910.00	9,997,520.00
(after subtracting value of new property)		
= This year's effective tax rate.....\$	0.454497/ \$100	0.77931/ \$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

THIS YEAR'S ROLLBACK TAX RATE:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures).....\$	34,819	77,912
+ This year's adjusted tax base.....\$	7,660,910	9,997,520
= This year's effective rate.....\$	0.454502/ \$100	0.77931/ \$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate.....\$	0.490862/ \$100	0.84165/ \$100
+ This year's debt rate.....\$	0/ \$100	0/ \$100
= This year's total rollback rate.....\$	0.490862/ \$100	0.84165/ \$100
- Sales tax adjustment rate.....\$		
= Rollback tax rate.....\$		

STATEMENT OF INCREASE / DECREASE**SCHEDULE A - Unencumbered Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

TYPE OF PROPERTY TAX FUND

BALANCE

CITY OF NEW HOME

GENERAL	-0-

CITY OF WILSON

GENERAL	-0-

If CITY OF NEW HOME adopts a 2011 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.454497 per \$100 of value, taxes would INCREASE compared to 2010 taxes by \$245.68.

If CITY OF WILSON adopts a 2011 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.77931 per \$100 of value, taxes would INCREASE compared to 2010 taxes by \$4,280.15.

GENERAL

-0-

GENERAL

8,000.00

SCHEDULE B - 2011 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT.....**PRINCIPAL OR CONTRACT PAYMENT TO BE PAID.....****PAID FROM PROPERTY TAXES.....****INTEREST TO BE PAID FROM PROPERTY TAXES.....****OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE PAID.....****TOTAL PAYMENT.....**

Total required for 2011 debt service.....\$

- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A.....\$

- Amount (if any) paid from other resources.....\$

- Excess collections last year.....\$

= Total to be paid from taxes in 2011.....\$

+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only of its taxes in 2011.....\$

= Total Debt Levy.....\$

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at

LYNN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT

1615 MAIN STREET

TAHOKA, TEXAS 79373

Name of person preparing this notice:

Chief Appraiser: MARQUITA SCOTT, RPA/RTA

Date prepared: JULY 25, 2011

**Senior Citizen
MENU**

August 8-12

Monday: Sloppy Joes, salad, chips, fruit of the day

Tuesday: Lunch at Tahoka Housing Authority, hosted by Making Education a Priority PAC: Chicken strips & white gravy, mashed potatoes, salad, biscuits, German chocolate cake

Wednesday: Smothered chicken burritos, Mexican rice, red beans, lettuce & tomato, Jell-o with fruit

Thursday: Hot steak dinner, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, apricot cobbler

Friday: Frito pie, cucumber & red onion salad, fresh salsa, nut topped snack cake

Reminders and Activities:

TUESDAY- AUGUST 9: Make plans to have lunch on Tuesday, Aug. 9, at 12:00 noon at the Tahoka Housing Authority building, sponsored by the Political Action Committee for the Rollback Tax Election on Aug. 27. Early voting begins on Aug. 15. Steve Burleson, TISD Superintendent, together with other members of the Committee will be in attendance and will speak about the upcoming Rollback Tax Election. Meal will be prepared and served by the Lynn County Pioneers Senior Citizens Center, free for senior citizens (underwritten by Huffaker Law Office, Lynn County Abstract & Title, Walker-Solomon Insurance, and Huffaker Farms).

SUNDAY- AUGUST 14: Sunday afternoon from 12:00-3:00 p.m. \$8 per plate! Chicken & dressing plate dinner. Includes Baked chicken, Rosie's dressing, griblet gravy, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, homemade roll, and drink, dessert for carry-outs will be watermelon, and homemade ice cream if you eat at the Center. Proceeds to benefit the Senior Citizen Center Home Delivery and Congregate meal programs. Home delivery will be limited! Please begin placing your orders on Thursday, Aug. 11. Dalton Wood will be providing entertainment from 1:00-2:30. A movie classic will be on the big screen TV. Ticket sales for a chance to win the 2011 Harvest Festival Quilt will kickoff! Come attend and support the continued good works of the Senior Citizens Center.

**Lynn County 4-H
to host golf tourney**

Lynn County 4-H will host a 4-person open scramble at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13 at T-Bar Country Club. Cost for the golf tournament is \$120/ team which includes a meal.

Cash prizes will be paid back to teams along with contests for the longest drive and closest to pin. Over \$1,200 was paid out last year to golfers. Door prizes and raffle tickets for a 3-day - 2-night stay at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort in Ruidoso will be available. All proceeds will benefit Lynn County 4-H members.

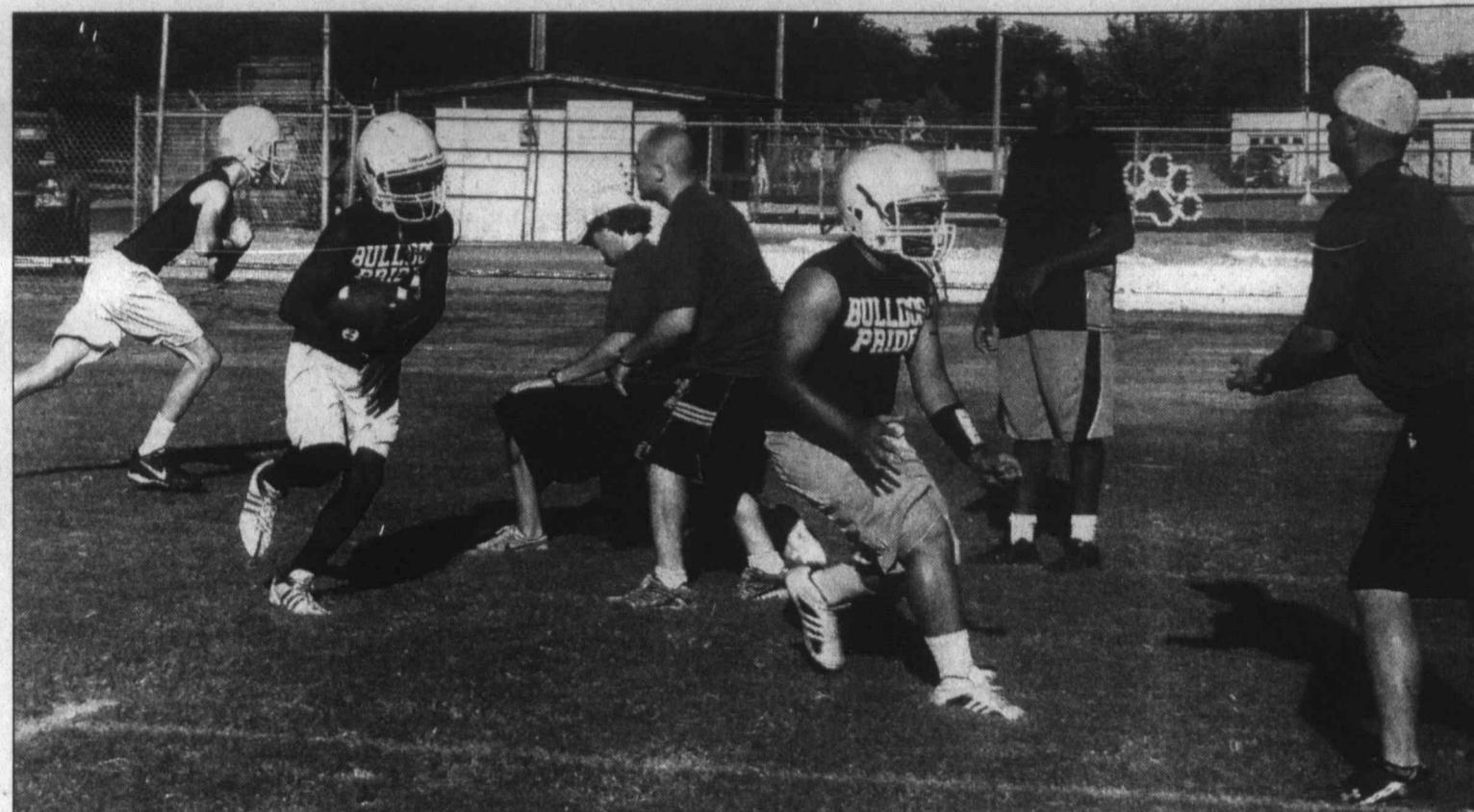
For more information or to sign up, contact T-Bar Country Club at 806/998-5305.

Fun Facts

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs but not downstairs.

The Hawaiian alphabet has 12 letters.

--from www.gambino.com



Two-a-day practice ... Tahoka ISD football player Roman Farmer hands the ball to Xavier Pinkard, with Jordan Arriazola leading the way, in Monday morning two-a-day practice here. Coaches pictured here include Coach Lee (kneeling), Coach Niles (center), and Head Coach John Cornelius at far right. Team manager DJ Tillman is standing at center right. "We've had a great start to football this year. Our numbers are outstanding with 49 boys out this year. Our depth and experience will be key factors to our success this year, and we will be depending on the defense to carry us early in the season," said Coach Cornelius.

(LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)



Brisket sandwich, please ... Bettye Green purchases brisket sandwiches from the Lynn County Historical Commission Saturday, at the NAS BBQ/Chili Cookoff held at the End of the Trail RV Park in Tahoka. Historical Commission members Harold Hohn (left) and Wendell Morrow are also pictured, as they manned the booth along with several others. All proceeds benefited the Historical Commission.

LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones

Tahoka ISD TAKS results: TISD designated "Acceptable" in TEA accountability rating system

The results for area school districts have been released from the Texas Education Accountability rating system, and Tahoka ISD received an overall district rating of 'Acceptable' for the 2011 school year. The District dropped from "Recognized" to "Acceptable" this year.

"We are always striving to perform at the top in the Texas Education Accountability rating system which is 'Exemplary,'" said Steve Burleson, TISD Superintendent. "The district is never pleased with a drop in our ratings. Our main emphasis is to always provide our students with the best opportunity to excel! The elementary and middle school campuses were 'Recognized' this year. The high school dropped to 'Unacceptable' this year even though our student scores for 2011 were up from 2010 test results. Even though our students scored higher than in 2010, we did not meet the increased passing standards for math and science in 2011," explained Burleson.

"Standards for accountability are a moving target - criteria changes from year to year," said the superintendent. "The accountability ratings are based upon 40 different indicators. These indicators determine the ratings. The failure of one subgroup on one indicator can drop your rating," he explained, adding that this year there were 119,000 more special education students included in the state accountability system than in previous years.

Statewide there were significant changes in the campus ratings: The Exemplary ratings went down by 54%, the Recognized ratings went down 11%, the Acceptable ratings increased by 174% because of the drops in the higher ratings.

"The statewide Unacceptable ratings increased by 547%. This was due to drops of the higher ratings and the increased passing standards," said Supt.

Burleson. "We have made some staff changes that should improve our results in 2012 in our science area. We are planning more intervention with our students in both math and science. The C-Scope curriculum that we put in place this past year should help us to increase the rigor of our teaching levels," he added.

"For the first time, commended performance for all students and economically disadvantaged students in math and ELA are factored into the recognized and exemplary ratings along with an ELL (English Language Learner) progress indicator. What this means is that additional indicators are being used to determine the higher ratings," he explained.

The state added a new commended performance indicator as a new requirement for a campus or district to be listed as recognized or exemplary. The performance indicator of commended is part of the new curriculum called C-Scope.

"C-Scope is the curriculum that our students will be measured by starting in 2012. The state has already aligned our curriculum to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills that we are tested over. In the past, teachers had to spend time to align their curriculum to stay current with the former Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test. The new test, which is called State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), is expected to move the classes to a higher level through the more

individual plans for a come-see.

Contact CLYDE MAY at 806-327-5434 or 1-888-568-7301

leave a message and we'll call back.

PLACE ORDERS STARTING

AUG. 11 at 561-5264.

CHICKEN & DRESSING DINNER

CHICKEN & DRESSING DINNER

ONLY \$8.00

Sunday, Aug. 14

12:00-3:00 pm

Proceeds benefit the Lynn County Pioneers (Senior Citizens)

Chicken & Dressing with giblet gravy, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, roll & drink

PLACE ORDERS STARTING

AUG. 11 at 561-5264.

TAHOKA LAKE RANCH

PRESERVATION • EDUCATION • CONSERVATION • ECO TOURISM

This Lynn County Landmark and the hills surrounding it are a part of Lynn County heritage... yours and your children's heritage.

Consider finding ways to participate in the J.C. Calm Foundation's effort to protect it. Plan a group guided tour or just call to make individual plans for a come-see.

Contact CLYDE MAY at 806-327-5434 or 1-888-568-7301

leave a message and we'll call back.

A strand of barbed wire has been tested by the Museum at TTU and found to be from the time of C.C. Slaughter's Tahoka Lake Ranch in the 1880s when Mr. & Mrs. Jack Alley ran the headquarters.

Did You Know?

Every eight seconds someone in the world dies from a tobacco related illness.

"Save a Life"

The time to quit smoking is now. For free counseling, patches, and gum ~ call the quit line at:

1-877-Yes-Quit



Weather on the South Plains can change quickly.



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TEXAS' LARGEST RURAL LENDER

Fun Facts

Amount American Airlines saved in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served first class: \$40,000.

--from www.gambino.com

Doggone it, shop at home when you can.



Our local economy is fragile... Shopping locally is a vital part of our growth and prosperity.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

1617 Main St., Tahoka

561-4888 • Fax 561-6308

email: LynnCoNews@poka.com

Open Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:30

Did You Know?

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Home (806)

CLASSIFIEDS

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

**Real Estate**

FOR SALE BY OWNER:
3-BR, 2-bath, 2300+ sq feet. On 2 1/4 acres. Features large sunken living room, basement, plantation shutters in all rooms, fireplace, large master bedroom w/large walk-in closet. Storage in garage + extra storage building. Large backyard w/cinderblock fence, covered patio, sprinkler system.

2507 N. 3rd.
CALL 561-4325.

25-tfc

Beautiful home on large lot in desirable Tahoka neighborhood.
3 bedroom; 2 bath; 2,245 sq. ft.; custom built in 1996. Interior features large living room; dining room; kitchen/breakfast with island; office; walk-in closets; fireplace; built-in cabinets and storage throughout; plantation shutters; water softener and reverse osmosis; large storage room in garage; satellite. Exterior features large lawn, mature trees, water well, brick and cinder block fence, covered patio. Excellent condition inside and out.

2529 N. 1st Street
(806) 632-0854

19-tfc

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER:
3 bedroom, 2 bath, large living area, office, 2 car garage. Large fenced backyard with 2 storage units. 806-239-8338.

30-4tc

CHECK THESE OUT:
NEW LISTING: 2006 N. 7th in Tahoka is an affordable 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home with 2 living areas, fireplace, hardwood floors, isolated master bedroom and cute backyard. Must see to believe! Call for an appointment to see!

1721 S. 1st - Tahoka:
Charming 2 1/2 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. Coved patio on back of home. Extra features are detached garage with storage.

Troy Holland, REALTOR
438-9245
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

MLS
Each office is independently owned and operated.

TWO HOMES FOR SALE

One 2-BR house and one 1-BR house. Central heat and air; good condition; good location.

CALL
806 / 561-4803
or 561-2261.

28-4tc

Help Wanted

NURSES UNLIMITED, INC.
is seeking enthusiastic and outgoing attendants to assist clients in the home with personal care, meal prep and light housekeeping.

P.T. E.O.E.

Call 1-888-892-8512

30-2tc

Notice**FOR SALE: 2 ADULT PUGS**

1- Female (fawn) - Hazel
1-Male (black) - Harley
Female has been spayed. Both current on vaccinations. Both dogs love children, and would make great family pets.

806-201-0250

31-1tp

31-1tp

Garage Sales

TWO FAMILY GARAGE SALE:
2109 N. 5th • Friday only 8:00-7 Clothes, BBQ grills, lots of miscellaneous.

31-1tp

CARPORT SALE: 2410 N. 2nd • Saturday 8:00-12:00. Recliner, men's clothing, miscellaneous.

31-1tp

GARAGE SALE: 1729 N. 3rd • Friday and Saturday 9:00-? Lots of miscellaneous.

31-1tp

GARAGE SALE: 1628 South 6th • Friday and Saturday. Samsung TV, infant high chair, toaster oven, bedspread, truck hitch, bedframe, BBQ grill, more items.

31-1tp

For Sale**FOR SALE:**
2009 Jayco Jayflight

25ft pull-behind or tongue-pull trailer, needs water heater. Includes full kitchen, bedroom with queen size bed, sofa slide out, IMMACULATE \$15,000 or OBO.

Call 806-544-9520.

To view call 806-535-6784.

30-2tp

'LETS GO TO POST'
POST CITY TRADE DAY DOWNTOWN

Sat., August 6
9 am to 5 pm

806-495-0608

31-1tc

Classified ads DEADLINE is NOON TUESDAYS. Call 561-4888.

**For Rent**

FOR RENT: Nice 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, 2 car garage for rent in Tahoka. Walk to school. \$750 per month + deposit. Call Caprock Realty, 773-1304 or 773-2278.

29-tfc

FOR RENT: 2127 S. 3rd; 2B/1B; \$450/\$250 deposit. Application, references. Leave msg. 806-894-9826.

25-tfc

"Three Trees" APARTMENTS
Spacious Floor Plan • 2 Bedrooms • 2 Bath • 960 sq. ft.
• Furnished Appliances • Washer/Dryer • Covered Parking
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FREE: Cable / Internet / Water / Trash Pick-Up
2208 AVENUE P (N. 6th) in TAHOKA
JOHN L. WILSON, OWNER (806) 470-1451 or 561-4728

23-tfc

Card of Thanks

I would like to thank all of you that have helped me all through the years. I appreciate all of you that helped me move to Lynnwood and for all the prayers. I am thankful to live in this community. God Bless!

Jerry Slover

31-1tp

PECANS FOR SALE

SHELLED
3 lb. bags - \$25

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

23-tfc

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561-4050 • 1717 Main • Tahoka, TX
(In the Life Enrichment Center)
Monday thru Friday 9 am-1 pm and 2 pm-6 pm
Saturdays 9 am-12 noon
INTERNET ACCESS AVAILABLE

Tahoka Pioneer Museum

561-5339 • 1600 Lockwood • Tahoka, TX
Open Friday & Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Former resident writes of old adobe house that was home to Hoskins family here

(Editor's Note: Tom Hoskins, a former Lynn County resident, writes of his old family place that they called "The Adobe" in 1939. He has since erected another structure on the historical site, and explains the significance of the place as follows.)

THE ADOBE

by Tom Hoskins

"Nostalgia is longing for a place you wouldn't move back to."

On a lonely farm in West Texas once stood an adobe structure. It was built by J.D. Pharr and wife Willie in 1924. They had bought 160 acres from the Singleton Ranch, giving a note to G.O. Newman and W. McCarty Moore (of New Moore farm) for roughly \$18.00 per acre. The total price was \$2,896.00. Newman and Moore were the developers hired by the Singleton family to market the Singleton Ranch. Partners Samuel Singleton and Marion Brownfield had previously purchased many sections from the railroad and school partnership in 1879. When Singleton and Brownfield split up these vast holdings, Brownfield took the Terry County portion, and Singleton kept the Lynn County land.

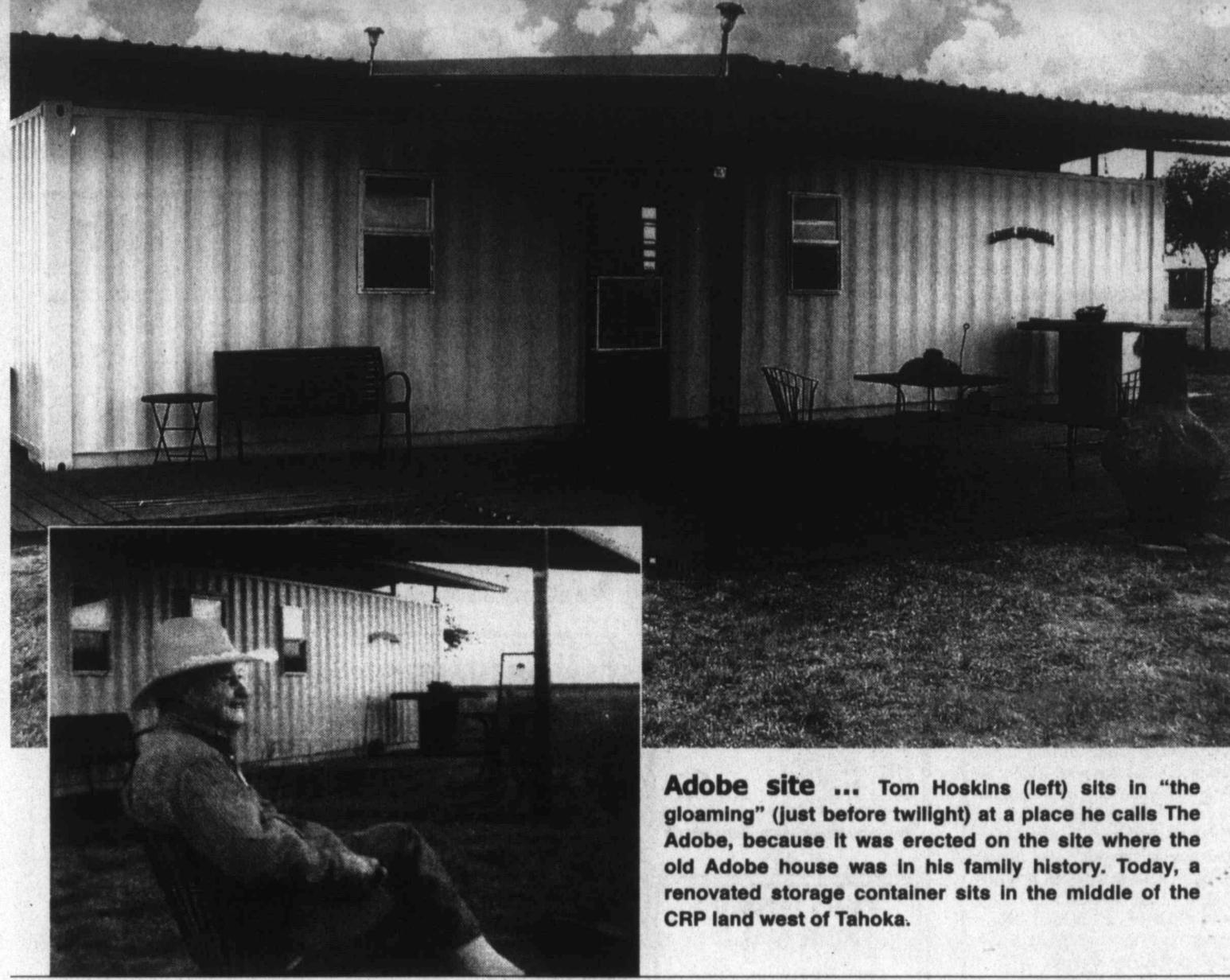
Mr. and Mrs. Pharr built the one-room adobe and proceeded to raise a family. Eventually they had ten children. As the family grew, Pharr added on two wood-structure rooms for his large brood. He farmed with horses and mules. His son, Cecil, who was 12 at the time and 89 when I interviewed him,

told of helping his dad make the mud bricks for the adobe from mud out of a dirt tank. They mixed the mud with broom straw and dried the bricks in the sun. He also helped hand grub the mesquite for farming, dig the cistern, build the outhouse, and build the corral for the livestock.

They had no electricity or water, but hauled water for cooking and drinking in barrels from the 3-Windmill area of New Moore when the cistern was empty. He said he hunted a lot with his brothers as game was plentiful when he was a boy. They raised mostly cotton and maize/milo. His mother, Willie, always had a vegetable garden, and there was always plenty to eat. He said during several school years they boarded the school teacher with them from the Slash L School, one mile to the west on the old Marshall place. The children attended the Slash L School and later the New Moore School.

In January of 1939, my father Jack Hoskins bought the place from Mr. Pharr. He paid him \$500.00 down, gave a cow and a calf, and assumed a note for \$2,326.00. He moved in and batched for a while. In February, he met my mother, Billie Brandon, some four miles down the road, and they were married in April of that year. They set up housekeeping and began a life-long marriage. We still refer to that 160 acres as the Home Place.

My mother, in her insightful book, BILLIE'S JOURNEY,



Adobe site ... Tom Hoskins (left) sits in "the gloaming" (just before twilight) at a place he calls The Adobe, because it was erected on the site where the old Adobe house was in his family history. Today, a renovated storage container sits in the middle of the CRP land west of Tahoka.

describes the time and place. She writes that there was a high ridge all around the farm where sand had humped up on the old fence rows. She liked to work in the fields, and she and my dad physically worked the farm with horses. They hoed the weeds and gathered the cotton by hand. She said the adobe room was cozy and warm in the winter and cool in the summer. It was "their joy". They had a wood stove and a kerosene lamp and an outhouse. They hauled water from the Webb place to the east or from New Moore as the Pharrs had done before them, in a horse-drawn wagon. They had a milk cow, laying hens, horses, pigs, and a vegetable garden. They ate a lot of cottontail rabbit and tomato gravy. Beans, biscuits and cornbread were staples. And they were blessed with the birth of Jack Jr. and Margaret during the first three years. I invite you to read my mother's book, especially the chapter titled, "The Adobe".

I helped my dad and my brother Jackie tear down the old structure sometime in the mid-'50s. It had melted down, so we dismantled it and filled in the cistern. For the next fifty years, cotton and maize were planted over it. It is currently in the Conservation Reserve Program and getting a long-deserved rest. Much of the natural grass and game has returned.

In January of 2006, my brother Jack helped me discover the exact location of the previous adobe. I have put up my own simple place there. It barely resembles the Wal-Mart forty-foot container I purchased in Lubbock. I had a Mennonite from Seminole, who was a

good welder and metal worker, come and cut four windows and a door, all with screens, so the place would pull a good breeze as it has no electricity or cooling. Then I had him erect a roof over the whole thing with a three-foot overhang all around and an additional sixteen feet of porch overhang.

I built a running porch all along the north side and east side for sitting in the shade or sun, depending on the temperature and elements. On the west end, I partitioned eight of the forty feet for storage. This allows me to keep a nice place in my thirty-two feet left. Then I constructed two twin beds, so one end of the "adobe" is my bedroom, the other end is the kitchen, and the center is the parlor. It is decorated in the Early New Moore décor, with photos and documents from that era. My sister and I painted the inside and outside with four-inch rollers. We used the same light color as the reflective roof metal. I built a proper privy a respectable distance from my main quarters, with a fourteen-foot deep pit. It may be the nicest outdoor toilet in Lynn County.

The Adobe has no running water or electricity. I did put up a few outside solar lights that put

out some meager illumination. I have a wood stove, a kerosene lantern, and a fire pit outside. I bring my water. All the essentials. My sister has collected a large trove of treasures on the site: rusty nails, broken plow points, bits of glass and crockery, a marble, and a coin or two from the twenties and thirties, each with a story to tell.

The Adobe is never locked. I encourage my friends and relatives and anyone interested in New Moore history to come and see my place and sit a spell.

Solitude is a nice place to visit. Sort through the broken and rusted artifacts. Listen and look at nothing but what nature has to offer in that remote country. And let your mind wander back to when large families lived simply and happily in a small house on the prairie.

(The Adobe is located west of Tahoka - travel west on Hwy. 380, turn left at FM 179 and go south 6.5 miles, turn right at orange flag.)

-- written by Tom Hoskins
Arlington, Texas

USDA authorizes Emergency Haying of CRP acres for 73 Texas counties

In response to drought conditions, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) authorized emergency haying use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for 73 Texas counties.

Several counties are approved for emergency CRP haying including Lynn County. Haying authorization will end on August 31, 2011.

"Eligible producers who are interested in emergency haying of CRP must request approval before haying eligible acreage," said Rodney Schoppa. "It is also important for producers to obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service that includes haying requirements," he said.

Upon approval of emergency haying, producers must leave at least 50 percent of each field or contiguous field un-hayed for wildlife. For those counties that are eligible for emergency haying and grazing, the same CRP acreage cannot be both hayed and/or grazed at the same time. For example, if 50 percent of a field or contiguous field is hayed, the remaining un-hayed 50 percent cannot be grazed; it must remain un-hayed and un-grazed for wildlife.

In addition, participants are limited to one hay cutting and are not permitted to sell any of the hay. There will be a 25 percent CRP payment reduction depending on the number of acres

actually hayed.

To take advantage of the emergency haying provisions, authorized producers can use the CRP acreage for their own livestock or may grant another livestock producer use of the CRP acreage for the purpose of haying.

For more information and to request approval for emergency haying of CRP acres, contact the Lynn County FSA office at 806-998-4501.

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Questions? Contact Lindsey Garcia at 806-831-6582, lgarcia@tahokaisd.us

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