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Got a basement or cellar? Let City Hall know

Officials at Tahoka City Hall would like to compile a list of individuals and businesses that have basements or cellars that may be occupied during threatening weather. This list will not be available to the general public, but would be used by city and county emergency response or law enforcement personnel, to check in the aftermath of a tornado, should the need arise.

Please call Tahoka City Hall, 561-4211, and tell Retha Pittman or Penny Redman your name, address, and specify whether "basement or cellar." This information may also be emailed to Retha at City Hall, at rpittman@poka.com.

"Many years ago the city had a file of addresses and that list is now very outdated. If we should have a tornado and need to rescue people, it would be advantageous to our emergency response to have this list," said Pittman.

Vote

Voters may mark ballots in four Lynn County elections this Saturday, May 9. See story on page 4 for all the details.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. at these locations:

- Life Enrichment Center, Tahoka
- Wilson City Hall, Wilson
- O'Donnell Community Center
- New Home Community Center

What's Outside

NWS official readings for Tahoka

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Apr 28	60	42	
Apr 29	59	43	
Apr 30	73	44	
May 1	83	46	
May 2	85	48	
May 3	86	54	
May 4	89	55	
May 5 (precip. as of 8 a.m.)			9.10"
Total Precip for Jan:			1.70"
Total Precip for Feb:			0.89"
Total Precip for Mar:			0.53"
Total Precip for Apr:			2.10"
Total Precip for May:			9.10"
Total Precip. for 2015:			14.32"

Sink-o de Mayo!

9 inches of rain flood Tahoka area; road closures strand many travelers



Stranded on US 87 ... One truck manages to ease past three stranded vehicles on the flooded southbound lanes of US 87, near the roadside park just north of Tahoka. Although 87 was closed from FM 41 a few miles south of Lubbock, apparently some travelers were able to access the highway from other locations. This photo was taken Tuesday morning, when the waters had receded somewhat. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

by JUANELL JONES

Over 9 inches of rain – including 7.4 inches in about 4 hours Monday evening – flooded the Tahoka area Monday evening and early Tuesday morning, starting Tuesday's Cinco de Mayo with a new meaning – Sink-o de Mayo. As it turns out, Tahoka's one-day total of 9.1 inches of rain is a record-setting all-time high for Tahoka, and the second-largest one-day precipitation total ever recorded in the High Plains Texas Climate Division, according to information from the National Weather Service.

"According to our State Climatologist, the Tahoka total is the second-largest one-day precipitation total ever recorded in the High Plains Texas Climate Division. The largest ever is 9.72 inches in Hansford County in 2010. Tahoka's previous record, 8.32 inches, was set over a hundred years ago, on Oct. 1, 1913," said John Lipe, Senior Service Hydrologist/Meteorologist with the Lubbock National Weather Service.

The rain started in earnest about 5 p.m. Monday, and by 9:20 p.m. the official measurement in Tahoka was 7.4 inches and still raining, with nearly two more inches falling during the early morning hours on Tuesday. The three US 87 underpasses in Tahoka filled with water under the deluge, with several vehicles stranded. US 87 was closed shortly afterwards, from just south of Lubbock to Lamesa, with many low-lying areas under water and impassable. Dispatchers at Lynn County sheriff's office reported receiving 19 calls to rescue persons stranded in vehicles during the record rainstorm.

Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. members, who were out in full force assist-

ing local and county law enforcement and emergency personnel in the unprecedented floodwaters, rescued a reported 10-15 drivers/passengers from stranded vehicles.

Many travelers were stranded in Tahoka Monday night after US 87 was closed due to the flooding, with vehicles directed off US 87 onto access roads and ending up at the Stripes convenience store located at the intersection of US 87 and Hwy. 380 in Tahoka. Charlotte Wiseman, an employee at Stripes, told *The News* that when she arrived for work at 7 a.m. Tuesday, the parking lot was so full of stranded vehicles, most of whom had spent the night in their cars in the parking lot, that she was unable to find a place to park her own vehicle for work.

While some motorists chose to stay in their vehicles at the Stripes parking lot, some chose to go to other locations where makeshift accommodations were being arranged. By 9:30 p.m. Monday, local law enforcement and emergency responders began directing the stranded people to the Lynn County Courthouse, which had been

(See *The Rain Came*, page 3)



▲ Conveniently located ... The Stripes convenience store in Tahoka, at the US 87 and Hwy 380 intersection, proved to be a convenient stopping place for travelers stranded from flooding on US 87 Monday night. The parking lot was filled with vehicles, with many drivers/passengers sleeping in their vehicles overnight as they waited for the highway to open.

Car submerged ... This photo, which is grainy because it was taken in the dark about 9:30 p.m. Monday night, shows a Nissan Altima submerged under flooding waters underneath the US 87/Hwy. 380 overpass (northbound lanes) in Tahoka. Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. rescued the man from the vehicle just as the waters began rising. "We got him out just as the car started to float away, and took him to the church to stay overnight," Fire Chief Steve Sanders told *The News*. "No injuries were reported in this, or from any other vehicles stranded in flooding waters," he added, noting that the fire department helped rescue 10-15 people from their vehicles Monday night.

(LCN PHOTOS by Juanell Jones)

Indicted suspect jailed; weather causes mishaps

A Midland man was jailed here last week on two indictments by a recent 106th District grand jury. Laramie Llaray Kelly, 28, was indicted for tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, and also for possession of a controlled substance, cocaine.

Seven traffic accidents were investigated on Lynn County roads in the last week, with four of them related to heavy rainstorms late Monday and early Tuesday, with rainfall measuring more than nine inches in parts of the county.

In addition, dispatchers at Lynn County sheriff's office reported receiving 19 calls to rescue persons stranded in vehicles during the record rainstorm.

Details were sketchy on traffic accidents in the county during the week, but the following information was known:

Last Tuesday, April 28, there was a minor accident causing no injuries near the Methodist Church in O'Donnell.

There were two accidents on U.S. 87 in the early morning hours Sunday. At 2:45 a.m. an injured woman in a car in a field near U. S. 87 and County Rd. 21 was taken by EMS ambulance to Lynn County Hospital for treatment.

Another accident was about 4:45 a.m. Sunday when a vehicle overturned 8 miles south of Tahoka. EMS also transported one person injured in that accident to the hospital.

The following Monday accidents were tied to the weather:

At 5:41 p.m., 3 miles north of O'Donnell on U.S. 87, a Honda Civic hydroplaned and was left in the median. There were no injuries.

At 8:17 p.m., 2 miles north of O'Donnell on 87, a motorcycle overturned when it struck water. No injuries.

At 2:01 a.m. on U.S. 84 north of Southland, two vehicles were involved in rollovers, with injuries.

At 5 a.m. on FM 179 north of U.S. 380 and west of Tahoka, a one-vehicle rollover with no injuries.

Tahoka Police took one report during the week, filed for information purposes, with no charges made, involving four Tahoka residents, all in their late teens or early 20s, who got into a fight, exchanging blows over a Monopoly game.

Lynn County Jail was holding 41 persons this week, including 24 held for Ector County and 3 for Dawson County.



So close, but too much water ... O'Donnell is only 13 miles from Tahoka, but Salena Vasquez and her children, son Caden, and twin girls Cambry and Caylee, traveling with Salena's father, Frank Olvera, were stranded in Tahoka Monday night as they waited for flood waters to recede on US 87. They had been traveling from Lubbock to their home in O'Donnell, when the flooding detained them and they bunked down at the First Baptist Church with other stranded travelers. It was estimated that 60-75 people ended up staying at the church overnight.

(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)



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TA Texas Press Association 2015

May is **MOTORCYCLE Awareness Month**

"Share the Road" and look twice!



MR. and MRS. PHIL ZAMARRON

Couple married here April 25th

Phil Zamarron and Martha Arellano were married April 25, 2015 at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Tahoka. The couple reside in Tahoka.

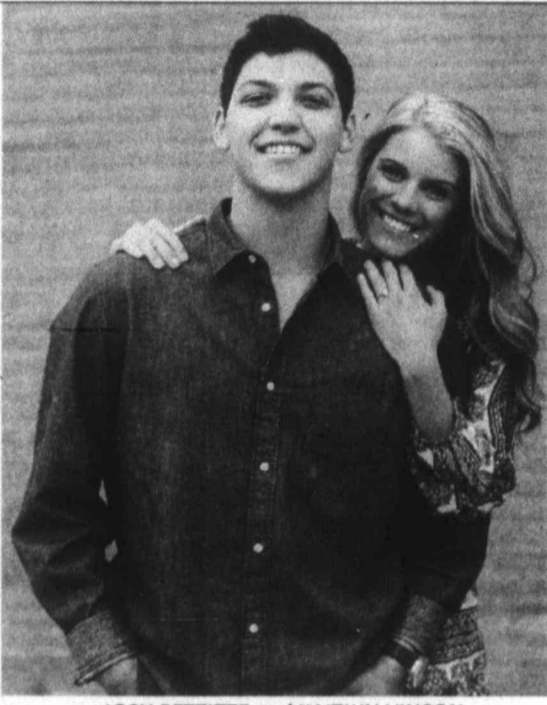
Couple announces engagement

Alan and Christi Vinson, of Lubbock, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kaitlyn Vinson of Lubbock, to Josh Pettitte, son of Andy and Laura Pettitte of Houston.

The bride-elect is a Lubbock-Cooper High School graduate, currently attending Texas Tech University, graduating May of 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in Human Development & Family Studies degree. She is the granddaughter of Wayne and Linda Linder, C.W. and Vickie Slone and the (late) Gene and Mary Frances Vinson.

Pettitte is a Deer Park High School graduate. He is currently attending Rice University, Majoring in Sports Management, and a Pitcher for the Rice University baseball program. He is the grandson of Charles and Shirley Dunn and Tommy and Joann Pettitte.

The couple plans to marry on August 15, 2015, in Houston.



JOSH PETTITTE and KAITLYN VINSON

Reynolds competes in state golf tourney

Tahoka High School junior Hadley Reynolds competed in the State UIL Golf Tournament in Austin, April 29-30, after qualifying with a second place medal in the Regional tournament. He shot an 83 in the first round of play at the State tournament, and 80 in the second round, for a total score of 163. Hadley is the son of Bryan and Paula Reynolds of Tahoka.

by Dalton **Woodwork**



WHEN I READ a news report last week about a guy who got a speeding ticket of \$58,000 for going 64 in a 50-mph zone, I thought, "Wow! This man must have been driving in New Mexico (which the late cartoonist Dirk West used to call the Land of Entrapment)."

However, the driver socked with the big fine was driving in Finland, where certain fines, including speeding, are based on income, and many citizens believe a rich person should pay more for the same offense, if justice is to be served. Fines are based on how much a person makes in a year, and the idea is that the penalty for a violation should hurt a rich person just as much as someone of low income.

Finnish businessman Reima Kuisla, 61, who was fined, took to Facebook with 12 furious posts, saying he was seriously considering leaving Finland altogether. "The way things are done here makes no sense," he stated.

Kuisla's fine was based on his annual income of about \$7 million. Someone earning the equivalent of \$54,000 a year who committed the same offense would pay about \$370.

Finland police can quickly find out anyone's income by using mobile devices to get information directly from the Finnish tax office. The story noted that for a few years after speed limits were set on highways in the 1970s, police had to rely on asking drivers to declare their incomes before calculating a fine, but they found that some drivers would lie about their incomes. Imagine that.

I have never been to Finland, for the same reason I've never been to Minnesota—I heard it was too cold for humans. Actually I am surprised to learn there are highways, or even cars, in Finland. I always had a vague picture of snow-covered hills, where the only way to travel was by skis.

DOCTOR: "I'm not exactly sure of the cause. I think it could be due to alcohol."

Patient: "That's okay. I'll come back in when you are sober."

National Day of Prayer

Prayer gathering set at noon May 7 at courthouse

Next Thursday, May 7 is the annual National Day of Prayer with observances across the nation. According to its website, the theme for 2015 is Lord, Hear Our Cry, "emphasizing the need for individuals, corporately and individually, to place their faith in the unfailing character of their Creator, who is sovereign over all governments, authorities, and men."

There will be a prayer gathering that day at 12:00 noon in Tahoka at the north entrance of the Lynn County Courthouse. Those attending will be invited to recite together a prepared prayer, which will be prayed simultaneously across the country at noon in the different time zones. In addition, different specific prayer focuses, such as county and city officials, law enforcement and first responders, etc., will be lifted up by area pastors and church leaders.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this prayer service, which will be approximately 15 minutes long.

"At this crucial time for our nation, we can do nothing more important than pray. Thank you in advance for coming and for standing in the gap with us for our community and our nation," said a church pastor.

NEWS FROM Wilson ISD

Bill Gonzales-District Coordinator of School Improvement/Home Liaison

Parents are invited to an "Open House" for the after-school program known as ACE on Thursday, May 7, from 4:30 -5:30 p.m. Come by and visit with Director-Samantha Lungstrum and the teachers while the students are in class. This will be a great opportunity for parents to see what their kids are learning in each of their classes in the afterschool program.

May, the last month of this school year, is filled with many activities that are sure to be fun and exciting for all students. The following are the upcoming May dates to remember: May 12 - School Board Meeting
May 14 - Athletic Banquet
May 16 - High School Prom
May 21 - Science Fair/Play Day
May 26 - Talent Show
May 28 - Kindergarten Graduation; Elementary Awards Assembly
May 29 - Junior High and High School Awards Assembly Graduation; Last day of school.

Detailed information about all these events will be provided on a weekly basis.

Wilson ISD will be providing summer school classes Monday - Friday, June 8-July 3, from 7:30 to 12:30, with breakfast and lunch included. Wilson ISD will also have the ACE program during the summer.

Parents will be receiving letters and more information the week of May 18-22.

Senior Citizen's LUNCH MENU

May 11-15

Monday: Homestyle lasagna, Brussels sprouts, garlic bread, pears
Tuesday: Cheeseburger, potato wedges, tomato wedge salad, melon medley
Wednesday: Turkey pot pie,

corn, salad, ambrosia
Thursday: Liver & onions, scalloped potatoes, carrots, coleslaw, whitecake/ tropical fruit
Friday: Hot Dogs, baked potato, seasoned broccoli, pineapple gelatin
Mark your calendars...
• Donations to benefit the Center are needed and greatly appreciated! All donations are tax deductible; we are a 501(c)3 organization.

GET MOM A BEAUTIFUL PLANT FOR MOTHER'S DAY!
2429 Ave. I • TAHOKA
Full Bloom
* Hudman's Greenhouse in Tahoka!

OPEN:
Thurs & Fri 4 pm til dark and Saturdays
• Tomato & Pepper Plants
• Hanging Baskets
• Flowering Plants
561-4224 - Julia Allen

Mark your calendars for the **City of Tahoka Centennial Celebration**
06.20.2015
marking the 100th year of the incorporation of the City of Tahoka

The City of Tahoka Centennial Celebration will start off with a tour of historical sites at Tahoka Lake Pasture.

Tahoka Lake Pasture
FREE TOUR: 8:00-11:00 a.m., call NOW to reserve a space and get more information on the June 20th tour!
Call **806-561-4750**

06.20.2015
CITY OF TAHOKA - CENTENNIAL

Then come to the City Park for the Celebration!

Saturday in the Park - 12:00 noon til 8:00 p.m.

- HAMBURGER COOKOUT at noon, provided by Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. (\$5 per plate, proceeds benefit the fire department)
- PRESENTATIONS - RECOGNITIONS and a TIME CAPSULE
- MUSIC all day - STORYTELLING of days gone by!
- TRAIN RIDES on the Blue Weed Special
- KIDS GAMES and CONTESTS for all ages! Watermelon and Pie-Eating contests, and more
- HOT DOGS served by Atmos Energy at 5:00 p.m.
- '42' and other GAMES for adults inside the Pioneer Museum
- VINTAGE PHOTO DISPLAYS! ... and Essays from Tahoka Elementary students inside the Life Enrichment Center - and a recurring VIDEO showing old movie-reels of Tahoka parades and other local events from days gone by!

Order \$10 your t-shirt now!
Place your order (w/payment) at Tahoka City Hall by June 1st
Youth-Adult Sizes in choice of Tropical Blue or Sand

Refugia "Cucu" Perez
1909-2000

Happy Mother's Day, Mom!
We Love You & Miss You.

The moment that God took you away, my heart was torn in two. One side filled with heartache, the other died with you. I often lay awake at night, when the world is fast asleep, and take a walk down memory lane, with tears upon my cheeks. Remembering you is easy, I do it every day. But missing you is heartache, that never goes away. I hold you tightly within my heart and there you will remain, until the joyous day arrives, That we will meet again.

May 14th is Mother's 15th birthday in Heaven.
The Lord took you home; but your love and memories live with us til Eternity.

Thank you, family and friends of Tahoka, Texas for being part of Mother's life ... God Bless.

- Mrs. Cucu Perez family
Anna Perez - Lubbock
Angie & Pete Gutierrez - Tahoka
Rosalinda & Alex Garcia - Abernathy
and all your Grandkids and Great-Grandkids

Celebrate Mother's Day!
Treat Mom to something sweet ... come check out our cookies and cakes. Plus we always have donuts, breads, kolaches, and much more!

Tuesday-Friday • 6 AM to 4 PM • 6 AM-12 Noon Saturday
BAKED FRESH! NO PRESERVATIVES!

TAHOKA DONUTS

1515 South 1st St. • 806-561-1611
email: tahokadonuts@yahoo.com

Rank

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HOUR 1994

... and the rain came tumbling down!

(Continued from page 1)

opened to accommodate people in the basement courtroom. However, when the basement area began flooding, those people were moved to the First Methodist Church, which volunteers had opened, and to the First Baptist Church, also opened by volunteers.

"We had opened the courthouse basement to accommodate anyone stranded, but when it began flooding shortly afterward we sent the 10-15 people to the Methodist Church," explained County Clerk Susan Tipton, one of the volunteers. "The First Baptist Church (which is only a block away from the Methodist church) also opened, and more and more people were gathering there. We decided in order to provide food and water to everyone, it would be easier to do it all in one place and we eventually moved everyone to the Baptist Church," she said.

Tipton and FBC Pastor Bill Fuller estimated 60-75 people spent the night at the church, making makeshift beds out of the cushion-padded pews or sleeping on the floor in the church's sanctuary. Some stayed in the fellowship hall as well, sleeping under blankets brought by County Judge Mike Braddock.

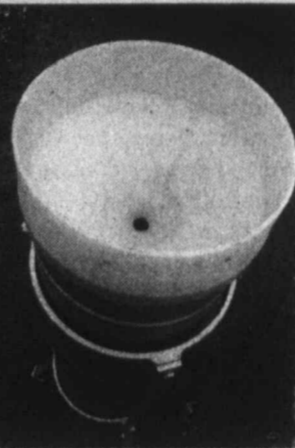
"The County Judge brought four big bags of blankets that the county had for emergency use," Fuller told *The News*. "Everyone was very cooperative, and the people staying here were just the nicest people. Some of them tried to give us donations in appreciation for a place to stay, but we didn't want to accept any. The Tahoka Fire Dept. donated bottled water. Thriftway opened to provide us with food for sandwiches and snacks, and Al Garrett at Tahoka Donuts brought us several dozen donuts early Tuesday. Everything went really smooth - Tahoka is a good place to get stranded!" he added with a laugh.

Other volunteers brought food and supplies as well, many of whom *The News* is unaware, but it is known that a local caterer, Tammy Angeley, brought chicken sandwiches and other food to the church for the stranded travelers, and that Jon Luna brought paper goods from Jolly Time Restaurant for serving the food.



A large metal canister collects and funnels the rain into a large glass tube, and Jones then removes the tube and inserts a measuring stick marked off in 100ths of an inch, to measure the precipitation. (LCN PHOTOS by Juanell Jones)

The weather man ...
At his home in Tahoka, Gary Jones officially takes precipitation measurements for the National Weather Service in Tahoka, taking over the volunteer duties from Haney Wells in April, after Wells moved away. Jones measured 9.10 inches of rain from 5 p.m. Monday through 8 a.m. Tuesday - the highest all-time record for Tahoka for a one-day rainfall total.



As of 3 p.m. Tuesday, southbound US 87 was still closed from FM 41 (just south of Lubbock) through Tahoka and O'Donnell, all the way to Lamesa. Northbound lanes were reportedly open.

O'Donnell reportedly received 6.28 inches of rain, Post recorded 4.85 inches, and the Lubbock area had 5.96 inches, according to posts from the National Weather Service. Much of the rain made its way into Lake Allen Henry, raising the lake levels 6.1 feet overnight, said NWS information.

For possibly the first time ever, flooding caused Tahoka ISD to close school on Tuesday, with many teachers and students unable to travel to school, and also reportedly due to some water damage to some school facilities, including a flooded basement on the high school campus and some flooding to classrooms. No reports were available from school officials as to the extent of the damage, as of press time Tuesday.

Many volunteers assisted stranded travelers, including local law enforcement staff, members of the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept., Susan Tipton, Kent Stone, Mike Huffaker, Alton James, Chris Roberts, Todd Lockaby, Ty and Sharla Askew, Josh Reglin, Bill Fuller, Taylor Smith, Steve Burleson, Tammy and Michael Angeley, Stripes Convenience Store employees, Jon Luna and Jolly Time (donating paper goods), Steve Sanders and Thrift-



Fun in the cotton field ... These Tahoka teens took advantage of school closing on Tuesday to take a swim in what was a cotton field before Monday night's record-setting 9-inches of rain. That's T-Bar Airport in the background, and this field is between Lynnwood and T-Bar Golf Course, on the west edge of Tahoka. (LCN PHOTO by Gary Jones)

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"This has been an experience - but the church has really made us feel comfortable and safe, and we so appreciate everyone's kindness," said Silvia Arredondo of Lamesa, who was stranded here with several other family members trying to make it home after attending a funeral service that afternoon in Abernathy. She was traveling with Leticia Valdez of Lamesa, Adrian Arredondo and Paula Alvarado of Mansfield (and their dog Max), Javier Arredondo of Midland and Chris Arredondo of McCamey. All were traveling together in three vehicles attempting to get back to Lamesa before heading to their own homes.

"We had stopped in Lubbock for something to eat before heading home, and it started raining but we never expected it to get so bad - we never thought the road would be closed," said Silvia Arredondo. "It was scary - it was just raining so hard, and we had just seen a motorcycle underwater when we exited the highway," she said.

"We had stopped at the Stripes store here, and were just sitting in our cars, when the Sheriff tapped on our car windows and told us we could stay in the church overnight," added Adrian.

The family slept on pews in the sanctuary and fellowship hall, and were waiting early Tuesday morning for word on how to get back to Lamesa. Lynn County Sheriff's Dept. was telling travelers about 9 a.m. Tuesday that they could go west on Hwy. 380 to Brownfield and then go through Welch to get back to Lamesa, since US 87 south to Lamesa was still closed to traffic.

The family decided to attempt the detour, and another couple of ladies from Lamesa decided to convoy with them in their two vehicles, to travel together.

The two women from Lamesa had not been traveling together, but knew each other and met up at the church.

"Yes, there were lots of us from Lamesa stranded here last night ... it was kind of like old home week," one said with a smile, choosing humor to deal with a stressful situation.

Another family from O'Donnell was still camped out in the fellowship hall later Tuesday morning, as there was no other way to get home except by way of US 87 south, which was still closed.

Salena Vasquez and her children, son Caden, and twin girls Cambry and Caylee were traveling with Salena's father, Frank Olvera, from Lubbock when they were stranded in Tahoka for the night. They hoped to get home to O'Donnell soon, but were in good spirits and smiling despite their ordeal.

"I bedded down on the floor with one of the girls, and the rest of us slept on the pews here in the fellowship hall," Salena said, as her twin daughters quietly colored with crayons at a table in the room. "They provided us with food and water, and we appreciate having a place to wait," she added.




Stranded ... These family members were trying to make it to Lamesa after attending a funeral service in Abernathy earlier Monday, and ended up stranded in Tahoka due to the flooding waters on US 87, staying overnight at First Baptist Church of Tahoka. Pictured from left is Leticia Valdez of Lamesa, Adrian Arredondo and Paula Alvarado of Mansfield (and their dog Max), and Silvia Arredondo of Lamesa, and two more not pictured, Javier Arredondo of Midland and Chris Arredondo of McCamey. All were traveling together in three vehicles attempting to get back to Lamesa before heading to their own homes. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Rank	Rainfall	Date	Period of Record
1	9.10"	05-05-2015	03-04-1913 to 05-05-2015
2	8.32"	10-01-1913	
3	5.15"	07-28-2004	
4	5.12"	06-30-1913	
5	4.83"	10-12-1981	Information from National Weather Service
6	4.80"	09-12-2008	
7	4.70"	07-04-2010	
8	4.66"	06-25-1938	
9	4.51"	09-21-1936	
10	4.30"	10-19-1983	

★★ VOTE ★★

Cathy Box

TISD SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE AT LARGE POSITION



• Lived in Tahoka over 30 years
• All three of my children attended K-12 at TISD
• Science teacher in Tahoka for 15 years; now a Professor at LCU
• Served on the TISD School Board 6 years and currently President of the School Board

My goal as a school board trustee is to support the staff, faculty, and administration as they work under difficult conditions to help our students attain the quality education they need to open doors for the future. Just like the 3D band, providing Tahoka students an avenue for "dreaming, daring, and doing!"

Election Day is Saturday, May 9 • Early Voting: April 27-May 5
Your Vote and Support will be Appreciated!

Sunday is Mother's Day!

- ♥ Jewelry
- ♥ Fresh Flowers
- ♥ Candles and more!

MasterCard & Visa Accepted

Telephone orders for Mom!

Paris 'N' Bloom

HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 9-5 • Saturdays 9-12
1936 Lockwood in Tahoka • 561-1866

Maxine Paris, Owner

Join us in celebration of

National Hospital Week

May 10-16, 2015

MONDAY, MAY 11 • 2:00-4:00 pm

Lynnwood Art Show & Open House!
at Lynnwood Independent & Assisted Living Center
Lynn County high school students will display art at Lynnwood all week long. People's Choice Awards will be given.

TUESDAY, MAY 12 • 12:00-1:00 pm

Free Lunch & Learn with Pete Paniagua
at Lynn County Hospital Meeting Room
Have lunch with Pete and learn about financial assistance possibilities available today for healthcare. Space is limited. Call 998-1226 to reserve a seat.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 • 5:00-7:00 pm

Family Wellness & Fitness Center Open House
at Lynn County Family Wellness Clinic & Fitness Center
Stop by and see our newest facility.

THURSDAY, MAY 14 • 3:00-4:00 pm

Tahoka Drug Open House
at 1610 Main Street
Stop by and visit with our Pharmacist, Dr. Kimberly Prescott, and her team.

FRIDAY, MAY 15 • 2:00-4:00 pm

Lynn County Hospital Open House and Mini Health Fair!
at Lynn County Hospital, 2600 Lockwood

Lynn County Hospital District
2600 LOCKWOOD • TAHOKA • 561-980-1223



Joyful Noise ... The Children's Choir at First Baptist Church, Tahoka performed Sunday morning, May 3rd, in an early celebration of Mother's Day. In one song entitled "The Books", the children learned all of the books of the Bible.

Centennial T-shirts ... Pre-order your Tahoka Centennial T-shirt by June 1st at Tahoka City Hall. The shirts feature a windmill with Tahoka Daisies around the base, and may be ordered in adult or youth sizes in two choices of color - Tropical Blue or Sand. The shirts are \$10 each, and payment must accompany the order. The shirts will be available for pickup at Tahoka City Hall, or may be shipped for an additional charge. Call Retha at City Hall for more information, 806-561-4211.

Free Mother's Day Program at Library

The "Real Super Woman," a free Mother's Day Program for kids and moms, will be held at the City-County Library today (Thursday, May 7) from 5:00-6:30 pm. (or as soon as everyone can be there). There will be crafts, games, and snacks. Kids can reserve a spot for their Super Hero Mom by calling 561-4050.

Lynn County Appraisal District Provides Public Information and ASSISTANCE

This is the time of year the Lynn County Appraisal District sends notices of appraised value. Lynn County notices were mailed on May 5, 2015. Property owners will be mailed a notice as a result of any of the following circumstances affecting real property: if the 2015 proposed value is at least \$1000 more than the 2014 certified value; if the property owner has filed a timely rendition; if 2015 is the first year the property is listed in the appraisal records; if the property changed ownership during 2014; or if the property is a producing mineral interest. Notices will also be mailed to owners of taxable furniture, fixtures, machinery, equipment, vehicles, and inventory used in a trade or business.

Property owners who have questions, or want to discuss the value placed on their property should contact the appraisal district office. The legal deadline for filing a timely protest is thirty days from the date of your notice. Those who receive a notice in Lynn County have until June 5, 2015 to file a protest. If you believe the proposed market value of your property is incorrect, be sure to contact the appraisal district prior to your deadline. It is important to ask questions or call to our attention unusual facts about your property as soon as possible. In the case of value questions, property owners are urged to present conclusive evidence regarding the true market value of their property. Such evidence consists of closing statements, listing agreements, fee appraisals, income and expense statements, pictures, and surveys. Our goal is to treat all property owners in a fair and equitable manner, and this can best be accomplished when you provide evidence to us about your property as soon as possible.

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

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

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

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

INFORMAL REVIEW

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

REVIEW BY THE ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the ARB.

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

representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office or from the Comptroller of Public Accounts at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/50-132.pdf.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

REVIEW BY THE DISTRICT COURT, AN ARBITRATOR OR SOAH

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

TAX PAYMENT

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

MORE INFORMATION

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at Lynn CAD, 1615 Main Street, Tahoka, TX 79373, (806) 561-5477.

You can get an additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller's publication, Property Tax Basics, available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/basics/96-1425.pdf.

notice of the determination was mailed to you.

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

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

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

City/hospital/school elections on Saturday

Voters may mark ballots in four Lynn County elections this Saturday, May 9. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. at several polling locations listed below. Contested races will be on the ballots for Wilson and Tahoka ISD, City of O'Donnell, and Lynn County Hospital District, with four other entities cancelling their May 9 elections due to uncontested candidates.

Following is a list of candidates and voting locations:

Lynn County Hospital District: Three directors, 3-yr terms. Candidates: Jannis Childress, Jerry Ford Jr., Nancy Williams, Robbie Autry, Mandi Duncan (Duncan has withdrawn from election, but name will remain on the ballot). Vote at four locations in county: Life Enrichment Center in Tahoka; Wilson Mercantile in Wilson; O'Donnell Community Center, O'Donnell; and New Home Community Center in New Home.

Tahoka ISD: Four trustees (2 At-Large seats (3-yr terms), Pct. 2 (1-yr unexpired term), and Pct. 4 (2-yr unexpired term). Candidates: Pct. 2-Abraham Vega; Pct. 4-Matt Woodley; At-Large: Scottie Olivan, Dr. Cathy Box, Clay D. Taylor, John (Mike) Rivas, and Michael Duncan (Duncan has withdrawn from election, but name will remain on the ballot). Vote at the Life Enrichment Center, 1700 Main St., Tahoka.

Wilson ISD: Two trustees, 3-year terms. Candidates: Bobby Miller, Kim Steen, Michael Villarreal, Juanita Rendon. Vote at Wilson City Hall at Wilson Mercantile building.

City of O'Donnell: Two Council seats, 2-yr terms. Candidates: Kimberly Parker, Matthew Gibson, Mike Renteria, Jessie Perez. Vote at O'Donnell Community Center, 103 Nassau Rd.



YANCY DRAPER

Draper to perform Sunday in Lubbock

Tahoka High School student and 3-D Band member Yancy Draper will be performing this Sunday, May 10, at the Fresh Performing Arts Center at 2 p.m. as a member of the newly formed Lubbock Youth Wind Ensemble.

Made up of auditioned high school students from the Lubbock area, the LYWE rehearses Sunday afternoons. The concert is free and open to the public.

From City Hall

Neighborhood Cleanup

A container has been placed on the northwest city lot at Ave K and South 1st. The container is available on a first come-first use for receiving rubbish and debris. The container will remain on the lot for two weeks.

Again this year the City will furnish a roll-off container at no charge for any citizens wanting to clean up their neighborhood. Any items that can be received at the landfill may be placed in the container. NO tires, metal, batteries, chemicals, paint cans, tree limbs, hazardous materials, nor computers are to be placed in the container. Old mattresses, furniture, and debris are allowed.

Citizens are encouraged take advantage of the free container. Please contact City Hall 561-4211 for more information.



Having fun at Lynnwood

Lynnwood Resident Ruth Pelton (above) enjoyed lemonade with Shae Rodriguez and Malena Vitolas on Friday, May 1st. The lemonade stand proceeds benefitted the Alzheimer's association. Resident Patty Gandy (at right) and others tried their hand with an art project that was conducted by Shelley Barrientos. Renee Garces is the Activity Director for Lynnwood Independent & Assisted Living Center in Tahoka.



Performing in Lubbock ... These Tahoka 3-D Band members, Chris Earnest, Mishelle Earnest and Jordan Fowler, will perform as a part of the Lubbock Community Band at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 8, at the All Saints Episcopal School auditorium.

3-D Band trio to perform with LCB

Three of the Tahoka 3-D Band members will be performing as a part of the Lubbock Community Band this Friday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the All Saints Episcopal School auditorium. They are Jordan Fowler on alto sax, Mishelle Earnest on bari sax, and Chris Earnest on bass trombone. Their director, Carroll Rhodes, is a member of the LCB and encouraged them to participate in this last concert of the season.

The LCB will feature the music of John Williams: Superman; Raiders of the Lost Ark; Olympic Fanfare & Theme; Dartmoor, 1912 (from the movie War Horse); the March from "1941;" Star Wars; Midway March; and concluding the evening of inspiring music. The Cowboys. The performance is free and open to the public.

Cemetery cleanup work days slated

Tahoka Cemetery cleanup workdays are being planned by local citizens, starting on Saturday, May 16 and continuing every third Saturday throughout the summer, starting at 9 a.m. on those Saturdays. Any interested persons are invited to help, and to bring any equipment needed to help with the cleanup. Both the old and new cemeteries will be worked on.

For more information, contact Cathy Ross at 998-5363, or 891-1291.

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CARDS OF THANKS

Thank You

Dan and Edde Lockaby would at this time like to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, food, flowers, and gifts to charity. All this is deeply appreciated by us. We would petition for you to keep praying for us as losing our precious "Madi-cakes" has been overwhelming.

Thank you again,
Dan and Edde Lockaby

THANK YOU!

The family of Dwight Douglas Stroope would like to thank everyone for their words of kindness, prayers and thoughts during the loss of our dad.

We would like to thank the ladies of First Baptist Church for the wonderful food that was served and to Suetta Green, who helped us out with brochures at the last minute.

We would also, like to give a special thank you to Bro. Bill for the beautiful service. You were all very appreciated!

The family of Dwight Douglas Stroope, Anna, Tamiya and Qualyn Stroope and Joey

Amy and Mikalah Stroope and Britt Ben and Shelby Stroope and Stephanie and Cassandra

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Honoring first responders ...

Tahoka High School National Honor Society hosted an appreciation dinner for first responders of Lynn County, at the Housing Authority Center on April 28, to say thank you for their service to the community. This included EMS, volunteer firemen, Sheriff's department, and police department personnel.



County Conservation Partners host local work group meeting

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Tahoka, and the Lynn County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) invite the public to attend their FY16 Local Work Group (LWG) meeting on May 13 at 8 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Tahoka Housing Authority Center at 1400 Ave. K, Tahoka.

The purpose of this annual LWG meeting is to set local conservation priorities and bring conservation stakeholders together to discuss conservation topics and issues relevant to helping Lynn County farmers and ranchers better conserve on-farm natural resources.

The agenda of the meeting is to update attendees on recent conservation efforts and to collect public input to help guide future conservation activities. Through regular identification of conservation opportunities, effective Farm Bill investment can continue to benefit Lynn County. Farmers, ranchers, conservationists, and others interested in obtaining Federal technical and financial assistance to improve private land in Lynn County are invited to participate.

For more information, contact Cassie Hayek, acting district conservationist, at (806) 998-4501 Ext-3. For more information, visit the NRCS Web site at <http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/>.

Tahoka SCHOOL MENU

May 11-15
Monday: Cinni Mini
Tuesday: Pig in a blanket
Wednesday: Breakfast burrito
Thursday: Cereal Bar
Friday: Breakfast pizza
Lunch
Monday: Beef macaroni/BBQ Chicken Sand./Popcorn Chicken
Tuesday: Cheese pizza/Cheeseburger/Beef Nachos
Wednesday: Grilled chicken patty/Pepperoni pizza/Grilled chicken salad
Thursday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce/Bacon cheeseburger/Chicken nachos
Friday: Beef tacos/Grilled cheese sand./Chicken nuggets

Pleasant Grove Baptist Bake Sale Saturday

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church will have a bake sale at Thiftway on Saturday, May 9 from 10:00 a.m. until sold out.

THS speech team does well in District Competition

Tahoka High School Speech Team attended the District 5AA UIL competition that was held recently at Plains High School. The Prose and Poetry team fared well with Emit Quintero placing third in Poetry and Yancy Draper placing fourth. In Prose competition, Selena Arroyo placed fifth and Olivia Hammonds placed sixth in finals.

The Persuasive Extemporaneous Speaking team did well, with Tony Garcia placing sixth in District 5AA competition.

New Home SCHOOL MENU

May 11-15
Mon.: Sausage biscuit, cereal
Tuesday: Muffin, scrambled eggs/ Animal Crackers
Wed.: Cereal/French Toast
Thursday: Banana Bread/PBJ Sandwich
Friday: Waffles, sausage/Oatmeal round
Lunch
Monday: Cheese enchilada, Spanish rice/Texas Combo Basket
Tuesday: Texas Chili/Philly Cheesesteak sand.
Wednesday: Pizza/Ham & Cheese sandwich
Thursday: Chicken nuggets, mac & cheese/Meatball sub
Friday: Burgers/Chicken fajita salad

LCHD plans events for National Hospital Week

Lynn County residents, and any other interested persons, are invited to Lynn County Hospital for a week-long series of events during National Hospital Week, May 10-16. Open House events at several LCHD facilities are planned, as well as a mini health fair and other activities.

On Monday, May 11, Lynnwood Independent & Assisted Living will host an Art Show and Open House. The Open House is from 2-4 p.m., including an Art Show depicting art from students invited to participate from all Lynn County high schools. The Art Show will be displayed all week at Lynnwood, beginning on Monday, May 11. People attending the art show will be invited to vote for the People's Choice Award, which will be given to three students (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place). Lynnwood is located just north of the hospital, on the western edge of Tahoka.

On Tuesday, May 12, LCHD is hosting a "Lunch & Learn" event with Pete Paniagua, LCHD Patient Navigator. The free lunch and program will be presented from 12 noon-1 p.m. in the hospital meeting room. Paniagua will speak about the financial assistance possibilities available for healthcare, and a representative from Jeanne Morales attorney firm will be present to provide information regarding patients who have been denied Social Security Disability and need to appeal a disability decision. All interested persons are invited to attend. Space is limited. Call 998-1226 to reserve a seat.

On Wednesday, May 13, the LCHD Family Wellness Center and Fitness Center, located at 1809 Lockwood in Tahoka, will host an Open House. Residents are invited to come tour the fitness center and clinic during an Open House scheduled for 5-7 p.m.

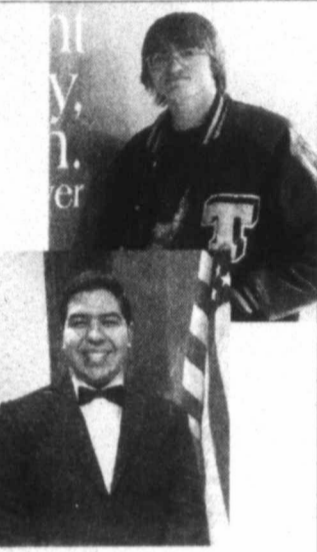
Come to Tahoka Drug for an Open House on Thursday, May 14, from 3-4 p.m. Tahoka Drug is LCHD's latest acquisition, providing for the pharmaceutical needs of the community.

Closing out the week's events will be an Open House and Mini Health Faith on Friday at Lynn County Hospital. Come visit the facilities from 2-4 p.m. on Friday.

Norris named to TTU President's Honor Roll

Samantha Pridmore Norris was named to the TTU President's Honor Roll for the Fall 2014 semester, which is awarded only to those full-time students who have attained a grade point average of 4.0. She is enrolled at Texas Tech University Health Sciences School of Nursing.

Samantha is the daughter of Sammy and Dee Dee Pridmore and the granddaughter of Claudia Flippin and Sam and Betsy Pridmore, all of Tahoka.



Regional competitors ... Tahoka High School senior Roman Parmer (at top) and sophomore Emit Quintero competed at Regional Academic UIL held at Odessa College Saturday, April 25. Parmer was the second place winner in District 5AA's social studies competition, and he placed 12th at regionals. Quintero competed in Poetry Interpretation, after placing third in District.



Fellowship of Christian Athletes ... Tahoka High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets at noon on Wednesdays for lunch and a devotional, as well as a brief program. Pictured here at a recent lunch, the FCA would like to thank all the businesses and community members who donated and prepared meals for their weekly gatherings throughout the school year.

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- THS graduate with degree from West Texas A&M University
- Member of Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department, Little League board member and coach, Lynn County Stock Show Finance Committee member, 4-H Leader, and member of First United Methodist Church

Early Voting: April 27 - May 5 • Election Day: Saturday, May 9

Burgers! Games! Entertainment!
Don't miss the fun on **June 20, 2015** at the **Centennial Celebration** of the **City of Tahoka**
12:00 Noon - 8:00 p.m. at the Tahoka Mini Park

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles... Congratulate your senior in our graduation issue!

If you would like to congratulate your high school senior in **The Lynn County News' graduation issue on May 28**, send **\$8.50** (for a small ad) or **\$17 & up** (for an ad with a photo like the one at right, depending on size of photo), along with the name of the student, high school and congratulators names to Box 1170, Tahoka, or come by 1617 Main St. or email it to LynnCoNews@poka.com

HURRY! DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 20.

Tahoka High School Congratulations Martin Howard!

We are so proud of you!
LOVE YOU ... Mom, Dad, Grandpas, Grandmas, Aunts, Uncles, cousins & sisters

This graduation issue will include New Home, Wilson, O'Donnell and Tahoka seniors!



- May 14, 2015
- **Obituaries** - Frank Barth - John Wheeler
 - **LCHD to be auctioned**
 - **Theft of home business** - pg. 4
 - **IRS scam resident threatened**

Cemetery work day

Tahoka Cemetery workdays are for local citizens, Saturday, May 16, every third Saturday, 8 a.m. on those interested parties to help, and to ment needed cleanup. Both cemeteries will be open. For more contact Cathy 5363, or 891-1111

Got a basement or cellar? City Hall

The City is conducting an inventory of cellars/basements for emergency preparedness. Check in case of a tornado. City Hall at 566 Main St. them your name, specify whether or cellar. This may also be emailed to Retha.Pittman@poka.com

What's Our

NWS official record

Date	High	Low
May 5	79	57
May 6	76	54
May 7	83	61
May 8	85	63
May 9	86	64
May 10	83	61
May 11	78	56

Precipitation measurement

Total Precipitation	Total Precipitation	Total Precipitation	Total Precipitation	Total Precipitation
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

