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Floydada CJHS students make Middle School All-Region band PAGE 10

Floydada players named to 2021 Football UIL All-District Selection PAGE 5

News you can trust for
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The Floyd County HESPERIAN BEACON



Vol. 125 No. 31 | Thursday, December 9, 2021 | www.HesperianBeaconOnline.com | ONE DOLLAR



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD shoeboxes collected this year at Floydada's FBC exceeded all previous years. Volunteers packed up shoeboxes given by donors to be delivered to children all over the world as part of this year's Operation Christmas Child effort (right). Above, from left, Jerry Leatherman, Moises Reyes and Nathan Adams (inside trailer) worked to pack boxes. | HESPERIAN-BEACON



Floydada FBC exceeds goals, collects 1,262 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes

BARBARA ANDERSON | HESPERIAN-BEACON

Operation Christmas Child wrapped up on Nov. 22 at the First Baptist Church of Floydada, involving volunteers and members from churches in Crosbyton, Floydada, Flomot, Lockney, Matador, McAdoo, Petersburg, Ralls, Paducah, Primeria, Quitaque Roaring Springs, Silvertown, South Plains and Spur, and collected 1,262 boxes with gifts for children in poverty-stricken and war-torn areas around the world.

"This is a record number of boxes," said dropoff location coordinator Ludustria Prisk. "We've never had this many." Prisk has headed up FBC's efforts with Operation Christmas Child since 2011.

All of the shoeboxes were packed into bigger boxes to go to a collection center at Southcrest Baptist in Lubbock. Eventually they will be flown from Dallas to dropoff locations around the world.

Pastors around the world host shoebox distributions in places where

they can share their ministry. Other churches use the boxes as resources for outreach in orphanages and other at-risk areas. Each Gospel Box, or GO Box, will contain a booklet called "The Greatest Story" in that child's language. Then that child has the opportunity to continue learning about Jesus through a class called The Greatest Journey, a 12-lesson discipleship course designed for Operation Christmas Child recipients. More than 26.5 million children have enrolled in the course since 2009.

Prisk, who was "overjoyed" at the response, said that she fought back tears when Brynlee Beedy handed her the 1,000th box. She expressed gratitude to all the volunteers who worked tables for shoebox dropoffs and for helping deliver cartons to the collection center. She also added a special thanks to "all the people in our community and the surrounding communities for uniting together with one goal, to spread the love of Jesus throughout the world."

Lockney loses last WWII vet Colvin laid to rest last Thursday with military honors

LIZ ADAMS | HESPERIAN-BEACON



Funeral services were held at Lockney Cemetery for Floyd County's last surviving World War II veteran on Dec. 2 in Lockney.

Lon Charner Colvin passed away at age 95 on Nov. 26. He received a military burial performed by Ed Marks, American Legion Post 141. Rev. Auggie Aguilera of the First United Methodist church of Lockney officiated.

Colvin was born in Lockney on April 28, 1926. His parents were James Calvin and Sallie Lena (McCoy) Colvin. He was a Lockney High School graduate who went on to join in the United States Army in October of 1944. He served in the European Theater under Patton and participated as a tank's machine gunner in a rescue effort that resulted in his capture. He remained a prisoner of war for approximately three months prior to his separation from the 10th Infantry 4th Armored Division in 1945. Colvin achieved the rank of corporal.

He was described as a great handyman and a man who loved to laugh.

"I moved here in 1976. He worked at the Co-op at South Plains then. That's how I got to know him," said Marks.

According to Marks, Colvin

LOCKNEY NATIVE LON COLVIN was interviewed in a 2013 Veteran's Day story for the newspaper, with photo and story by Charles Keaton. Colvin served in the 10th Infantry 4th Armored Division and was a prisoner of war for three months in the European Theater of military operations. | HESPERIAN-BEACON

Colvin was 'a man that I respected. I'll miss him, but I know he's in a better place. He was a good man.'
 —ED MARKS

was a humble man who always had a smile on his face and a good word. There had been plans to include Colvin in Lockney's homecoming parade this year, though he was unable to attend.

"He was a man that I respected. I'll miss him, but I know he's in a better place. He was a good man," Marks said.

IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE
Meet Rep. Dustin Burrows HD83

HEARING FROM HD83 In the newly reconfigured Texas House District 83, changes are in store for Floyd County. Four-term state representative Dustin Burrows (R-Lubbock) has been making a series of Town Hall visits to get to know the district's constituents—and listen to their concerns. We sat down with Rep. Burrows in his Lubbock office to get to know him better. Look for the Q&A and coverage of Town Hall's in next week's Hesperian-Beacon. | TEXAS SPUR PHOTOS

UPCOMING

FLOYDADA CISD OPEN HOUSE will celebrate this joyful season by hosting a Christmas Open House on Monday, Dec. 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the FCISD Central Office.

LOCKNEY SALVATION ARMY is holding signups for Christmas baskets til Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 108 N. Main in Lockney.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FLOYDADA invites all to their annual Christmas Open House on Friday, Dec. 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the bank's Community Room.

TOYS FOR TOTS, ages 1 through 12 years old) is being held by the Floyd County Sheriff's Office. NEW UNWRAPPED toys and donations are welcomed and appreciated. You may drop off items at 125 E. California Street through Dec. 15.

LOCKNEY DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS will be hosted by the Lockney Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, Dec



11 from 6 – 8 p.m. There will be shopping, local food vendors, Christmas music and of course, Santa!

THE LOCKNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is now taking nominations for both Citizen and Business of the Year for 2021 through December 31. Nominations must be made through a letter and mailed to P. O. Box 477, Lockney, TX 79241 or given to a Chamber member. The winners will be announced and honored at the banquet on January 15, 2022. Please help us honor some deserving community members!

FLOYDADA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE invites everyone to join them on Thursday, December 16 at **MORE UPCOMING - PAGE 2**



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The Hesperian-Beacon encourages
citizens to consult
www.ballotpedia.org/
Who represents me
for a list of all their elected officials
at every level of government.



COMMENTARY
Check Your Mirrors

SUE JANE SULLIVAN

Snyder, Texas, native Sue Jane
Sullivan is a retired schoolteacher
whose thought-provoking commen-
tary appears occasionally in
several West Texas newspapers.

Time for new advent-ures

By now your family is a third of the way through your Advent calendar. Little card-stock doors or windows are opened to reveal various tokens: chocolates, Christmas images, or maybe biblical verses that tell the story of the birth of Jesus.

All are a part of a custom that began in earnest by a little boy in Germany in the 19th century. The non-paper version of Advent began much longer ago, as Christians were urged to set aside time for *adventus*, the Latin word for “coming.” Baby Jesus was coming as was the Christian view of the Second Coming.

The Advent designation comes during the four Sundays before Christmas. In 2021, November 28 began Advent, though most calendars produced in the United States will display December 1–December 25 as such.

Can we “advent” other things that are coming? My creative juices think so, though I have no marketing initiative to take the steps to cash in on this novel idea. Maybe you do. I grant you permission to take my idea and enjoy a marketing windfall should my proposal take off. All I ask is for you to buy back my El Camino, outfitted and restored so that I can travel the U.S. on my 70th birthday year (2026). I am giving you plenty of notice. Below are possible suggestions for a year-round Advent-ure.

January: Advent Calendar of Resolutions. Open a door and do only the resolution for that one day. I can go a day without ice cream. I will not go a month without it. This is a perfect, guilt-free thirty-one-day solution to resolutions, with high success rates predicted.

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

State lowers price cap for power providers

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN—The state’s Public Utility Commission last week lowered the maximum allowable wholesale price for electricity by almost half, from \$9,000 per megawatt hour to \$5,000.

The move came after prices soared to the maximum during last February’s deadly freeze, causing financial havoc along with the widespread power outages. A number of electric providers declared bankruptcy after being faced with enormous bills, including Brazos Electric Power Cooperative and Griddy Energy.

As the Austin American-Statesman reported, the state’s largely deregulated electricity market provides financial incentives to prompt power generators to deliver more electricity to the grid during peak demand. But those incentives came with steep prices, and some Griddy customers received electric bills of nearly \$10,000. Those bills were ultimately forgiven under an agreement negotiated by the attorney general’s office.

Peter Lake, chairman of the PUC, said lowering the price ceiling will “make sure the people of Texas are not exposed to those extraordinary high prices” again, the Statesman reported.

However, the CEO of the state’s largest power generator worries the state has not done enough to insulate itself against another deadly freeze. Curt Morgan of Vistra Corp. said that while his company has spent \$50 million this year weatherizing more than a dozen plants, the state still hasn’t ensured a reliable supply of natural gas. The Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the natural gas industry, is still working to finalize rules that would set weatherization mandates. However, those rules would not go into effect until early 2023, the Texas Tribune reported.

Morgan told legislators that Vistra’s plants couldn’t get enough natural gas to run anywhere near full capacity during the freeze.

“Why couldn’t we get it?” Morgan said. “Because the gas system was not weatherized. And so we had natural gas producers that weren’t producing.”

STATE TO GET \$35 BILLION IN INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS. In the next five years Texas will get more than \$35 billion in federal funding for roads, public transportation and water system improvements, The Dallas Morning News reported. The funding is part of the massive infrastructure bill Congress passed in November to provide \$548 billion in new investments across the country over five years. The state’s road system got a “D+” in a 2021 report card from the American Society of Civil Engineers.

“Current funding levels and resources from the state’s gas tax are inadequate to keep up with Texas’ projected growth, leaving a \$15 billion annual gap through 2040,” the engineering report said.

The federal funding also includes \$1.2 billion for Texas airports, \$537 million to replace and repair bridges and at least \$100 million for broadband expansion, according to The Morning News.

WEBINARS EXPLAIN TUITION FUND. The Texas Tuition Promise Fund is offering a series of web-

February: Advent Calendar of U.S. Presidents’ Valentines. This calendar combines the month’s two significant days. Those who buy this advent calendar will find pictures/facts behind various White House doors and windows. These will ask questions about a President’s wife. For example, what U.S. President’s first wife and his mother died on the same day? *Answer: Teddy Roosevelt (coincidentally, they both passed on Valentine’s Day 1884, before his presidency).*

March: Advent for March Madness. This calendar comes out before the brackets are created, so it cannot be interactive. Instead, NCAA basketball playoff trivia questions will be included on a replicated basketball court. Open up the spot at the free throw line for questions such as, “What is the record for free throws made in a men’s Final Four game?” *Answer: 23, by Texas’ Travis Mays and Bradley’s Bob Carney.* If questions such as that bore you, create some fun ones such as, “What color sweater did Bob Knight always wear when coaching?” *Answer: red.* If a person doesn’t know the answer to that, throw a chair at him or her.

You get the idea. Just come up with the other nine months’ Advent themes, and life could get really exciting. A lucrative deal with Walmart or Target could be yours. The Hallmark Channel may make a movie about your story (I would insist on a cameo appearance as an old bird lady with a short solo while sitting near a fountain).

The path is yours for the taking to financial security, early retirement, and a pool in the backyard.

You’re welcome.

binars to provide an overview of the state’s prepaid college tuition plan. In addition, the webinars will explain scholarship opportunities that are available.

“Upcoming webinars provide an overview of the Texas Tuition Promise Fund and information on different tuition unit types, tuition redemption values and payment options,” according to a press release. “The webinars also offer information about matching scholarships and tuition unit grants available through the Texas Match the Promise Foundation.”

Anyone interested can sign up for a webinar at www.texas tuition promise fund.com/events/.

NEW COVID-19 CASES, DEATHS INCREASE. While the appearance of the omicron variant of Covid-19 dominates the news, no cases of the variant had been reported in Texas as of Sunday. Health officials say it’s a matter of time, but they don’t yet know how severe and how contagious it will be.

What is known is that the number of new cases of Covid-19 in Texas in the past week rose to 30,201, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University—the highest level since late October. A total of 564 deaths were reported. The delta variant continues to be the dominant strain, infecting mostly unvaccinated Texans.

Lab-confirmed Covid-19 hospitalizations in the state were largely unchanged, with 2,886 reported by the Texas Department of State Health Services as of Sunday. The state crossed the 16 million mark of fully vaccinated people, with 3.175 million people also receiving an additional dose, according to DSHS. To date, 55% of the state’s total population is fully vaccinated.

JUDGE BLOCKS SOCIAL MEDIA CENSORSHIP LAW. A federal judge in Austin last week blocked the state’s social media censorship law before it took effect, the Houston Chronicle reported. House Bill 20, signed by Gov. Greg Abbott on Sept. 9, prohibited social media sites like Facebook and Twitter from censoring users “based on their political viewpoints.”

U.S. District Judge Robert Pitman wrote in his ruling that the bill violates the sites’ First Amendment right to moderate content disseminated on their platforms. Abbott had pushed for the bill, saying in a Twitter video, “Freedom of speech is under attack in Texas. There is a dangerous movement by some social media companies to silence conservative ideas and values.”

The state is expected to appeal Pitman’s ruling.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist.
He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

2021 Community Calendar

COMMUNITY SERVICES

FOOD BANKS—FLOYDADA—Spirit of Sharing (SOS), 925 Crockett St., Floydada, Mon. and Thurs., 2–4:30 p.m. (806) 983-5874.
LOCKNEY—Lockney Salvation Army, 108 S. Main, Lockney. (806) 652-2488. PLEASE CALL FOR HOURS DUE TO COVID-19.

LOCKNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 124 S. Main, Lockney, Mon.–Thurs., 1–5 p.m. and Fri. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. (806) 652-3561.

FLOYD COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 111 S. Wall St., Floydada, 8 a.m.–5:30 p.m. (806) 983-4922.

FLOYDADA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, 925 W. Crockett St., Floydada, serves lunch 11:15 a.m.–1 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday (dine-in, delivery in Floydada, or pickup). (806) 983-2032.

LOCKNEY SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, 118 W. College St., Lockney, serves lunch Mon.–Fri. 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Dine-in, delivery in Lockney area only, and curbside pickup. (806) 652-2745.

FLOYD COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, 105 E. Missouri St., Floydada, is open weekday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m. and by appointment. (806) 983-2415.

FLOYDADA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & AGRICULTURE, 105 S. 5th St., Floydada, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (806) 983-3434.

COMMUNITY CHANGES AND CLOSURES City of Floydada office is drive-up only due to Covid-19.

PUBLIC AND CIVIC MEETINGS COMING UP

FLOYD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS’ COURT Monday, Dec. 13, 8 a.m., County Courthouse, 100 Main St., Floydada.

FLOYDADA CISD Tuesday, Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m., FCISD School Administration offices, 226 W. California St., Floydada.

LOCKNEY CITY COUNCIL Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7 a.m., City Hall, 218 E. Locust St., Lockney.

FLOYDADA CITY COUNCIL Tuesday, Dec. 21, 6:30 p.m., City Hall, 114 W. Virginia Street, Floydada.

WJ MANGOLD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (LOCKNEY GENERAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT) Wednesday, Dec. 29, 12 noon., Hospital Annex, 320 N. Main, Lockney.

FLOYDADA LIONS AND ROTARY CLUBS are currently meeting together Tuesdays, 12 noon, First United Methodist Church, Floydada.

LOCKNEY ROTARY CLUB meets Fridays, 12 noon, Lockney Senior Citizens Center.

ELECTION 2022 Filing deadline approaches for Floyd Co. primary

KAY ELLINGTON | HESPERIAN-BEACON

Candidates have begun to file for 2022 elections in Floyd County, and this week Ginger Morgan filed for re-election as county/district clerk.

In this area, seats that are up for election are county clerk/district clerk, county judge, county treasurer, Precinct 2 commissioner, Precinct 4 commissioner and justice of the peace.

Interested candidates file with county party chairs and pay a filing fee to get their names on the ballot.

The Hesperian-Beacon connected with Kerry Pratt, chair of the Floyd County Republican party, via email to confirm this week’s primary filings for the Floyd GOP primary.

Five candidates, all incumbents, have filed to be on the GOP primary ballot. There has been no word regarding Democratic candidates.

Filing so far have been: Marty Lucke, county judge; Clint Bigham, commissioner precinct 2; David Martinez, commissioner precinct 4; and Lori Morales, county treasurer, in addition to Morgan for county/district clerk.

Filing for the March 1, 2022 Republican and Democratic party primary elections continues through Dec. 13. Individuals interested in running for office should contact the county party chairs. The last day to register to vote for the March 1 primaries is Jan. 31, 2022. Early voting will run Feb. 14–25, 2022 and the last day to apply for a ballot by mail is Feb. 18, 2022.

FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON
NOTE OUR NEW PHONE NUMBERS
FLOYDADA NEWS LINE 806.747.1997
for business matters and subscriptions

UPCOMING - FROM PAGE 1

Nutthouse Designs as they welcome Santa to The Square in Floydada. Santa will arrive at 5 p.m. to start welcoming children and will stay until 7. There will also be a pulled pork sandwich meal benefiting the Floydada Animal Shelter. There will be a hot chocolate bar, crafts for the kids, shopping and a beautiful Christmas card picture worthy backdrop. The Chamber is also accepting vendors to set up down California Street. Vendor spaces are FREE. Santa will then join the Lighted Christmas Parade hosted by the Floyd County Sheriff’s Department.

THE 1ST ANNUAL LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE, hosted by The Floyd County Sheriff’s Office, is being held on Thursday, Dec. 16 starting at 6:30 p.m. on the Courthouse Square in downtown Floydada. Entry fee is \$5. Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated float. There will be food and so much more! Come and join in on the fun! Be sure to turn in your parade forms to the Sheriff’s office. Prizes for the best decorated float. There will be food and so much more! Come and join in on the fun!

THE LOCKNEY SALVATION ARMY is in need of winter coats and non-perishable food. Their new store hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sign up for Christmas baskets is also available. The distribution of Christmas baskets for seniors will be on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Family baskets will be distributed on Dec. 18 between 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

FLOYD COUNTY 4-H is holding a blanket drive as a community service project. The project is boys vs girls. If the boys collect more blankets, then Tyann Phillips will get a pie in the face. If the girls win, then Mark Carroll will get the pie in his face. Blankets can be given to any 4-H member or taken to the Floyd County AgriLife Extension Office at 122 E. California. The club will determine the winner at their Dec. 14 meeting.

SEND YOUR COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS TO fchb.editor@yahoo.com

KAREN HOUCHIN
ATTORNEY • 806.983.5556



CUISINE & CULTURE | ANGELINA@ANGELINALARUE.COM

Food bytes

ANGELINA LARUE

Cocoa bombs lend chocolatey richness to traditional cup of cocoa

Chances are, you've heard of the spherical craze called cocoa bombs. It's a fun, creative way to make a cup of hot cocoa. In fact, it's a hot chocolate "experience." Not only is it exciting to prepare the spheres, it's magical to drop them in to the warm milk and watch them melt away, exposing the hidden ingredients.

Cocoa bombs can be easily accomplished by spreading melted chocolate into half-sphere silicone molds. Ultimately, two halves come together encasing marshmallows, additional chocolate, or crushed peppermint.

I made traditional cocoa bombs containing mini marshmallows and powdered cocoa mix for added chocolatey richness. But I also love candy cane cocoa so crushed peppermint filled some of the spheres.

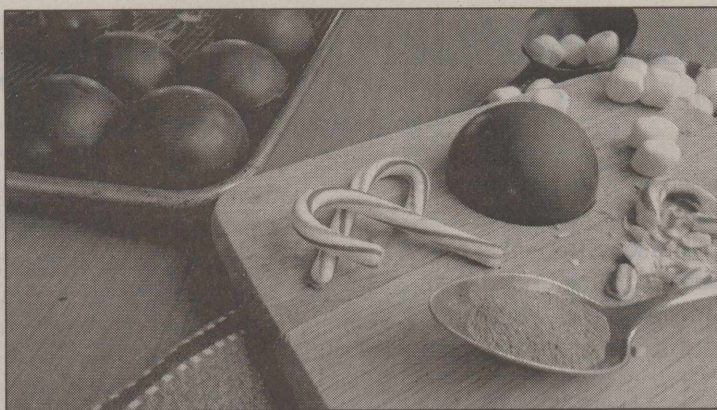
These cocoa bombs are pretty standard, but they can be dressed up to give as a thoughtful gift. You may have seen cocoa bombs drizzled with ribbons of colorful candy melts or decorated with Christmas-color sprinkles. If making candy cane cocoa bombs, place a bit of crushed peppermint in the molds before adding the melted chocolate.

However you make them, they will be a welcomed gift for any hot chocolate lover. Pair them with a cute seasonal mug. Chocolate dipped spoons are also a sweet gift to make for your mocha fans to stir into coffee if you don't have silicone molds for making cocoa bombs. The molds are found at specialty shops like Whisk'd in Lubbock, or on Amazon.

Cocoa bombs are a delightful way for friends, for family, and for you, to experience a velvety smooth cup of hot chocolate. Enjoy the magic, and food made fresh!

Cocoa Bombs

- 12 ounces dark chocolate chips
- 8 teaspoons instant hot chocolate mix
- 40 mini marshmallows
- Crushed peppermint, optional



JUST DROP INTO WARM MILK and the cocoa bomb's magic will happen quickly, depending on how hot the cup of milk is. | ANGELINA LARUE PHOTO

1½ inch silicone half-sphere mold
Chill a baking sheet in the freezer.
Melt chocolate chips in a microwave-safe bowl on high in 30-second intervals until almost melted, stirring between each interval.

Place approximately 1 tablespoon melted chocolate into each of 16 silicone half-spheres. Spread the chocolate up the sides of each mold with the back of the spoon. Try and create a thick edge at the top of each half so the sides are not too thin for connecting.

Place filled molds onto the chilled baking sheet and return to freezer for 15 minutes.

Remove from freezer and gently pop each half-sphere out of the molds by apply light pressure to the bottom of each one. Set each one onto the chilled baking sheet. Fill half of them with the mixtures of marshmallows, hot chocolate mix, and/or crushed peppermint.

Heat a small baking pan in the oven until hot. Remove from oven and take an unfilled half-sphere and spin it carefully over the hot pan to melt the open edge. Place it over one of the filled halves and "glue" the halves together. Repeat with each one. Store in the refrigerator until ready to add to warm milk.

The magic will happen quickly, depending on how hot the cup of milk is. Makes 8 cocoa bombs.

Tip: Thin spots can be corrected by adding additional melted chocolate and returning them to the freezer.

Angelina LaRue, author of "The Whole Enchilada: Fresh and Nutritious Southwestern Cuisine," grew up at White River Lake, lives in Idalou and writes a weekly food column for local newspapers.



COMMENTARY

The 501

HANABA MUNN WELCH

How good is your spamese?

If you're not bilingual but you'd like to be, there's good news. You probably already know spamese, and you don't have to worry about pronunciation of any of the words.

Spamese isn't spoken. It's just for email and texts and such. It's best learned from reading email subject lines.

No, I'm not going to dignify spamese with a capital "S." I've got two good reasons. I'll explain later.

For those of you who don't know whether you know spamese, let me describe it. The rest of you can see whether you agree.

Essentially spamese is a written form of butchered English with an excess of capital letters and exclamation points.

Moreover, spamese, sort of like Yiddish but in a different way, is a language associated with humor. It's a little like French being the language of love. But not really.

It's more like it's the humor itself that makes spamese spamese. Unintended humor. Rather than explain what I mean (since I'm not quite sure), here's an example:

"Your UPS package was delivered But not shipped."

I really did get that message. Maybe you did too.

An exclamation point would have made that line even spamesier, but at least it has that errant capital "B."

A line in spamese from Zippyloan also left me smiling:

"Loan up to \$15,000 as soon as Tomorrow!!"

Maybe the native language of the Zippyloan spammer is French. There's a way in French to use the same word for the verbs "borrow" and "loan." I remember being confused about it when I was learning French. I still am.

Black Friday spawned quite a few email subject lines written in spamese. "Bank of America (yeah, right) BLACK FRIDAY" sent me this one: "hanaba your card of BLACK FRIDAY ready...take it now FREE."

Why is my given name never worth a capital letter in spamese? Various other words get unjustly capitalized and even written totally in uppercase. But me? They never capitalize hanaba. If I were a Linda would things be different? Guess I'll have to ask a Linda.

Yes, that's the main reason I refuse to capitalize spamese. Retaliation.

The other reason is that a capital "S" would tie spamese too closely to SPAM@. Yum.

Poor Hormel. I'm guessing that company has decided to acknowledge the existence of the unfortunate evil lowercase namesake of its popular canned pork product and has adopted P. T. Barnum's philosophy that there's no such thing as bad publicity, whether or not Barnum really said that. Hormel has no other choice.

Meanwhile, laws do exist for legitimate businesses that send out legitimate email messages to multiple recipients. The legislation is the CAN-SPAM Act. No kidding. You can read about it on the website of the Federal Trade Commission.

Ever wonder why it's so easy to get off a company's mailing list? Thank the CAN-SPAM Act. By law they've gotta let you unsubscribe.

We digress somewhat.

Closing thought:

If there were a country where everybody spoke spamese, I wouldn't capitalize it either. So there.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a veteran correspondent and columnist who unfailingly sums up her weekly thoughts in 501 words and dashes. Farm life often inspires her writing. Hanaba@copper.net

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS CLOSE TO YOU

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McKenzie Milburn, FNP

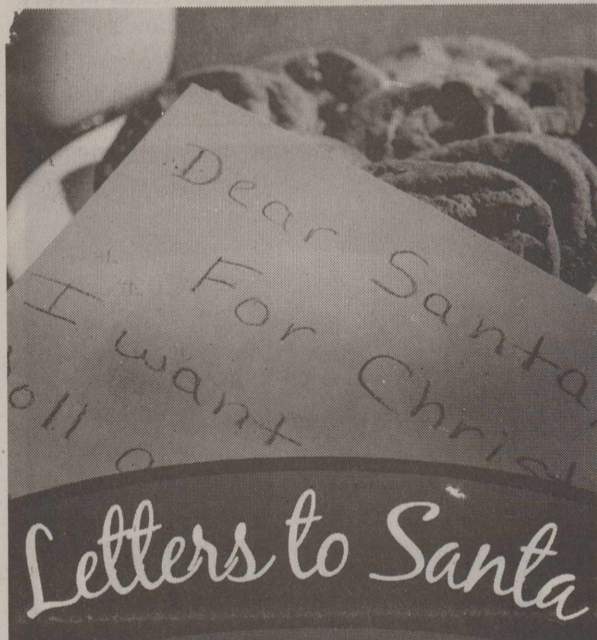


- Quality care, timely service, and convenience for patients of all ages
- Same-day appointments available Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Please call 652-3373 in the morning to receive your time slot for treatment that day

SANTA LETTERS coming up in next week's issue of the Hesperian-Beacon!

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Delivered right to your inbox every Wednesday morning
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Floydada Senior Citizens News

LU ANN COLLINS | SPECIAL TO THE HESPERIAN-BEACON

The Center is now open three days a week. We are serving lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We offer dine-in, carry-out or delivery. On Wednesdays we will be selling meals to go for \$5. Meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays are \$7.

Please call (806) 983-2032 if you need to order meals for delivery or carryout. For delivery, please call before 10:30 a.m.

Lunch will be served from 11:15 a.m. through 1 p.m. There is no added fee for delivery.

Membership fee is \$25 per year per person. The Center's mailing address is P.O. Box 573, Floydada, TX 79235 and the phone number is (806) 983-2032.

Thank you for remembering the Center with donations or memorials. Every donation or memorial is greatly appreciated and helps the Center stay open.

MENU

- Wednesday, Dec. 8 - Smothered burritos w/chili & cheese
- Thursday, Dec. 9 - Chicken fried steak
- Tuesday, Dec. 14 - Tacos - \$5
- Wednesday, Dec. 15 - Chili & cornbread
- Thursday, Dec 16 - Ham or beef tips w/ gravy

(Menu subject to change without notice)

Lockney Senior Center News

DONNA WEBB/ AIMEE JACKSON | SPECIAL TO THE HESPERIAN-BEACON

The Center will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 22 thru Monday, Jan. 3 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

We will NOT be serving breakfast til further notice.

The Center is available for rentals for your dances, reunions, baby showers. Day rentals are \$75 and day/evening (night parties) are \$125. Please keep us in mind. Call the Center to reserve.

The Center is now accepting credit and debit cards. The Center will be operating and serving lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday thru Friday, by dine-in, pickup, or delivery in Lockney only. Meals are \$6 for members and \$7 for non-members.

Membership is \$30 annually. You have the opportunity to join now for \$15. Renewal will be in January 2022. Membership fees go directly into our building and maintenance fund and are essential for continuing operations.

The Center would like to invite game players to come join us every Thursday night from 6 to 8 p.m. You can join in on dominoes (all kinds are played) or a variety of card games, or even work on a puzzle and enjoy conversations and companionship! Drinks are provided at no charge, and there's always a hot pot of coffee.

Also, chef salads can be ordered from the Center any day of the week. We will be slowly adding more things that you can order on any day.

For questions, contact the center at (806) 652-2745. Stay safe!

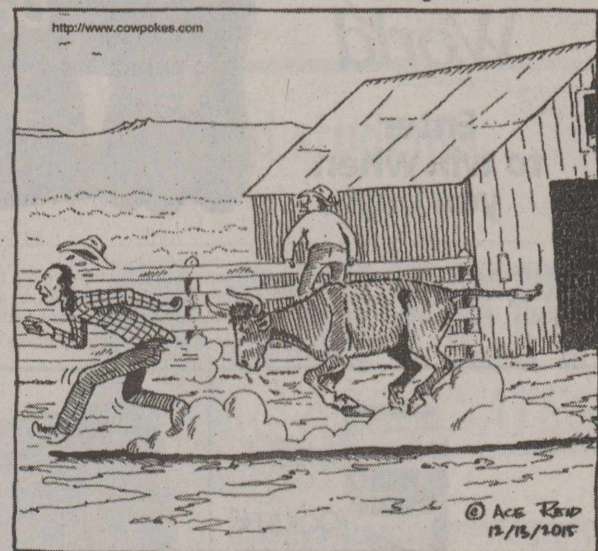
MENU

- Monday, Dec. 13 - Cheese enchiladas
- Tuesday, Dec. 14 - Beef stew
- Wednesday, Dec. 15 - Steak fingers
- Thursday, Dec. 16 - Chef salad
- Friday, Dec. 17 - BBQ plate

(All meals are served with dessert)
(Menu subject to change without notice)

CROSSWORD THIS WEEK
• REALITY TV • PAGE 8 •

COWPOKES® By Ace Reid



"Wilbur, tell me some more about that new breakfast cereal with that extra git up and go!"

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OBITUARIES

Lon Chamer Colvin, 1926–2021



Lon Chamer Colvin, 95, of Lockney passed away on November 26, 2021.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m., Thursday, December 2, 2021 at Lockney Cemetery with Rev. Auggie Aguilera of First United Methodist Church in Lockney officiating.

Burial arrangements were under the care of Kormerstone Funeral Directors.

Lon was born April 28, 1926 in Lockney, Texas, to James Calvin and Sallie Lena (McCoy) Colvin. He attended schools in Lockney and graduated from Lockney High School.

He was in the U.S. Army and served in the European Theater under Gen. George S. Patton in the 7th Armored Infantry. He was a prisoner of war after serving as machine gunner on a tank.

He married Lois Morgan Quisenberry in 1967 in Plainview, Texas. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Lockney.

He was always a happy man who loved to laugh and have fun. He was always busy, and was a great handyman and could fix anything.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lois, and his brothers, E.J. Colvin, Jake Colvin and Tom Colvin.

He is survived by his sister, LeDell Brewer of Lockney; his nieces, Diane Rose of Lockney, Jo Beth Ware of Plainview, Sherry McMasters of Lubbock, Pat Hammit of Canyon, Becky Wiggs of Plainview, and Donna Jan Lewis of Norman, Oklahoma; and his nephews, Terry Brewer of Wichita Falls, Jerry Morgan of Plainview and Gary Morgan of Plainview.

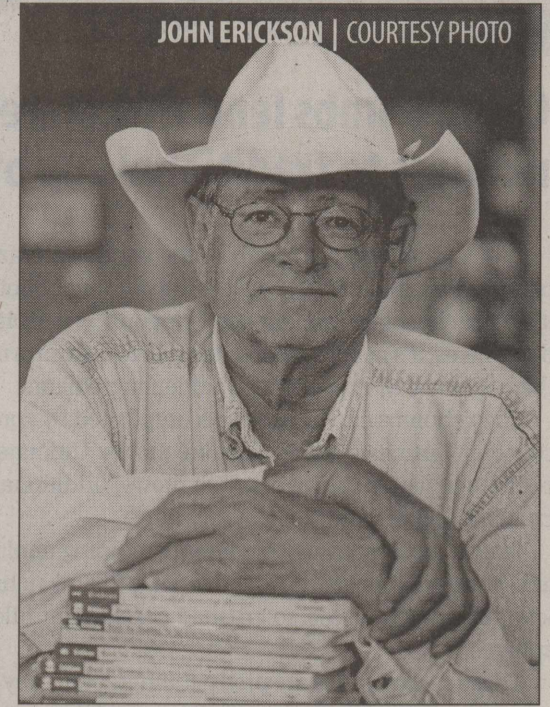
Memorial contributions may be sent to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 7, Lockney, TX 79241.

Online condolences may be made at www.kormerstonefunerals.com



John Erickson: A Texas literary hero

GLENN DROMGOOLE | SPECIAL TO THE HESPERIAN-BEACON



JOHN ERICKSON | COURTESY PHOTO

I had the good fortune recently to spend three hours watching a Texas literary hero sign books for his many admirers. It was the most inspirational book signing I've ever witnessed.

John Erickson is the author of the Hank the Cowdog series of children's books that were never intended to be children's books. He wrote them for ranch families, but they were discovered by elementary school teachers and librarians—and parents—who found them to be books that especially boys, many of them non-readers, would devour and come back for more.

The stories are told in the voice of Hank, the self-proclaimed head of security at a ranch in the Texas Panhandle, which basically means he barks at everything. Bumbling Hank has a good heart but always seems to find himself in some kind of trouble, usually of his own making. Yet he manages to get through it to bark for another day—even emerging as a hero despite himself. Hank stories are humorous, engaging, uplifting.

During the book signing, whole families—two and three generations—would come up to the table and ask Erickson to pose for pictures after signing their books. This wasn't just any author, they would testify.

I don't know how many times I heard the phrase, "Hank the Cowdog changed my life." Or even, "Hank the Cowdog saved my life."

They would go on to say how they were not interested in reading as a child, but then they read a Hank novel and were hooked. They became avid readers and better students, went on to college or work, had families, introduced their children to Hank—and their children discovered the joy of reading.

One man said he took Hank tales with him to Iraq during a tour of duty there and spread the word to his fellow soldiers. A woman had a book signed for her 21-year-old son, a former non-reader now a college senior majoring in engineering.

Erickson has heard the testimonials many, many times as he has spoken and signed books at hundreds of schools, libraries, bookstores, and other venues over the years. I'm sure he never tires of hearing them.

The series, which began in the early 1980s with "The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog" and "The Further Adventures of Hank the Cowdog," has expanded to 76 titles, with the 77th coming out later this year or early next year and a 78th due next spring. When that 78th book hits the shelves, it will be something of a signature moment for Erickson, who turned 78 in October.

Some men his age make it their goal to shoot their age in golf—make a six-over-par 78 at age 78, or an eight-over-par 80 at age 80. But only John Erickson will be able to say he has written his age in Hank novels! (Hank also narrates a series of non-fiction titles about ranch life, published in cooperation with the National Ranching Heritage Center at Texas Tech.)

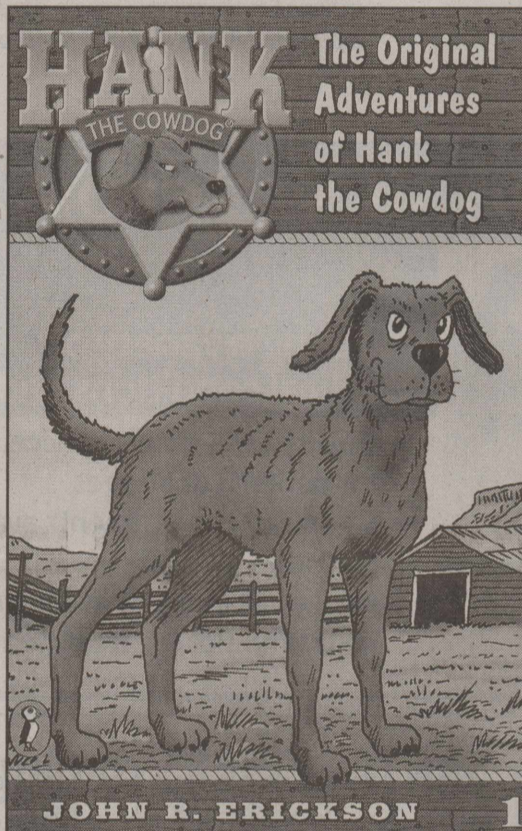
Erickson has written a number of other very good books as well, such as his latest—"Bad Smoke Good Smoke"—about the 2017 Panhandle wildfire that destroyed his ranch home, office and treasured personal and family possessions.

But I venture to say that those literary accomplishments pale in comparison to the influence of his Hank the Cowdog stories.

At a restaurant after the book signing, the manager spotted Erickson and exclaimed, "My favorite author—Hank the Cowdog!"

What a legacy for a genuine Texas literary hero.

Glenn Dromgoole and his wife, Carol, operate Texas Star Trading Company, a book and gift store in Abilene.



1956 Study Club holds annual Scholarship Auction at Nov. 9 meeting

JANET LLOYD | SPECIAL TO THE HESPERIAN-BEACON

This time of year, many women love to go shopping for special and unique gifts and the 1956 Study Club had just the option for its members, their Annual Scholarship Auction.

The club started giving scholarships to senior girls graduating from Floydada High School in 2005. There were three scholarships of \$500 given the first year. Since that time almost \$20,000 has been given in funds to 49 different graduates.

In the beginning, the proceeds from the Tater Bake, that the members sponsored before home football games, were used to fund the scholarship project. When the members decided that they could no longer participate in the before game meals, the auction became the main way that money is raised to fund the scholarships.

The only year that the auction was not the main source of funding for the scholarship was in 2021 when members elected to use their dues money because of not meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Sheryl Back was the auctioneer for this fun and laughter-filled event where items for sale included Susan and Clay Simpson's famous pickles, Charline Hendrix's homemade divine divinity, pecan pies, members personal treasures and kitchen helpers just to name a few of the great items.

Judy Dunlap and Janet Lloyd were hostesses of the meeting held in the parlor of the First Baptist Church. Virginia Stringer gave the invocation for the light supper that was served. JenniSu Smith introduced her guest, Betty Quisenberry.

Those in attendance were guest Betty Quisenberry and members Sheree Cannon, Snow Payne, Linda Harbin, Ronda Guthrie, Sheryl Back, Virginia Stringer, Kay Dean Smith, Susan Simpson, Charline Hendrix, Sherry Hacker, JenniSu Smith, Linda Matsler, Judy Dunlap and Janet Lloyd.

Happy Holidays

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The more you share, the more you save!

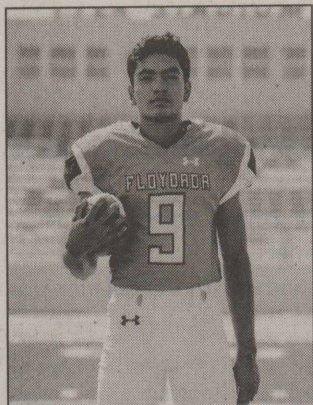
STACK & SAVE 5¢ /GAL

Stack & Save available with Allsup's or Yesway Rewards. Limit 30 gallons on fuel reward redemption. One Vehicle per transaction.

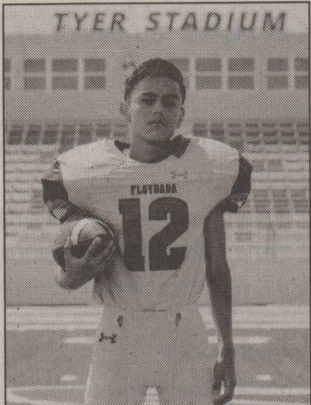
Floydada Whirlwinds

Floydada Whirlwinds named to 2021 Football UIL All-District Selection

CONGRATULATIONS to the Floydada Whirlwinds football players below, who were named to UIL All-District honors this year. | ROBIN'S NEST PHOTOGRAPHY



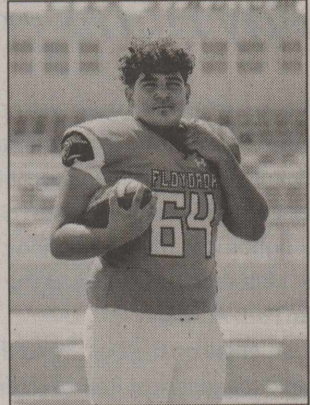
IZAIAH ALVARADO, JUNIOR
SUPERLATIVES, UTILITY PLAYER OF THE YEAR; 1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, PUNTER; 1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, INSIDE LINEBACKER; 2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, RUNNING BACK



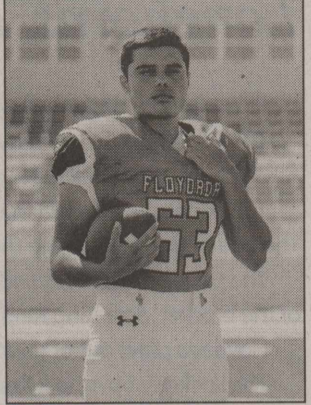
LEO MENDOZA, FRESHMAN
SUPERLATIVES, NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR



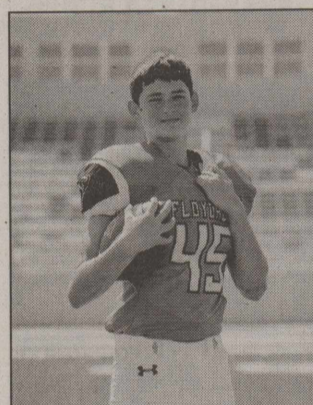
SAUL REYES, JUNIOR
1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, RECEIVER



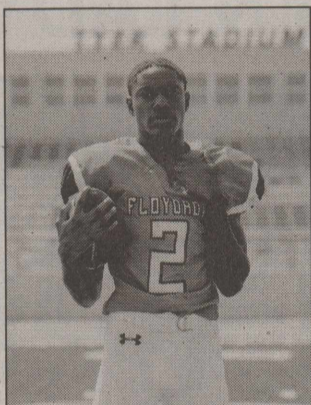
EDGAR CERVERA, SOPHOMORE
1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, GUARD



ANDREW SUAREZ, SENIOR
1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, DEFENSIVE END



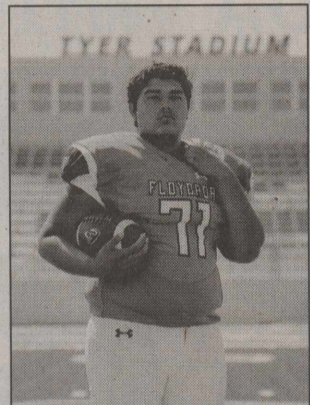
HAGEN HINSLEY, SOPHOMORE
1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, OUTSIDE LINEBACKER



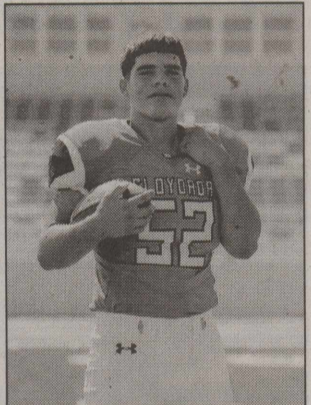
JAYSON COOPER, JUNIOR
1ST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, SAFETY; 2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, RECEIVER



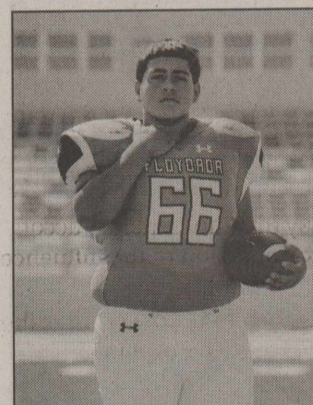
TRACE GLASSCOCK, SENIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, QUARTERBACK



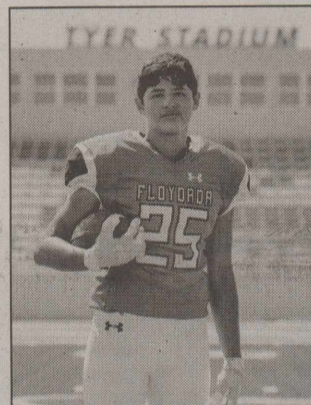
DEVIN RIOJAS, SENIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, CENTER



DAVIAN RAMOS, SENIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, TACKLE



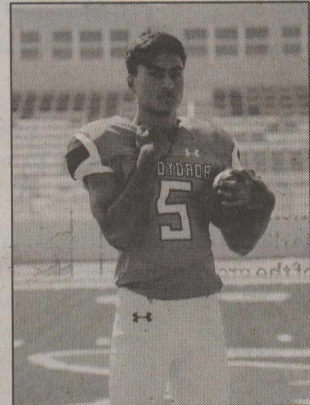
ADAM DELGADO, JUNIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, GUARD; 2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, DEFENSIVE END



AIDEN TREVINO, SOPHOMORE
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, FULLBACK



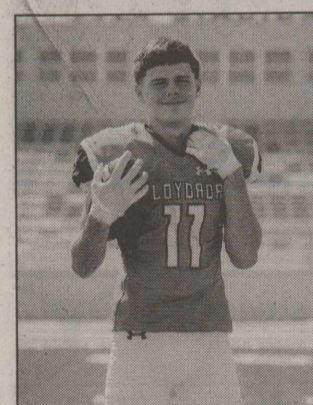
TYREAN HENDERSON, SENIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, SAFETY



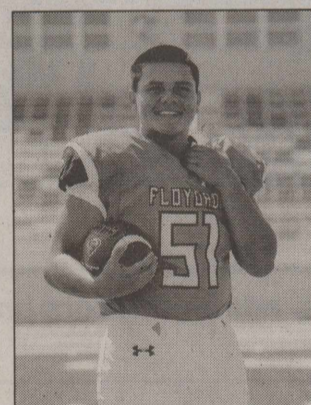
ANDRES MENDOZA, JUNIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, OUTSIDE LINEBACKER



DONOVAN ROCHA, JUNIOR
2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT, CORNER



PHILLIP RODRIGUEZ, JUNIOR
HONORABLE MENTION, CORNER



ARMANDO CRUZ, SOPHOMORE
HONORABLE MENTION, TACKLE

Whirlwinds take Tahoka Tournament

STAFF REPORTS | FCISD PHOTO

The Floydada Whirlwinds basketball team took the top slot in the Tahoka Tournament last Saturday by beating Forsan 66-64. Leading scorers for this game were Braun Hobbs with 17 points, Abram Castillo with 16 points, Aiden Trevino with 14 and Jayson Cooper with 12 points. Earlier in the tournament, Floydada played Lorenzo and won 83-52, where Castillo had a career-high 40-points. Floydada edged Morton 65-61 to advance to the championship game. The Whirlwinds now stand at 6-0.

"We are extremely proud of the girls and excited to see what the future has in store for them," added Ramirez.



FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU

DEC. 11-17

Monday

Breakfast - Turkey sausage breakfast pizza, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch - Grilled cheeseburger, creamy chicken Alfredo
Rotini, spiced green beans, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

Tuesday

Breakfast - Turkey, ham, egg & cheese sandwich, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch - Country fried steak, roll, pepperoni pizza, spiced green beans, mashed potatoes, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

Wednesday

Breakfast - Mini chocolate chip waffle, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch - Beefy nachos, Spanish rice, breaded chicken patty sandwich, cheesy Mexican mix refried beans, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

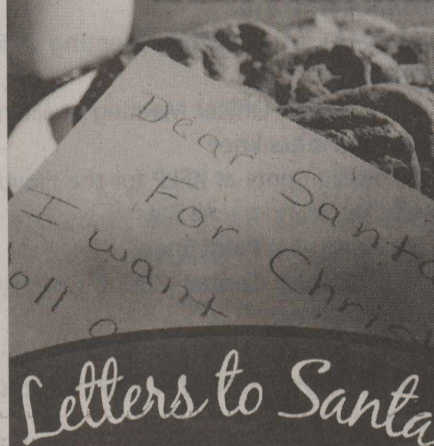
Thursday

Breakfast - Banana muffin, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch - Meatlovers pizza, grilled cheeseburger, seasoned curly fries, steamed baby carrots, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

Friday

Breakfast - Sweet apple strudel, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch - Salisbury steak, roll, rice, spicy chicken patty sandwich, spiced green beans, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

Need gift ideas?
SANTA LETTERS
in next week's issue



Letters to Santa

The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon looks forward to publishing Letters to Santa from area schoolchildren, grades K-4 in our DECEMBER 16 edition—to provide kids, their families, AND Santa a fun and useful guide in time for gift-giving! Advertising opportunities also available. fcb.editor@yahoo.com

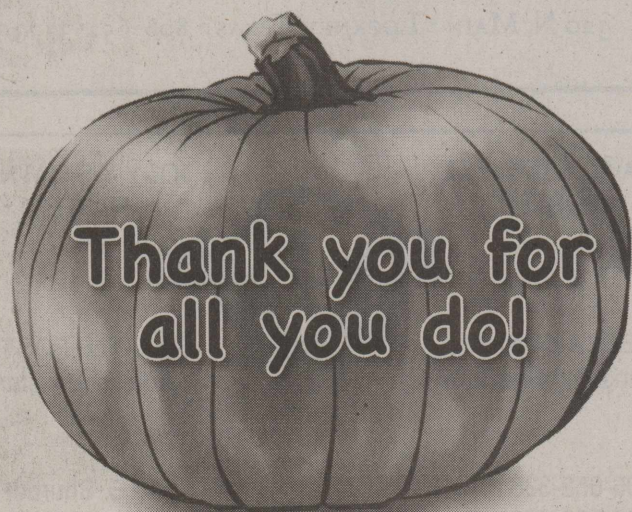
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LOCKNEY SCHOOL MENU

DEC. 13-17

Monday

Breakfast – Pancakes, bacon, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch – Fish sticks, oven fries, green beans, Texas toast, strawberries, milk

Tuesday

Breakfast – PBJ or animal crackers & cheese, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch – Frito pie, pinto beans, baby carrots, salsa, Applesauce, sherbet, milk

Wednesday

Breakfast – Breakfast pizza, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch – Pizza, garden salad, green beans, peaches, milk

Thursday

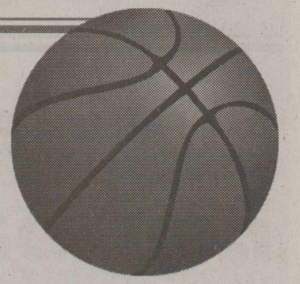
Breakfast – Oatmeal & cinnamon toast or banana bread & yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch – Popcorn chicken, roll, corn, cucumbers, pears, cookie, milk

Friday

Breakfast – Breakfast burrito or donut cheese stick, fruit, fruit juice, milk
Lunch – Chicken strips, oven fries, gravy, roll, tomato cup, snowball salad, milk

Lockney Longhorns

Floyd County Roundball Roundup



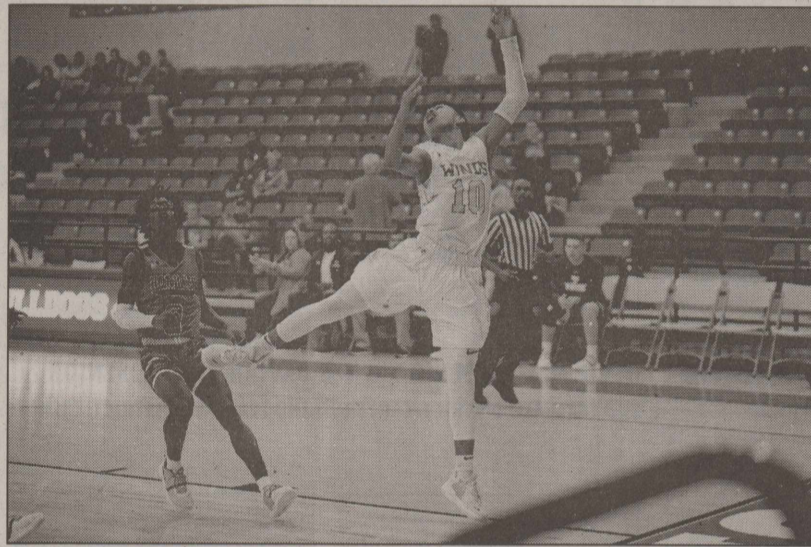
FRED CERVANTES | HESPERIAN-BEACON CORRESPONDENT
PHOTOS BY CERVANTES PHOTOGRAPHY

**Floyd County basketball teams play well in Tahoka tournament
Longhorns, Lady Horns emerge as consolation champs**

Floyd County basketball went and represented itself well going into the first week of December. The Floydada Whirlwinds won the Tahoka High School tournament, defeating Forsan 66-64. Abram Castillo had a career-high 40 points in the game against Lorenzo. The Lady Winds fell short of claiming the girls' championship bested by Sterling City 43-40 in overtime. The Longhorns started the week off with a back and forth game in Muleshoe on Tuesday night. A buzzer-beater by the Mules decided the outcome of the game. The end of the week found the Longhorns as the consolation champions at the Tahoka tournament as they defeated the Lorenzo Hornets. The Lady Horns fell behind the Muleshoe Lady Mules at the beginning of the week. They then went 3-1 at the Tahoka tournament and won the consolation side of the bracket, defeating Kingdom Prep Academy. Floydada plays out of town in Littlefield on the Dec. 7 and then hosts their Whirlwind Classic to finish the week. The Lockney boys host Kress, and the girls host Roosevelt on Tuesday night. They finish the week hosting their tournament, the Lockney Shootout. Both tournaments start on Thursday, Dec. 9.

Each week during basketball season we'll summarize results from Floyd County schools on alternate pages. Thanks to Cervantes Photography for the coverage!

FLOYDADA WHIRLWINDS & LADY WINDS



**FLOYD COUNTY 4-H
NEWS & ACTIVITY CALENDAR
STAFF REPORTS**

DECEMBER

9: Poinsettia's Delivered to the Extension office at 10 a.m.
14: 4-H Club Quarterly Meeting @ 6 p.m. @ UC
16: 4-H Club Officer Meeting at Main Street Pizza in Lockney
20: Radio Spots at KFLP for the Floyd County Stock Show – All Day
30: November Point Sheet due
*UC = Unity Center, CEO = County Extension Office

2022 FLOYD COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW

The date has been set for the 2022 Floyd County Stock Show. Here is the tentative schedule as follows:

THURSDAY, January 13

10:00 am - Barn Opens
1:00 - 3:00 - pm - Cattle weigh in
5:00 pm - Beef and Dairy Cattle Show
Rabbit Show will immediately follow the beef and dairy cattle show

FRIDAY, January 14

9:00 am - Barn Opens
1:00 - 4:00 pm - Lambs, goats and swine weigh in and in place

SATURDAY, January 15

8:00 am - Gilt Show
Barrow Show
Approx. 12pm Lunch Break
Goat Show
Lamb Show
Approx. 4 pm - Set up Premium Sale
Approx. 5 pm - Buyer's Meal
Approx. 6 pm - Premium Sale

SUNDAY, January 16 2:00 pm - Mandatory cleanup @ Unity Center

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AgriLife Extension's North Region offers production education online

KAY LEDBETTER, TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service North Region, which includes the Panhandle and South Plains areas of the state, will host a series of online educational events for the next four months.

The sessions are designed for producers, professionals and private industry representatives.

There is no cost to attend, but everyone must register to receive the link to join that day. Register at <https://tx.ag/SurveyDec21> or email Danny Nusser, AgriLife Extension North Region program director for agriculture and natural resources, Amarillo, at d-nusser@tamu.edu with a name, email address, cell phone and mailing address.

Registration is only required one time, and then those on the list will receive the link for each session.

North Region online agenda

The educational programs and speakers will be:

— Dec. 9, Availability of Herbicides for 2022, Peter Dotray, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Research weed specialist, Lubbock.

— Jan. 13, Pre-Plant Decisions for Managing Resistant Weeds, Dotray.

— Jan. 24, Impact on Input Reduction – How Far Can You Go?, Justin Benavidez, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist, Amarillo.

— Feb. 23, Getting Your Cotton Off to a Great Start. Seed Quality, Cover Crops and Insecticidal Seed Treatments, AgriLife Extension agronomists Murilo Maeda, Ph.D., Lubbock, and Jourdan Bell, Ph.D., Amarillo; and Suhas Vyavhare, AgriLife Extension cotton entomologist, Lubbock.

— March 9, Carbon Farming – What Do We Know?, Bell and Joe Outlaw, Ph.D., co-director of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center and AgriLife Extension economist, Bryan-College Station.

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY INTO FIELDS

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the Northern High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Deaf Smith, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Parmer, Randall, and Swisher counties are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning **December 20, 2021**.

All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone.

To mitigate risk, beekeepers should notify the Foundation of beehive locations near cotton fields. The Foundation will monitor treatments in these locations where bees are present to ensure the security of hives.

For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

Drier winter weather pattern expands drought conditions

ADAM RUSSELL, TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

Conditions are drying around much of Texas, and forecasts are calling for winter weather to be warmer and drier than average.

Commodity producers in much of the state, including the High Plains, experienced a banner year in 2021 due to high commodity prices and above-average precipitation that started in May and delivered timely moisture throughout the growing season.

But soil moisture levels are declining in parts of the state, and the 2022 growing season could hinge on winter weather replenishing topsoil and subsoils or another round of timely summer rains to save the day.

Jourdan Bell, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agronomist, Amarillo, said drought conditions are expanding throughout the High Plains. The region has not received significant precipitation since September while above-average temperatures were exacerbating soil moisture level declines.

The U.S. Drought Monitor shows most of the High Plains, West Texas and East Texas are in extreme drought to abnormally dry. West Central, Central and Coastal parts of the state are not experiencing drought, according to the monitor.

A strong La Niña weather pattern is expected this winter, which often means less rainfall and warmer temperatures for the Southwest, including much of Texas.

"Soils are drying out and that is definitely a concern moving into winter and spring," Bell said. "We continue to hear that weather conditions are expected to be

warmer and drier than average, so limited soil moisture could be drive 2022 cropping decisions in water-limited regions."

Winter weather typically dry for Texas Plains

Bell said producers in the High Plains are making serious evaluations of input costs due to high fertilizer prices and pesticide shortages despite strong commodity prices. But much of the planting decisions will be based on precipitation received between now and planting and how well soil moisture indexes recover from drought winter conditions. Dryland and limited irrigated producers will likely select crops that tolerate moderate drought conditions.

But winter is typically a dry period for the High Plains region, Bell said. Much of the restorative rainfall events historically occur during monsoon season in late summer through September.

The region does typically pick up some winter moisture from snowfall, Bell said. While snow represents important moisture and an insulator against extreme cold for winter crops like wheat and canola, the moisture from snow is only a fraction of rainfall's liquid equivalent.

"A few inches of moisture are important when you are in a 16-24-inch rain zone like the Texas High Plains, but we are going to need good spring rains to help reduce the current rainfall deficit and improve the overall topsoil and subsoil moisture index," she said.

Plan for worst, hope for best

Bell said producers are increasingly dependent on timely rains

because regional groundwater continues to decline, resulting in lower irrigation well capacities. The ability to meet crop water demand directly impacts yield potential.

Timely in-season rains in the High Plains between May and September helped bridge the soil moisture deficit during the 2021 growing season, Bell said. The region received 10-12 inches of rainfall during the growing season, which effectively supplemented crop moisture requirements for producers with limited irrigation capacity.

The timely rains resulted in better-than-average yields for many regional corn, sorghum and cotton producers, she said. Better-than-expected yields amid higher prices at market made 2021 a good production year.

But Bell said producers should continue to plan for the worst and hope for the best when it comes to soil moisture availability. Competitive prices for more drought-tolerant crops like cotton and sorghum, will likely weigh into cropping decisions if moisture doesn't improve soil moisture indexes.

"Generally, farmers have a positive, hopeful outlook when it comes to planting," she said. "Last year many producers were reconsidering whether they would plant corn, but then rains came in May, so they planted hoping for more and they got it. Timely in-season rains and moderate temperatures led to very good corn yields. But we want to help producers minimize risk. While it worked out perfectly for many producers in 2021, there are years when it does not."

Cattle Market Report, week ending December 2, 2021					
		Lubbock	Tulia	Hollis	Floydada
		11/30/21	12/2/21	11/20/21	No Data
Steers	300-400	160-170	178-200	190-225	
	400-500	150-165	177-183	170-202	
	500-600	140-155	165-166.5	160-175	
	600-700	140-146	145-157	140-170	
	700-800	135-145	145-158.75	130-158	
	800-900+		158.75	115-150	
Heifers	300-400	140-155	150	145-179	
	400-500	130-145	131.5-159	140-172	
	500-600	125-137	141-142.5	130-169	
	600-700	120-135	135-148	120-146	
	700-800	115-130	144.5-146.5	115-141	
	800-900+			95-135	
Pairs	Young	1000-1350			
	Older	800-1000			
Packer Cows		62-69		40-70	
	Thin	45-58			
Packer Bulls		80-94		65-95	

this report brought to you by **Emily Teegardin, Attorney** 806.823.2132 office • 806.994.8400 cell
415 Main, Silverton
Appointments available by request at 111 Main, Quitaque

\$5,000 on the line in NexGen Spark Business Contest

STAFF REPORTS

Wayland Baptist University and the Plainview/Hale County Economic Development Commission are seeking applicants for the NexGen Spark Business competition coming up in the Spring of 2022. The grand prize is \$5,000 that can be used to bring the business idea to reality.

NexGen Spark is an applied entrepreneurship program that pairs individuals or small businesses that have a business idea with Wayland students in the School of Business who help develop the business model for the idea. The competition is open to entrepreneurs with an idea for creating a new business or expanding an existing business. All ideas must benefit the Plainview economy and entrepreneurs can register for the competition at www.wbu.edu/spark.

Entrepreneurs will work with teams of students throughout the spring semester. The final plans will be presented to a panel of judges. The entrepreneur with the best plan will be awarded \$5,000 for use in starting the new endeavor. Students on the winning team also earn a small cash prize.

In April 2021, Magline walked away with the \$5,000 prize. Magline, which was an existing business, had a plan to expand into additional markets. An agriculture business with a special plant-based technology that increases yield, Magline was looking at expanding into landscape and reforestation efforts.

Applications are due not later than Feb. 26, 2022.

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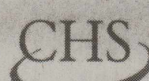
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PUBLIC NOTICE • FLOYD COUNTY

New Election Related Legislation of the Second and Third Special Sessions of the 87th Legislature, prevents a Clerk or Election Administrator from sending out Applications for Ballot By Mail (ABBM) to anyone who has NOT requested it. In the past our office has sent out applications to those who had annual applications, in the previous year, but this January 1, 2022, each interested, qualified, voter (65 and older or disabled) are required to call (806-983-4900) or come by the office (room 101 in the courthouse) to request an ABBM for the 2022 Election Year, which includes the Party Primaries. A new and revised blank Application for Ballot By Mail will be presented or mailed to those requesting one.

PUBLIC NOTICE • FLOYDADA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice of Public Hearing
of the Board of Trustees
Floydada Independent School District

December 14, 2021
7 p.m.
226 W. California St.
Floydada, TX

Notice is provided that the Board of Trustees of the Floydada Independent School District will hold a public hearing on December 14, 2021, at 7 p.m. at 226 W. California St., Floydada, TX, to offer the public an opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed redistricting plan as provided by the Redistricting Advisory Committee.

Aviso de audiencia pública
del Consejo de administración
del
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Floydada

14 de diciembre del 2021
7 p.m.
226 W. California St.
Floydada, TX

Se comunica por el presente que el Consejo de administración del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Floydada llevará a cabo una audiencia pública el día 14 de diciembre del 2021, a las 7 de la tarde en 226 W. California St., Floydada, TX, para ofrecerle al público la oportunidad de hacer comentarios sobre el plan de redistribución de distritos propuesto por el Comité Asesor de Redistribución de Distritos.

MUSE NEWS

Floyd County's local archive benefits researchers from all over. The Mary Lou Bollman History and Genealogy Center and the Floyd County Historical Museum, across from courthouse in Floydada, Texas, provide helpful information regarding family and local history to visitors and to written requests from across the nation and the globe.

Included in the museum's collection are artifacts from the 1540 Coronado Expedition discovered Blanco Canyon and a scale model reproduction of the Montgomery Ranch House. We maintain an extensive genealogy library for Floyd county and the U.S., and our photographic collection of over 3,800 photos has been digitized for searching and printing.

Visiting the museum in person

Visitors are welcome at the Museum weekday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m., or by appointment, (806) 983-2415 or fchmuseum@sbcglobal.net.

Memberships and contributions welcome

Dues and contributions are vital to the museum's operation and maintenance. The Genealogy Center and the Museum welcome memberships from within and outside Floyd County at any time. Memorial contributions will be acknowledged with cards to the family members.

Please mail membership dues, contributions or memorials to:
Floyd County Historical Museum, P.O. Box 304 Floydada, TX 79235

Thank you for helping preserve Floyd County history! www.floydcountymuseum.com

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QUESTIONS? Call our business office at (806) 271-3381. We appreciate you!

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FIND THE SOLUTION IN THE CLASSIFIEDS • PAGE 9

ACROSS

1. "Oh, my!"
5. Say untruth
8. Left or right
12. Spiritual leader
13. *ing Up with Marie Kondo"
14. Great reviews
15. Related
16. Double reed woodwind
17. Fourth deck
18. *The _____," MTV's trailblazing reality show
20. Affirm with confidence
21. I to Greeks, pl.
22. _____ Baba
23. Powerball and such
26. Swaggering show of courage
30. Spermatozoa counterparts
31. Based on two
34. Has a mortgage
35. _____ dog, gin and grapefruit juice cocktail
37. DNA transmitter
38. *The Real Housewives" is full of this type of conflict
39. Write on a tombstone
40. Unwholesome atmosphere
42. Hairpiece, slangily
43. Stitched again
45. Unit of electric current flow
47. Solemn pledge
48. Like nose during hayfever
50. Uncouth one
52. *Who _____ a Millionaire?"
56. Front of cuirass
57. Sixth month of civil year
58. "Jack and the Beanstalk" instrument
59. Travesty
60. Italian money
61. *Vanilla Ice Goes Amish" and "Cleveland Hustles" state
62. *_____ house Masters" on Animal Planet
63. *Not KhloE or

CROSSWORD

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- Kourtney
14. Aussie bear
41. "I think I can, I think I can..." e.g.
64. Common allergens
19. Buzz Lightyear's buddy
44. "For better or for
- DOWN
22. Brow shape
23. *The Biggest _____"
24. Egg-shaped
25. Same as talcum
26. Civil rights concern
27. In the know
28. Raise objections
29. Missouri River tributary
32. Like a desert
33. Crime scene evidence
36. *Singing competition (2 words)
38. Curses
40. Feline sound
46. "Monty _____'s Flying Circus"
48. r in a circle, pl.
49. Deprive of weapons
50. *Star of wilderness reality shows, _____ Grylls
51. Fairytale beast
52. Street-crossing word
53. Hawaiian island
54. Londoner, e.g.
55. Narrative poem
56. Back of a boat

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MACKENZIE MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY

Position Available: General Manager

The Mackenzie Municipal Water Authority has an immediate opening for full-time General Mnaager.

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Essential Duties:

- Oversees the financial accounting of the district, approving major purchases for equipment and/or repairs of district facilities.
- Establishes company policies relating to matters such as regulation of distribution and use of water and the overall operation of the District.
- Prepares directives to carry out policies approved by Board.
- Confers with officials of member city water systems, and government representatives to discuss matters such as Water Supply budgets, debt/bond retirement and payments, such as water delivery schedules, pump station repair/construction/maintenance problems.
- Reviews budget estimates and compiles and approves estimates for district.
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Education and/or Experience: High school diploma, some college is preferred and/or experience related to supervising subordinates in a former position. Associate degree (A.A.) or equivalent from two-year college or technical school with six months to one-year related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Accounting experience is preferred.

Pay: Commensurate on education and experience.

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from page 8

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These local businesses invite you to visit the church of your choice in our area

CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>Aiken Baptist Church Dennis Butler, Pastor Morning Worship...11 a.m.</p> <p>Bible Baptist Church 810 S. 3rd, Floydada • 983-2578 Darwin Robinson, Pastor Sunday School...10 a.m. Morning Worship—10:50 a.m. Evening Worship—6 p.m. Wednesday—7 p.m.</p> <p>Calvary's Cornerstone Fellowship Floydada Armando Morales, Pastor Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Morning Worship—11 a.m. Bible Study—6 p.m. Wednesday Evening—7 p.m.</p> <p>Carr's Chapel Service Every Sunday Morning Worship—9 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Church of Christ West College & Third, Lockney Morning Worship—10:30 a.m. Afternoon Worship—1:30 p.m. Wednesday Service—7:30 p.m.</p> <p>City Park Church of Christ Floydada Bob DuPont, Minister Sunday Bible Study—9:30 a.m. Morning Worship—10:30 a.m. Evening Worship—6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study—7 p.m.</p> <p>First Baptist Church Floydada Mark Snowden, Pastor Nathan Adams, Minister of Students and Discipleship Ashley Adams, Minister of Music Ludustria Prisk, Director of</p>	<p>Children's Ministry Sunday School—9:15 a.m. Morning Worship—10:30 a.m. Evening Worship—6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study—6:30 p.m.</p> <p>First Baptist Church Lockney Joseph Tillery, Pastor Ron Kuykendall—Worship Leader Chad Cook, Youth Min. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>First United Methodist Church Floydada Gary Boles, Pastor Morning Worship—9:30 a.m. Sunday School—10:50 a.m. Youth (Sunday)—6:30 p.m.</p> <p>First United Methodist Church Lockney Rev. Auggie Aguilera, Pastor Sunday School—9:30 a.m. Worship Service—10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Grant Chapel Church of God In Christ Joe Bennett, Pastor Sunday School—10 a.m. Morning Worship—11 a.m. Evening Worship—7:30 p.m. Tuesday—8 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Main Street Church of Christ Lockney James Blair, Minister Bible Study—9:30 a.m. Morning Worship—10:30 a.m. Evening Worship—6:00 p.m. Wednesday—7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Mt. Zion Baptist Church Floydada 401 N 12th St. 983-5805 Rev. Timothy Askey Sunday School—10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship—6 p.m. Wednesday Study—6 p.m.</p> <p>New Salem Primitive Baptist Church Floydada Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges (806) 637-0430 Sunday Singing—10:30 a.m. Morning Worship—11 a.m.</p> <p>Out Reach Harvest Pentecostal Church 310 Mississippi, Floydada Rev David Ramos, Pastor Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible—10 a.m. Morning Praise—11 a.m. Evening Praise 5—p.m. Wed. Worship—7 p.m.</p> <p>Power of Praise Full Gospel Church Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor 704 B Main, Lockney Sunday Services—10 a.m. Sunday Evening—5 p.m. Wednesday—7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Primera Iglesia Bautista Floyada Rev. Toby Gonzales Sunday School—9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:40 a.m. Evening Worship—6 p.m. Wed. Evening—7 p.m.</p> <p>Primera Iglesia Bautista Lockney Jesus Caballero, Pastor Sunday School—9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Worship Service—11 a.m. Discipleship—5 p.m. Wed. Service—7 p.m.</p> <p>San Jose Catholic Church Priest—Sylvester Dsouza Sat.—4:30 p.m. Evening Mass Sun.—9 a.m. Mass Mon.—9:30 a.m. Mass Thurs.—5:30 Evening Mass</p> <p>South Plains Baptist Church Dan Beatty, Pastor Sunday School—10 a.m. Morning Worship—11 a.m.</p> <p>Templo Getsemani Assembly of God 701 W. Missouri, 983-5286 (Church) Joe M. Hernandez Sunday School English—9:45 a.m. Spanish—11 a.m. Worship Spanish—9:30 a.m. English—11 a.m. Evening Service 5 p.m. Wednesday 7 p.m.</p> <p>St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church Floydada, 983-5878 Rev. Renato Cruz Parachial Vicar—Jacob Powell Sunday Mass—11:30 a.m. Mon. & Wed. Mass—6:30 p.m. Confession Sat—10-11 a.m.</p> <p>Templo Emanuel 607 W. Lee Street, Floydada Pastor Rachel Castillo Sunday School Classes: Adult Spanish class, Adult English class; All children's classes are in English. Praise/worship and sermon are bilingual. Wednesday Bible Study—7 p.m.</p>	<p>Templo Bautista Salem Lockney Rev. Moses Blanco Sun Prayer Service—9:30 a.m. Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Worship Service—11 a.m. Evening Worship—6 p.m. Wed. Meeting—7 p.m.</p> <p>Templo Bethel Spanish Assembly of God Washington and 1st St. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship—11 a.m. Evening Worship—5 p.m. Wed. Service—7 p.m.</p> <p>Templo Nueva Vida Rev. Herman Martinez Co-Pastor Gilbert Flores 308 W. Tennessee, Floydada Sunday School—10:00 a.m. Evening Worship—5:00 p.m. Wednesday Service—7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Trinity Assembly 500 W. Houston, 983-5499 Kari & Justin Brown, Pastors Sunday School—9:30 a.m. Morning Worship—10:40 a.m. Sunday Evening—6 p.m.</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church Providence Community on Fm 2301 293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington, Minister Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Worship Service—11 a.m.</p> <p>West Side Church of Christ Floydada 983-2672 or 470-0950 Sunday Worship—10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening—2 p.m.</p>
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National Ranching Heritage Center to host 43rd Annual Candlelight at the Ranch



THE 1908 BARTON HOUSE has become one of the most popular attractions for Candlelight at the Ranch visitors during four decades of celebrating a pioneer Christmas. The National Ranching Heritage Center will host the annual family-friendly event from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 10 and 11. | COURTESY PHOTO by Shelby Schwartz

STAFF REPORTS

LUBBOCK—Visitors will celebrate a frontier Christmas Dec. 10 and 11 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. when the National Ranching Heritage Center (NRHC) celebrates its 43rd Annual Candlelight at the Ranch.

"We regularly have totaled 10,000 visitors a year for this one event over the past decade," explained Helen DeVitt Jones Endowed Director of Education Julie Hodges. "The pathways of our historic park are lined with more than 4,000 luminarias and the entire park is lit as much as possible with only lanterns, fireplaces and campfires."

The annual event is free to the public with a minimum suggested \$5 donation per family. VIP tickets costing \$75 per carload (max 7 persons) will be available for those seeking reserved parking and early admission at 6 p.m.

Holiday scenes will be recreated in 15 historic structures such as the 1838 El Capote Log Cabin, 1886 XIT Ranch headquarters, 1888 Matador Half-Dugout and 1909 Queen-Anne style Barton House. Visitors will have maps pointing the way to each structure, and they can download the NRHC app for specific details about each structure and a more guided experience.

The event requires the help of 150 volunteers each night, according to Hodges. "It's not just the living history volunteers that everyone sees dressed in period clothing, but it's all the other people working behind the scenes."

Workers include volunteers who welcome guests at the door, play live music, sell hot cocoa, make kettle corn, help Santa with his visitors, serve meals to the volunteers, keep pathways safe, sing Christmas carols, oversee the parking lot and much more.

The lighted pathways will be wheelchair and stroller accessible as visitors pass cowboys camped out near their horses and brewing coffee over a campfire. Visitors will have maps guiding them to Santa Claus will be located in the Pitchfork Pavilion but will leave promptly at 9:30 p.m. Visitors can purchase refreshments in the decorated 6666 Barn and on the Campbell patio while they listen to Brazos West play Christmas music with a Texas swing.

Hodges said Candlelight visitors will no longer experience long entry lines but will enter through the front doors and proceed to the patio, where they can access park trails and buy kettle-corn. Visitors can choose in what order they see the historic structures, which lighted pathways they take, and when they exit the park prior to closing.

Visit nrhc.ttu.edu to learn more information and see frequently asked questions about Candlelight at the Ranch. The National Ranching Heritage Center is located on the Texas Tech University campus at 3121 Fourth St. For additional information, call (806) 742-0498.

Floydada CJHS students make Middle School All-Region band

BARBARA ANDERSON | HESPERIAN-BEACON

Floydada Collegiate Junior High band students recently competed in the Middle School All-Region Auditions held Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021 at the Shallowater Middle School.

Students who made the Middle School All-Region Band, which will present a concert on Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022 at the Lubbock Civic Center, are David Guerra, flute; John-Taylor Snowden, clarinet; Tavianne Bullock, bass clarinet; and Kanon Rainwater, tuba.

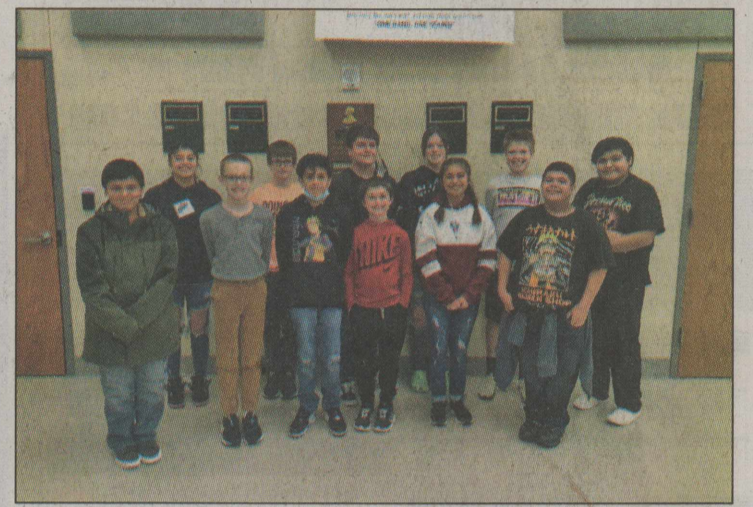
"I am extremely proud of the students. For many of them, due to Covid this was their first-ever experience auditioning for a

competitive band," said director of bands Franklin Piland. "The students worked hard, some only having had the music for a couple of weeks."

Students from sixth, seventh, and eighth grade bands compete against one another in this event, where auditions were not separated by grade.

"The students all represented Floydada professionally," said Piland, "and we are excited for them to take even more spots at middle school all-region auditions next year."

"I am especially thankful to their parents for being so supportive of their efforts, and to the administration and staff for allowing them the space to prepare this music," added Piland.



FLOYDADA CJHS BAND students competing in the Middle-School All-Region auditions were, from left, Jason Luna, Alli Hernandez, Wesley Crowe, John-Taylor Snowden, Yael Lara, Noah Fierros, Kanon Rainwater, Tavianne Bullock, Jaylynn Moreno, Yager James, David Guerra, Saul Castillo. Congratulations to all participants! | COURTESY PHOTO

VENDORS WELCOME!

FLOYDADA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Cordially Invites You to Our

SANTA ON THE SQUARE

December 16, 2021
5pm-7pm

Nutthouse Designs
117 W California, Floydada

A hot chocolate bar and Christmas crafts will be provided for the kids. The Floydada Animal Shelter will also have BBQ sandwich plates available for a minimum \$7 donation. Vendors are welcome to set up on the street out front for no fee!

(806)983.3434
manager@floydadachamber.com

Need gift ideas?
SANTA LETTERS
in next week's issue

Letters to Santa

The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon looks forward to publishing Letters to Santa from area schoolchildren, grades K-4 in our DECEMBER 16 edition—to provide kids, their families, AND Santa a fun and useful guide in time for gift-giving!

Advertising opportunities also available.
fchb.editor@yahoo.com

The Floyd County
HESPERIAN-BEACON

DUSTIN BURROWS
Texas State Representative HD 83

INVITES YOU TO A TOWN HALL

Join me for an overview of the Regular and Special Sessions of the 87th Texas Legislature. Be sure to bring your questions and thoughts on the issues that are most important to you.

THANK YOU FOR TRUSTING ME TO BE YOUR VOICE
Questions? Contact my district office at (806)795-0635

DECEMBER TOWN HALLS
I'll be hosting additional Town Halls in Terry, Lynn, Borden, Scurry and Mitchell Counties in early 2022!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

CROSBY COUNTY	DICKENS COUNTY
8:00-9:30 a.m. Crosby Co. Courthouse 201 W. Aspen St. Crosbyton, TX 79322	11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Spur Community Center 502 Burlington Ave. Spur, TX 79370

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021

FLOYD COUNTY
Noon-1:00 p.m.
Floyd County Courthouse
105 S. Main St.
Floydada, TX 79235

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