



THE Lynn County News



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VOLUME 102, NUMBER 20

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005

8 PAGES PLUS INSERT

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Commencement Exercises Set For County Seniors

Graduation ceremonies for seniors in Lynn County schools are scheduled for this Friday and next Friday, and three schools will have Baccalaureate services this Sunday.

O'Donnell High School seniors graduate Friday, May 20, and Tahoka, Wilson and New Home seniors will graduate the following Friday, May 27.

Baccalaureate services for Tahoka, Wilson and New Home seniors will be held Sunday, May 22 at different locations. Wilson services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday in the high school auditorium, Tahoka Baccalaureate services will be held at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, and New Home services will be held at New Home Baptist Church at 6 p.m.

Date	High	Low	Precip.
May 11	90	65	
May 12	85	70	0.07"
May 13	91	67	
May 14	80	60	
May 15	65	54	1.21"
May 16	76	54	
May 17	90	55	

Total Precipitation in May: 1.39"
Total Precipitation to date: 5.03"

Words of Wisdom

If you don't stand for something you'll fall for anything!

If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all. --Isaiah 7:9

Lynn County News

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Two Indicted In Burglary At New Home

Two young men who were indicted by a 106th District Court grand jury in Tahoka last week in connection with a January burglary at New Home have been arrested on those charges.

Indicted for burglary of a habitation plus two counts of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was Trey Carl Smith, 20, of New Home. Indicted in the same case, the burglary of the home of Gary Cramblet, was Aaron Ray Smith, 23, of Throckmorton. According to the Lynn County sheriff's department, the two Smiths are not related. Aaron Smith was arrested in Lubbock on a Lynn County warrant.

The latest grand jury also indicted several other persons, and the following have been arrested on the charges specified in the indictments:

Juan Manuel Calsoncit, 19, Tahoka, manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance, one gram or more, but less than four grams.

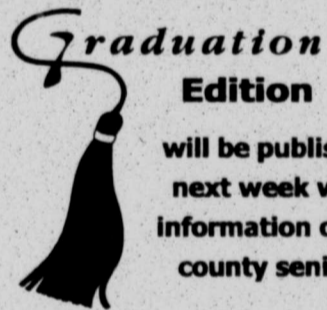
Israel Duran, 50, possession of a controlled substance, heroin.

Ramon Rivera, 22, of Tahoka, driving while intoxicated, second offense or more.

James Perry, 33, possession of a controlled substance, cocaine, less than one gram.

Manuel Richard Trevino, 25, O'Donnell, failure to stop and render aid, plus intoxicated assault with a motor vehicle.

The Lynn County News



Graduation Edition
will be published next week with information on all county seniors



SABRA WILLIS
OHS VALEDICTORIAN



SARA OLVERA
OHS SALUTORIAN

O'Donnell ISD Commencement Is Friday

Willis, Olvera Are Top OHS Graduates

O'Donnell High School's 19 seniors will graduate in commencement exercises Friday night, May 20 at ceremonies in the Glenn and Donna Hopkins Auditorium at 8 p.m.

The valedictorian of O'Donnell High School for the class of 2005 is Sabra Willis, daughter of Danny and Billie Willis. Willis graduates with a numerical average of 94.28 and a weighted average of 4.00. Willis graduates with high honors.

Class salutarian is Sara Olvera, daughter of Linda Olvera and the late Thomas Olvera. She graduates with a numerical average of 94.91 and a weighted average of 3.97. Olvera graduates with high honors.

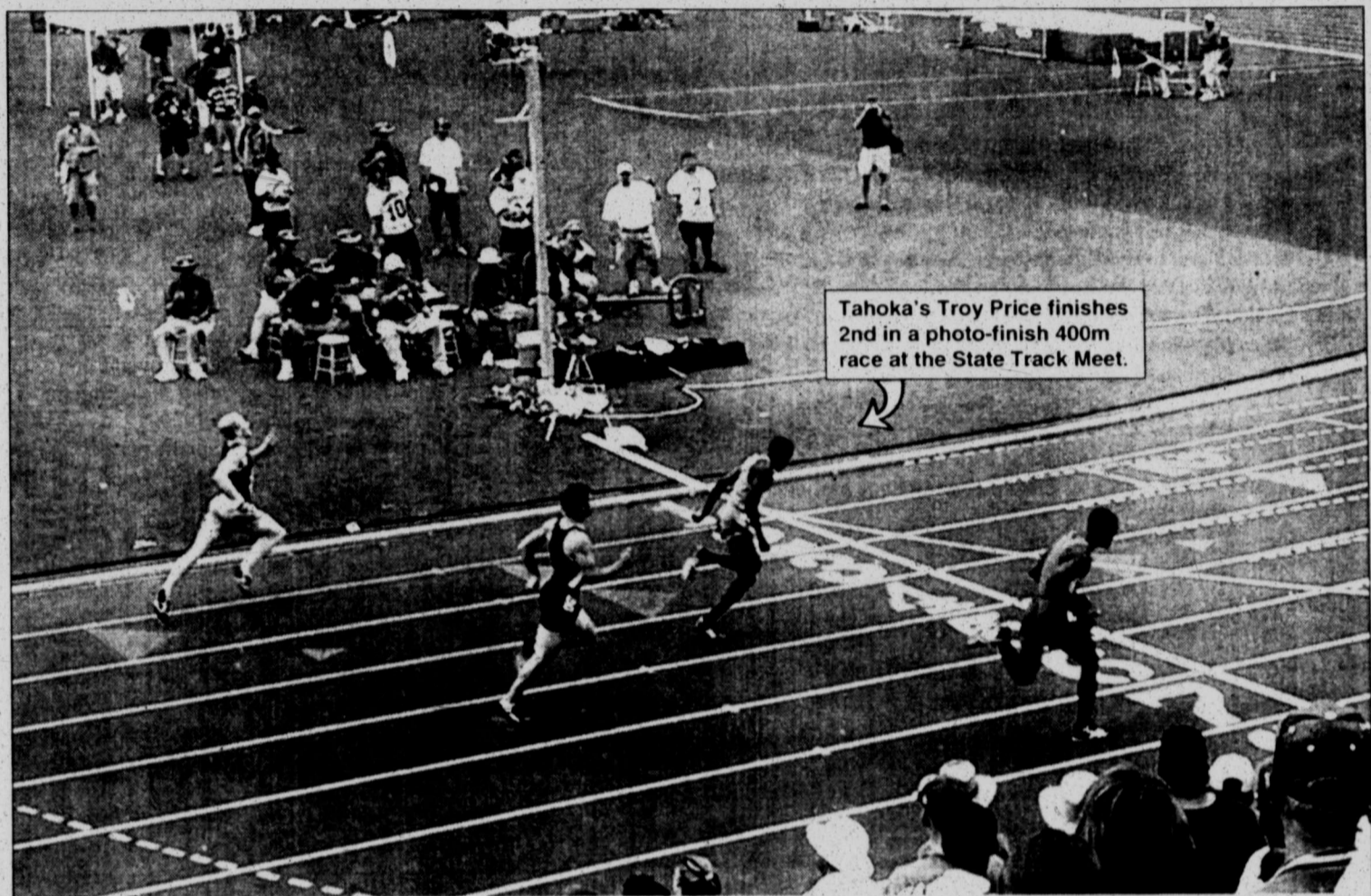
Other honor students include Jacob Guenther, Briana Garza and Meghann Turney.

Guenther is the son of Jacob and Susan Guenther. He graduates with high honors and a 95.52 numerical average and a 3.355 weighted average.

Briana Garza graduates with honors and a numerical average of 92.09 and a weighted average of 3.15. She is the daughter of Debra Garza.

Meghann Turney, daughter of Donnie and Kathy Turney, graduates with honors and a 91.16 average and weighted average of 3.09.

All the top graduates are in band and National Honor Society.



Tahoka's Troy Price finishes 2nd in a photo-finish 400m race at the State Track Meet.

PRICE WINS SECOND AT STATE - Tahoka High School junior Troy Price finished second in the 400 meter run by three one-hundredths of a second at the Class AA State Track Meet held in Austin, May 13-14. Price ran the race in 48.35 seconds, finishing neck and neck with Derrick Reescano of Hardin, who won the race in 48.32 seconds. It was Price's best time ever in the quartermile event. "Troy ran a great race, and we are proud of him," said Tahoka ISD Athletic Director Troy Hinds. "He'll be back next year," he predicted.

(Photo by Troy Hinds)

McCord Resigns; Three Teachers Hired At Tahoka ISD

Superintendent Jimmy Parker announced the resignation of Curriculum Director Sherri McCord at the Tahoka Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting held last Thursday, and trustees approved hiring three new teachers.

Mrs. McCord's resignation is effective July 31, 2005. She is a long-time member of the TISD staff, serving as a teacher for three years, district counselor for 14 years, and as Curriculum Director for the past two years. She will be moving away from the Tahoka area.

New teachers hired by trustees include two elementary teachers, Melissa McCleskey and Jamie Reglin, and a high school health/PE teacher/coach Sabrina Gonzalez. All probationary contracts were unanimously approved.

In other business, trustees extended the district's depository contract with First National Bank of Tahoka from Sept. 1, 2005 through Aug. 31, 2007, and renewed a contract with Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert and Moss to conduct the district's financial audit. A student transfer list was approved as presented, and trustees approved policy updates and a resolution joining the Region 17 Benefits Coop.

At the beginning of the meeting, trustees Math Bartley and Frank McLelland took the oath of office (both incumbents were declared elected and no election was held as they had no opponents), and board members elected officers, unanimously reelecting the same slate of officers. Math Bartley will continue as Board President, Joe Calvillo as Vice President, and Carmen Chapa as Secretary of the Board.

Supt. Parker gave a report to trustees, also announcing the TASB board training at the Region 17 Service Center on May 17. All board members were present at the meeting that adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



I DON'T RECALL seeing any live chickens anywhere recently, but the chicken has an important place in our culture, mainly because we eat a lot of chickens and eggs. And no, even as old as I am, I don't know which one came first.

I remember my grandmother used to wring a chicken's neck, boil it to loosen the feathers, pluck it, then cut it up and cook it. I don't recall my mother ever doing that.

My wife says she used to wring chickens' necks and take off the feathers and then cook them, back in the early 60s when we lived at Sudan. She said she didn't boil the chicken, though. She just dipped it in hot water or something. And certainly cooking a chicken today is a lot less of a project than it was then, since they come all frozen and ready to cook.

Well, at least I guess they do. I never tried to cook a chicken. My wife and I have this full partnership agreement where she cooks and I eat. I have cooked a lot of eggs though.

A story in the daily newspaper last week brought chickens to my attention. It seems that the owners of a jaywalking chicken in a small California village were ticketed by the sheriff because their chicken obstructed traffic on the rural road. The owners say their chicken didn't know any better, chickens are supposed to cross the road, and suggested that the sheriff is a dumb cluck or some other word derived from chicken because he gave them a ticket.

The sheriff, though, probably thinks this action was a big feather in his cap.

I'VE HEARD IT SAID that a mind is a terrible thing to waste, but I'd say that most folks worry too much about their diets and their stomachs, so maybe a waist is a terrible thing to mind. Along that line, someone sent me something called the "Italian Pasta Diet," claiming that it really works:

ITALIAN PASTA DIET

1. You walka pasta da bakery.
 2. You walka pasta da candy store.
 3. You walka pasta da ice cream shop.
 4. You walka pasta da table and fridge.
- You Will Lose Weight.



TAHOKA 6-YEAR-OLD HAS HEART SURGERY - Alexis Chapa, 6-year-old daughter of Andrew and Lisa Chapa of Tahoka, underwent open-heart surgery in Houston on May 12, and her parents report she is doing well. Doctors said there was a lot less scar tissue to clean up, compared to four years ago when she had another heart surgery. "They said going in was easier than anticipated, as if she had never been operated on before," said her parents, "which says a lot for a little girl who has had her chest opened up several times." Dr. McKenzie repaired the (cow) patch with a synthetic material called Dacron, which the heart grows around and shouldn't be much of a problem as she grows. He replaced her conduit with a "bovine jugular vein," putting in an adult size, which should last quite a while. "He says she should be feeling better than she's ever felt before - she looks fantastic," says her mother, shown here with Alexis in the hospital just 2-3 hours after surgery. "Today I heard the sweetest sound anyone would want to hear - Mamma." Mr. and Mrs. Chapa say they hope Alexis will get to come home soon, and that the Chapa family wants to thank everyone for their prayers, and to keep on praying. "God bless you all."

THS Athletic Banquet Is Monday Night

Tahoka High School athletes will be honored at the THS Athletic Banquet on Monday, May 23. The banquet, sponsored by the Bulldog Booster Club, begins at 7 p.m. at The Center for Housing and Community Development in Tahoka. Athletic awards will be presented in all sports, as well as Most Outstanding Athlete and Fighting Heart awards.

Featured speaker for the evening will be David Thomas, former football star at Frenship High School who plays tight end for the Longhorn football team at The University of Texas in Austin. He is the son of former Tahoka graduates John and Lisa Thomas, and the grandson of Maurice and Grace Huffaker of Tahoka.

All athletes and their parents are invited to attend, with athletes' meals provided by the Booster Club. Advance tickets are being sold and parent admission is \$8 each for the meal catered by PJ's. Chicken strips and steak fingers will be served. Tickets are available from Booster Club secretary Cathy Ross, TISD Athletic Director Troy Hinds, or from Pat Williams at Tahoka High School. If any tickets are left, they will be available at the door.



STATE SILVER MEDALIST - Troy Price (left), son of Patricia Price, won second in the 400 meter running event at the Class AA State Track Meet. The Tahoka High School junior missed the gold medal by a mere 3/100ths of a second, giving the race his best effort with a personal best time of 48.35 seconds. Gold medal winner was Derrick Reescano of Hardin (center), and third place went to Morgan Floyd of Whitewright. (Photo by Troy Hinds)

Tahoka High School Weekly Calendar

May 22- Baccalaureate at FUMC - 6:00 p.m.
May 23- Athletic Banquet at the Center 7:30 p.m.
 Senior Finals: 8:00-9:30. 2nd Period Exam: 9:45-11:15. 4th period exam: 11:30-1:00. 6th period exam: 11:30-1:00.
May 24- NHS Make a Difference Day: Senior Finals 8:00-9:30. 5th period exams: 9:45-11:15. 8th period exam: Exams begin for 9th, 10th and 11th grades: 8:00-9:30. 1st period: 9:45-11:15. 3rd period: 11:30-1:00.
May 25- Senior Grades due by 4:00 p.m. 9th, 10th and 11th grade finals: 8:00-9:30. 2nd period: 9:45-11:15. 4th period: 11:30-1:00. 6th period.
May 26- End of Six Weeks: 9th, 10th and 11th grade finals 7:55-9:15. 2nd study, and tutoring period.
May 27- All staff in-service day: Graduation Practice at 10:00 a.m. - Gym; Senior Breakfast at FBC: 8:30 a.m.; Senior Luncheon at FUMC: 12:00 noon
 Graduation at 8:00 p.m. - "Congratulations to our 2005 Seniors"
May 28- UIL State Solo and Ensemble contest at San Marcos
May 30- Memorial Day

TAHOKA SCHOOL NEWS

Girls Softball
 By Callie Botkin
 The Lady Bulldogs Softball Team played in the area final game against Seymour on Friday, May 7, and lost 4-2.
 Sonya Moralez pitched the 7th inning game for Tahoka. She had four strikeouts and walked only 1. "She pitched the best she has all season," Coach Liz Boyd said.
 Stacie Green and Angie Curtis were the big hitters for the game, each with two. Green also had an RBI.
 "The girls had a pretty solid defensive game with only 3 errors. Jessica Chaney had a great catch in center field and Callie Botkin had one right over second base. Skylar Owens came in this game off the bench and made three stops at third base.
 "We will miss our seniors and coach, but we are ready for next year!" Stacie Green said.
 Six girls from the Tahoka team were awarded all-district honors. MVP was Angie Curtis, 1st team catcher, Ashdon Hancock, 1st team pitcher, Sonya Moralez, 1st team first base, Stacie Green, 2nd team out field, Marissa Villegas and honorable mention second base, Callie Botkin.



PATRICK WELLS

Patrick Wells Earns Outstanding Rating At Piano Competition

Patrick Wells, 11 year-old son of Haney and Tanya Wells of Tahoka, competed in the Texas Federation of Music Clubs 30th Annual State Festival at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth on May 14. The young pianist was awarded the highest rating of Outstanding for his performance of Scherzino, by Timothy Brown, a piano solo. This is Patrick's second year to perform at the festival and the second time that he has won an Outstanding award.
 There were 1500 entrants in the festival. Patrick played in the Elementary Class IV division. He qualified for the State Festival by winning a Superior rating in February at the Federation's Pastoral Festival at Texas Tech University, performing the Scherzino.
 He is a piano student of Jenny McClendon of Lubbock, and has studied the piano since the age of 3.

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

The President's Assassin
 By: Brian Haig
 Accepting a new posting within the CIA, military lawyer Sean Drummond oversees the investigation into the assassination of the White House chief of staff, whose killer has threatened to assassinate the president in three days, a situation complicated by a bounty on the president's head and a dangerous miscalculation on the part of law enforcement officials.

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NEW AT THE LIBRARY

Superstition
 By Karen Robards
 A story on a grisly series of fifteen-year-old unsolved crimes and a television show featuring a renowned psychic draw beautiful reporter Nicole Sullivan and police chief Joe Franconi into a perilous search for a murderer when the killer returns, intent on claiming three more lives, including that of Nicole.

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

Dead Run
 By P.J. Tracy
 Breaking down while en route to Wisconsin, Grace MacBride, Annie Belinsky, and deputy Sharon Mueller stumble upon a nearly deserted town fraught with signs of foul play and are horrified to witness a double murder. By the author of *Live Bait* and *Monkeewrench*.

Phebe K. Warner CLUB NEWS

Nineteen members and 30 guests met in the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall on Tuesday, May 10. Carol Headrick, daughter of Lucille Smith, gave a book review of "Anatomy of Me," an autobiography of Fanny Hurst. Ms. Hurst was a famous writer who penned "Backstreet" and "Imitation of Life" among many others.
 Refreshments were furnished by the social committee. PKW needs new members who are interested in improving their community and themselves. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Loretta Tekell or any member. An executive committee meeting followed the regular meeting. Regular meetings will begin again in September.

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4TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS - Tahoka Elementary 4th grade Science Fair winners are shown here, in groups of three in front of their boards. From left: 1st place winners (standing) Taya Bishop, Audree Williams and (seated in front) Mad: DeLeon; 2nd place winners (standing) Alex Hinds, Chad Darwactor and (seated) Cynthia Flores; and 3rd place winners (standing) Maddie Barham, Jori Chapa and (seated) Kayla Hall. (LCN PHOTO)



5TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS - Tahoka Elementary 5th grade Science Fair winners are shown here, in groups in front of their boards. From left: 1st place winners (standing) McKenzie Smaliin, Gretchen Henley and (seated) Wendy Arellano and Isabell Resendez; 2nd place tie winners (standing) Braxton Tillman, Susie Lara and Stormee Martin, and (seated) Payton Howard, Ericka Marquez and April Lam; and seated on the floor in front are 3rd place winners Jay Martin, Austin Taylor and Isaac Vega. (LCN PHOTO)

Lynn County Students Graduate From SPC

Lynn County residents were among a record 1,557 South Plains College students who received degrees and certificates during SPC's 47th commencement Friday, May 13 in Texan Dome.

Tahoka recipients of the Associate of Applied Science Degree are Tiffany Moralez, Child Development, and Justin Spearman, Design Communications Art Specialization.

Tahoka recipient of the Associate of Science Degree is Amanda Fuentes.

Tahoka recipients of the Certificate of Proficiency are Crystal Ann Gutierrez, Surgical Technology, Christopher McAllister, Fire & Arson Investigator (Basic), and Tiffany Moralez, Child Development, Early Childhood.

Wilson recipient of the Certificate of Proficiency is Angelica Ariaz, Vocational Nursing.



3RD GRADE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS - First place winners in the 3rd grade at the Tahoka Elementary Science Fair were Kaitlyn Lehman and Erynn Harris. (LCN PHOTO)

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

is available at the following locations in Tahoka:

- Lynn County News office
- Thriftway
- Tahoka Drug
- Town & Country Convenience Store



6TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS - Tahoka Elementary 6th grade Science Fair winners are shown here, in groups in front of their boards. From left: 1st place winner Patrick Wells; 2nd place winners (standing) Amber Ziegler, Monica Strickland, and (seated) Taylor Abell and Willie Vest; and 3rd place winners, (standing) Michael Paris and (seated) Jac Calvillo and Rhyann Ehlers. Also tying for 3rd place 6th grade, and receiving Overall 3rd Place in the Science Fair were, seated on the floor, Alex Webster, Taylor Ford, Brittany Garcia and Jason Newdiger. (LCN PHOTO)

WEATHER "WHYS"



Q: Once a funnel cloud becomes a tornado, how fast can it move?

A: On average, tornadoes move at speeds about 20 miles per hour, although some have been clocked at 60 to 70 miles per hour. Hammer adds, "But the winds inside the tornado are much higher - some have been measured at almost 300 miles per hour, which is why they cause destruction and death. On average, the United States has far more tornadoes than any other country in the world. In any given year, there are about 100,000 thunderstorms in the U.S., and these produce about 1,000 tornadoes a year. Some of these travel just a few hundred yards on the ground, while others have been known to travel 100 miles or more. The average tornado will travel about 3.5 miles. According to the National Weather Service, about 50 to 100 people are killed each year by tornadoes in the U.S."

Q: You sometimes hear that tornadoes are ranked at F-2 or F-4. What does that mean?

A: Tornadoes are ranked according to their destructiveness and strength, and this ranking started over 30 years ago, says Michael Hammer of Texas A&M University. "The most commonly used and accurate rating system is the Fujita Scale, named for Theodore Fujita, a professor at the University of Chicago who devised the system in the early 1970s," says Hammer. "The system is based on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most powerful (from 260 to 300 miles per hour). Thankfully, most tornadoes - about 75 percent - are rated F-1 or lower. Only 1 percent are rated an F-4 or F-5, but yet these two classifications account for almost 70 percent of the fatalities caused by tornadoes."

Q: What is the breakdown of the rankings?

A: F-0 tornadoes have winds of 40-72 miles per hour and are capable

of light damage (such as toppling of trees and chimneys). "F-1 tornadoes have winds of from 73-112 miles per hour and can cause damage such as roofs being torn off of homes, mobile homes destroyed, etc.," says Hammer. "An F-2 tornado (winds of 113 to 157 miles per hour) can cause considerable damage to structures. An F-3 (winds of 158 to 206) can cause severe damage, while F-4 (winds of 207 to 260) and F-5 (260 to 300) can cause catastrophic damage and can even lift homes and cars high into the air. It's interesting to note that the U.S. averages about 1,000 tornadoes a year - more than any other country - with Australia coming in second," notes Hammer. "Tornadoes have occurred in all 50 states."

TOPIC: WORST WEATHER

Q: What place in the United States has the worst weather?

A: A lot of people might have different answers, but one hard to argue against is Mount Washington in New Hampshire, says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University. In fact, Mount Washington State Park, located in the White Mountains, brags that it is home "to the worst weather in the U.S." and that might be true. "Some people even consider it the worst weather in the world," says Curtiss. "Mount Washington is 6,288 feet above sea level, the highest mountain in New England, and it is known for its high winds. A large sign there reads 'The highest wind ever observed by man was recorded here' on April 12, 1934. That day, the winds registered an incredible 231 miles per hour. But high winds are routine - on average, winds exceeding hurricane force (75 miles per hour or more) occur every three days."

Q: Why are the winds so high there?

A: In addition to its high altitude,

Mount Washington stretches across major air masses that often affect the Northeast. "The mountain's topography and the way it is situated creates a sort of whiplash affect on the winds in the area," Curtiss adds. "Add to that the frequent snows and the results can be killers. The mountain gets about 250 inches of snow every year, so the wind chill affects can be lethal. In fact, more than 100 people have died on the mountain, some from falls but most from being improperly dressed and developing hypothermia. That's why the park rangers tell hikers and visitors that proper clothing is a must - not wearing the right clothing can kill in minutes on the mountain, even in summer. The park is home to Mount Washington Observatory, a non-profit corporation that conducts weather research."

TOPIC: WINDS AT NIGHT

Q: Why does the wind seem to die down at night?

A: The simple and quick answer is that there's no sun, says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University. "Wind is a form of energy and it gets much of its strength from the sun," Curtiss explains. "You can think of wind as a huge river of air over land, and it does this day or night. But as the sun rises and starts heating up the ground, rising warm air mixes with slower air near the ground and with air moving faster that is above ground. This faster-moving air is pushing downward, and it creates windy and breezy conditions as the day progresses."

Q: So what happens at night?

A: When the sun starts to set, this mixing of conditions doesn't happen as much, so the winds start to slow and eventually die down. "Remember that hot or warmer air expands and rises," Curtiss adds. "At night, the ground begins to cool. Air closer to the ground cools by radiation, so there is a lack of heat and energy and these directly affect air currents. So the winds at night and in the early morning hours are usually the weakest. But remember that cold fronts and storms can occur and these directly affect wind speed, too."

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Letters To The Editor

Ten-Year-Old Boys Will Try Anything

As the years pass, I often think about growing up in Lynn County. It was a wonderful place to live. I am enclosing a true story about an incident on the farm, 7 miles East and 3 miles south- Draw Road, where we lived from 1930 to 1947. Ten-year old boys have more imagination than sense, but with a little help from neighbors and friends — and in Tahoka, everyone was friendly and kept an eye on us — we managed to grow and eventually prosper. Hope the story brings a smile to your face.

Sincerely,
Randall Hinkle
(1947 graduate of THS)
Chairman, Emeritus of
Sonalysts, Inc., Waterford, CT

The Fur Trade Incident or Entrepreneurship on the West Texas Frontier

More than 3 score years have passed since the infamous fur trade incident that wrecked my first get rich quick initiative. The great depression that gripped the world in the 1930's was ending but money was scarce. We farmers were fortunate because we had ample food but little more. As the oldest son I thought it my responsibility to add to the family larder whenever I could. Even though I was only 10, my grandfather had given me a single shot 22 and I had a Red Ryder BB gun. Mother always cooked whatever game I bagged.

I overheard my uncle RB tell my Dad about the bounty he received for the coyote he trapped. \$5.00. It was a huge sum. More than two days pay for a grown man and enough for me to attend the Saturday movies for almost a year. He had skinned the coyote and was going to make another \$5.00 selling the hide. My mind raced with ideas about getting in on this fantastic opportunity to make cash money.

As I explained to my little brother Wayne, there were no coyote for us to trap but there were some

large mice making their homes under the shocks of grain put away for the winter. If a coyote hide was worth up to \$5.00, then a mouse hide ought to be worth 5-cents. It was just too good a deal to pass up. We immediately set out on this venture.

We tore down several of the shocks. The shocks were made of stalks about 6' high, tied in a bundle, and bundles leaned against each other until a sort of teepee was formed about 10' in diameter. We managed to catch several large mice, which we dispatched and skinned. We tacked their hides on the side of the barn to cure before we took them to the fur buyer in town. We immediately ran into a problem. We had cats (26 by count) who hung out by the barn. They received milk morning and night but any meat was strictly up to them. They promptly stole most of our mouse hides. We were not aware of this problem until we took our cousin Bobby Joe to the barn to show off our skins. Wayne and I were pretty discouraged to say the least.

Enroute I had shot a dove with my trusty Red Rider BB gun, which I intended to take to Mother for lunch. Bobby Joe and my sister Marie, both of them about 7 years old at the time, were more interested in food than the mice hides. They said they were hungry and I volunteered my dove for breakfast. I went to the house, got a skillet, lard, and matches and returned to the barn where I built a fire and fried the dove for them. They enjoyed the dove and said they were still hungry so without thinking the matter through, I cut off some mouse-tails and fried them. Bobby Joe pronounced them very tasty and wanted more. By then I had decided that eating mouse tails was probably not a good idea so I turned down his request for seconds.

Bobby Joe then went whining to his mother about Randall not giving him any more mouse-tails. This led to a full investigation by his mother then my mother and finally my father. I received a good licking — a few licks for tearing down the shocks of grain stored for winter, a few for building a fire in the barnyard where the dry manure could have ignited and burned down the barn and a few for good measure to placate my Aunt Velma who was wondering what she should do about the mice tails Bobby Joe had eaten. In the end she did nothing. Bobby Joe survived but he says this picture that was made about that time is a direct result of eating mouse-tails.



R.A. EADER RECEIVES AWARD — Jerry Webster, a volunteer leader for the Royal Ambassador's at the First Baptist Church, received an award plaque and an engraved R.A. Bible from Allen Elrod, Director of the R.A.'s, for his nine years of dedicated service to the R.A. Program. Webster was the leader of the sixth grade R.A.'s.

Tahoka Band Boosters Appreciate Support

The Tahoka Band Booster Club would like to thank the following individuals and companies for their support for the 2005 Golf Tournament: Boot City, Higginbotham-Bartlett Co., Lynn County News, Main Street Express, Tahoka Body Shop, Tahoka Police Dept., Mason Farm Equipment, Tahoka Auto Supply, Lynn County Farm Bureau, Dr. Richard White, Joe Hays CPA, Witt Butane, Lucy Me, P.J.'s Deli & Bakery, Avia Candles, Paris 'N Bloom, Cowlick's Hair Salon, Tahoka Drug, Carino's Restaurant, Fazoli's Restaurant, Jolly Time, Blockbuster Video, Poka Lambro Communications, Atmos Energy, Excel Energy, West Texas Agriplex, Thriftway of Tahoka, Rainbow International, Oller Engineering Inc., K.W. Sharp Inc., Dr. Donald Freitag, First National Bank of Tahoka, Wildcat Mfg., Duncan Disposal, Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, and Tahoka Barber Shop.

We also appreciate everyone who played in the tournament. The turnout was tremendous and the tournament was a huge success. We look forward to next year.

Robbie Autry, President,
Tahoka Band Boosters Club

Parents Help Make Prom Successful

Last weekend was the Tahoka Junior-Senior Prom. As part of the entertainment, we had a casino. We had a large number of students stay until the very end. It was a great success, but it would not have been possible without help from our community.

The junior class would like to thank the parents and community members who helped.

We want to thank Davy and Kassidi Stone, Mitch and Donna Raindl, Vera and Jerry Reno, Tommy and Carolyn Botkin, Allen and Pam Elrod, Bill Chancy, Shi and Brenda Dotson, and Pam Ashcraft for helping in the casino.

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

Table For Five
By Susan Wiggs

When an estranged couple is killed in a tragic accident, strangers Lily Robinson and Sean McGuire are named the guardians of their three orphaned children and must find a way to become a family.

April Sales Tax Allocations To Local Governments Jump 5.5 Percent

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said recently that the state received \$1.2 billion in sales tax revenue in March, a 2 percent increase compared to March 2004.

Local sales tax revenues also continue to grow. Strayhorn sent \$311.4 million in April sales tax allocations to cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, a 5.5 percent increase compared to April 2004. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to local governments are up 6.5 percent.

Comptroller Strayhorn sent April sales tax allocations of \$211.7 million to Texas cities, up 6.3 percent compared to April 2004. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax allocations are running nearly 7 percent higher than last year. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$18.7 million, up 12.1 percent compared to one year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 9.5 percent higher than last year.

Another \$8.7 million went to 94 special purpose taxing districts around the state, up 17.9 percent compared to last April. Nine local transit systems received \$72.2 million in sales tax rebates, up 0.5 percent compared to a year ago.

For details of April sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the *Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports* on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, May 13.



CRUSADER OF THE YEAR — Logan Tekell, son of Lane and Heather Tekell of Tahoka, was named Crusader of the Year through the Royal Ambassador Program at the First Baptist Church. Logan received a plaque and an engraved RA Bible. He is in the fifth grade at Tahoka Elementary.



LAD OF THE YEAR — Brighton McMinn, son of Shane and Karen McMinn of Tahoka, was named Lad of the Year through the Royal Ambassador Program (R.A.'s) at First Baptist Church. He received a plaque and an engraved RA Bible. He is in the second grade at Tahoka Elementary.

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

Honeymoon
By: James Patterson
& Howard Roughan

When a young investment banker dies under suspicious circumstances, FBI agent John O'Hara pursues a suspicion that's the victim's beautiful decorator bride is responsible, but as the evidence mounts, he wonders if he has become obsessed with proving the woman's guilt.

Memorials and donations made to the **Lynn County Pioneers** 1600 S. 3rd • P.O. Box 223 Tahoka, Tx 79373 will benefit our local senior citizens center.

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Consider Water Conservation When Planning Landscaping

Homeowners should keep water conservation in mind when working with new or existing landscapes this spring and summer.

When planning a new landscape, please consider the ease of difficulty in irrigating the area. Areas that are long and narrow, or small or odd shaped are difficult to water efficiently with any irrigation equipment. Try to eliminate long, narrow areas and incorporate more blocky, square areas.

Select trees, shrubs, and ground covers that are suited for the Texas High Plains region. There is a wide range of Texas native plants, which are naturally adapted to the region. Most have lower water demands than many non-adapted exotic plants from other areas.

Turf grasses require more water and more maintenance than other landscape plants. When installing or replacing turf areas, be sure to keep water use requirements in mind. Homeowners should consider the function of their turf areas. Patios, decks, ground covers, and shrub beds can be used to reduce turf areas and cut outdoor water consumption.

Much of the water applied to lawns and gardens are never absorbed by the plants. Some is lost to runoff because it is applied too quickly, and some water evaporates from exposed, unmulched soil surfaces. Generally, too much water is applied too quickly and too frequently in our landscapes. Frequent irrigation not only wastes water, but it can also leach nutrients away from plant roots.

When do we need to water the lawn? According to Texas Cooperative Extension, the easiest way to decide this is to look at the turf.

Wilting and discoloration are signs of water stress in turf. Homeowners have from 24 to 48 hours to water following the first sign of wilting. Otherwise, serious damage may occur to the turf. Apply an inch of water as rapidly as possible with out runoff.

Generally, about an inch to an inch and a half of water should be applied every five days to turf grasses in the Texas High Plains region. An infrequent, but thorough, watering helps create a deep, well-rooted lawn that uses water more

efficiently. Setting empty tuna cans or other shallow containers on the lawn is an easy method that homeowners may use to gauge the amount of water their sprinkler is providing to the turf. Unlike a rain gauge that is above the turf, the tuna cans or shallow containers are located right where the water is being applied. Once the containers are in place, be sure to note the amount of time it takes to deliver one-half inch of water to the lawn. This helps homeowners determine how long to operate their sprinklers to deliver the needed amount of water to their landscape.

When irrigating your lawn this spring and summer, please be aware of and comply with landscape watering ordinances your town or city may have in place.

If an automatic sprinkler system is used in your landscape, take time to make sure the sprinkler heads are properly adjusted to avoid irrigating the sidewalk or driveway. Also, properly adjusted sprinkler heads throw large droplets of water rather than a fine mist, which is susceptible to wind drift and evaporation.

If a hose-end sprinkler is used, be sure to water in early morning or late evening to avoid evaporation losses caused by evaporation during the heat of the day. It is also important to position the hose-end sprinkler to avoid irrigating the sidewalk or driveway.

With planning and implementations of proven water conservation methods, homeowners can have a beautiful landscape that helps conserve the surface and ground water resources of the Texas High Plains.

Additional water conservation information is available by contacting the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79411-2499, or by calling (806) 762-0181. Water conservation tips are also available on-line at www.hpwd.com



MAY STUDENTS - The Wilson ISD Board recognized the following students for May: Krista Lehman (center), granddaughter of Melvin Lehman, elementary student of the month; Brandon Bassinger (left), son of Clyde and Cam Wilke, junior high student of the month; and Lett Hernandez, daughter of Melissa Hernandez, high school student of the month.

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LEOPARD CHEERLEADERS - The New Home Varsity Cheerleaders and Leopard Mascot are: Senior Stefanie White; Senior Katie O'Rourke; Junior Natalie Bruton; Senior Laura Maeker; Sophomore Allison Gibbins; Freshman Mary Maeker; Junior Mascot Meghan O'Rourke; Sophomore Hailey Wilkinson; Freshman Ashley West; and Sophomore Sarah Ussery.

Thefts, Assaults, Accidents Reported Here

Domestic violence incidents were investigated by Lynn County Sheriff's officers and by Tahoka Police Dept. during the last week, and officers also checked out reports of thefts, criminal mischief, traffic accidents and a man driving 102 miles an hour with a child passenger not wearing a seat belt.

Deputies stopped the 25-year-old Plainview man driving a Buick south of Tahoka on U.S. 87 on May 2. The car was clocked at 102 mph in a 65-mph zone. The driver was charged with speeding and endangering a 4-year-old child.

No injuries were reported in two traffic accidents in the city of Tahoka. Last Thursday in the 1800-block of S. 4th St., a 1998 Pontiac driven by Julia Morales, 43, of Lamesa, was involved in a collision with a 1991 Dodge pickup driven by Ernesto Solorzano, 75, of O'Donnell.

On the same day, a 1981 Ford pickup driven by Mitchell Wayne Elrod, 17, of Tahoka, struck the Dollar General building at 2001 Lockwood as the driver was attempting to move his vehicle out of the hail.

On Sunday, sheriff's deputies were called to a home northeast of Tahoka where two women and a child suffered minor injuries during a domestic dispute. A 29-year-old man is being sought in the incident.

Police also checked out a domestic dispute in which both the man and woman claimed they were assaulted by the other last Wednesday.

Eva Benevides of Tahoka told police last Thursday that someone had broken the rear window of her vehicle by throwing a rock through it. Police found the rock inside the vehicle. The woman said she would pay a cash reward for information about who threw the rock.

A 5-foot barbecue cooker was reported stolen last Wednesday from the residence of Raul Caballero Jr. in New Home. It was valued at \$400.

Deputies also took a report from a resident of O'Donnell that a green weed eater, valued at \$40, had been stolen during the last week.

Three persons were jailed during the week for grand jury indictments on drug possession, another was jailed on an indictment for DWI, and two more persons were jailed for driving while license invalid and driving while intoxicated. Jail population totaled 46 as of Wednesday, with 22 of these held for Lubbock County.

Former Tahokan Roger Miller Runs Highly Successful El Paso Company

Roger Miller, a Tahoka High School graduate who went into court reporting and then embraced new technology to organize a professional document management company, was honored March 12 as the U.S. Small Business Administration gave him the El Paso Small Business Person of the Year award.

It was 11 years ago when Miller, 52, started up what now is Altep Inc., a high-tech document management company with clients across the United States, and a company whose revenues have grown since 1996 to more than \$2 million a year. That's according to the featured story on the El Paso Times business page May 8, written by Vic Kolenc.

Miller is the son of Jack Miller of Tahoka, and said he first got interested in court reporting watching his father, a longtime law enforcement officer, testify in court.

In 1996, Altep became a separate company after operating two years as a division of Miller's court reporting company.

Miller told Kolenc that he was concerned 11 years ago that technology might replace the court reporting profession, so he formed the new operation.

"I thought there needed to be a better way to handle the mountains of documents in legal cases," he said.

Altep transforms mounds of paper documents into searchable electronic files and organizes jumbles of e-mail and other electronic documents for law firms, corporate legal



ROGER MILLER

departments and other large companies which have a lot of paperwork to keep track of. Included among Altep's customers are Wal-Mart and other corporations in Bentonville, AR.

Miller's company has a fulltime staff of about 50 to 60 persons and hires 60 to 120 temporary workers, depending on needs.

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The site has information about city government, officials, churches, city services, health services and more!

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TEEN SUMMIT REPS- New Home Students, Mary Maeker and Mikaela Wallace, have been asked to represent New Home Schools on the Teen Summit Planning board. Each year the Teen Summit hosts a day long meeting for local students encouraging smart choices and decision making skills. Teen Summit 2006 will be held February 1, at the Civic Center. Last year the attendance was approximately 800 students hearing two keynote speakers and a variety of breakout sessions. Karon Durham was asked to serve as New Home School's advisor. New Home School's will be responsible for major activity at the 2007 Summit.

Wilson Ex Runs In Marathon

Christi (Slone) Vinson and Melanie Torrence ran their first half-marathon in Dallas at White Rock Lake on Sunday, May 15. They both finished under their personal goal of 2-1/2 hours and received a medal. Christi is formerly of Wilson and she and Melanie are both of Lubbock Cooper. Christi is the daughter of Linda Linder and CW Slone. She is the granddaughter of Truett Slone of Tahoka, and the late Ira and Thelma McCarver of Slaton. Both women lost two close friends in the last year to cancer and they felt like this was a tribute to them. This race was to raise money for lymphoma and leukemia and both also reached their financial goals for research in cancer.

A Gift to the AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY **MEMORIAL PROGRAM** strikes a blow against cancer.

Memorial Day Golf Tourney Set At T-Bar

A Memorial Day Golf Tournament will be held at T-Bar Country Club in Tahoka on May 28, 29 and 30. The three-day tournament will be flighted after the first round of the two-person scramble. Entry fee is \$300 per team, and all prizes will be cash.

For more information, or to enter, call Cherry at T-Bar at 998-5305.

Elementary Track Meet Is Tuesday

The Tahoka Elementary Track and Field Day will be held Tuesday, May 24. Running events will be held from 8:45 a.m. until approximately 11:30 a.m.

Field events begin at 1 p.m., including a softball toss, Frisbee toss, long jump, high jump, obstacle course and a tug-o-war.

The NEW HOME News by Karon Durham 924-7448

May 22: Baccalaureate at 6:00 p.m.
May 23: Methodist Church Cookout for Seniors
May 24: Elem. AR Trip; Kindergarten Graduation, 7:00 p.m.
May 25: K-6 Joyland & Park Trip; 7-12 Award Assembly at 2:30
May 26: K-6 Award Assembly; Early Release 1:00 p.m.
May 27: Early Release 1:00 p.m.; Senior and Faculty lunch at 1:00; Graduation 8:00 p.m.

Hot Sauce for Sale

The kindergarten class is having a fund raiser. Mrs. Laws is selling "Lip Smacking Good" hot sauce, a 16 oz. jar for \$5.00. Call the school for more details at 924-7524, ext. 26.

Ranger Baseball Trip

New Home Students in grades 7-12 who made the honor roll all year were taken on a reward trip on May 11, to a Ranger Baseball Game. The students and sponsors left at 6:00 a.m. The students eligible to attend were: Eddie Alvarado, Rachel Bygel, Evan Clem, Sarah Clem, Tanner Comey, Josh Correa, Allison Gibbons, Keaton Hutto, Matthew Hymes, Monte Jolly, Heath Link, Mary Maeker, Tyler McAllister, Karen Muniz, Krystal Muniz, Katie O'Rourke, Meghan O'Rourke, Mandy Portales, Maricela Rodriguez, Kris Silva, Corey Smith, Sarah Ussery, Aaron Villarreal, Mikaela Wallace, Chris West, Trevor White, and Ryan Wied.

Round Table

Red Ribbon Round Table will be Tuesday, May 24. The doors will open at 7:00 a.m. and breakfast will be served at 7:15. Come and join in on the fun and activities.

The Lynn County News encourages you to attend church this Sunday!



NEW HOME STUDENTS AT THE HEALTH FAIR 2005 - "Healthy Choices for a Lifetime" Health Fair was held at New Home ISD. Pictured here are Leo Torres, Blaine Paul, Sarah Ussery, David Nevarez, Ethan Willis, and Mark Overman.

New Home Baptist VBS Set June 13-17

The New Home Baptist church has scheduled Vacation Bible School from June 13-17, from 9:00-12:00 noon.

This year the theme is "Beach Blast". Everyone is invited to come and join the fun.

New Home SCHOOL MENU

May 23-27

Breakfast
Cereal and yogurt offered at breakfast daily.

Monday: Pancake Pups
Tuesday: Rice Krispy Bar
Wednesday: Biscuit/Sausage
Thursday: Mgr. Choice
Friday: Mgr. Choice

Lunch

Monday: Popcorn Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Calif. Blend Veggies, Mixed Fruit Cup
Tuesday: Sausage Wrap, Lettuce/Tomato, Pickle Spears, Grapes
Wednesday: Hamburger/ Cheeseburger, Tator Tots, Pickle Slices, Cookies
Thursday: Pizza, Lettuce/Tomato, Veg. Assortment, Pudding
Friday: Burrito Basket, Lettuce/Tomato, Assorted Fruit Cup

The WILSON News by Mike Jones mikejones@esc17.net

Come join the Wilson FFA Chapter as we close out the year at our Ice Cream Social. We will be celebrating this year's achievements, saying goodbye to old friends, and welcoming new ones on Monday, May 23, in the Wilson cafeteria. The fun and festivities will begin at 6:30 P.M. We will be serving homemade ice cream and other desserts which will be followed by our end of the year meeting and awards ceremony. We hope to see you there.

Wilson VBS To Start June 20

Wilson's First Baptist Church will hold its summer Vacation Bible School June 20-24.

The VBS is open to children who have completed kindergarten through sixth grade. All denominations are welcome with nightly sessions offered from 6-9 p.m. followed by a Family Night at 6:00 p.m. June 26 to give parents an opportunity to view their children's projects.

A meal will be offered at 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday for those kids participating in the vacation bible school.

Weather Warning System in Wilson

The Wilson Volunteer Fire Department recently repaired and reorganized the fire and weather warning system. Since severe weather season is upon us, the department would like to remind the Wilson community of the warning sounds and what they mean. They are as follows:

One (1) long continuous siren-FIRE Long ON/OFF siren-TORNADO Single short siren after tornado warning-ALL CLEAR Three (3) short sirens - PRACTICE OR MEETING

Wilson VFD participates and assists with all county agencies during severe weather

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Lynn County News
561-4888

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

Informal Review

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

Review by the Appraisal Review Board

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

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening, Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing,

you may ask to review the evidence the CAD will use to uphold their determination. The CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. 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. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at 1615 Main Street, Tahoka, Texas.

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

Review by the District Court

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 45 days of the date you receive the ARB's order.

Tax Payment

If you appeal and your case is pending, you must pay the lesser of the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More Information

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

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

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

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

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

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal

because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

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

If you believe the appraisal district or the ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1). 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-County Library
561-4050 • 1717 Main • Tahoka
(In the Life Enrichment Center)

HOURS:
Monday & Wednesday 9 am-5:30 pm
(Closed for Lunch 12:30-1:30 pm)
Tuesday & Thursday 2 pm-7 pm
Saturday 10 am-1 pm

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561-5339 • 1600 Lockwood • Tahoka
OPEN:
Friday & Saturday 10 am-2 pm

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RENE LOPEZ

777-5380 Cell
561-4158 Res.
632-3456 Cell

\$60 Three Hours
\$100 Six Hours

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles ...

Get your congratulations ad in by 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 19 for the graduation issue!

If you would like to congratulate your high school senior in The Lynn County News' graduation issue on May 26, send \$6, the name of the student, high school, and parents name to Lynn County News, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, Texas 79373 or come by the News Office at 1617 Main St.

New Home High School
Congratulations Name of Student!
We're proud of you.
Mom, Dad, or Whoever

HURRY! DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, MAY 19 AT 5:30 P.M. AND IT ONLY COSTS \$6

The graduation issue includes New Home, Wilson, O'Donnell and Tahoka seniors!

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