



THE Lynn County News



MEMBER 2010 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 107, NUMBER 13

TAHOKA, LYNN COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

8 PAGES PLUS INSERT

50¢

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 - Peggy Jolly
 - Roy Riddle
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Easter Sunday is April 4

Easter Sunrise Service at 7:15 a.m. at T-Bar Ranch 6 miles West of Tahoka sponsored by First United Methodist Church of Tahoka

Attend Sunday services at the church of your choice.

April Fool's

Look inside this issue for April Fool's photos which The Lynn County News staff asked Tahoka High School journalism students to submit. Thanks to Rachel Lehman, sponsor, for the collaborative effort. The News staff chose two "photoshopped" (manipulated) photos for this April Fool's issue.

Notice to Tahoka Businesses:

Beginning April 1, 2010 the sales tax rate will be **8.25%** (instead of 7.75%) due to collection of the new half-cent sales tax for economic development in Tahoka.

Pick up the new 8.25% printed tax chart for free at The Lynn County News office

Weather

| Date | High | Low | Precip. |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|---------|
| Mar. 24 | 56 | 44 | |
| Mar. 25 | 63 | 35 | |
| Mar. 26 | 80 | 35 | |
| Mar. 27 | 62 | 41 | |
| Mar. 28 | 96 | 39 | |
| Mar. 29 | 78 | 39 | |
| Mar. 30 | 88 | 39 | |
| Precipitation for Mar: | | | 3.65" |
| Precipitation for Feb: | | | 2.48" |
| Precipitation for Jan: | | | 1.91" |
| Total Precip. year to date: | | | 8.04" |

Lynn County News

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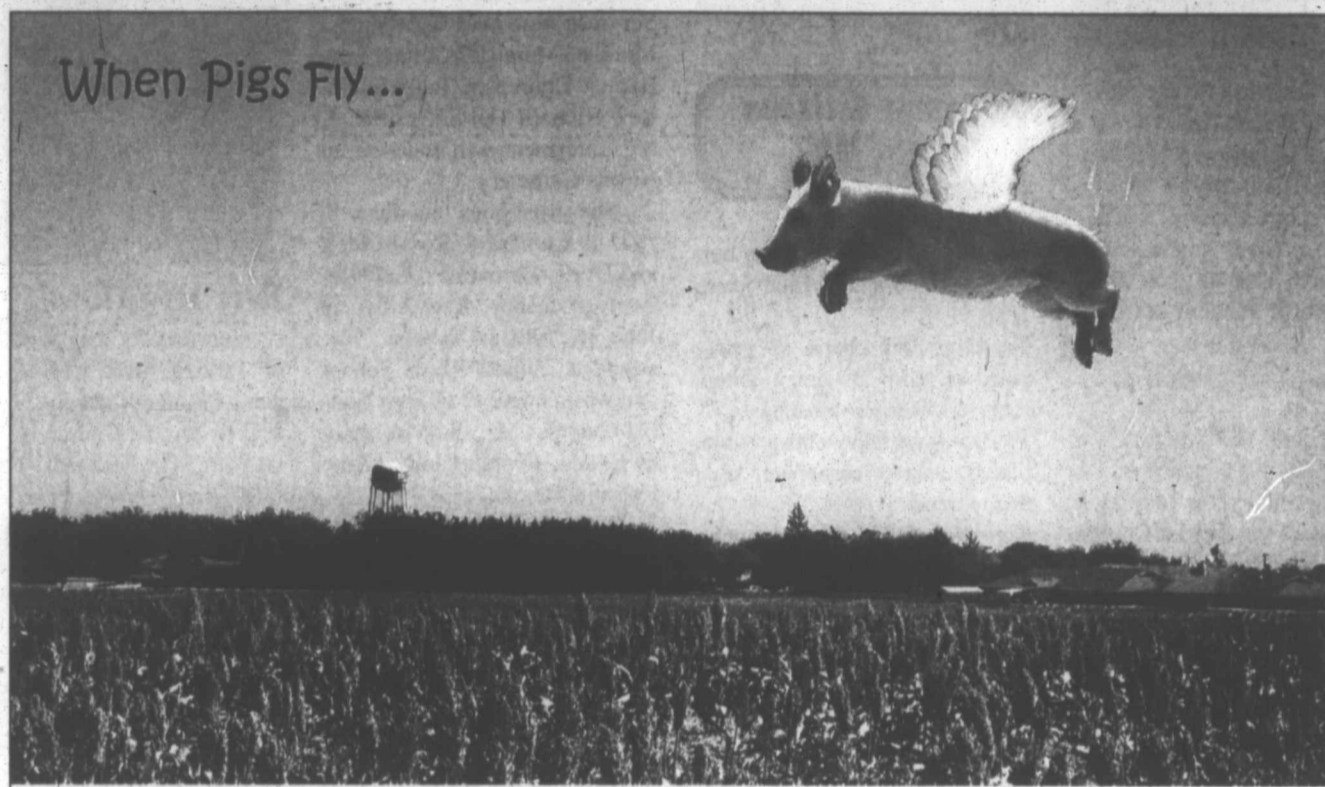
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Open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

(Open During Lunch Hour)

CLOSED FRIDAYS (Drop Box available by front door)

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesdays



Flight maneuvers ... You've heard the expression that something will be done "when pigs fly" - well that day is finally here. This little pig was caught joyfully performing flight maneuvers in a field just outside of Tahoka, caught on camera by an enterprising high school student who happened to have her camera along.

(APRIL FOOL'S PHOTO submitted by Jynna Askew, THS)

O'Donnell man tracks thieves, reclaims stolen air compressor

An O'Donnell man who spotted two men in the act of stealing an air compressor from his carport followed the suspects' vehicle and called Lynn County Sheriff's department, resulting in the arrest of the two men last Friday morning.

Rick Jonas, whose home is on the north edge of O'Donnell on U.S. 87, gave the license plate of the suspects' vehicle and followed them south, where they eventually were halted and arrested by officers in Dawson County. The pair arrested also had other pos-

sibly stolen items in their possession.

Tahoka Police Monday arrested a 34-year-old Post woman on an assault charge after an altercation reportedly involving three persons in a vehicle in the 1200-block of Lockwood St. She reportedly attacked a 24-year-old woman, also from Post.

Last Wednesday police arrested a 49-year-old Tahoka man for no drivers license and violation of the open container law.

Although 13 persons were jailed in the last week, total population of Lynn County jail was just 33 early this week, with seven of those held for

Bids on hospital expansion sought

Bids on a renovation and limited expansion project at Lynn County Hospital are being sought by the hospital directors who voted last Thursday to get proposals on the project before deciding to proceed further.

The project would involve remodeling and expansion in 4,063 square feet of the hospital, including closing in an area on the north side, which has been a "break" area for employees. The plan would allow for expansion of Emergency Medical Services and more room for physical therapy.

Directors also discussed the upcoming Fun/Food Festival and auction which benefits the hospital, operated

by Tahoka Rotary Club and scheduled April 24.

A resolution canceling the upcoming election of two directors was approved, since only two persons filed for the board, meaning they will be elected without opposition. Terms of Dalton Wood and Virginia Griffing are scheduled to expire, and filing for those positions were James Craig and Victoria Baker.

President Jerry Ford presided. Present were board members Cal Huffaker, Jannis Horwood, Frances Truehart, Nancy Guillems, Wood and administrator Jim Morris. Absent was Mrs. Griffing.



Hurdling for gold ... Tahoka's Brittney Liggins (right) won the Gold medal in the 100m and 300m hurdles at the Crosbyton track meet on Friday. The Tahoka girls team took first place overall in the track meet, competing against teams from Lockney, Rails, Crosbyton, O'Donnell, and Motley County. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

Early voting for Republican runoff starts Tuesday

Early voting for the Republican Primary runoff election will be held April 6-9 in the basement courtroom at the Lynn County Courthouse. Only two races, one of them local, will be on the ballot for voters to consider. Registered voters are eligible to vote in the Republican runoff if they did not vote in the Democratic Primary.

Those county residents who live in Commissioner Precinct 4 are eligible to vote in the local runoff between Toby Taylor and Danny Martin, to determine the Republican candidate for the Precinct 4 Lynn County Commissioner race in the November General Election.

In addition, there is a state runoff on the Republican ticket for Supreme Court Justice Place 3, between Rick Green and Debra Lehrmann, in which all Lynn County voters who did not vote in the Democratic Primary may vote.

Polls will be open during regular courthouse hours during early voting. On April 13, polls will be open 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. for the runoff election, which will also be conducted at the courthouse. There are no runoffs in the Democratic Primary.

Lubbock County. Charges bringing the latest arrests were false inspection certificate, driving while intoxicated (enhanced), theft of property over \$500, possession of controlled substance, Midland County warrant for theft, possession of marijuana, assault causing severe bodily injury, driving while license invalid (enhanced), warrant on no seat belt, and application to revoke probation on conviction of burglary of a habitation.

woodwork by dalton



A RECENT issue of *Reader's Digest* included a report on how all of the states ranked in lists of Best Roads, Deadliest Roads, Deadliest States for Drunk Driving, and Deadliest for Speeding. Naturally I was curious to see where the study ranked Texas in all those things.

Texas was listed 29th on the best roads list, with Kansas ranked first. Texas was 16th on the deadliest roads list, which I think was compiled using the number of deaths per million miles driven (guess I'm pretty safe here, because, although I sometimes put lots of miles on a car, I've never quite reached a million).

It was interesting that Montana, which had the third best roads in the nation, apparently is the most dangerous place to drive, ranking first on the deadliest list.

Texas is the eighth deadliest state for drunk driving causing fatalities, and was No. 10 on the Top 10 worst states for speeding (Alabama was the worst). I was surprised that some of those Yankee states were not worst; I know that whenever I have been up there, I usually wanted to get out as fast as possible.

It would be interesting if someone ranked the cities in Texas according to the worst drivers, especially the stupid and arrogant ones. I think Lubbock would be up there pretty high on the list.

Of course, what *Reader's Digest* says could be flawed. They don't know everything. For example, in the same issue was a report on vitamins, which said most of the ones I take, and which I think help, are either useless or bad for me.

For sure, no matter what you eat or what medicine you take, someone is going to report that it's bad for you.

DID YOU ever wonder why some coin banks are shaped like pigs? Me neither, but someone sent me an interesting note about it.

The reason, supposedly, for piggy banks, is that long ago, dishes and cookware in Europe were made of a dense orange clay called "pygg." When people saved coins in jars made of this clay, the jars became known as "pygg banks." When an English potter misunderstood the word, he made a bank that resembled a pig. And the idea caught on. Later gaining many rooters.

I'm goink to stop now.



Cornerstone Award ... Past Grand High Priest Jimmy Willson (left) presented the Masonic Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas Cornerstone Award to Leighton Knox Jr. and his wife, Joan, during ceremonies held March 11 at the Hugh J. McClellan Yorkrite building in Lubbock. Knox was also presented the Grand Council Royal and select Masters of Texas Cypic Triangle Award. The Knoxes are longtime Tahoka residents and owners of Wildcat Manufacturing.

Phebe K. Warner CLUB NEWS

Phebe K. Warner club met March 23 at the First Baptist Church with hostesses Deloris Short and Lindsey Cunningham serving 16 guests and 12 members. The 1st place winners of the Youth Writing Contest read their short stories and poems. Reading to the group was: Juan Charon, Logan Tekell, Kylynn McCleskey and Coy Mercer. Winners not present to read were Quincy Harbison and Ricardo Delgado.

President, Suzanne Baker, informed the members there would be no meeting April 13, instead those interested in making rain barrels may contact Jennifer Simek at 790-3921, if you want to go as a group to the Garden & Arts Center select the

May 1st date. The date for Carol Headrick's book review has been rescheduled for May 11, at 4:30 at the First Baptist Church.

Please bring your homemade ice-cream for the Hospital Fun Food Festival at 5:30, Saturday, April 24, at the Lynn County Show barn. Shirley Draper has a sign-up sheet to work and bring ice cream.

Bettye Green attended the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Caprock District's spring convention in Lubbock, March 20, bringing back many 1st place certificates the Phebe K. Warner Club received in Citizenship in Action, Historical People, Texas Heritage, Scholarship, Beautification, M.D. Anderson Project, Youth Short Story and Youth Poetry Writing.

The next meeting will be April 27 at the home of Suzanne Baker to install new officers.

Order Food From "Provider's Pantry"

"The Provider's Pantry" food ministry, under the direction of Tahoka Trinity Church, will be accepting monthly food orders at Tahoka Trinity Church on Friday, April 9th from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Orders using Lone Star cards will also be taken at this time.

This will be the last date to pay and place orders for the month and no orders will be taken after 6:00 p.m.

Distribution of food boxes will be Saturday, April 24th, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the Tahoka Trinity Church, 1925 Lockwood. For more information, contact Polly Smullen at 786-5349 or Charlene Williams at 759-4565.

Senior Citizens MENU

APRIL 5-9

Monday: Carne con pappas burritos, Mexican rice, refried beans, fruit

Tuesday: Pork chops, au gratin potatoes, corn & green onion rolls, strawberries & bananas

Wednesday: Navy bean soup, tossed salad, cornbread, rice crispy treats

Thursday: BBQ chicken, potato salad, red beans, biscuits, chocolate cream pie

Friday: Salmon patties, mac & cheese, sliced tomatoes, bread, cookies

Reminders & Activities:

• Handquilted baby quilts for sale! Absolutely beautiful ... \$35-\$50 available at the Center.

• Weekly domino night Mondays at 6:00. Come join us!

• "Timeless Treasures" cookbooks are available for \$12 at the Center, Lynn Co. News, Virginia's Beauty Salon, Huffaker Law Office and City/County Library.

• The recycle bin is open weekdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for can donations. After 1 p.m. and weekends, call Bianca at 201-9169 and she will arrange to accept can donations. Thank you!

Obituaries



Peggy Jolly

Peggy Jolly of Tahoka departed this life on March 27, 2010 at the age of 64 years. Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, March 29, 2010 at First Baptist Church in Tahoka with Rev. Richard Harbison officiating. Interment will follow at Nevels Cemetery.

She was born on June 8, 1945 in Lamesa to Roy Burdett and Doris (Putman). Mrs. Jolly married Bobby Ray Jolly on June 16, 1961 in Tahoka. She attended Tahoka High School and was a member of First Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Jolly own and operate Jolly Time Pizza in Tahoka.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband Bobby; two daughters, Vickie Parker and husband Truman and Debbie Jolly, both of Lubbock; one son Bobby Jolly Jr. and wife Traci of Tahoka; one brother Mike Burdett of Carson City, Nevada; eight grandchildren, Mandi, Mindi, Cory, Lynsy, Sam, Bretton, Chad and Bayle and six great-grandchildren: Jackquelyn, Kierra, Preslea, Laney, Averi and Dylin.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister Patsy Wyrick.

Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Vista Care Hospice 1717 Norfolk Ave. Lubbock, TX 79416

Arrangements are under the personal care of White Funeral Home in Tahoka. To register or send condolences online, please visit www.whitefuneralhome.com. (PAID)

at First Baptist Church in Tahoka with Rev. Richard Harbison officiating. Interment followed at Tahoka Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the direction of White Funeral Home in Tahoka. To register or send condolences online, please visit www.whitefuneral.com.

In lieu of flowers the family request donations be made to a charity of donor's choice. (PAID)



Albert Glenn Gage

Services for Albert Glenn Gage, 83, of Amarillo were held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday March 24, 2010 at Resthaven's Abbey Chapel in Lubbock with Brother Richard Harbison, minister of First Baptist Church Tahoka, officiating. Interment followed at Resthaven Memorial Park. He died March 21, 2010 at the Ussery-Roan Texas State Veterans Home in Amarillo.

He was born on November 21, 1926 to Albert Guy and Rosa Eleanor Duke Gage in Cross Plains. He was a Veteran of WWII serving in the Army as a MP in the Philippines. Upon returning to civilian life, he attended Wayland Baptist College and Baylor Baptist University. He graduated from Baylor with a Geology Major. He was an active member of the Gem and Mineral Society and was a member of the First Baptist Church, Lubbock.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Rosa Gage, two brothers, Johnny Eugene Gage and Bobby Wayne Gage.

Survivors include two sisters, Doris Stotts and husband Raymon of Tahoka, Dolores Earley and husband Kenneth of Amarillo; and one brother, James Gage and wife Carol of San Jose, CA.



Roy Riddle

Services for Roy Riddle, 74, of Tahoka were held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, March 29, 2010 at First Baptist Church in Tahoka with Rev. Richard Harbison officiating. He died on March 24, 2010. Interment followed at Nevels Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of White Funeral Home, Tahoka.

He was born on October 18, 1935 in Italy to T. R. and Rogers (Crumpton) Riddle. He attended Tahoka High School and Texas Tech. He worked as Director of Food Bank Farm and Orchard. He was a retired veteran of United States Army where he served as a Captain/Pilot and a life member of Vietnam Veterans of America; Downtown Bible Study Class, and First Baptist Church of Tahoka.

Survivors include one daughter Tina Strickland of Alabama; one son, William Nicholas Riddle of Jacksonville, Alabama; one brother, Steve Riddle of Ft. Worth; six sisters: Martha Coffey of Lamesa, Ginger Hays of Perryton, Linda McFarland of Jacksboro, Brenda Cooper of Carlsbad, NM, Donna Nailon of Artesia, NM and Pam Martin of Tahoka, and three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one daughter Salina Riddle.

In lieu of flowers, family requests memorial contributions be made in his memory to South Plains Food Bank-GRUB Program 4612 Locust Ave. Lubbock, TX 79404 or to First Baptist Church 1701 Ave K Tahoka, TX 79373.



Adopt a Pet!

Lynn County Animal Shelter lists adoptable pets online at www.petfinder.com. At the website, simply enter Tahoka, TX in the location box to bring up photos and lists of adoptable pets at Lynn County Animal Shelter and surrounding areas.

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

2008 Farm Bill and its Implementing Regulations Impact Virtually Every Farming Operation



Derry D. Harding



Brandon R. Lipps

Derry Harding has devoted a major part of his practice to agricultural law for over 30 years. Brandon Lipps has deep roots in agriculture. Both focus on consulting with farmers about how effectively to structure their farming operations to comply with the 2008 farm program requirements, in representing farmers when USDA performs an end-of-year review, in farm succession planning and more. They combine knowledge about the practicalities of farming operations with the complex federal rules and regulations under which farmers now operate.



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Kathi Lynn Brookshire

Kathi Brookshire of Tahoka departed this life on March 23, 2010 at the age of 49 years. She was born on August 3, 1960 in Big Spring to Raymond and Joyce (Tilley) Gary.

She graduated from O'Donnell High School in 1978 then she moved to Tahoka from O'Donnell in 1982. She worked as a secretary for F.S.A. offices until she retired in 2006.

Survivors include her parents; two sons, Stephen and wife Brandi Brookshire of Lubbock and Dustin Brookshire of Odessa; two brothers, Keith Gary of Arlington and Kevin Gary of Odessa; two sisters Kim Heap and Kashia Craig both of Big Lake and one granddaughter, MaKinlee

She was preceded in death by her grandparents.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 27, 2010

The Lynn County News

Tahoka, Texas 79373

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Good I Bingham at the Cro

Shigella ou

At a recent Meeting of the Hospital District there is an outbreak in the region. Shigella is a contagious bacterium that causes a wide range of symptoms in young children. Some signs of shigella are: high fever, nausea and vomiting, bowel movement diarrhea. The way to prevent practice good hygiene technique children to wash with warm water.

Please M

The Pleasant will be open April 4. Menu of meatloaf, fried chicken greens, squash cornbread and orders at 561-

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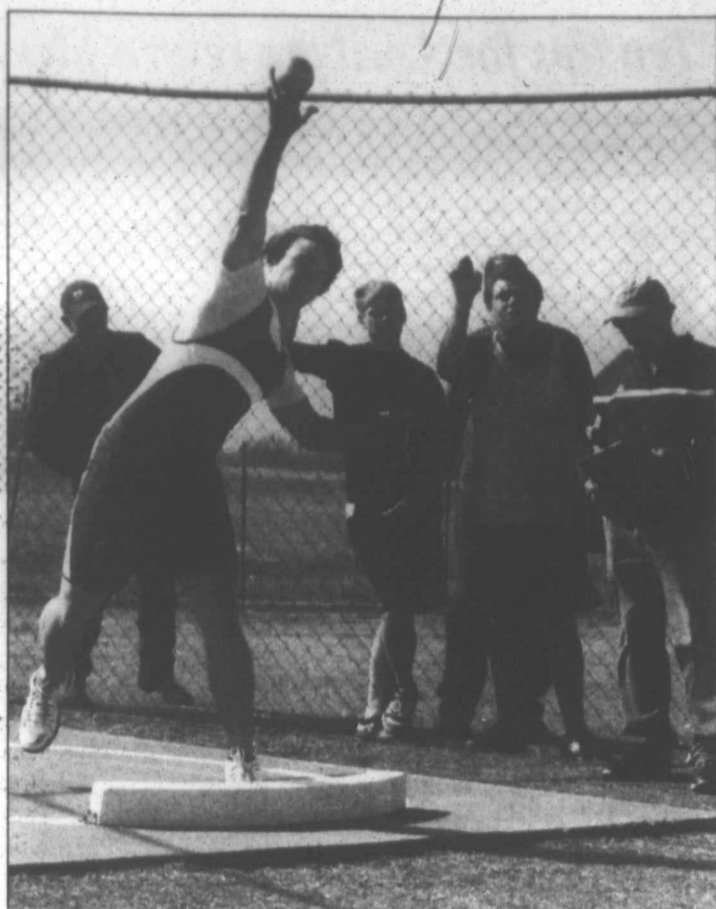
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Good thing that's heavy ... Tahoka's Jaime Bingham throws the shot put in the gusty winds last Friday at the Crosbyton track. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

County Government Month celebrated during April

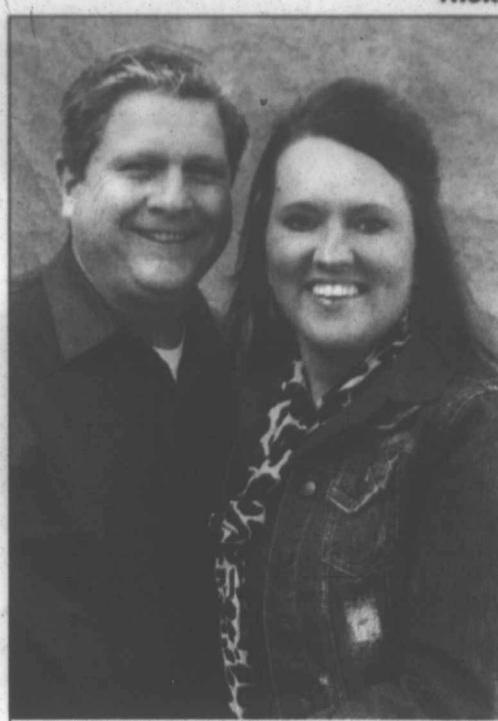
This year, Texas' 254 counties will celebrate April as County Government Month, promoting to their citizens the many important services provided by counties. In the past, one week every spring was designated as County Government Week, but beginning this year the National Association of Counties (NACo) expanded the celebration to the entire month of April.

Lynn County Commissioners met in a special called session Friday to approve a resolution concerning County Government Week, with commissioners Keith Wied and Brad Hammonds and County Judge H.G. Franklin present for the 15-minute session.

"Faced with ever-increasing service demands and state mandates, county governments in Texas are constantly on the lookout for ways to do more with less," said Gene Terry, executive director of the Texas Association of Counties. "As the functional arm of state government and the government closest to the people, counties are responsible for maintaining public records, supporting the justice system, providing adequate infrastructure, caring for the indigent, along with a host of other duties."

County Judge H.G. Franklin added, "We want our citizens to know that their county government is there for them in these tough economic times. We welcome folks to come visit their courthouse any time, but particularly this month as we celebrate the oldest form of local government in the United States. County government in Texas has been a major partner in providing services to citizens since the early Republic days, and we are still doing so in the most cost-effective ways possible."

Important county services include operating the criminal justice and courts systems, protecting the public with law



Couple celebrates 25th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Hall of Tahoka will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on Saturday, April 10 at 2:00 p.m. at the Church of the Firstborn located at 1025 Ave. K in Tahoka with a reception given by their children.

Hall and the former Angie Bryant of Morgantown, Ind. were married April 6, 1985. They have five children and one grandchild.

Hall is employed by Lyntegar Electric Cooperative in Tahoka, and Angie has a home daycare. The couple are members of the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn in Tahoka.



Shigella outbreak

At a recent Infection Control Meeting Lynn county Hospital District staff learned that there is an outbreak of Shigella in the region. The City of Lubbock sent out a health alert on March 19. Shigella is a highly contagious bacterium that can infect the digestive tract and cause a wide range of symptoms in young children.

Some signs and symptoms of shigella are *abdominal cramps *high fever *loss of appetite* nausea and vomiting *painful bowel movements and *severe diarrhea. Regardless the BEST way to prevent shigellosis is to practice good hand washing techniques. Teaching your children to wash with soap and warm water and to sing the hap-

py birthday song to themselves twice before rinsing will go a long way in keeping this bacteria from infecting your little one.

Shigellosis can go away on its own but some cases will need antibiotics to help shorten the course of the illness. If you suspect your child has shigellosis, call your doctor immediately. If untreated your child could become dehydrated quickly which may lead to serious complications.

If your child does become infected you should keep them away from other children. Diapers of a child with shigellosis should be disposed of in a sealed garbage bag and wipe down the changing area with disinfectant after every use.

enforcement and emergency management, maintaining infrastructure, managing and protecting public records, meeting state mandates for indigent criminal defense and providing an equitable property tax system.

"Counties provide these and other essential services through the local control of their voters and most often without financial assistance from the state," Franklin said. "We are proud of our county and its operation for our citizens."

Lynn County officials are planning a celebration towards the end of the month, but details have not yet been finalized. More information on the celebration will be available later this month.

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806-866-0101 • Office
kbsprabery@rushrealtors.com

Pleasant Grove MENU

The Pleasant Grove kitchen will be open on Easter Sunday, April 4. Menu includes choice of meatloaf, chicken fried steak, fried chicken, or ham; collard greens, squash, black-eyed peas, cornbread and dessert. Call in orders at 561-1019.

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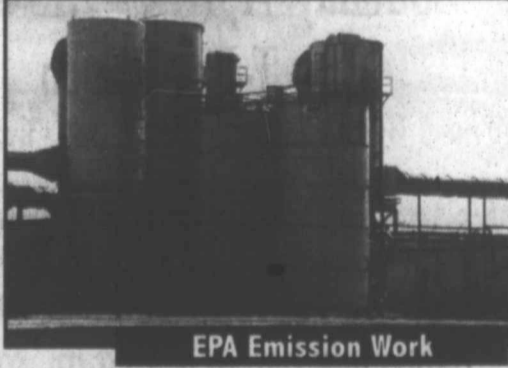
VOTE

Toby Taylor


FOR Lynn County Commissioner, Pct. 4



Commercial Construction



EPA Emission Work



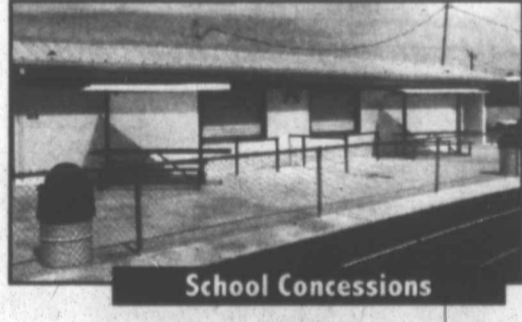
Paving Work on Jobsites

Being in construction for 28 years -- the last 14 years as owner of Taylor's Millwright Service -- I have taken great pride in each project I have done.


Regardless of the size of the project, from commercial construction to a small carport, my customers have always been first priority. If elected commissioner, I will strive to keep the same mentality with the residents of Lynn County.

In today's economy, as a business owner, I have learned to be conservative and will carry that attitude as commissioner. I will strive to get the most out of every tax dollar.


If elected, I feel my 28 years of construction experience will enable me to bring a new perspective to projects not only in Precinct 4, but all of Lynn County.



School Concessions



Wind Energy Experience



Donated labor to construct
New Home Community Center

Republican Primary Run-off Election is Tuesday, April 13 (Early voting: April 6-9)

Paid political advertising by Toby Taylor, 1461 FM 211, Wilson, Tx 79381

District track meets scheduled next week

District Track Meet for Tahoka will be held next Tuesday and Thursday (April 6 & 8) at New Deal. The 11 teams include Anton, Crosbyton, Morton, New Deal, Plains, Ralls, Seagraves, Smyer, Sundown, Whiteface and Tahoka.

The other three schools in the county are in the District #4 Track Meet at Borden County on Friday, April 9. Those 12 teams include Ackerly Sands, Gail Borden, Ira, Lamesa Klondike, Lehorah Grady, Loop, New Home, O'Donnell, Southland, Welch Dawson, Wellman-Union, and Wilson.

Winners from District #3 and District #4 will meet up at the Area Track Meet, scheduled for Friday, April 16 at Sundown.



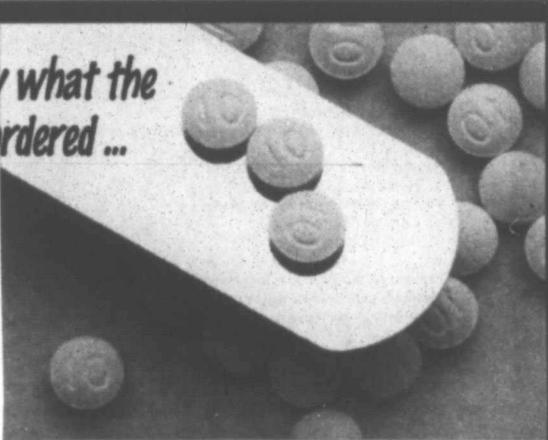
Dogs lead the pack ... The Tahoka boys dominated the 200M Dash by bringing home all three medals at the Crosbyton track meet on Friday. Xavier Zamarron (Gold), Ian Zamarron (Silver), and Joell Loudermilk (Bronze) are pictured here. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)



Zach at bat ... Sophomore Zach Garcia gets a hit in a baseball game against Crosbyton. Tahoka lost the district contest 9-4 in a hard fought game last Tuesday night in Tahoka. Tino DeLeon is warming up on deck while teammates in the dugout watch the game. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

Donate Items for
Lynn County Hospital's
Fun/Food Fest
Saturday, April 24
at Lynn County Show Barn!
Sponsored by Tahoka Rotary Club
(Proceeds benefit our local hospital)
For more info, contact
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St. Jude's sets fish fry on Good Friday

St. Jude Men's Organization is hosting their first annual Fish Fry on Good Friday, April 2 at St. Jude's fellowship hall, located on the corner of South 4th and Ave. M in Tahoka. Cost is \$6 per plate and includes fish nuggets, hush puppies, French fries, coleslaw, tartar sauce/ketchup and tea. Dine-in and carry-out plates will be available from 3-7 p.m. Call in orders at 561-4436.

The community is invited to attend. If manpower is available the men's organization will also offer delivery.

Tahoka Tumblers compete in New Deal meet

The Tahoka Tumblers competed in the New Deal Tumbling meet on Saturday March 27. The following entries awarded were: 1st Place- Emily Smith, Kaycee Swinford, Estevon Calvillo, Shane Wiseman, Nataly Taylor, Thomas Sullivan, Diego Pena, Karlie Swinford, Nadalie Carrasco, Callie Nevill, Marisol Vega, Kaylyn Green, Alyssa Dotson, Layney Vega, Yulissa Villegas and Charlie Duran. 2nd Place winners were: Natalie Whitley, Jacob Tew, Hope Quintero, Madilyn Conner, Malorie Liendo, Jackquelyn Proffitt, Katie Crank, Kalaya Jackson, MyKeah DeLeon, Evelyn Hardt, Sarah Crank and Megan Alvarado.

3rd Place winners were: Gabby DeLeon, London Williams, Amy Tew, Kylie McNeely, Ragan Whitley and Megan Coronado.

Ten tips for April tax return filers

Information from the Internal Revenue Service

Historically, more than 35 percent of tax returns are filed in April. With the tax deadline of April 15 approaching, the IRS offers 10 ways to reduce stress at tax time to those who have not yet filed a tax return.

"There is no need to be in line at the post office at the eleventh hour on April 15," said Clay Sanford, an IRS spokesman in Dallas. "Our best advice is to e-file now and pay later. You can electronically file your return now and schedule a payment with an electronic funds withdrawal from your bank account on April 15. If you are due a refund, make sure you e-file and select direct deposit—you can receive your money in as little as two weeks."

1. E-file your return: Consider filing electronically instead of using paper tax forms. Choosing to e-file is the best way to ensure your return is accurate and complete. Plus, e-file programs help you check for deductions and credits you might otherwise miss if you file using paper forms.

2. Review tax I.D. numbers: Remember to carefully check all identification numbers on your return. Incorrect or illegible Social Security Numbers can delay or reduce a tax refund.

3. Double-check your figures: Whether you are filing electronically or by paper, review all the amounts you transferred over from your W-2 or 1099.

4. Review your math: Taxpayers filing paper returns should also make sure that they have correctly figured the refund or balance due and have used the right figure from the tax table. It's much easier when you e-file; the computer does the math for you!

5. Sign and date your return: Both spouses must sign a joint return, even if only one had income. Anyone paid to prepare a return must also sign it.

6. Choose Direct Deposit: To get your refund up to four weeks faster, select Direct Deposit and the IRS will zap your refund directly into your bank account. It's also safer than getting a paper check in a mailbox.

7. How to make a payment: People sending a payment should make the check out to "United States Treasury" and should enclose it with, but not attach it to the tax return or the Form 1040-V, Payment Voucher, if used. Write your name, address, Social Security Number, telephone number, tax year and form number on the check or money order. You can also pay with a credit card. See IRS.gov for details.

8. File an extension: Taxpayers who will not be able to file

a return by the April deadline should request an extension of time to file. Remember, the extension of time to file is not an extension of time to pay.

9. Visit the IRS Web site: IRS.gov has forms, publications and helpful information on a variety of tax subjects, available around the clock. You may even discover information about a credit or deduction for which you qualify this year.

10. Review your return one more time: Errors may delay the processing of your return and any expected refund.



Adopt a Pet!

Lynn County Animal Shelter adopts pets online at www.Petfinder.com. At the website, simply enter Tahoka, TX in the location box to bring up photos and lists of adoptable pets at Lynn County Animal Shelter and surrounding areas.

Lynn County Animal Shelter
Abbey Redman, Director
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OAP advances to district ... The New Home ISD One Act Play received top honors in zone competition to advance to district competition this week. Pictured here are cast and crew, in back from left, Director Lisa Westhoff, Amanda Whitten, Shelley McCann, Kassidi Gonzales, and in front, Abbey Melton, Jacobi Ford, Naomi Nevarez, and Alex Cantu.

**Breaking out of the zone:
New Home One Act Play advances to district competition**

The New Home One Act Play Team competed at the 4-A Zone 1 Competition Tuesday, March 23 at Sands Auditorium in Ackerly. New Home ISD and Borden County received top honors and advanced to District Competition at O'Donnell on Tuesday, March 30.

New Home performed "Mustardseed", a comedy written by Doug Cooney. The comedy portrays four high-school-aged girls cast as fairies in a regional production of William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Confined to the green room during performances, the girls occupy them-

selves with microwave popcorn, backstage gossip and an endless card game called Spit!

Team members, directed by Lisa Westhoff, include actresses' Kassidi Gonzales, Kari Maeker, Abbey Melton, and Amanda Whitten. Crew Members include Alex Cantu (lighting), Jacobi Ford (stage manager), Shelley McCann (props) and Naomi Nevarez (sound).

Cassidy Gonzales and Amanda Whitten received honors as all-star cast. Alex Cantu received honors as All Star Crew. Kari Maeker and Abbey Melton both received honorable mention.

"I would like to thank Darjeene Neiman, grandmother of Kassidi Gonzales, who graciously volunteered to design and sew our costumes for the performance," said Westhoff. "She is very much appreciated!"

Other advancing schools in District 4 are Klondike and Grady.

Tuesday's performances will begin with Borden County at 2:00, New Home at 3:00, Klondike at 4:00 and Grady at 5:00. An awards ceremony will begin at 6:30.

Rep. Heflin announces Student Alcohol Awareness Contest

State Representative Joe Heflin is joining in the fight against underage drinking with the Texas Hospitality Association (THA) through a statewide poster contest that will award a \$5,000 educational scholarship to a 2010 graduating high school senior.

Rep. Heflin said, "We are very excited about involving Texas high school students in developing a message that will combat underage drinking and promote alcohol awareness throughout the state."

THA will award a \$5,000 scholarship to the Texas high school senior who designs and submits the best poster conveying the message or theme: "If you are under 21, it's illegal to consume or purchase alcoholic beverages in Texas."

The contest is open to all 2010 high school seniors. Participating students have until May 14 to design and submit their poster to THA. Artwork must be an original design and may be computer or electronically generated, hand drawn, or photographed.

The contest winner will be determined by a vote of each Texas House of Representatives office, and the winning poster will be distributed statewide to establishments that sell or serve alcohol.

For complete details on the 2010 high school seniors' \$5,000 scholarship poster contest visit: www.texashospitalityassociation.com.

Rep. Heflin represents Texas House District 85, including Lynn County. He may be reached at his Capitol Office in Austin, 512-463-0604, at his District Office in Crosbyton, 806-675-0017, or in Big Spring, at 432-213-2897.



Taryn's ball ... Taryn Bishop (#3) hits a ball for Tahoka while Nikki Box occupies third base, in a win over Sundown on March 23. (LCN PHOTO by Tina Wuensche)

Kids under 4'9" are under-protected.

The #1 killer of children is car crashes. With a booster seat, your child is 59% less likely to be injured in a car crash. If they're under 4'9" they should be in a booster seat. It raises them up for a proper fit. And the right fit makes all the difference to their future.

Ad Council.org www.boosterseat.gov nhisa



Alien visit ... A local high school student, perhaps running late between classes, was probably the only person in town with a camera in her hands when she noticed a spacecraft hovering in the Tahoka skies, proving that even aliens in galaxies far, far away have heard that Tahoka is a friendly town to all who visit.

(APRIL FOOL'S PHOTO submitted Skyler McCleskey, THS)

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Tuesday: Steak fingers, mashed potatoes, Calif blend veg, pork'n beans, Texas toast, pear cup
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Friday: Hamburgers, trimmings, cookie

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Cotton stalk destruction key in weevil eradication

By Ron Smith,
Southwest Farm Press

Cotton stalk destruction is a key element in the final stages of boll weevil eradication, but volunteer, herbicide tolerant and non-commercial cotton plants make the job a little tougher.

"We've made a lot of progress with boll weevil eradication in Texas," says David Kostroun, Texas Department of Agriculture. "But the closer we get to completion, the more important it is to work even harder."

Kostroun told participants in the Blackland Income Growth Conference in Waco that current threats to the program include moving weevils on equipment from quarantined areas into zones considered functionally eradicated. "And live stalks provide overwinter hosts for weevils," he said.

Another potential threat could be losing the \$49 million from the Texas Legislature that supports the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication foundation, money many urban legislators would like to grab for other uses. "Restricting next session could change some rural districts into more urban ones," he said, and put more pressure on farm program funding.

The Texas Legislature passed a bill last session that protects some boll weevil eradication funds. In the past, producers with stalk destruction violations paid an administrative penalty that went into the State General Fund, Kostroun said. The 2009 legislation puts those fees into the boll weevil

eradication fund.

He said some stalk destruction deadlines also changed to better represent individual zones' planting and harvest dates. "We have 10 active eradication zones and they have different stalk destruction deadlines. Deadlines are established to allow adequate time for harvest and stalk destruction and to maintain a maximum host-free period. TBWEF submits recommendations for deadlines." He said TDA considers average planting date, accumulation of 2,400 heat units for crop maturity, and 50 days to harvest and destroy stalks.

"Only two areas, 7.1 and 8.2, needed modifications. New dates will be effective for the 2010 growing season.

Deadline extensions are allowed under certain conditions. "Producers should submit extension requests at least 10 days prior to the destruction deadline." Without an approved extension, failure to destroy cotton stalks could result in a fine of \$5 per acre per week.

"Kostroun said the 10-day request window gives growers ample time to make other arrangements for harvest in case the extension is denied. "If the field has been harvested but stalks not destroyed, extensions may be requested up to the deadline."

Factors TDA considers in granting or denying extensions include weather that affects planting and harvest timing. "We can check weather conditions on a map," Kostroun said. TDA granted several extensions in 2009 because of a wet harvest season.

"We approved some blanket extensions and some individual requests," he said. "The Brazos bottom had three extensions and Zone 6 had a 15-day extension."

Once a producer destroys stalks he meets the stalk destruction requirements," Kostroun said. "But it is the producer's responsibility to maintain the field as non-hostable. If a hostable field is found, producers are notified and have seven days to destroy regrowth." They may



We love to read ... Tahoka Elementary students in 4th grade (bottom photo) and 5th grade (top photo) volunteered to read 5 out of the 20 books selected from the Texas Bluebonnet Award Reading program list and then they cast ballots voting on their favorite book. Tahoka joined schools all over the Lone Star State participating in this event. All students that complete the 5 books will be awarded a field trip at the end of the year. The winning book chosen by Texas students this year is "Help Me, Mr. Mutt!" by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel.



be granted a grace period.

TDA may charge a hostable commercial cotton fee on stalks remaining hostable after the deadline. That fee is \$5 per acre per week for the first five weeks and increases to \$7.50 per acre per week after that. Those fees go into the TBWEF to cover eradication costs.

Non-commercial cotton is causing more problems for TDA and eradication officials, Kostroun said. "We're finding volunteer cotton in other crops, in non-crop areas and in urban settings." The problem is exacerbated with volunteer Roundup Ready cotton in Roundup Ready corn. Volunteer cotton is showing up more often in south Texas, Kostroun said.

Hunters add to the problem by feeding cottonseed to wildlife. Kostroun showed slides of cotton plants emerging around deer feeders in wooded areas.

"Those plants are regulated in quarantined areas," he said.

Anyone with hostable, non-commercial cotton stalks after destruction deadlines are subject to fines. "Once TDA notifies property owners of hostable cotton they have 14 days to destroy the stalks," Kostroun said. "After 14 days, they are subject to the \$5 per acre per week fine. Failure to pay results in an administrative fee."

Kostroun said cotton producers and landowners interested in more information about cotton stalk destruction should check the TDA web site, at www.TexasAgriculture.gov.



Buzzard? ...

During the last week some large birds have been circling Tahoka during the evening hours, looking like some type of buzzard. This photo was taken from North 3rd Street, one of about a dozen birds that were swooping in big circles overhead. They show up about this time every year for a few weeks.

(LCN PHOTO by Gary Jones)

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