I ELVNN County News Serving Lynn County since 1903 August 28, 2014 Volume 111, No. 35 email: LynnCoNews@poka.com Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas

what's side Obituaries - pg. 2

- Sotero "Jack" Benavides Mariorie Roberta Rife
- City officials apply for construction funds for waterline project - pg. 2
- Domestic disputes, minor collision investigated - pg. 3
- O'Donnell ISD tax rate to jump 40-cents - pg. 4
- Football Contest pg. 6

The Lynn County News office will be closed Sept. 1 (Labor Day). Deadline is 3 p.m. Tuesday for all news and ads

Make a field goal – Win \$100! Field goal contest starts Friday night

Tahoka Bulldog fans who come early to Friday night's home football game will have a chance to win \$100 before the 7:30 game begins. The Tahoka Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) is sponsoring a field goal kicking contest at 7:15 p.m., but fans must come early and

purchase a football program before

Prior to each varsity football home game, a business member

of the Tahoka Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a field

goal kicking contest for a chance

specially-marked advertisement in

the football program sold by the

Bulldog Booster Club at the home

Only one program will be

Bulldog roster page in the center

information on which business is

sponsoring the night's contest.

and then find that business ad in

the football program to see if it is

specially-marked. The marking will

be obvious on the advertisement.

Bring your program to the home

entrance ticket window by 7:10

p.m., where a TACC representative

will be waiting with a football and

a sponsor with a \$100-bill to give

marked - look at the Tahoka

of the football program for

to win \$100, with the lucky contestant to be determined by a

entrance to Kelley Field.



Oldest known WT alum ... Tahoka Centenarian Madeline Hegi, who celebrated her 103rd birthday on August 21, 2014, is a 1934 graduate of West Texas State Teacher's College, now West Texas A&M, and she is their oldest known alum. In honor of her birthday, several delegates from WT brought gifts of memorabilia, cake and flowers, joining members of the Hegi family in celebrating Madeline's 103rd birthday. Pictured here with Mrs. Hegi are the WT delegates, standing from left, Becky Stogner, Barbara Palmer and Lisa Lusall, and holding the cake is Rana McDonald. It's been 80 years since Madeline graduated with a teaching degree, which she put to good use in Tahoka, teaching home economics for 29 years. During that time, she was named Teacher of the Year in 1964, and she helped plan the home economics cottage that is still in use at the high school campus, which in 2004 was named "The Madeline Hegi Family and Consumer Sciences Building" in her honor. When she retired, the Tahoka High School FFA Chapter voted to change their name to the Madeline Hegi FHA Chapter, a name that still holds today. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

Bulldogs ready for shot at winning grid season

With a new head coach, but running a proven offense that should be familiar, Tahoka varsity football players are ready to take on the tough job of improving their record this year, starting Friday night when Crosbyton comes to town.

Brandon Hopper was offensive coordinator last year, and this year Hopper stepped up to AD and head coach for the Bulldogs, facing a rugged schedule with 13 lettermen, but just four returning starters from last season's 3-7 team.

Those four are Roman Parmer, Jeremiah Deleon, Dillon Trevino and Domenique Herrera, and Coach Hopper is especially looking for leadership from these returning starters.

He did say that all of the candidates for the team this season are "a good group. They are hard-working, unselfish and very coachable...they want to do whatever it takes to be successful.

Last Friday the team went to Morton for the final pre-season scrimmage. which was halted early due to lightning, "so we didn't get all the practice in that we wanted to," Hopper said. "The defense played really well, holding Morton to a couple of first downs and limiting big plays.'

On offense, Herrera will move to tight end on offense, after stellar work

at center last year. The coach expects him to be a good pass receiver, partly because he has shown such good hand and eye coordination as a baseball player. Defensively, Herrera had 68 tackles last year, and will move to middle linebacker to help fill the void left by graduation of all-star linebacker Ray Parmer.

Trevino will be at fullback on offense, and will return on defense to the secondary, where he had 69 tackles and one interception last year.

The annual pre-season supplement of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal last weekend predicted Crosbyton would win this district.

Tahoka is in District 2-AA, as all former Class A teams now are designated AA, with some new district opponents as well as some familiar tough ones. The other five district members are Hale Center, Floydada, New Deal, Olton and Abernathy.

The Tahoka Bulldog 2014 schedule:

Aug. 29-Crosbyton Sept. 5-at Post Sept.12-Smyer Sept.19-at Ralls Sept. 26-Plains (Homecoming) Oct. 10-at Hale Center * Oct. 17-Floydada * Oct. 24-at New Deal * Oct. 31-Olton * Nov. 7-at Abernathy *

* District games

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7:10 p.m. from the Bulldog Booster Club for a chance to compete.

10 Years Probation assessed:

Jurors dismayed to discover they misunderstood sentencing in case involving boy who lost leg in drunk driving incident

by JUANELL JONES

n a bizarre turn of events last Wednesday, a Lynn County jury discovered, to their dismay, that they had sentenced a man found guilty on five felony counts in a drunk driving crash that caused a 10-year-old boy to have his leg amputated, to serve only 10 years probation. The three-man nine-woman jury sentenced Sammy Carl Williams, 48, of Tahoka a probated sentence plus fines and restitution in 106th District Court proceedings in Tahoka.

The prosecutor, District Attorney Michael Munk, immediately moved for a mistrial, claiming a manifest injustice as it was his belief that the jury's intent was to place Williams in prison for 10 years, then on probation for 10 years following the prison sentence (although such a two-part sentence is generally not an option). District Judge Carter Schildknecht, who presided in the 106th District Court, denied the request.

Williams was found guilty of driv-

ing drunk 66 when he crashed his company van into

the Nicho-

las Mata Sr. family's Tahoe about midnight on June 27, 2013, seriously injuring two people in the vehicle, and immediately leaving the scene of the accident. After two days of testimony last Monday and Tuesday, the jury found Williams guilty of two counts of aggravated assault, two counts of failure to stop and render aid, and one count of intoxicated assault stemming from the incident in which a 10-year-old boy's leg was damaged so severely that it required emergency amputation at the knee, after he was hit with a vehicle on U.S. 87 as he was getting into the back seat of his family's Tahoe that was parked on the shoulder of the highway. Another

Wirds of Inspiration:

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victim, an adult seated in the car, sustained broken ribs from the crash.

On Wednesday, the sentencing phase of the trial began and testimony was heard from the little boy's mother as to how their lives had changed since the incident, as well as from two character witnesses speaking for the defendant. The jury retired for deliberation at 1:40 p.m. and returned to the courtroom with their verdict at 3 p.m. Judge Schildknecht first asked the jury if the verdict was unanimous, and they nod-

We are all so upset about this verdict - We all 12 read the sentencing but we thought we were saying the defendant would serve 10 years in prison on each count and then in addition to have 10 years probation. We did not intend for him to serve no time in jail.

-- JURY FOREMAN, in comments to The News

ded, after which she proceeded to read the five charges of felony counts and read sentencing for each count.

During the judge's reading of the sentencing, however, jurors became agitated and began conversing with one another, and it was apparent from the looks on their faces (two of the women were in tears) that something was amiss. With a gesture, the jury foreman summoned Lynn County Sheriff Jerry D. Franklin who was standing beside the jury box, and whispered something to him. The Sheriff approached the bench, and the Judge called the District Attorney and Defense Attorney Mark Snodgrass to the

bench for a brief whispered consultation with all three, but the Judge shook her head in denial before dismissing the attorneys and Sheriff Franklin.

Afterwards, the Judge continued with pronouncing the sentencing as submitted by the jury, laying out the terms of the probation to include 180 days of incarceration in the county jail (beginning that day), a one-year suspension of his driver's license, 1000 hours of community service, electronic monitoring and curfews, and other restrictions that would severely limit his activities for a period of the first two years of the 10-year probation. The sentence also included fines of \$45,000 (\$10,000 fines in four counts, and a \$5000 fine on one count), as well as restitution to the Mata family in the amount of \$98,121.85 for pecuniary losses due to medical bills in the treatment of Nicholas Mata Jr.

> In the audience of the courtroom, Nicho-

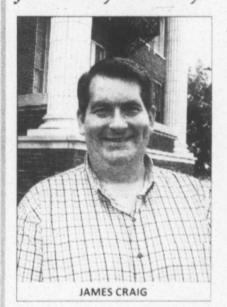
99 las Jr.'s

mother cried softly as the sentence was

After the Judge thanked the jurors for their service and dismissed them from the courtroom, all 12 jurors gathered in the nearby jury room with the District Attorney, talking agitatedly in expressing their dismay, and apologizing to Munk for misunderstanding the terms of the sentence. Within a few minutes, all 12 jurors grabbed a pen and paper and each wrote an affidavit proclaiming that the sentencing they? had administered in the case was not their intent. Each signed their affidavit and presented it to Munk, who said he

(See JURORS DISMAYED, page 3)

Atty James Craig announces candidacy for County Attorney



I am announcing my candidacy for the Lynn County Attorney position in this coming November 4th election.

Since I moved to Lynn County, I have been constantly astounded and amazed at the hard-working and generous nature of all of the communities that make up Lynn County. I have made it my goal over the past several years to give back and support these communities at every opportunity.

Since being appointed to the Lynn County Attorney position earlier this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the county. Therefore, this November_4th, I ask you to vote for me, James Craig, for County Attorney so that I may continue and serve this wonderful county of ours.

(Pol. Adv. paid by James Craig)

It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught 99 them to do for themselves, that will make them successful human beings.

-- ANN LANDERS

August 28, 2014 🔳 The Lynn County News

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The News "I am jury misu sentence. for Nicola of Lynn general. travesty," request to my reque and so wa Her (Judg tion was their verd

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dical postage paid at ustmaster: Send address change to he Lynn County News, P.O. Box 1170, SUBSCRIPTION RATES: nn County Address: - \$25 year Other Addresses in U.S. - \$30 year PUBLISHER / NEWS EDITOR Juanell Jones **PUBLISHER / MANAGING EDITOR** Vondell Elliott OFFICE MANAGER Pam Elrod **KRISTAL DEVINE AND BLAKE JACKSON** © All material Copyright 2014 The Lynn County News Couple announces engagement **DEADLINE:** Noon Tuesdays Tim and Tresia DeVine of Tahoka announce the engagement of **CONTACT US:** their daughter Kristal Ruth to Blake Kyle Jackson, son of Gerald Office: 806-561-4888 and Lora Jackson of Agra, Oklahoma. Fax: (806) 561-6308 The bride-elect is a 2013 graduate of Tahoka High School and E-Mail: LynnCoNews@poka.com has since travelled the country. Jackson is a 2010 graduate of Agra 1617 Main Street High School. After high school he attended Meridian Tech in Still-P.O. Box 1170 water, Ok where he studied Manual/CNC Machining. He is now Tahoka, Tx 79373 employed at The Granite Guy in Agra, Oklahoma. **OFFICE HOURS** The couple will marry October 4, 2014 in Tahoka. Monday-Thursday, 9 am to 5:30 pm Closed Fridays, Drop box an City officials apply for construction funds "Like" us on Facebook for Tahoka waterline replacement project www.facebook.com/LynnCountyNews The council approved a reso-Tahoka City Council memlution authorizing the filing of an bers met in special session last Thursday evening, to approve resapplication requesting financial olutions and other paperwork that assistance from the Texas Water August is gets the city one step closer to Development Board for the con-National struction phase, and approved an the construction phase of the city engineering services agreement waterline replacement project un-**G**LF Month derneath the streets of Tahoka. for the project with WasteLine Engineering Inc. "Basically, the final plans for CHICKEN STRIP or STEAK FINGER BASKET: the waterline project are already in Austin awaiting final approval, Served with Fries, Toast and Gravy and instead of waiting until after we get that final approval we are going ahead and filing the application for the construction funds only + tax - just to get things moving a little SPECIAL GOOD AUG. 27-SEPT. 30, 2014 faster, hopefully," said City Administrator Jerry Webster. 2415 W. Hwy. 87 Access Rd - Tahoka

open lab All-American Diag \$799 ANY PIE:

(806) 561-1490 or (806) 561-1491

10 AM-10 PM

EVERY DAY!



THE R. P. LEWIS CO., LANSING MICH.

Dist. 83 House seat The District Executive Committee for House District 83 has

announced that Dustin Burrows has been selected by the sevenmember committee as the replacement Republican Nominee to the vacated ballot position for House District 83, according to Bradford L. Moore, Committee Chair.

The District Executive Committee for House District 83 was comprised of the seven county Republican party chairmen from Borden, Gaines, Lubbock, Lynn, Mitchell, Scurry and Terry counties. John Baker is the Lynn County Republican Party Chairman.

Four classes to mark special anniversaries

Tahoka High School class of 1949 will celebrate the 65th anniversary of graduation at Homecoming on September 26. A full afternoon and evening of visiting will be offered at the Life Enrichment Center and they will be joined by the classes of 1947, 1948, and 1950.

Invitations have been sent to individuals in these classes and other information may be had by contacting one of the following: Mary Draper Fleming, class of '49; Pat Sherrod Park, class of '50; and Charlie Fulkerson or Nan Pennington Howell, for the class of '48

Order Bulldog paw prints by Sept. 3

Tahoka Bulldog Booster Club will be painting paw prints on driveways on Saturday, September 6. Anyone who would like to purchase paw prints, please contact any Booster Club member or call Doug Green at 778-6239, or by email at thsathbooster@yahoo.com The Lynn County News also has a sign up sheet for paw prints and payments will be taken as well. Please sign up before that date to get your name on the list. Each paw print costs \$5. Payment arrangements will be made when you call.

"Parents or any volunteers ould be greatly appreciated to help the boosters with painting the paw prints," said a representative of the booster club.

by Woodwor OTTA TAHOKUM came by my office last week and wanted to know if I had missed her, as she had been out of town for a couple of weeks.

"Sure," I lied. "I've been wondering where you were."

She said she had been in New York City, on a two-week paid vacation she won in a contest, writing a winning essay about "Why I Want To Leave Home for Awhile This Summer."

"I won first place by explaining how I needed to broaden my cultural background," she snickered. "I didn't tell them I was just sick of staying at home. I wanted to go to a Broadway play, and eat at some fancy places with somebody else paying the bills."

I didn't tell her it appeared that all that eating out had broadened more than just her cultural background.

She mentioned meeting a nice lady from Amarillo whose essay won second prize, three weeks paid vacation in New York City. She didn't have to explain that to me, since I once went to New York myself

"The grass in my yard here about died while I was away," she said, adding that she planned to water it every day for about a week to get it all greened up again.

I explained that she can't do that, because water needs to be conserved, and Tahoka residents may water only on certain days of the week, and at specified times of the day. She said never mind, the city owes her some watering days she missed while she was gone. So I warned her she could be in trouble with the water police.

She went into a tirade about how nobody else seems to be trying to save water, except her neighbor guy who apparently takes a bath only about once every three years.

"Next thing we know," she grumbled, "the city will be telling us we can water the yard only between 3 and 4 a.m. on Feb. 29, or just one day every four years."

I explained to her that the water table is getting lower all the time, and would she please not suggest that particular restriction to the city officials.

County Commissioners considering 4-cent increase in county tax rate

No citizens attended the first public hearing on Monday for the proposed tax rate increase for Lynn County, and county commissioners have scheduled a second public hearing for citizen input on Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 9 a.m., in the basement courtroom at the Lynn County Courthouse.

Commissioners have proposed a county property tax rate of 85-cents, which is an increase of 4-cents from the current property tax rate of 0.81 cents per \$100 of property value. Commissioners are considering a tax rate slightly higher than the effective tax rate of 0.828276 per \$100 of property value.

Based on an 85-cent tax rate, total expected revenue for 2014 is \$2,959,629, and total expenditures anticipated in the general fund in the 2014 proposed budget

HOME GAMES

SEASON TICKET

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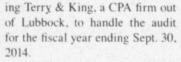
are \$2,936,199, leaving a cushion of \$23,430 difference.

Commissioners will approve the budget and tax rate after the second public hearing.

In other business at Monday's session, several budget amendments were approved and monthly bills were approved for payment. Justice of Peace Nancy Guilliams presented information regarding the upcoming move of the JP's office to the county's weigh station on Hwy. 380, requesting new carpet be installed in the two offices at the new location. She expressed appreciation to her employee, Brenda Dotson, for her work in painting at the new location, and said they hope to be ready to move by Sept. 1.

County Judge Mike Braddock presided at the meeting. Commissioner Keith Wied was absent.





Mayor John Baker had hoped

that the construction phase, for

the actual laying of the pipelines,

would begin by the end of the year,

but that timeline remains to be

members considered three propos-

als submitted by CPA firms to con-

duct the city's annual audit, choos-

In other business, council

The council also awarded Odessa Pumps of Amarillo to perform the conversion of the lift station on Ave. B, at a cost of \$49,925.

No citizens attended the public hearing held at the meeting for the proposed city tax rate of 74-cents. which is the same property tax rate as the current year. However, because the amount of revenue generated by the tax rate will be greater than the current year, city officials must offer public hearings for the tax revenue increase.

bituaries Sotero "Jack"

Benavides Sotero "Jack" Benavides of Conroe, formerly of Tahoka, passed away on Sunday, August 24, 2014 at the age of 83. He was born April 22, 1931 in Cold Springs, Texas to Vidal and Maria (Villarreal) Benavides. Jack married Lorenza Cardenas in 1959 in Tahoka.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Mary Ann Benavides of Lubbock, Margarita Benavides of Post, Eva Alvarez of Tahoka and Minerva Perez of Conroe; sons, Jack Benavides, Jr. of Slaton and Ricky Benavides of Conroe; brothers, Johnny of Tahoka, Felix of Post, Jessie of Lubbock and Benito; Victoria of Lubbock, Martha of Slaton and Ines of Tahoka; nine grandchildren; and several great grandchildren.

Jack was preceded in death by his wife Lorenza, on January 27, 1998; son Adam Benavides; parents; three brothers and one sister.

Services were held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 27, at Combest Family Funeral Homes in Tahoka with interment at Tahoka Cemetery

Please celebrate the life of Jack by visiting www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com. (PAID)

Marjorie **Roberta Rife**

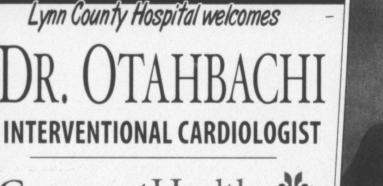
A private family memorial service will be held at a later date for Marjorie Roberta Rife, 93, of Slaton. She died on Sunday, August 24, 2014 in Slaton.

She was born on September 24, 1920 to Cecil Lossen and Gertrude Anna (Clawson) Bennett in Hornbrook, Siskyou, CA. Marjorie lived most of her life in San Francisco, with her husband, until 1984 when they moved to Lubbock. She was preceded in death by

her husband Maurice, and daughter Linda

Survivors include her daughter, Trudy and husband David Burks of Tahoka; two grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.





CovenantHealth

is pleased to announce

Dr. Mohammad Otahbachi, an Interventional Cardiologist, will now see patients at the

LCHD FAMILY WELLNESS CLINIC

If you or your primary care provider would like to schedule an appointment at the Family Wellness Clinic in Tahoka with Dr. Otahbachi, please call his office:



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LynnCoNews@poka.com

(Continued from page 1)

would take the case to the court of

appeals and ask for emergency con-

and one that DA Michael Munk told

jury misunderstood the terms of the

sentence. I thought it was a sad day

for Nicolas Mata Jr., for the people

of Lynn County, and for justice in

general. I have never seen such a

travesty," Munk told The News. "My

request to poll the jury was denied,

my request for a mistrial was denied,

and so was my request for a new trial.

Her (Judge Schildknecht's) justifica-

tion was the jury already said it was

their verdict. But I repeatedly told

her it was apparent that it was not, but

According to explanations in the

she refused to ask them," he added.

charge paperwork, which the jury

had received, "A jury that imposes

confinement as punishment for an

offense may recommend to the judge

that the judge suspend the imposition

of the sentence and place the defen-

dant on community supervision. A

judge may suspend the imposition of

the sentence and place the defendant

on community supervision if the jury

makes that recommendation in the

foreman signed, on three counts

the jury sentenced the defendant to

a 10-year prison term and \$10,000

fine, but also checked the designa-

tion "recommending" community

supervision. On the other two counts,

the jury sentenced a prison term of

2 years and \$10,000 fine on one of

the aggravated assault counts, and 5

years prison and \$5000 fine on one of

the counts of failure to stop and ren-

der aid, but again checking the desig-

nation "recommending" community

read the verdict exactly how the jury

had written down their instructions

on the charge papers for sentencing.

by the jurors - there was no ambigu-

ity and I read exactly as written and

sentenced according to what the ju-

rors filled out," Judge Schildknecht

ment, "It is very disappointing that

after four days in the courtroom that

they did not understand what was

said in court," referring to informa-

tion from attorneys as well as testi-

mony that explained the parameters

The Judge did, however, com-

Judge Schildknecht cited that she

"I received the verdict rendered

On the paperwork that the jury

verdict.'

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told The News.

service.

The News he has never witnessed.

It was an unusual circumstance,

"I am absolutely certain that the

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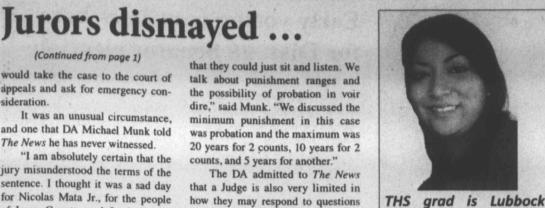
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During the jury's deliberation, e Mike Braddock



band director ... Cristal

Amador Burse, a 2003 graduate

of Tahoka High School and a TTU

grad, is beginning her second year

at McKenzie Junior High in Lubbock

where she is the head Band Direc-

tor for the 2014-15 year. Last year

she served as assistant band direc-

tor, moving to the head position

this year. McKenzie Junior High is

one of three Lubbock schools that

feed into Coronado High School,

and Mrs. Burse also teaches in

the music program there. She is

the daughter of Flora Aleman, and

granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sa-

lomon Gutierrez, all of Tahoka.

Hospital directors

tax rate increase

Lynn County Hospital Dis-

trict Board of Directors will hold

two public hearings on a proposed

3-cent increase in the property tax

rate for 2014. Currently the hos-

pital district's property tax rate is

previous year.

p.m. in the same location.

were absent and did not vote.

propose 3-cent

that a Judge is also very limited in how they may respond to questions from a jury. In the District Attorney's opinion, however, the presiding judge might have had an opportunity to address the unusual situation

"There was really very little in this case that could be done, other than have the judge ask if this was the intended verdict of the jury's once she realized that it was not," Munk said. "We are in the course of writing an appeal and writs to try to remedy the situation. But the fact of the matter is the judge was the only person that could've done something, and she failed to do so.

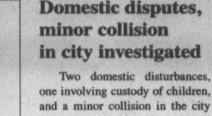
"When the jury is in their deliberation room, there really isn't anything that they could ask that would result in any substantive reply. Any explanation of the law is in the charge. She [the Judge] cannot comment on the evidence or add anything extra to the charge. Again, in my opinion, the judge failed to make sure this was the jury's verdict, when everyone in the courtroom could tell from the tears in their eyes and from the uproar her pronouncement of the sentence caused," Munk explained, adding, "I would like to remind the jurors that they performed their duties and I thank them for it. They cannot be responsible if the judge imposed a sentence that they obviously did not intend and failed to even ask if the way it was read was what they had intended."

Seven of the 12 jurors followed the Mata family outside to the lawn of the courthouse, each one approaching family members and apologizing for the outcome of the sentencing. Two jurors hugged Nicolas Jr.'s mother, Gloria Hernandez, crying and expressing that they hoped the sentencing would be appealed.

Ms. Hernandez was gracious to the jurors who approached her after the trial was over, saying, "Thank you for telling me this ... I thought maybe because this was a small town you were just protecting your own. I just couldn't believe that, anywhere in this country, someone could maim a child and get only six months in jail."

of sentencing options available, in-"We never intended that the defendant would not go to jail," sevcluding probation and community eral jurors told The News as they stood outside the courthouse. "We even asked for answers by sending out notes to the judge during deliberations. It was confusing, and we really thought we were doing the right thing, but it just was not clear. If we had been asked, all 12 of us would have said this was not our intent. We all feel this was an injustice and not what we intended, and we all signed separate affidavits saying this," they added. Throughout the trial, Nicholas Mata, Jr. was quiet and spent much of his time outside the courtroom, drawing or otherwise occupied. After the trial ended, however, he immediately entered the courtroom, carrying heart-shaped folded pink paper that he had cut and folded, writing his name inside, that he presented to each jury member, the Judge, the District Attorney, and some of the courthouse officials in the District Clerk's office. He was happy and smiling as he asked if he could approach the jurors to make sure each one received

the heart he had made for them.



were among incidents investigated by Tahoka Police during the last week. Last Friday afternoon, a 2006 Chevrolet SUV driven by Mychel

Tanner Montalvo, 21, of Tahoka, struck a highway sign on the west access road of U.S. 87 near N. 3" St. No injury was reported.

The accident report said the driver was headed south on U.S. 87 when he drove off the exit ramp and struck a Do Not Enter sign while texting on a cell phone.

A Tahoka woman called police and advised that her ex-husband was in her house waiting on her when she came home Sunday, struck her in the face and kicked her before leaving. The 47-year-old suspect had been issued a criminal trespass citation about a month

Lynn County jail was holding 43 persons early this week, including 21 for Ector County and two each for Dawson and Gaines counties. Recent detainees were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, no liability insurance, driving while intoxicated with passenger under the age of 15, judgment and aggravated assault.



to participate in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge by a member of the Lubbock-Cooper Band, two Seminole drum majors, and the Crosbyton drum major. Students could choose to participate or donate if they wished, and several volunteered to get doused with the icy water. The Tahoka 3-D Band raised \$100 for the ALS. In addition, Tahoka's drum majors, Yancy Draper (left) and Micaela Torrez, were personally challenged by their counterparts in the abovementioned bands plus the Jim Ned drum majors, and are pictured as the icy water pours over their heads.





Please visit these Lynn County Churches

The Lynn County News 🔳 August 28, 2014 3

leeting. Commisd was absent.



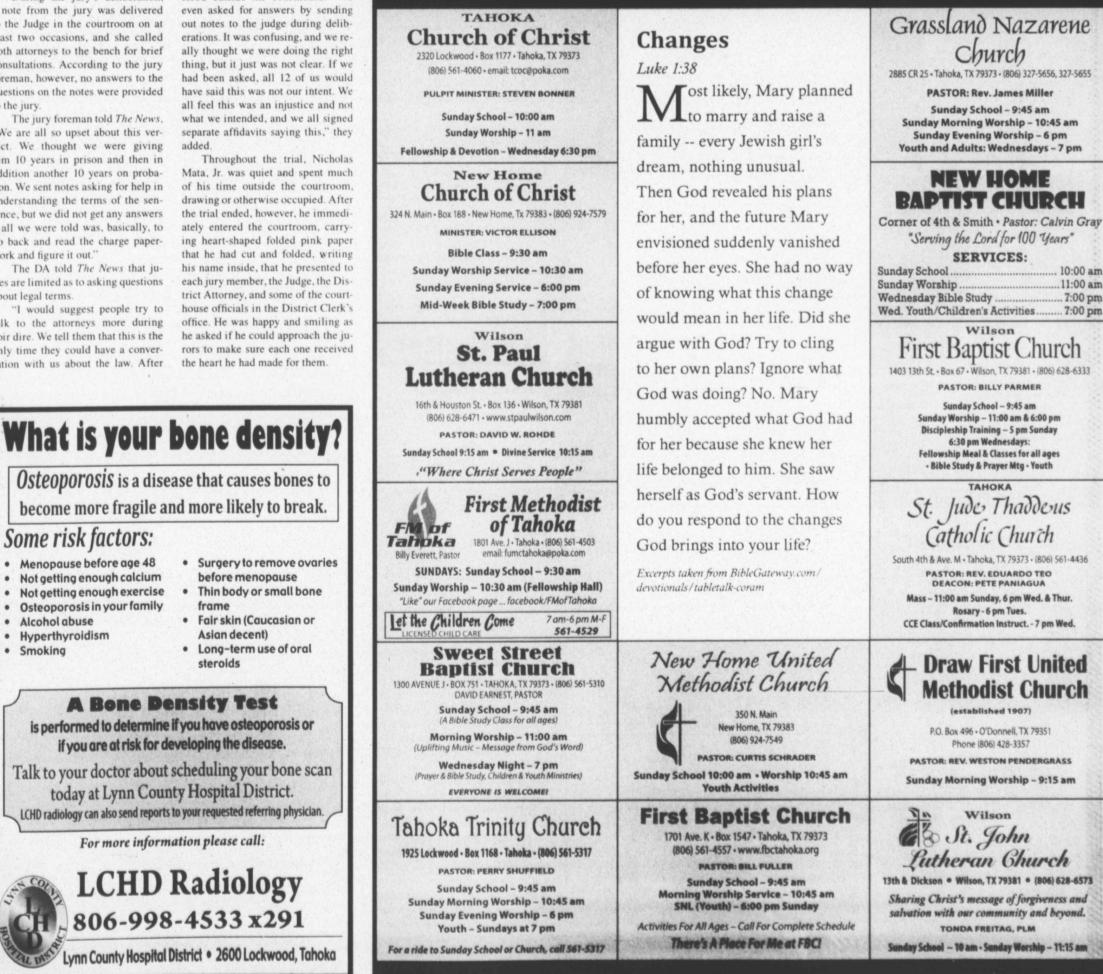
Main, Tahoka

a note from the jury was delivered to the Judge in the courtroom on at least two occasions, and she called both attorneys to the bench for brief consultations. According to the jury foreman, however, no answers to the questions on the notes were provided to the jury

The jury foreman told The News, "We are all so upset about this verdict. We thought we were giving him 10 years in prison and then in addition another 10 years on probation. We sent notes asking for help in understanding the terms of the sentence, but we did not get any answers - all we were told was, basically, to go back and read the charge paperwork and figure it out.

The DA told The News that juries are limited as to asking questions about legal terms.

"I would suggest people try to talk to the attorneys more during voir dire. We tell them that this is the only time they could have a conversation with us about the law. After



Osteoporosis is a disease that causes bones to become more fragile and more likely to break. Some risk factors: Menopause before age 48 Surgery to remove ovaries Not getting enough calcium before menopause Not getting enough exercise Thin body or small bone . Osteoporosis in your family frame Fair skin (Caucasian or Alcohol abuse Hyperthyroidism Asian decent) Long-term use of oral Smoking steroids **A Bone Density Test** is performed to determine if you have osteoporosis or if you are at risk for developing the disease. Talk to your doctor about scheduling your bone scan today at Lynn County Hospital District. LCHD radiology can also send reports to your requested referring physician For more information please call: LCHD Radiology 806-998-4533 x291 Lynn County Hospital District • 2600 Lockwood, Tahoka

August 28, 2014 🔳 The Lynn County News

West Nile Fever case reported

in Lubbock County

One case of West Nile Fever has been reported in Lubbock County, according to information provided this week by Lynn County Judge Mike Braddock, from the Texas Dept. of State Health Services. According to a map provided by the DSHS, Lubbock County is the only county in the South Plains area in which a human case of West Nile Fever has been reported.

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne illness. Up to 80 percent of people infected with West Nile, virus will have no symptoms. However, some infections can result in serious illness or death.

For protection, use an approved insect repellent anytime you go outside. Approved repellents are those that contain DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Follow the instructions on the label.

to cool off we hope everyone will

remember to be water wise and

From City Hall Tahoka man scores Stage 1 water restrictions can-

celled: Beginning September 1st, ace at T-Bar course we are lifting the water restric-Steve Sanders of Tahoka tions. Normal watering will be had a hole-in-one Aug. 17 on allowed. During the summer the 135-yard No. 3 hole at T-Bar months there has been a really good effort on everyone's part to Country Club, scoring the ace keep water use at a level consiswith an 8-iron. tent rate. As the weather begins

Colby Sykes and Keller Sykes witnessed the shot.

Farm Credit

Farmers Co-op

Association

Lynn County

Farm Bureau

VNN COUNTY OTAL PRECIPITATION IN 2013:

No. 1

19.72"



is Saturday, Sept. 27 Contact these chairmen for information: **RESERVE BOOTH SPACE:**

> Rebecca Ingle 561-4440 PRINCESS CONTEST: Elizabeth Tew 790-4301

QUEEN CONTEST: Starr Bray 327-5602

ART/PHOTO SHOW: James Craig 561-4516 Frances Truehart 300-4144

Lesser Prairie Chicken **Recovery forum slated** Sept. 11 in Lubbock

In response to the recent "threatened" listing of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC), the Texas Agricultural Land Trust (TALT) and the National Ranching Heritage Center will co-host the Landowner Forum: Tools and Strategies for Lesser Prairie-Chicken Recovery on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock. Lunch will be provided for those who register by September 8. This event is free and open to

the public. "Our goal with the workshop nt all the relevant str to pres

LynnCoNews@poka.com

Early voting continues here for Dist. 28 Senator election

Early voting continues through Sept. 5 for the Sept. 9 Special Election to fill the Texas Senate District 28 seat vacated by Robert Duncan. In Lynn County, registered voters may mark ballots during regular business hours at the County Clerk Election Room at the Lynn County Courthouse (except on Labor Day, Sept. 1, which is a county holiday). Voters should bring a voter registration card and a photo ID.

Six candidates are on the ballot for State Senator, District 28,

including Jodey Arrington (REP), Delwin Jones (REP), Charles Perry (REP), E.M. Garza (REP), Greg Wortham (DEM), and Kerry Douglas McKennon (LIB). Texas Senate District 28 encompasses 51 West Texas counties, from the Rolling Plains of the Panhandle to the South Plains of Lubbock and the Concho River in San Angelo.

Four polling locations will be open on Sept. 9 for the Special Election, one each in Tahoka, O'Donnell, Wilson and New Home

O'Donnell ISD tax rate to jump 40-cents higher

O'Donnell Independent School District will hold a public meeting today (Aug. 28) to discuss the district's budget and proposed tax rate of \$1.57, which is an increase of 40-cents per \$100 of property value for the upcoming year. The total tax rate includes \$1.17 in Maintenance & Operations (M&O), which is the same rate as the current year, but adds \$0.40 to the Interest & Sinking (I&S) Fund for debt service (for the expected sale of \$16 million in bonds). Previously, there was no debt service to add to the I&S tax rate.

Voters in the O'Donnell school district approved a \$16 million bond in a May 10 election, which is the reason for the 40-cent I&S tax rate. These funds will be used to tear down the junior high school building and gym, which was built in the 1940s, and build a new high school with competition gym and weightroom facilities in its place, as well as a career and technology center including an automotive bay and other facilities to offer welding, woodwork, culinary arts, and floral design classes. A new kitchen and cafeteria are also in the plans.

The current high school building will also be renovated to serve as the junior high school, with technology and electrical upgrades and classroom renovations for the 21st Century Learning.

According to figures released by the school district, total appraised value of all property in the district is \$245,917,977, down approximately \$15 million from \$260,782,013 in the preceding tax year, and total appraised value of new property is down by \$107,984,310, comparing last year's figure of \$109,430,430 to this year's total appraised value of

new property at only \$1,446,120. Overall, total taxable value of all property in the school district this year is \$146,045,187, compared to \$244,949,453 - a decrease of \$98,904,266.

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For a residence with an average market value of \$36,810 this year (compared to \$36,280 last year) an increase of \$93.45 in taxes will be due (unless the property taxes are frozen due to over-65 age status or disability status, in which the dollar amount of school taxes may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person qualified, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value).



Get entries ready for Art/Photo contest at Harvest Festival

Lynn County residents are encouraged to begin getting their entries ready for the Fourth Annual Lynn County Harvest Festival Art Show and Photo Contest at the Sept. 27 Harvest Festival. Prizes in both categories will be awarded, and all entries will be displayed at the Harvest Festival on the courth square in Tahoka. Entries may be turned in at the office of James Craig, Attorney at Law, at 1629 Avenue K in Tahoka. The entry fee is \$5 per entry. For more information, contact James Craig at 561-4516 or Frances Truehart at 300-4144.

Letters to the Lditor

70 children participated in City-County Library's **Summer Reading Program** Dear Editor:

The City-County Library recently finished up our annual Summer Reading Program and I was thrilled and impressed with how many local children participated. We had over 70 children sign up this year, many of them reading for the entire eight weeks of the event; and we averaged 35 children per day for the weeklong portion of the program.

We could not have hosted such a huge undertaking without the help of some great volunteers who helped make our program possible; many thanks to the adults and students who donated their time. I would also like to thank our sponsors for the great prizes they donated: Tahoka Donuts, the Dixie Dog, Cardi's Café, Jolly Time, and George's Restaurant.

It's my hope that the children's efforts this summer will be reflected in their school work and that they will continue to enjoy a lifetime of reading. I look forward to next year's program!

Sincerely. Claudia Guin, Director City-County Library

The Lynn County Harvest Festival

(LCN PHOTO by Abraham Vega)

Ready to pass ... Quarterback Brit Lockaby gets set to throw

a pass in a scrimmage of Tahoka Bulldogs at Morton Friday. The

Bulldogs open their season at home Friday against Crosbyton.



egies and tools so that landowners can make up their own minds if and how they want to engage," said a sponsor.

- Topics will include:
- · panel discussion on the various plans for LPC recovery; · challenges and opportunities
- for landowners;
 - · mitigating the impacts of oil and gas for LPC recovery;
- · grazing management for LPC recovery; and
- · the conservation easement as a tool for LPC recovery.

To pre-register, email TALTrsvp@cegroupinc.net or call (210) 569-6972.

Senior Citizen's

Sept. 1-5 Monday: Closed for Labor Day Tuesday: Spaghetti w/ meatsauce, Italian veggies /broccoli, garlic toast, autumn jello Wednesday: Shepherd's pie, stewed okra & tomatoes, coleslaw,

Thursday: Glazed meatloaf, red bliss potatoes, mixed veggies, apple crisp

Friday: Baked chicken breast, au gratin potatoes, peas & carrots, salad, bananas

Mark your calendars... • TAI-CHI Classes are held every Tuesday from 1:30-2:30 from now through September 9 at the Center. Please come out and join us! · Oct. 1, we begin the new fiscal year and SPAG has directed that I submit new client intake and ser-

Sept. 15. If you are on our daily congregate sign-in sheet, please come by to review your current client intake, make changes if necessary and sign a new client signature page. Call Bianca at the Center with

any questions at 561-5264 • September 9 - SPAG will be at the Center during the lunch hour for Medicare Open Enrollment Presentation/ Prescription Drug plan/ Medicare Part D.

· Flu Shots - Tuesday, Sept. 16 from 10-1 at the Center. No charge for Medicare. Must bring Medicare card with you, Private Pay cost will be \$20 for 3-Strain and \$30 for the 4-Strain. Flu Shots provided by Calvert Home Health Care, Ltd.



FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS





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s@poka.com

LynnCoNews@poka.com

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ngton (REP), EP), Charles Garza (REP), A), and Kerry (LIB). Texas encompasses ties, from the Panhandle to Lubbock and San Angelo. cations will for the Speach in Tahoon and New

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with an aver-\$36,810 this \$36,280 last 93.45 in taxthe property o over-65 age tus, in which school taxes ed above the rst year after d, regardless e or property

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27 Harvest th categories all entries he Harvest



Classified Ads DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ADS IS NOON TUESDAYS

Call 561-4888

by NOON Tuesday

The Lynn County News 🔳 August 28, 2014



6 August 28, 2014 🔳 The Lynn County News

LynnCoNews@poka.com

Tahoka vs Crosbyton Chiefs Friday, August 29 • HERE at 7:30 p.m.





The Lynn County News' FAN OF THE WEEK will be pictured here each issue and will receive a FREE personal size pizza from Jolly Time! Perhaps YOU will be in next week's issue if your photo is taken at the game by Abraham Vega.

PARCO Pre-Owned Cars & Pickups Thriftway of Tahoka Wildcat Manufacturing Quick Stripe Paving Dr. Patrick Edwards Xcel Energy AgTexas Farm Credit Sam Ashcraft Insurance Crop Production Services Calvillo Enterprises Jolly Time Restaurant BEImplement

Tahoka Drug

Lynn County Pioneers/Sr. Citizens

Get To Know Your Buildogs:

#1 - BRUCE BURLESON Nickname: Cheese • Favorite pastime: writing music • Hidden talent: I can sing • Favorite quote: "You win some you lose some, but you live to fight another day." • What would you do with a million dollars? Buy McDonalds

#4 - TRACE COOK

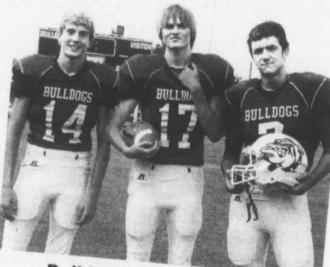
Favorite quote: "If you ain't first, you're last." • Favorite NFL team & player: 49'ers, Kaepernick • Favorite song/artist: Blink182 • Favorite college football team & player: Texas
Tech, Web • Nickname: TCook • Favorite pastime: the lake
Nickname: Birdman (Paxton for Hopper) • Favorite pastime: skiing • Favorite movie: "The Millers" • Favorite place you have traveled: Oregon • Favorite song/artist: Abilene - Matt Kimbro • What would you do with a million dollar Get drip

#5 - BLAKE McCLESKEY #7 - BRIT LOCKABY

Nickname: Birdman (Paxton for
Hopper) • Favorite pastime: skiing
• Favorite movie: "The Millers" •
Favorite place you have traveled:
Oregon • Favorite song/artist:
Abilene - Matt Kimbro • What
would you do with a million dollars?Favorite pastime: summer • Hidden
talent: playing guitar • Favorite quote:
"I wouldn't go to battle with any other
team." ~ Coach Hopper • Favorite
movie: "Joe Dirt" • Who would
you like to have dinner with? Carrie
Underwood • Favorite college football
team & player: Texas Tech; Tim Tebow

Go! Fight! Win!





Bulldog quarterbacks ... Grant Tekell (#14), Roman Parmer (#17) and Brit Lockaby (#7)



Bulldog running backs ... Dillon Trevino (#8), Luke Fleenor (#24), Trace Cook (#4), and Nick Garcia (#11)

Tahoka Donuts Capital Farm Credit Cardi's Cafe Fenton Insurance Agency Designs & Daisies Farmers Co-Op Assn. #I First National Bank of Tahoka Hudgens Pump James Craig Attorney at Law

Littlefield • Levelland • Morton

Dr. Donald Freitag Lynn County News Aurora Agronomy Starkey Lawn & Landscaping Mesa Pivot Irrigation W. Calloway Huffaker, W. Calloway Huffaker, M. County Hospital District Witt Butane Lyntegar Electric Cooperative Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative Pop Belly's BBQ

Choose one of these businesses as a Secret Sponsor