

THE FLOYD COUNTY Hesperian

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a view from

The
Lamplighter

By Ken Towery

It's that time again, a time to look back, and a time to try, as best we can, to look forward into the new year.

Overall we think it has been a pretty good year for folks in Floyd County. Both Floydada and Lockney saw some good things happen, as did communities all across the county. Obviously not everyone can look back on 1988 with nostalgia. As always there were personal tragedies in families. Some lost loved ones. Some lost their home to fires. Some just had a bad year. But all in all it seems that most of our citizens ended the year better than they began, which is a very good thing indeed.

Our economy is in better shape by just about every measure. Community "spirit", never lacking, exhibited itself in a number of community endeavors, all of which were highly successful. The county fair, the Old Settlers' Reunion, the "Punkin Days" celebration, all will be hard to improve upon in terms of participation and enjoyment.

In Lockney the City Council embarked upon a "clean-up, fix-up" campaign that is making a noticeable difference in the quality of life for its citizens. True, the Council had to bite the bullet, in a political sense. But they did, and we thank them.

And in Floydada the Chamber of Commerce, after completing a highly successful celebration of the lowly pumpkin, embarked on a "Shop at Home" campaign, for which we thank them as well. Now we won't feel quite so lonely when we mount our soapbox concerning that subject.

Too, our citizens came through what can only be described as a "very active" political year without too much acrimony. There was a great deal of competition, and that was good. It never hurts for the people to have a choice. They are even coming around to that idea in Mexico, and if we can believe reports, the Soviet Union is edging closer to the idea. Soon, if the trend continues, even the people in South Texas may have a choice. And if things get completely out of hand down there, they might even begin counting the ballots honestly.

But what about the new year? We feel somewhat optimistic about it, with our fingers crossed. Back-to-back good years in most crops have placed folks in position to weather any possible downturns much better than was the case three or four years ago. Certain potentialities do worry us, however. The carryover of cotton from this year's tremendous crop is bound to be heavy. And the nation's economic upsurge, now perhaps a record in duration, is almost bound to see a slowdown. And the weather. Those of us in agricultural communities are governed by about three things, the weather, national politics, and hard work. We can count on the hard work. Concerning the weather and politics about all we can do is pray, hope for the best, and prepare for the worst.

On the national scene our crystal ball is somewhat clouded. The Congress, dominated as it is by the "tax and spend" crowd, will no doubt be at war with the President over where to tax and where to spend. Judging from "feelers" they are putting out on T.V. talk shows, the Congressional leadership has already made up its mind about one area where additional spending is absolutely necessary. They want a pay hike, from about \$90,000 per year (plus expenses) to about \$130,000 per year. They deserve it, they say. They are making tremendous sacrifices to serve the public, they say. They also promise us that if we swallow their line they will begin doing a better job, and will quit charging hefty fees for making speeches to special interest groups, for whom they later vote. The last time this subject came up, a few ears ago, they didn't even have to make those promises. Speaker Jim Wright engineered the deal in such fashion.

Continued on Page 3

Fire consumes Collins home



A RAGING FIRE AND HIGH WINDS destroyed the home of Tommy Collins and heavily damaged the home of Amado Morales, Wednesday night Dec. 28. The combined efforts of Floydada, Lockney and Dougherty fire departments contained the fire to the immediate area, although blowing embers caused grass fires several blocks away.

Staff Photo

Lockney High School TEAMS test scores up from 1987

Lockney teams test results higher than 1987.

Lockney High School students in the eleventh grade who took the Exit Level TEAMS (Texas Educational Assessment of Minimum Skills) test in October scored above the results of the test given in 1987 and above the statewide averages.

According to Charlotte Mitchell, counselor for the Lockney school system, 88% of the juniors mastered the

Mathematic section. This score is up 17% from 1987 and 96% of the students mastered the Language Arts section which is the same figure as last year.

The statewide average for students in Texas who took the language arts test was 90% mastery. The scale score for Lockney juniors, a mathematical conversion which allows for adjustment in test difficulty from one administration to the next, was 804 this year as compared to 783 last year, up 21 points.

88% of the juniors at Lockney High School mastered the mathematical section of the test. The mathematical scale rose from 767 in 1987 to 813 this year, up 46 points.

Statewide only 75% of the students mastered both tests, compared to 88% of the students in Lockney.

Mrs. Mitchell states that "Congratulations should go to the students and to the teachers who taught them the skills measured by the EXIT Level of the TEAMS. Their outstanding performance is something for which they can be proud".

Scores in 1987 placed Lockney High School in the top 25% of the state's schools. With even higher scores for 1988, chances are good that Lockney High School will again place in the top quarter of the high schools in the state.

Students in grades 3, 5, 7, and 9 will take the TEAMS test in February 1989. Students in grade 1 will take the test in April, 1989. The TEAMS program is a part of the Texas Education Agency's comprehensive assessment plan for Texas students. The test was designed to test students in mathematics, reading, and writing at grades 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 and in mathematics and English language arts at grade 11 and at grade 12 for those students who did not demonstrate mastery of the TEAMS test in grade 11.

A residential fire, Wednesday, December 28, not only burned one home completely to the ground, but it also damaged nearby structures and carried burning embers as far away as the courthouse lawn.

A total of eight fire trucks and 37 firemen responded to a call at 7:00 p.m. of a fire at the home of Tommy Collins, 315 East Kentucky. After arriving, firemen found not only that residence engulfed in flames, but they also had to fight the fire in the home of Amado Morales, at 313 East Kentucky.

"We believe the fire at 315 East Kentucky was caused by a wood burning stove," said Fire Chief Larry Guthrie, "but we can't be sure. It was an old wood-frame house and very dry. It burned very quickly."

The intense heat and flying embers were not only responsible for setting the home of Morales on fire, but also created grass fires two blocks away.

"The Morales home sustained extensive heat and smoke damage throughout the house, and one room was destroyed by fire," said Guthrie. "There was no one at home at the Collins residence, and luckily there were no injuries."

"We lost everything in the fire," said Amado Morales.

Besides grass fires, a shed located at 307 East Kentucky, belonging to Mrs. Ernest Torres, was also burned.

"Floydada Fire Department had five trucks and 24 men fighting this fire," said Guthrie. "Lockney Fire Department sent two trucks and Dougherty also had a truck there. The grass fires were kept under control by the Lockney Fire Department. They also kept other exposures wet, such as the sheds along the alley," said Guthrie.

Fire was not the only thing firemen had to fight that night. On some of the trucks, miserably cold temperatures were evident in the ice forming around the hose connections. Winds also fanned the flames and carried burning embers as far as the courthouse lawn.

"We would like to thank everyone who helped," said Volunteer Carroll Sims. "We not only had the help of the Lockney Fire Department and Dougherty, but also had help from Floydada Police Department, the Sheriff's Office, and city employees."

Love Funds started to aid families

NUNCIO FAMILY

A Love Fund has been started at the First National Bank in Lockney to pay the funeral expenses of Fedela Nuncio. The family will greatly appreciate any help you can give them.

MORALES FAMILY

A Love Fund has been started for the Amado Morales family. His house was burned Wednesday night and everything was lost due to fire or smoke damage. The fund has been started at Sunbelt Savings. For more information contact Rosa Linda Villarreal at 983-5090, Janie Flores 983-2820, or Thelma Martinez at 983-3988 after 5:00 p.m.

ASCS to hold payment limitation meeting

A payment limitation meeting will be held for all interested persons at the Massie Activity Center, Tuesday, January 10, 1989, at 9:00 a.m.

New rules will be discussed and a question and answer session will be conducted. The 1989 Farm Program will also be discussed.

Churches plan "Kick Off the Year" rally

The First United Methodist Church and the First Baptist Church of Lockney are very excited to announce that on Sunday, January 22, a "Kick-Off the Year" youth rally will be held at the First Baptist Church.

The rally will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a movie which is titled "A Man Called Norman". Following the movie there will be special music presented by Jeff and K'Linn Nobel. Jeff and K'Linn are a very experienced couple whom God has used powerfully in the lives of youth. Jeff is currently working with the junior high youth at the First Baptist Church in Plainview.

After the music portion of the rally there will be a guest speaker. Our guest speaker will be Bro. Rick Threadgill who is currently the pastor of Sweet Street Baptist Church in Tahoka. Rick has pastored in several states and has held many youth revivals. He is a very dynamic speaker and has been used by God in a very powerful way.

Finally there will be everyone's favorite — hot dogs!

This rally is open to all junior high and high school youth in Lockney. Please come and be a part of this exciting event. If anyone has any questions concerning this rally, please feel free to contact Donald Webster at the First Baptist Church, or Sydney Jackson at the First United Methodist Church.

Oklahoma pilot escapes injuries following New Year's Eve plane crash

Irwin W. Tucker III, a pilot from Martha, Oklahoma, miraculously escaped unharmed, when his plane loaded with the poison Parathion crashed into a dry lake bottom, in the 400 block of N. Main behind Scott Gin. The accident occurred December 31, at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Tucker, flying a 1974 Cessna Ag Truck Spray plane, told The Hesperian that his plane began losing power immediately after take-off. "I ran out of runway quickly and I had to climb to clear the power line and bank west to miss the residential area. Anytime you bank you lose lift. I got the plane evened out but started losing power again when I tried to turn back. I saw the gins, trees and power lines and I knew I had to put it down. The power then just stopped on me and the plane dropped."

At first glance one can't understand how the plane missed the trees and landed in the small area. "I was coming in from the east," explains Tucker. "When I started going down I was most concerned about landing tail first so I wouldn't turn over since I had all that

chemical in the plane. I managed to bring it down and keep the wings level. I knew I was heading for a rock pile so I stomped the rudder and did a 'ground loop' in order to stop the plane and miss the rock pile. That spun the plane around facing south."

According to Sgt. Harold Snell, of the Floydada Police Department, "The landing gear collapsed before the plane stopped. One gear was left at impact and the other ended up folded under the plane. He went approximately 150 feet from the impact before it stopped."

"The Parathion spilled all over the ground," said Snell, "Parents should be warned not to let their children play in that area. If they have already visited the sight, please watch your children. If they should become ill within the next week, call a doctor and check on poisoning. Parathion can be absorbed through the skin."

Tucker who has been flying for seventeen years says this is the second time a plane he has been flying crashed. "The first time I was in the hospital for awhile."



SO VERY CLOSE—Pilot Irwin W. Tucker II, of Martha, Oklahoma, walked away from what could have been a much more disastrous situation when his spray plane lost power shortly after takeoff at Floydada airport and crashed

landed near the Scott Gin. The pile of concrete rubble loomed large in the pilot's eye as he successfully maneuvered the falling plane to a relatively safe landing. —Staff photo



GRAND OPENING--J&B Variety Store celebrated their grand opening, January 3, with the help of the Women's Chamber of Commerce and well wishers who gathered for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Shown here immediately after the ribbon was cut are: (left-right) Shirley Varner, Virginia Dechant, James Dechant, Mayor Parnell Powell, Bobby Emert, Nettie Ruth Whittle, Sabrina Emert, and in the back is Chamber President Monte Williams. Staff Photo

Courtroom Activities

In county court on January 3, 1989, Herman Rafa Sustaita, 37, of Floyd County pled guilty to DWI. He was fined \$400.00 plus court costs of \$90.50, and sentenced to 180 days in jail which was probated for two years.

Vinny Dennis Tierce, 29, of Floyd County, pled guilty to DWI. He was

fined \$400.00 plus court costs of \$90.50 and sentenced to 180 days confinement in the county jail which was probated for two years.

Fabian Torres III, pled guilty to driving while his license was suspended under the safety responsibility act. He was fined \$100.00 plus court costs of

\$88.50 and sentenced to four days in jail.

Torres also pled guilty to failure to maintain financial responsibility. This was his second offense and he was fined \$300.00 plus court costs of \$88.50. He was also sentenced to 60 days in jail which was probated for six months.

James Garland Wilson, 62, of Floyd County, was charged with DWI on December 28, 1988. There was no disposition on this case.

Give the gift of sight

Give the gift of sight. If you know a disadvantaged elderly person who needs medical eye care, encourage them to call the National Eye Care Project for medical information and treatment.

By calling this toll-free Helpline number, 1-800-222-EYES, eligible callers will be referred to a nearby eye physician and surgeon (ophthalmologist) who has volunteered to provide care at no out-of-pocket cost to the patient.

In Texas, more than 10,448 persons have called the Helpline, and more than 6,929 elderly residents have been referred for treatment. An impressive number of cases of potentially blinding eye disease have been diagnosed and treated by Texas ophthalmologists, including:

- more than 2059 cases of cataract,
- more than 203 cases of glaucoma;
- more than 436 cases of macular degeneration;
- more than 101 cases of diabetic retinopathy

More than 220,000 people have called the national Helpline, and more than 146,000 elderly Americans have been referred to eye physicians for diagnosis and treatment.

"Ophthalmologists estimate that

about half of all blindness suffered by elderly people could be prevented by early diagnosis and treatment," said Ronald J. Pinkenburg, MD, president of the Texas Ophthalmological Association. "The National Eye Care Project is working to remove financial obstacles that may prevent older people from obtaining sight-saving care," Dr. Pinkenburg said.

Sponsored by the Texas Ophthalmological Association and the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the National Eye Care Project is designed to help financially disadvantaged U.S. citizens or legal residents, age 65 and older, who do not have access to an ophthalmologist.

For this project, volunteer ophthalmologists are accepting Medicare and/or other health insurance assignment as payment in full for their services. If a patient lacks insurance coverage, medical eye care is provided without charge. Note: Eye glasses, prescription drugs and hospital care are not covered by the program.

Please pass along the toll-free Helpline number to a needy elderly person. The number is 1-800-222-EYES (1-800-222-3937). The NECP is open weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pacific time.

Social Security News

The most common reason for failure to receive a Social Security check is not reporting a change of address. A change of address may be reported to any Social Security office by phone or mail.

Some people apparently think that's all they have to do to report a change of address to the post office. However, the post office will forward mail to the new address for only 1 year, after which any mail that does not contain the new ad-

dress is returned to the sender.

People who have their checks sent directly to their bank and fail to report a change of address, also risk having their checks interrupted. Social Security periodically checks to see if the proper person is receiving the checks and if there is no response to the mailed inquiry, the checks may be stopped.

In addition, direct depositors who fail to report a change of address may miss receiving important information mailed to beneficiaries that may affect their checks.

If you have any questions about reporting your new address, or if you wish to file a claim call 1-800-2345-SSA.

Van Hoose art on display at bank during January



FLORENCE VAN HOOSE

County Arts Assn. casts Christie play

The cast for the Agatha Christie play, the Mouse Trap has been selected by Director Dana Galloway.

The role of Molly will be Ginger Warren and Miss Case Well will be Connie Bertrand.

Mrs. Boyle is Virginia Taylor and the role of Giles will be Zane Poulson. Major Metcalf is Dallas Ramsey. The role of Christopher Wren is Tim Julian. The role of Mr. Paravicini is John Odom. The role of Sgt. Trotter is Grant Hambright.

The play will be produced dinner theatre style in Floydada, on Friday February 3, and in Lockney on Saturday, February 4. Tickets will be \$15.00 for dinner and the play, or \$7.50 for the play alone.

The Floyd County Arts Association, sponsor of the play would like to thank all those who auditioned for the cast.



Some kangaroos live in treetops.

As I begin my term in office I would like to thank the voters of the 110th Judicial District for allowing me to have the opportunity to serve as your District Attorney. My office door will always be open.

Becky McPherson

Holiday burglaries investigated

A family gone for the holidays returned January 1 to find that their home, in the 200 block of West Virginia, had been burglarized. Stolen were five guns and personal papers. After reporting the burglary to police however, the owners were surprised to find that police had already recovered three of the guns that had been stolen. Police had only to wait for a report to find out who the guns belonged to.

According to Sgt. Harold Snell, "Some kids playing in an area referred to as 'Devil's Hill', on the south end of town, discovered three guns hidden in a tree. They called the police and turned the guns over to us."

After the burglary report, police were able to return the property and begin an

investigation. The investigation resulted in the arrest of two adults and one juvenile. "One of the adults and the juvenile will be charged with burglary. The other adult will be charged with possession and disposing of stolen property," said Snell.

The total loss in property from the burglary was estimated at \$2,460.00, however all of the property except two guns were returned to the owners. "They got everything back except for two single-shot shotguns," said Snell. The loss remained at approximately \$118.00.

On New Year's Eve, December 31, Officer Darrell Gooch arrested one man, Cecil Arredondo, 51, of Lockney, for DWI. He was arrested on 12th Street at 11:15 p.m. A passenger with him was

arrested for public intoxication.

On December 28, a pickup parked in front of the junior high, was burglarized. The vent was broken to obtain entry and the dashboard was damaged trying to take out the radio and equalizer, which was not taken. However a red cloth cassette holder containing 35 tapes was taken. Damage and loss is estimated at \$380.00.

A Peterbilt truck parked behind B&G Harvesting, in the 100 block of S. 12th, was entered on December 27. Taken was an Escort radar detector and a Llama .22 automatic pistol (blue in color). Loss was estimated at \$350.00.

Service available for some cancer patients

The American Cancer Society announced a new patient service available to all cancer patients, the "Guestroom Program." This program provides temporary housing for patients who must travel for cancer related treatment and checkups free of charge.

"We have had this program in other cities in Texas like Houston and Dallas," said Emily Johnston, Floydada Unit Patient Services chairman. "This is the first time we've had it available in Lubbock."

Several Lubbock hotels are participating in this program. "There are specific guidelines, so anyone in need of this service should give me a call," said Johnston. "We have several other services we can also help with such as equipment, counseling and information. Just call our District office in Lubbock at 794-5808, or pick up a copy of the guidelines from Linda Matsler, chairman of the Floydada Unit, at 122 E. California."

Gross sales up in Lockney

A recently issued report concerning sales and use tax analysis shows an increase of 22.35% for Lockney over the rebate received for the same period in 1987.

Lockney received a rebate check in the amount of \$3,291.28 for the one percent city sales tax levied on sales during the month of October. The amount received for October, 1987 was \$2,960.05.

Total rebates to date in 1988 amount to \$48,864.22, a 4.44% decrease from the \$51,136.97 collected at this time in 1987.

Floydada's rebate for the period was \$7,270.71 for an increase of 17.80% over the \$6,172.15 collected for this

same time period in 1987. Floydada has shown a 1.62% increase in total rebates for this year. They have received \$106,593.54 in 1988 as opposed to the \$104,894.55 received in 1987.

Rebates returned to the surrounding communities include:

Crosbyton (Crosby County) - \$3,546.54 - up 35.90%

Matador (Motley County) - \$943.84 - up 8.24%

Silverton (Briscoe County) - \$1,329.33 - up 30.37%

Tulia (Swisher County) - \$12,219.44 - up 52.96%

Plainview (Hale) - \$122,639.47 - up 45.17%

Windberg's technique in her work and terms it "very challenging."

Currently, Van Hoose is the owner and director of Western Visions Art Gallery and Studio at 121 West California in Floydada. She is married to George Van Hoose, pastor of Trinity Church in Floydada.

FNB Floydada invites everyone to greet the new year with a stop at the bank to view the work of a talented local artist. The exhibit is open to the public during regular business hours throughout the month of January.

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8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday thru Friday

983-3761
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This Week

WEATHER
Courtesy of Energas

DATE	HIGH	LOW
Dec. 28	41	18
Dec. 29	47	28
Dec. 30	58	26
Dec. 31	58	25
Jan. 1	67	29
Jan. 2	66	40
Jan. 3	60	44

CANCER MEETING CHANGED

The regular meeting date for the Floydada unit of the American Cancer Society has been changed. The board will meet on Monday, Jan. 23.

WHIRLERS DANCE

The Whirlers Square Dance Club will meet for a dance Friday, January 6, at the Massie Activity Center. Ellen Spoon is the caller. Lessons start January 12th. Contact Bill Turner, 652-2521.

Anti-metabolite drug shows promise for leukemia patients

An anti-metabolite drug is showing promise for patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), for whom conventional treatment has proven unsuccessful, according to a study at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Speaking at a meeting of the American Society of Hematology in San Antonio earlier this month, Dr. Michael Keating presented a report on 77 CLL patients involved in an ongoing study using fludarabine, a drug that works against the body's normal metabolic processes. Dr. Keating is a professor of medicine in the Department of Hematology at M.D. Anderson and principal investigator of the study.

Four years after the study began, 10 of the 77 patients (13 percent) have achieved a complete remission and 34 patients (44 percent) have achieved a partial remission, Dr. Keating said. Twenty-eight patients (36 percent) showed no response and five patients (7 percent) died within the first three months of the study.

"Chronic lymphocytic patients

treated beyond conventional therapy typically have a response rate of 30 percent," Dr. Keating said. "The patients involved in our study to date have shown a 57 percent response of complete or partial remission, demonstrating that fludarabine is the most active single agent studied here at M.D. Anderson in the treatment of CLL."

The study calls for daily infusions of fludarabine for five days every four weeks over a period of three to 12 months, depending on each patient's response.

According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 9,600 cases of CLL were diagnosed last year. Chemotherapy is the most effective treatment for all types of leukemia.

Dr. Keating pointed out that five years ago fludarabine was studied in phase I clinical trials involving variety of cancers and the only significant responses were shown in patients with CLL and low-grade lymphomas.

In view of the promising results demonstrated in previously treated CLL patients, 25 patients have received

fludarabine as initial therapy. Of those, 20 have shown complete or partial responses.

"Fludarabine appears to be as good as or better than any other regimen used with CLL patients to date," Dr. Keating said.

Another study for previously treated CLL patients — involving fludarabine in combination with prednisone — is currently under way. Persons interested in more information about this study may contact Dr. Keating at (713) 792-2747.



COUNTY OFFICIALS SWORN IN--January 3 at 8:30 a.m., seven county officials elected to office in the November General Election were sworn in by Floyd County Clerk Margaret Collier (left). Those taking the oath of office on Tuesday included: (front row) Sheriff Fred Cardinal and Tax Assessor Collector Penny Golightly;

(back row) George Taylor, Commissioner Pct. 3; Kay Crabtree, commissioner Pct. 4; Connie Bearden, commissioner Pct. 1; County Attorney Kenneth Bain and County Judge Bill Hardin. The ceremony was held in the county courtroom with family and friends present.

Staff Photo

Updated plan outlines highway development

The 1988 update to the 10-year Project Development Plan, which identifies and ranks billions of dollars worth of construction projects, won approval by the state highway commission at its November meeting.

"This plan provides a blueprint for highway construction," said Raymond Stotzer Jr., the highway department's engineer-director. "These are the projects most likely to be built in the next decade," he said.

The plan lists projects to expand the Interstate, primary, secondary, and state road systems. A total of 2,102 projects, worth \$25.5 billion, were submitted for

inclusion in the plan, most from the department's district offices.

The projects were ranked according to various cost-benefit analyses. Of those projects, 1,286, worth \$16.1 billion, were "selected"; 678, worth \$6.5 billion, were ranked as future candidates; and 138, worth \$2.9 billion, already authorized by the commission after requests from delegations, were also included.

"I think we've established a very fair system to get Texans cost-effective

projects where they're most needed," Stotzer said.

The selected projects include new roads, added lanes, and better interchanges. About \$1.6 billion worth should go to contract in a year or less; \$8.2 billion worth are authorized for acquisition of right-of-way and construction within about four years; and \$6.3 billion worth of projects have won approval for planning. Other projects are authorized only for feasibility studies.



THE MORNING AFTER--Embers were still smoldering at 315 East Kentucky. Thursday morning in what remained of the Collins home

Staff Photo

The Lamplighter...

Continued from Page One

ion they didn't even have to vote on it. That was just his way of ingratiating himself with his troops, and the taxpayers could like it or lump it.

Still, the new President has proven that he is neither a wimp nor a ninny, and his relationship with the Congress may not turn out to be quite the one way street many pundits are now predicting.

On the international scene we are also somewhat optimistic. The folks who run the Soviet Union seem to have come to the conclusion that pure, unadulterated Communism is a total failure, which will come as a bitter pill to leftists here in this country and around the world. The Soviet leaders seem not to know just exactly how to handle the situation but prospects for peace look better than they have in some time. They are pulling out of Afghanistan, winding down their backing of Castro in Angola, and seem to be leaning on Castro just a little bit so far as Central America is concerned.

Even in the Mid-East things appear to be making progress, slowly. The Palestinians have moved a little, and if the Congress can screw up its courage and at least threaten to reduce the Israeli's \$3 Billion a year subsidy, they might move a little also. It would be nice, very nice, if Bethlehem were peaceful next Christmas.

Happy New Year. Let's get with it.

Compensation payments for disabled veterans increase

Veterans Administration compensation payments for disabled veterans will be increased by 4.1 percent effective with checks issued Jan. 1, 1989, the VA has announced.

VA Administrator Thomas K. Turnage said that the cost-of-living increase will benefit some 2.2 million veterans and their families, plus some 345,000 survivors of service members or veterans who died from service-connected causes.

The increase is part of the Veteran's Benefits Improvement Act of 1988, signed by President Reagan on November 18.

The law also calls for establishment of a new Court of Veterans Appeals, and revises procedures of the VA's Board of Veterans Appeals.

For a single veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 100 percent, the change means an increase from \$1,411 to \$1,468 per month. New monthly amounts for other disability ratings are: 90 percent, \$883; 80 percent, \$784; 70 percent, \$678; 60 percent, \$537; 50 percent, \$426; 40 percent, \$300; 30 percent, \$210; 20 per-

cent, \$138; 10 percent, \$73.

In addition to veterans, the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase applies to Dependency and Indemnity Compensation paid to spouses and children of service personnel who died on active duty or veterans who died from service-connected illnesses or injuries.

In other provisions of the law:

The newly established court of appeals, whose principal office will be located in Washington, D.C., will hear appeals of decisions of the Board of Veterans Appeals. The court will review cases in which a notice of disagreement to Board of Veterans Appeals decisions is filed with the VA after Nov. 18, 1988.

The Court will consist of a chief judge and two to six associate judges appointed to 15-year terms by the President. The VA will be represented before the Court by the VA General Counsel.

The law authorizes reasonable attorney fees for representation after a Board of Veterans Appeals decision. In certain contingency-fee cases, fees are limited to 20 percent of the value of awards of past-due monetary benefits. Provision is made for challenging legal fees found to be excessive or unreasonable.

J & B Variety Outlet

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Monday, January 9 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If you have trouble hearing or understanding, this test (which uses the latest electronic equipment) will determine your particular loss. Test is performed by state licensed hearing aid personnel. You will see a hearing aid so tiny it fits totally within the ear.

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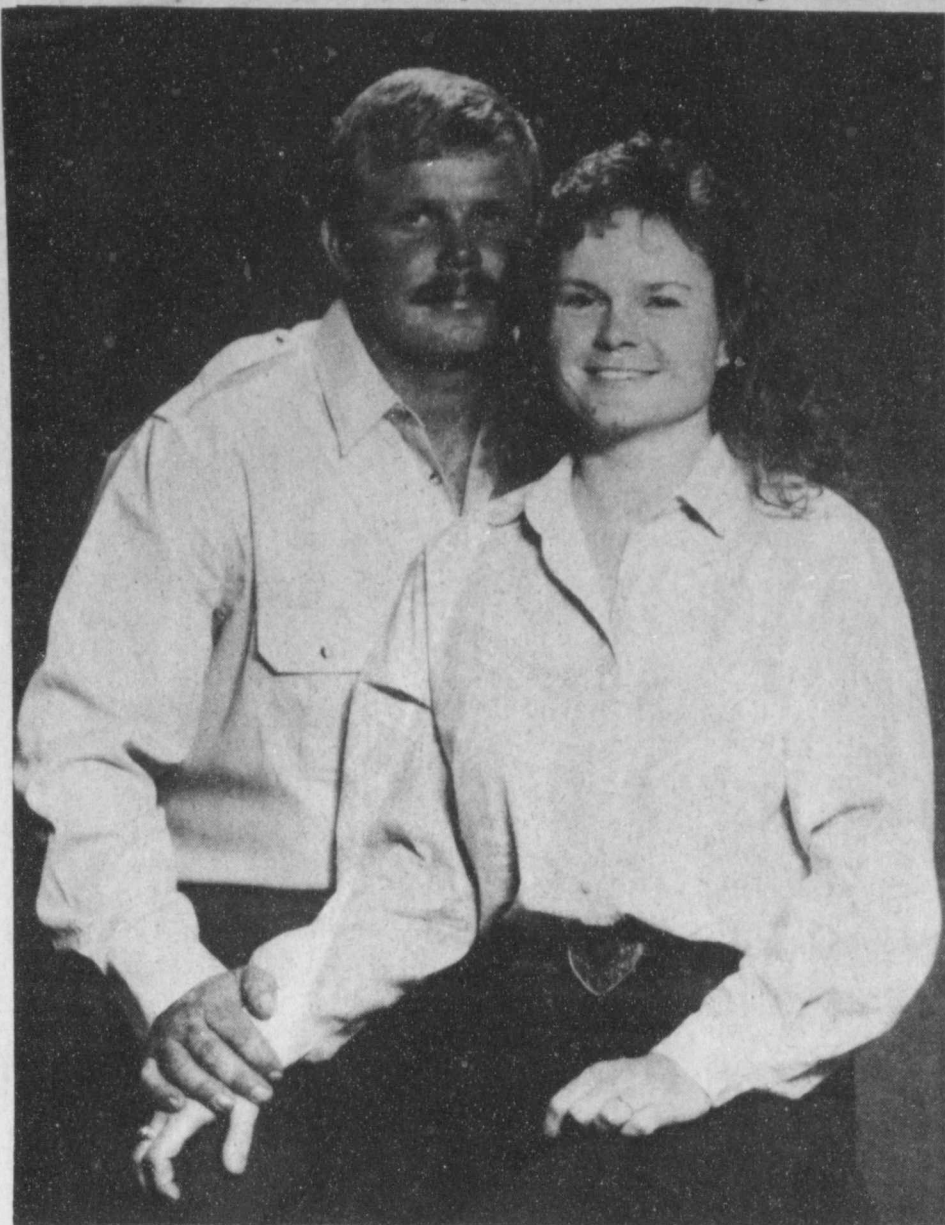
Don't be confused by the new Federal Tax Regulations!
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COUPLE TO WED—Carla Beth Shaw of Snook, Texas, a graduate of A&M, College Station, and granddaughter of L.V. and Addie Assiter and Glenn Edward Maass of Sommersville, Texas, together with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Shaw, Pasadena, California, and Mr. and Mrs. Otto F. Maass, Sommersville, Texas, are pleased to announce the beginning of their new life together when they exchange marriage vows on Saturday, January 7, 1989 in the First Lutheran Church, Sommersville, Texas.

Floydada Senior Citizens Menu

January 9-13

Monday: Red beans/beef chunks, onion slices, fresh turnip greens, cornbread, margarine or butter, apple cobbler, milk

Tuesday: Turkey dressing supreme/ gravy, broccoli, jellied cranberry/pears salad, whole wheat roll, margarine or butter, assorted cookies, milk

Wednesday: Beef stew/vegetables, cole slaw, cornbread, margarine or butter, chocolate cake/chocolate icing, milk

Thursday: Roast beef/gravy, mashed potatoes/milk, frozen mixed vegetables, yeast roll, margarine or butter, canned plums, milk

Friday: Fried fish, tarter sauce, mexicali corn, stewed tomatoes with okra, baking powder biscuit, margarine or butter, cherry cobbler, milk



CONGRATULATIONS
To a wonderful wife,
mother, mother-in-law,
sister-in-law and grandmother
on your 50th birthday
January 8.



Don't Miss This One! SUPER SUPER SALE

20% OFF

All Brass, includes mirrors and sculpture pieces

20% off

Crystal Vases, Bowls, Decanters, etc.

20% off

All Wooden Shelves, Candle Holders, Lamps, etc.

20% - 50% off

All Baskets

50% off

All Figurines (except Precious Moments)

50% off

Majestic Glasses and Mugs

50% off

All Christmas items

50% off

Bulk Potpourri

50% off

All Candlerings

Many other items are marked down
through-out the store - 50 - 75%

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Accessories & Gifts

100 East California 983-5312 Floydada

Senior Citizen Rockins'

Richard Payne flew into Lubbock and his aunt drove him to Lockney. He drove Lena Hawkins and Edna Cox to Wichita Falls to visit his parents and Lena and Edna's brother, Bobby Payne and family.

C.R. (Shorty) Clark spent Christmas with his daughter, Betty Stapleton and family in Fort Worth.

Guests of Elaine Gibson were grandchildren Heather and Chris Warren of Amarillo and Betsy Gibson of Houston. Elaine and all her family were together for the first time in ten years.

Virginia and Leonard Strickland spent the Christmas holidays in Austin with their daughter Carol and Mike Stewart. Tom and family were there from Phoenix, Arizona. Virginia's brother, Donald Ray Wigington from Denver, was here over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Johnson of Wenatchee, Washington, were in Lockney visiting Georgia Ford and Mr. and Mrs. Ike Johnson.

Georgia Ford spent five days visiting Peggy in Houston and then went on to visit her son, John Hanst and family. John drove her to Dallas where they visited John's mother-in-law, Mrs. C.A. Ethridge. John drove Georgia to Lockney Sunday and left Monday for Angel Fire where they were going skiing.

Jewel Thompson had her daughters and their families home for Christmas. Jenny and Tom Carter of Arlington and

Jill, Ronny and Brandy of Amarillo.

Visiting Georgia Ford was Jack and Vicki Ford of Dumas and grandson Ricky Ford and family of Corpus Christi.

SENIOR NEWS

1988 has gone, but it has been a wonderful year for the Senior Citizen Center. The ladies quilted two quilts, had several bake sales and sold a lot of crafts and crochet items to raise funds. "Thanks" to each and everyone who helped.

Let's make 1989 a greater year. Eat lunch at the Center when you can, (be sure to call by 9:30 a.m.) attend the activities, and get together and play games. Enjoy 1989!

The barbeque brisket supper was delicious. 80 people attended along with several guests. Then the participants played games and visited.

A pot luck supper will be held Thursday, January 5. Everyone is invited.

The hostesses for December are Marie Henderson, Doris Thacker, Clara McCain and Faye Ferguson.

Linnie Abbott, Nora Bybee, Neva Smith and Cornelia Johnson want to "thank everyone for their help and cooperation."

SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

January 5 - Carolyn Jackson, M.B. Baldwin

Floydada Nursing Home Happenings

By Jo Bryant

It will take some getting used to in writing 1989. This past week seemed to go very fast. Have you made your New Year's resolutions?

Our week started as usual with morning coffee and juice. We appreciate Bill Feuerbacher coming and help serve the residents coffee and cookies and thanks for the cookies.

Wednesday Bro. Sammy Rodriguez came and shared the word with us, we sang some songs.

The residents played Bingo and Mrs. Lennie Willis had the first Bingo. Mary Davis came and helped us.

Thursday we sang some songs and shared the word taken from Matthew 11:28-30. Later we had popcorn and sharing.

Friday, Freida Simpson came and played the piano and shared the word. At 1:30 the residents went on a bus ride to Roaring Springs. Dixie Dog treated them to some ice cream. The day was a warm, beautiful day. The residents going on the bus ride were Billy Probasco, Florence Curry, Della Halencak, Maude Galloway, Iva Wells, Charles Breeding and Brooks Callaway, Paula Bryant and Jesse. Thanks Wilma for taking us.

We want to welcome Ewell and Clara McElyea to the nursing home and are glad that they are with us.

Our sympathy and love go out to the family of Warnie Hilton. We will miss him.

This week's visitors were: Barbara

Senior Citizen News

By Thelma Jones

Mildred and Jack Fuqua spent several days with her grandchildren, Diane Spurlock and sons of Denton and Dallas, Max and Becky Phillips, Corpus Christi, and Gail and Kent Barnes, Bridgeport. They returned home the last of December.

Virginia and Stanley Waits and Jeff spent last Friday with her mother, Mrs. J.C. Odum and had lunch with her.

The senior citizens offer their sympathy to the family of Houston Bradford, who passed away Saturday night.

We are glad to know Rebecca Smith and Peggy Medley are home from the hospital. There are still several in hospitals.

Mrs. Cora Hartline visited with her daughter, Mrs. June Landry and family in Plainview. A granddaughter from St. Louis, James and Addie Hartline and Grant of Levelland spent Saturday with his mother, Cora Hartline; also Bob Landry and family of Carrollton and granddaughter from Houston.

Ruby Davis has returned home after a visit with her son, Don Davis and family in Blossom, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Battey of Paris, Texas, spent a few days up here during Christmas with their son, Jerry Battey and family.

Have a Good Week!

January 8 - Cornelia Johnson, Alice Mitchell

SENIOR ANNIVERSARIES

January 6 - O.D. and Armine Tarpley
January 8 - Verner (Squealer) and Helen Hodel, Connie and Thelma O'Brien

AILING - Wynona Allison and Murle Rogers

Remember all our ailing. I don't always get names of those who are ailing. If you will call and let me know I will appreciate it.

RECIPE

Sweet and Sour Pork

Georgia Ford

3 to 4 pound pork roast

3 eggs

4-1/2 tbs. flour

1/2 tsp. salt

3/4 cup oil

3 large green peppers, diced

1-1/2 cups chicken bouillon

1 (13-1/2 oz) can chunk pineapple

3 tbs. corn starch

2 tsp. Soy sauce

1 tbs. Accent

3/4 cup vinegar

3/4 cup pineapple juice

3/4 cup sugar

Cube pork, combine eggs, flour, salt and pepper. Dip pork into batter and fry in oil until brown. Remove pork and keep hot. Pour out all but 1 tablespoon oil from skillet. Add 1/2 cup bouillon,

green pepper and pineapple juice. Cook over medium heat for 10 minutes mix remaining ingredients and thicken, stirring constantly. Add meat and simmer for 15 minutes. Serves 8 to 10.

SENIOR MENU

Jan. 9-13

Monday - Stew, cole slaw, pickles, cornbread, Impossible Lemon Pie, tea, coffee

Tuesday - Turkey, dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, cake, rolls, tea and coffee.

Wednesday - Pork chops and rice, spinach, tossed, salad, pudding, rolls, tea, coffee.

Thursday - Chicken fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, English peas, pickles, jello with Cool Whip and cookies, rolls, tea and coffee.

Friday - Roast, gravy, candied yams, cauliflower, beet pickles, cake, tea, coffee.

Maria Ochoa
is now working at
Maya's Beauty Shop
for your needs
in Manicures,
Haircuts, etc.
Call for an Appointment
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January Clearance

Our biggest sale of the year
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Jodi's

Fall & Winter Clearance

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9:00 to 5:00 Monday - Saturday

Sale starts Thursday

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106 East California
Floydada, Texas

Phone: 983-2844
Store Hours 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Monday - Saturday

South Plains News

By Ruby Lee Higginbotham

Good-bye Eighty-Eight
Hello Eighty-Nine.

This the last day of December, a very beautiful winter day. Winds are calm, just a bit on the cool side, But good weather to usher in the New Year of 1989.

For most of Floyd County, especially the South Plains area, this has been a good crop year. The timely rains, excellent cotton crop and good harvest weather - for all these blessings we are thankful.

Services at South Plains Baptist Church were well attended Christmas morning. Several visitors with their families and friends were present. We welcome every one to come visit and be a part of the services each Sunday.

Mamie Wood celebrated an early Christmas in her home on December 22. Those present were Glen and Pat Wood of South Plains, Len Wood of Dallas, Bodie Teague of Lubbock and Mrs. Lula Teague, Floydada.

Mamie and grandson, Bodie Teague, traveled to Dallas on Friday to spend

Christmas with their family, James and Juanell Teague. Other family members present were Earl, Lora and daughter Aspen and Tim Teague.

Mamie and Bodie returned home Wednesday. Bodie is a student at Lubbock Christian University.

Early and Nell Pritchett were hosts for a few games of SkipBo in their home thursday evening. Those present were Sylvan and Bobbie Kinniburgh, Ruby Lee Higginbotham and Mamie Wood. Ira and Gail Henderson were unable to be there. We all like to play SkipBo and enjoy going to the Pritchetts. Early usually has some good SkipBo tips for us to look for before we play our cards.

December 20th. Ruby Lee Higginbotham attended the annual Christmas breakfast at Lockney Elementary School. The music room was beautifully decorated with the pretty Christmas colors of red and green. The serving tables were laden with all kinds of food and goodies. We really enjoyed visiting with several former teachers and meeting many new teachers and the principal, Mrs. Joyce Evans.

Barbara, Bud, Tyson and Rusty Edwards hosted Christmas day dinner and festivities in their home for Barbara's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grigsby Milton of South Plains, her sister and family, Darla, Jerry and B.J. Chappell from Duncan Oklahoma. Afternoon visitors were, Jerry, Kim and Lauren Powell of Floydada.

On December 27th, Doodle and Lillie Mae flew to Wichita, Kansas to visit Mrs. Milton's brother, George Willford, who is ill in a hospital in Wichita. George attended school in South Plains while the Willford family lived in their community. The Miltons returned to their home Wednesday.

Ronnie, Betty and Nicholas Upton arrived in Amarillo Friday December 23 for a visit with their children and grandchildren. Their daughter, Edd and Christi Collier of Canyon, their son Rocky of Amarillo, and Rick, Lynn, Allison and Kendra of Amarillo. On Saturday, Christmas Eve, Betty and Ronnie came to South Plains and Floydada to take their mothers, Nina Upton and Elva Blum to Lubbock for Christmas. The families gathered in the home of Nina's granddaughter, Carla Lovelady and Children, Jenay and Jessie, for Christmas festivities. Present for the occasion were Christy and Edd Collier of Amarillo, Rocky Upton of Amarillo, Ricky, Lynn, Allison and Kendra Upton. Bonnie and Carl Craig of Slaton. Shelly Camp and children, Mandy, Marshall and Melody.

Carl and Bonnie Craig, Slaton, hosted Christmas dinner for family members.

On Wednesday, Ronnie, Betty, Nicholas and Nina visited relatives in Lockney, including Mrs. Neva Callahan and Mr. and Mrs. Elster McCloud.

The home of Fred and Carolyn Marble was the site for the annual Christmas dinner and exchanging of gifts, December 24th. Those enjoying the evening were Don, Nancy, Donette and Brett Marble; Keith, Neta and Dwayne Marble; Dale, D'Lee and Tasha Powell; Kelly Marble, Cindy and

Jeff Bertrand; Justin and Micah Marble and Nita Holland of Amarillo. Nita visited through Christmas with her daughter, Nancy Marble, and family.

Dr. Price and Pattie Pritchett, Dallas, flew into Lubbock Sunday morning and met his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Early Pritchett for lunch in Plainview. They spent the afternoon visiting with Price's sister, Louise and Shorty Turner, and an aunt, Mrs. Jo Y-Blood of Floydada. Price and Pattie returned to their home in Dallas Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Beedy and Mrs. John (Gertie) Smitherman were dinner guests on Sunday at the home of Mamie Wood. The occasion was the belated birthday of Bill and Gertie.

Mamie Wood hosted a SkipBo party in her home on New Years Eve. We really had a grand time with so much fun and laughter. It was a good way to end the old year and begin the new one.

The Glen Wood home was a very busy place Christmas week. Their son, Len, of Dallas, came home on Tuesday and on Friday, his friends Xenimia and Ivan Guerrero of Dallas, formerly of Chili, came to visit.

Also visiting were Pat's sister and family, Bev, Roy, Jana, Flint and Michael Howard, of Linn Creek Missouri, and Jim, Susy, Zack, Chrissy and Brenda Ray, friends from Montrose, Colorado.

Glen gets double enjoyment from Christmas since it is also his birthday. It seems that some people have a lot of good luck.

Johnny Johnson and son John, of Amarillo, kept a visit with his cousins, Don, Keith and Fred Marble in the home of Fred and Carolyn on Christmas Eve.

W.L. and Dorothy Fisher, of Loveland, Colorado were visitors in the home of their son and family, Tom, Kelly, Matthew and Timothy Fisher. They came on Thursday and returned home Tuesday after Christmas.

Sterling and Gleyne Earle Cummings had a very happy Christmas with all their children and grandchildren at home. Kim Cummings and family, Dec Earl Sanders and family, Paula Pyle and family, Zack Cummings and family, John Cummings and family, were the children that attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Edd Englebrecht, along with Mrs. Theo Englebrecht, of Colo-

rado, came last Wednesday for a visit with their daughter and family, Kelly, Tom, Matthew and Timothy. They were visitors in South Plains Baptist Church, New Years Day. They returned home Monday.

Ruby Lee Higginbotham was a dinner guest along with the Englebrechts in the Fisher home Sunday.

Visitors in the home of Nell McClung on Christmas were her daughters and families: Alton and Sue Higginbotham of Jacksonville, Arkansas, Kelly Higginbotham of Cleburne, Bryant Higginbotham, Lubbock, Joe, Shirley, Jason and Marcy Parker of Hartley, Scotty, Lory and Cameron Battey of Stephenville.

Kendis, Janis and Tim Julian, enjoyed a vacation and relaxation Christmas week visiting with their daughter, Mitzi Julian of Fort Collins, Colorado and skiing quite a bit.

Bud Higginbotham and son Brett from Brownwood, Shea Higginbotham of Canyon, Alton, Sue Higginbotham, Jacksonville Arkansas, Bryant Higginbotham, Lubbock, Kelly Higginbotham, Cleburne, Scotty, Lori and Cameron Battey of Stephenville were guests of their mother and grandmother, Ruby Higginbotham, Christmas evening for supper and the traditional Christmas tree.

As we enter into the New Year, let us go forward with a new hope, exercising a renewed faith in the future of our great country, America.

Happy New Year to Each and Every one!

Drinking and Driving



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Texas Safety Association in cooperation with State Department of Highways and Public Transportation



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY—Kearney and Margaret Edmiston of Floydada celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 31 with a trip to Padre Island. The event was hosted by the couple's children, Kearney Edmiston Jr. of Denver, Colorado, Sharon Seago, Watauga, Texas, and Dorothy Allen, Rockwall, Texas. All their children and grandchildren were there to celebrate.

FLOYD DATA

Joining Lucille Daniel in her Floydada home for Christmas dinner last week were Tonya and Jack Covington of Lockney and Joe Covington and son Brandon of Floydada. Out of town guests included Belinda and Jo Ed Noel and daughter Jody of Petersburg, Sallye Jo and Bill Day and sons Wesley and

Ricky of Roaring Springs, Stayce and William Cochran and children Jason, Scott and Layce from Afton, Carol and Dale Redd and son Brad from Weatherford and their daughter Cherre Redd from Hawaii and Jackie Covington and son Weston from Plainview.

We Salute...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Thursday, Jan. 5: Stacey Smith, Pam Lockwood

Friday, Jan. 6: Aaron Noland, Frankie Maldonado, Dianna Romero, Charlie Reid

Saturday, Jan. 7: Juan Rodriguez, Janie Hales

Sunday, Jan. 8: Juan Esquivel, Scott Graham, Holly Henderson, Ted Flores, Atha Sue, Kay Hicks

Monday, Jan. 9: Elmer Dean Williams, Bud Henderson, Alejandra Reyes, David Campbell, Rosemary M. Segura, Aimee Fondy, Heather Fondy

Tuesday, Jan. 10: David Summers, David Latta, Billy Gene Hinkle, Dianne Emert, William Smith

Wednesday, Jan. 11: Olga Gonzalez, Dean Watson, Chad Green, Tomas Delgado, Hortencia Garza, Sulema DeLaFuente, Jan Thayer

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Saturday, Jan. 7: Dick and Doris Jones

Sunday, Jan. 8: Noe R. and Yolanda A. Martinez

Monday, Jan. 9: Mr. and Mrs. Armando Enriquez

Tuesday, Jan. 10: Mr. and Mrs. Don Green

Look Who's New
GILL
Mr. and Mrs. Brett Gill would like to announce the birth of a daughter, Kendall Suzanne, born December 28, 1988 at 8:38 p.m. She weighed 8 lbs. and 6 ozs.
Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Gill, Silverton, and maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Norvelle Birdwell of Dimmitt.

Lockney Hospital Report

Dec. 26-Jan. 3

- Roy Hunter, Quitaque, adm. 12-13, dis. 12-29
- Viola Ramos, Plainview, adm. 12-19, dis. 12-29
- Pedro Regalado, Petersburg, adm. 12-20, dis. 12-27
- Wade Steele, Silverton, adm. 12-20, dis. 12-28
- Gladys Fewell, Lockney, adm. 12-22, dis. 12-29
- R.W. Landrum, Lockney, adm. 12-21, dis. 12-30
- Bette Minter, Lockney, adm. 12-25, dis. 12-28
- Toribio Rodriguez, Lockney, adm. 12-23, dis. 12-28
- Roseann Martinez, adm. 12-26, baby boy, born 12-26, dis. 12-28
- Debbie Cagle, Quitaque, adm. 12-25, dis. 12-30
- Sherri White, Floydada, adm. 12-26, baby boy, Michael, born 12-26, dis. 12-29
- Rosa Lopez, Floydada, adm. 12-27, baby boy, Eduardo, born 12-27, dis. 12-29
- Maria Solis, Lockney, adm. 12-27, baby girl, Maria Grizelda, born 12-27, dis. 12-29
- Billie Jo Stelzig, Plainview, adm. 12-28, baby girl, transferred 12-29, mother dis. 12-30
- Dora Esparza, Lockney, adm. 12-27, dis. 12-30
- Lucy Cortez, Plainview, adm. 12-29, continues care
- Zuleme Ballejo, Lockney, adm. 12-29, continues care
- Deborah Beaton, Plainview, adm. 12-29, transferred 12-30
- Johnnie Dozier, Plainview, adm. 12-29, continues care
- Cindy Adams, Lockney, adm. 12-29, baby girl, born 12-29, dis. 12-31
- Maria Rodriguez, Plainview, adm. 12-28, continues care
- Amesinio Chavarria, Floydada, adm. 12-30, continues care
- Larry Peters, Plainview, adm. 1-1, continues care
- John Tucker, Paducah, adm. 12-31, continues care
- Ema Baeza, Lockney, adm. 12-30, continues care

Bridal selections are available for:

Lonna Batey and Russel Graves

Sue's Gifts and Accessories

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THE SALE OF THE YEAR - NOW!

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Semi-Annual Sale

Storewide

Men's - Women's
Childrens
Shoes
Home Furnishings

Starts Friday, January 6th
9:00 a.m.

Store closed Thursday to prepare for sale.

Drastic Reductions! Fantastic Bargains!

Charge - Cash - Layaway; It's Business As Usual At Hale's Sales

General Rain Needed

Moisture would brighten outlook

"What much of the state needs most to get 1989 off to a great start is a good general rain."

This statement was made by Roy G. Wheeler of Pleasanton, the immediate past president and currently a member of the board of the Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas. He also is an auction market operator and a rancher in Atascosa and McMullen counties.

Adequate water is a concern of many Texans, including homeowners, municipal leaders and producers. The continuing dry weather in many areas is causing concerns about aquifer recharge zones, lake and reservoir levels, soil profile moisture and survival of winter pastures.

Wheeler and many other cattlemen in areas that were largely skipped by moisture throughout 1988, worry that rains may be scant in early 1989 as well.

Consumers also have concerns that

some food prices will continue to climb in the months ahead if timely rains do not come.

For the immediate present, some ranchers feel that a new kind of federal cost-share program is needed to get foundation herds through the winter because of hay shortages.

That help may be forthcoming in an unusual manner for some.

A number of county offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture have notified producers that "they hope to be approved soon for cost-share payment on propane for pear-burning."

County ASCS offices requesting that assistance are located in central, south central and southwest Texas, all extremely drought-stressed areas.

The practice would be a new facet of the livestock feed assistance program offered to drought-designated counties

of Texas, according to N.E. Deweber, an emergency program specialist with the State ASCS Office in College Station.

With severe hay shortages in many areas of the state as a result of the continuing drought, many ranchers are asking their county ASCS Committees to request fuel cost-share assistance for burning thorns off cactus for their cattle.

In southwest Texas, the drought in many counties continues to set records for severity.

Drought conditions began in that area in August of 1987 and have not abated, according to Joe Pena, agricultural economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Uvalde.

"In south and southwest Texas, we are completing 17 months of dry weather, which may set records as the second driest period recorded in the 98-year history of weather records here," Pena said.

He said the period from August through mid-December of 1988 also may go down as the second or third driest comparable period on record, unless rains come before the end of this year.

"As we look back on national droughts and weather records, the drought of the 1950s was extremely severe for about 80 percent of the nation, including Texas. In fact, 1956, 1953 and 1971 all set net records for this part of the state," Pena said. He has been recording weather data for the official weather station at the TAMU Center at Uvalde for 10 years.

Pena said the drought of the 1930s also was severe for Texas and the nation.

"What we have going now—although affecting only about 38 percent of the nation—is of equal or greater severity than the droughts of the '30s and '50s. The unfortunate part is that much of the current drought is impacting a large part of Texas," Pena said.

Water District receives one million dollar loan

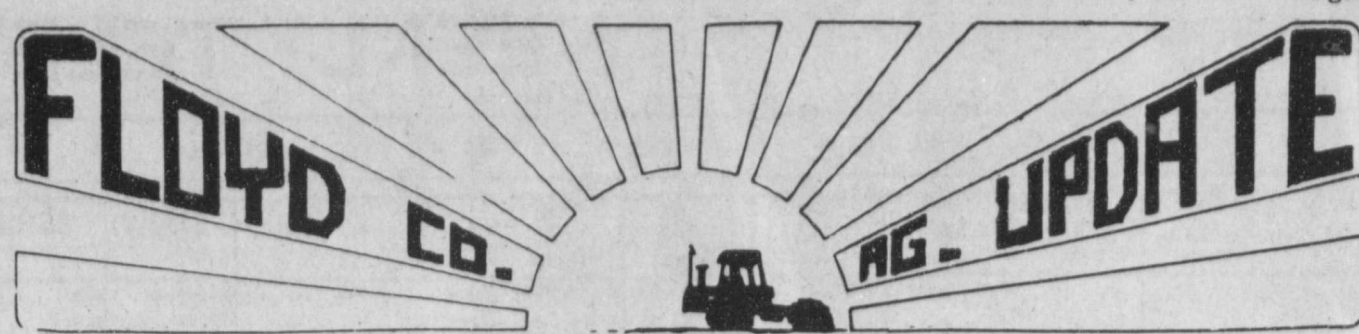
A fifth \$1 million loan has been approved by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to continue the pilot Agricultural Water Conservation Equipment Loan program offered through the High Plains Undergruound Water Conservation District No. 1.

Irrigators who farm within the Water District's 15-county service area and who wish to upgrade their irrigation equipment for better water application and/or distribution efficiency can finance a part of this cost through this special loan program. Any individual, partnership or corporation farming or owning land within the Water District's 15-county service area may apply for a loan.

Since the program's inception, the Water District has loaned almost \$2 million to qualified applicants. Additional loans totaling \$600,000 have been approved by the Water District's Board of Directors for purchase of agricultural water conservation equipment. As of December 13, 1988, loans for 111 low-pressure center pivot sprinkler systems, 40 surge valves, two furrow dikers, one laser land leveling machine and several LEPA conversion kits have been made or approved by the Water District.

Landowners or operators who qualify may borrow up to 75 percent of the purchase price of permanently installed equipment and 50 percent of the cost of contract services, installation and non-recoverable items.

The Ag Loan funds are being loaned at a 7.22 percent interest rate, and there is a one-time service fee of 2.5 percent



Water District and SCS check moisture

Staff members from the High Plains Undergruound Water Conservation District No. 1 and the USDA - Soil Conservation Service (USDA-SCS) are in the field conducting their annual measurement of soil moisture conditions within the Water District's 15-county service area.

Soil moisture monitoring for the 1989 growing season began November 14th and will continue through January, according to Ken Carver, High Plains Water District Assistant Manager.

Soil moisture at more than 220 sites within the Water District will be measured. Neutron moisture meters are used by the staff to obtain soil moisture data by inserting a neutron probe into a previously installed aluminum access tube. Readings are taken at six-inch intervals throughout the five-foot soil profile.

Soil moisture monitoring sites are chosen to be typical of surrounding dryland or irrigated farming practices and are selected based upon soil type, the irrigation water availability as indicated by the saturated thickness of the Ogallala aquifer and the crops grown. The crop just grown on the site is very important in evaluating the significance of the location of soil moisture in the soil profile, since different crops have different water requirements and different growing seasons.

Carver estimates that 50 new soil moisture monitoring sites have been installed this year. "There are 21 new sites located within the portion of

Crosby County annexed into the water district last spring. The other sites will replace sites destroyed last year or will help fill in gaps in our data collection," he says.

The data obtained will be used to construct soil moisture availability and soil moisture deficit maps. These maps will show producers how much moisture is available in the soil profile for plant use, the water distribution in the soil profile and the amount of water that must be applied to bring the soil profile to field capacity.

These maps are usually published in February, so that producers can use this information to determine if pre-plant irrigation will be necessary. The water district provides individual soil mois-

ture readings to those producers who have soil moisture monitoring sites on their land.

Along with their soil moisture monitoring duties, water district and USDA-SCS personnel will take soil density measurements to determine if hardpan layers have formed as a result of 1988 farming operations. If not corrected, these layers can stunt plant growth and reduce crop yields during the next growing season since plant roots can't penetrate compacted layers to reach deeper soil moisture.

For more soil moisture monitoring information, contact your local USDA-SCS field office or the High Plains Undergruound Water Conservation District No. 1, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79405 or call (806) 762-0181.

Laboratory analysis shows no significant pesticide residues

Laboratory analyses of groundwater samples from 90 irrigation wells within the High Plains Undergruound Water Conservation District No. 1 show no significant pesticide residues in the groundwater.

"We would like to congratulate our groundwater users on their apparent safe use of chemicals. Given the large quantities of chemicals used during the past 20 to 30 years in the Water District service area, there was a potential for contaminating our groundwater supplies. The results indicate that chemical users are being protective of the groundwater of our area," says Don McReynolds, High Plains Water District Technical Division Director.

There has been a fear of non-point source pollution from the use of agricultural chemicals. Many people believe that agricultural chemicals are leaking through the soil into the groundwater. This belief has caused concerned people to wonder if a tightening of control of these chemicals should be considered.

The sampling and analysis of groundwater just completed by the Water District is believed to be the most concentrated testing over the largest area to be done to date.

During August, 90 irrigation wells throughout the 15-county Water District service area were sampled. In an effort to reduce costs, composite water samples from groups of two to three wells were created resulting in the need to analyze only 31 water samples.

Each water sample was tested for the presence of the 19 pesticides used most and for the longest period of time in the area. These chemicals and their trade names are Alachlor (Lasso); Metolachlor (Dual); Chlorpyrifos

(Lorsban); Diazinon (Diazinon); Phorate (Thimet); Dieldrin (Karmex); Bromacil (Direx); Atrazine (AAtrex); Propazine (Miloguard or Milo-Pro); DDT (DDT or DDE); Aldicarb Sulfone (Timek); 2,4-D (2,4-D); Dicamba (Banvel); Silvex (Silvex); Picloram (Tordon or Grazon PC); Arsenic Acid (Arsenic Acid); Trifluralin (Treflan); Glyphosate (Roundup); and Paraquat.

Out of 589 analyses, only 14 showed trace amounts of six chemicals. All fell below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed health advisory limits for the chemical.

McReynolds says most of the analyses were reported in parts per billion. A part per billion can be compared to one common aspirin tablet dissolved and equally dispersed in 100,000 gallons of water.

This demonstrates the extremely small units associated with pesticide analyses," he said.

Water district field staff will resample the wells from which samples showed the presence of any chemical in an attempt to determine the source of the chemical.

If a trace amount of a specific chemical were found and if the chemical has been recently used, then the Water District would note this as a probable source of the contamination. The well site would also be examined to determine if there is any opening where the chemical could have entered the well. If so, District field staff would suspect the well as the source of the contaminant. The well would then be pumped and additional samples would be collected at timed intervals.

If the quantity of chemical decreases through time, then it would be almost certain that the contaminant had in some way gotten into the well. If the quantity of the chemical remains about the same or increases through time, it would be fairly certain that the aquifer has been contaminated in the wells vicinity.

Ag chemical users are reminded to exercise extreme care in handling these dangerous chemicals—both for the protection of the groundwater and for the user's own safety.

For tips on safe handling of agricultural chemicals, contact the High Plains Undergruound Water Conservation District No. 1, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79405 or call (806) 762-0181.

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ASCS to hold meeting on the payment limits

A payment limitations meeting will be held for all interested persons at the Massie Activity Center, Tuesday, January 10, 1989, at 9:00 a.m.

New rules will be discussed and a question and answer session will be conducted. The 1989 Farm Program will also be discussed.



Challenging issues will affect ag research in coming decade

Challenging issues affecting agricultural research in the next decade will be the focus of the 1989 Texas Agricultural Experiment Station conference in College Station Jan. 9-12.

Some scientific giants will be featured speakers in the conference being developed around the theme, "Agricultural Research in the 1990s: Challenging Issues."

Scientists with Experiment Station research units around the state and those based at Texas A&M University will take part in the professional conference at the Rudder Center.

The opening general session on Jan. 10 will include comments by Dr. Neville P. Clarke, Experiment Station director. Dr. Charles J. Arntzen, deputy chancellor and dean of agriculture at Texas

A&M, will introduce awards in excellence program winners.

Among speakers for the Jan. 11 theme session will be Dr. John Marvel, vice president of research, EthyI Corp. and chairman for USDA Users Advisory Board; Dr. Bill Baumgardt, director of the Indiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Purdue; and Arntzen, vice president for research at Dupont before coming to Texas A&M.

Dr. David Forrest, researcher in animal science, is general conference chairman.

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1985 JD 4450 - MFWD - 710 hrs.
1978 JD 4640 - QD - 4100 hrs.
1979 JD 4440 - QD - 3900 hrs.
1979 JD 4240 - QD - 3800 hrs.
1982 IH - 5288 - 1100 hrs.

CONTACT: Bill Pigg
Quitaque 806-455-1473

WEEKLY TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Table for Thursday, January 5, Weekdays. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

Table for Thursday, January 5, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Thursday, January 5.

Table for Friday, January 6, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Friday, January 6.

Table for Saturday, January 7, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Saturday, January 7.

Table for Sunday, January 8, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Sunday, January 8.

Table for Monday, January 9, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Monday, January 9.

Table for Tuesday, January 10, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Tuesday, January 10.

Table for Wednesday, January 11, Morning and Evening. Columns include time, channel, show name, and description.

MORNING and EVENING sections with program details for Wednesday, January 11.

CHECK OUT THESE WEEKLY BIG BLUE BONUS SPECIALS

BIG BLUE BONUS SPECIALS

FOLGERS 13 OZ. CAN ALL GRINDS COFFEE **\$1.51**
WITH ONE FILLED BIG BLUE BONUS BOOKLET
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