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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2016

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\$1.00

Covenant Plainview to host community tours

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

PLAINVIEW—It will be a peek into one of the most state-of-the-art medical facilities this side of Texas as Covenant Health Plainview prepares to host a community open house of their newly constructed James and Eva Mayer Surgical Center on Dec. 4.

"It's going to be a once-in-a-lifetime event," said Covenant Health Plainview CEO Bob Copeland, who will open the doors of the more than 11,000 square-foot surgical center to the public.

After the new surgical

wing undergoes its final sterilization cleanse, the center will be deemed a "clean zone" accessible to only surgical staff and patients.

"But if you're a patient going into surgery, you're going to be asleep by the time you go through those doors," said Copeland with a laugh.

But before the final sterilization process starts, Covenant Health Plainview will host community tours of the two-story surgical center, located in the south side of the Plainview hospital.

A great way to spend a Sunday afternoon, tours will run from 2-5:30 p.m.

The surgical center will be

one of the first completed phases of the \$40 million renovation and expansion of the Plainview hospital.

The surgical center will more than double the size of Covenant Plainview's surgery capabilities.

Now, one of the region's best surgical teams will work out of one of the state's best surgical facilities as the Covenant Health Plainview staff is ready to move in and serve the people of West Texas.

"This is top of the line, some of the best O.R. rooms I've ever seen," said Covenant Health Plainview orthopedic surgeon Dr. Benjamin Farr as he described the size and



Courtesy photos

Covenant Health Plainview will host a community open house of their new James and Eva Mayer Surgical Center from 2-5:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 4.

the capabilities of the new surgical center. "We've been cramped in very small oper-

ating rooms for quite some time and having these larger, See **TOURS**, Page 4

Upcoming

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Please submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to fchb.editor@yahoo.com.

NATIVITY SHOWING CAROLYN CUNNINGHAM

The 2nd Bi-Annual Nativity Showing by Carolyn Cunningham will be held Thursday, December 8 thru Saturday, December 10 at the Dove Room located at 305 N. Main, Lockney. The showing is sponsored by Hospice Hands of West Texas. The showing will be open from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

2nd ANNUAL COWBOY CHRISTMAS BALL

The 2nd Annual Cowboy Christmas Ball featuring Wendell Sollis and the Sidekicks All Star Band, will be on Saturday, December 17, 2016 at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at Payne's Pharmacy, D & J Gin, Dustee Sollis 806-983-6228 or Elaine LaBaume, 806-983-9153. Tickets are \$350 for table of 8 or \$35.00 each. This includes a meal. Portions of the proceeds to benefit the Floydada and Lockney Volunteer Fire Departments.

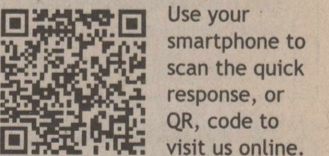
FLOYDADA'S SANTA ON THE SQUARE

Floydada's 2nd Annual "Santa on the Square", a mini event being hosted by the Floydada Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture is set for Saturday, December 10, 2016, and will be open to the public from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., downtown Floydada on California Street. We want to make this a unique celebration of Christmas in our community and ring it in with the spirit of the season!

Correction

If you spot an error of fact, contact the FCHB office email: fchb.editor@yahoo.com

News on the go



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Strong, Beautiful, Texas Tough... Dazzling Texas Natives

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

The 13th edition (2016) Keep Texas Beautiful ornament features Texas' official state shrubs, the Crape Myrtle and the Texas Purple Sage, along with other celebrated Texas natives, the sunshine yellow Black-eyed Susan, the hardy Texan Lantana, and the daisy-like Purple Coneflower. Buzzing atop the flowers is the Western Honey Bee, the official State Pollinator of Texas. The honey bee is critical to the agriculture and commerce of Texas, working each day to preserve the balance of nature, allowing crops to flourish, agriculture to thrive and our economy to grow.

Texans' long-time admiration for the Crape Myrtle influenced legislators in 1997 to designate her as the official State Shrub of Texas.

In 2005, Thomas Adams, a botanist and member of the Native Plant Society of Texas, felt it would be more appropriate to crown a plant that was native to the State of Texas as the official state shrub. He petitioned his State Representative to replace the Crape Myrtle with the Texas Purple Sage, but

legislators felt it more appropriate to designate an official "native" shrub in addition to the state shrub already in place.

Like these resilient state



Courtesy Photo

shrubs and native plants, Keep Texas Beautiful volunteers are strong assets to the communities they serve. Our affiliates support the preservation of the state and advocate for the promotion and planting of native species. Their exceptional efforts cultivate beautiful communities.

Special thanks to Donna Albus, who designed the 2016 Keep Texas Beautiful ornament.

You may obtain this 13th edition (2016) Keep Texas Beautiful Ornament at the Floyd County Historical Museum located at 105 E.

See **ORNAMENT**, Page 4

By Kay Ellington
The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA—As you plan your Thanksgiving meals this week, it's easy to forget that many of your neighbors in Floyd County struggle with getting food to feed their families. That's why Prosperity Bank has partnered with the South Plains Food Bank for several years in the U Can Share Food Drive.

"We wanted to do something that could help the community," said Zach Cummings, Prosperity Banking Center manager. "There are 126 families that receive food from the South Plains Food Bank through a very discreet distribution program at the First Baptist Church. I believe there's a similar program in Lockney."

Last year Prosperity Bank Floydada collected about 1,000 pounds of food for the South Plains Food Bank. They had a pickup load of food.

"Anyone in the community can bring in canned staples, such as green beans, corn, beans or meats, like tuna and spam," he said. "We also take non-perishable staples like noodles, rice, spaghetti, pea-



Barbara Anderson/The Hesperian-Beacon

Prosperity Bank has teamed up with the South Plains Food Bank to help fight hunger in our area. The staff at Prosperity invites you to bring in your donations for the U Can Share food drive which ends December 10. Left to right: Melody Campbell, Zach Cummings, Tracy Campbell, Felisha Cavazos and Olivia Bueno.

nut butter."

The bank will also take cash donations to assist the food bank in getting the right kinds of foods to round out donations.

Cummings said that support for the food drive from the community has been robust—especially from

the schools. "Students help a lot," he said, "they have been some of our biggest supporters."

All Prosperity Banks across the South Plains support the U Can Share Food Drive, and the deadline for the food drive is Saturday, Dec. 10.

Bandleader calls Petersburg home

By Dustee Sollis

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

The bandleader for the Sidekicks All Star Band, Wendell Sollis, and his wife Dustee, both grew up in Petersburg. They graduated from Petersburg High School in 1970, were married that same year and attended Texas Tech. Wendell served in the Air Force in the Vietnam era, from 1972-1976 and during this time, taught himself to play the banjo and guitar. After the war, he and his wife completed their BS Education degrees

and Master's degrees at West Texas A&M then taught and coached in Canyon and Amarillo.

For 31 years, Wendell and Dustee were in public education and eventually moved to other districts including Denver City, Snyder, and Odessa. While in Odessa, Dustee taught high school English, where Wendell was assistant superintendent of personnel then superintendent of schools in Odessa, Texas.

They had three children, Lance, Ricky, and Jessica and later seven grandchildren. The Sollis's retired from pub-

lic education in 2007.

The WD Ranch in Petersburg is the Sollis's home today. They have horses, cattle, cats and dogs on their ranch and they enjoy music and grandkids in their spare time. Dustee substitute teaches at nearby schools.

They have traveled to various venues to play music and enjoy other country bands as well. Wendell has performed with the Bob Wills' Texas Playboys and with his own band, The Sidekicks, in various places in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. His shows include Cowboy Christmas

balls at Quartz Mountain resort, Oklahoma; Quanah, Texas; Plainview, Texas; Snyder Western Swing Festival; appearances at the Lincoln County Cowboy symposium in Ruidoso for 17 years, and summer appearances at Six Flags Over Texas; and many rodeos, dances, and galas.

This year, the Sollis's are looking forward to the Cowboy Christmas Ball with portions of the proceeds to benefit the volunteer fire departments of Lockney and Floydada. It will be held Saturday, December 17 at 6 p.m., starting with a catered

meal from River Smith's, then 4 hours of music including classic country, western swing, Cajun, big band, and Christmas favorites.

Complimentary gourmet coffee, vendors, auctions, and drawings will be part of the event as well. The band will be composed of hall of fame winners and talented musicians from the Oklahoma and Texas area.

For more information contact Elaine LaBaume at 806-983-9153 or Dustee Sollis at 806-983-6228 or Facebook: Wendell Sollis and the Sidekicks All Star band.

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

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Letter to the editor policy

The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon welcomes letters from readers on topics of local, state, national and international importance. Email letters are preferred to: fchb.editor@yahoo.com.

All letters must include a first and last name, street address (no post office boxes), town, and daytime phone number. Letters sent via U.S. mail may be sent to 201 W. California Street, Floydada, Texas 79235.

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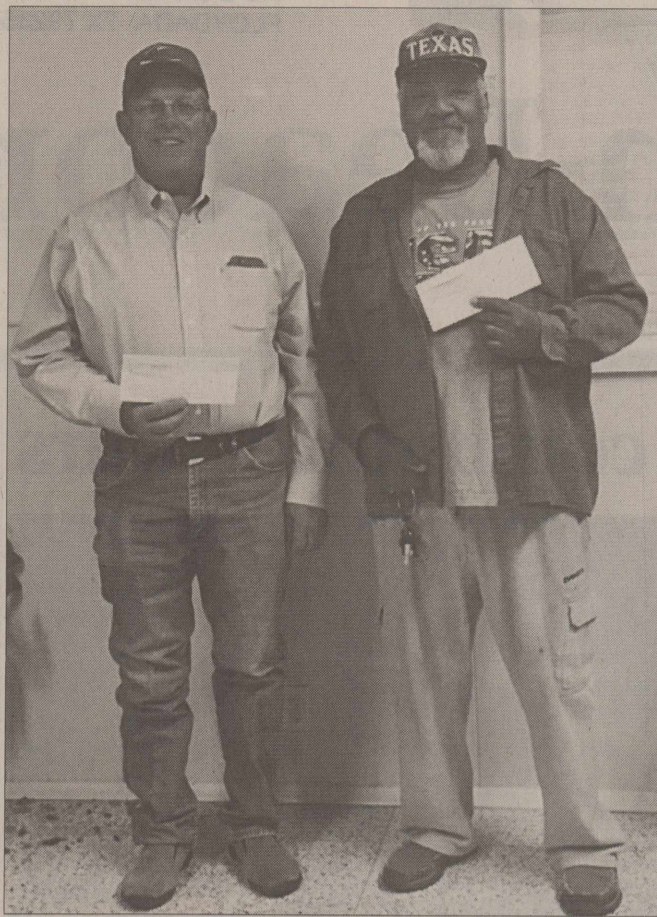


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Football contest winners



Barbara Anderson/The Hesperian-Beacon

The Hesperian-Beacon's Football Contest winners pictured were (l-r) Brent Sanders (1st place) and Stanley Collier (tie 2nd place). Not pictured was Martin Ramirez (tie 2nd place). We would once again like to say "Thank You" to all the participants and sponsors that make this contest possible.

The Paperboy

Local stores need business too!

Black Friday and Shop Small Saturday are this weekend and local businesses have plenty to offer.

I know many people head to the large box stores for Christmas shopping, but please keep local businesses in mind.

Local businesses provide jobs, taxes and employ our neighbors. That's just huge for the local economy.

On top of that, they support students and other local endeavors with their giving.

Regardless of it's supporting the youth basketball league or helping to supply some elementary school students with shoes, our businesses are there for us.

I know many owners of these businesses from many walks of life and I know they will appreciate you business.

Shop local as much as you can!

Like many of you I reflect on things I'm thankful for this time of year. On the top of my list are my wife and children.

What can I say about my wife? She's an amazing person. She's truly a good and honest woman who had the good sense to say yes

to me. Just kidding. I can't believe she puts up with me most of the time. Let's just say she is very patient.

My sons are far from perfect, but they are truly a blessing. I spend the majority of my time proud of them.

I could never imagine having children before I became a father and now I can't imagine life without them.

I hope each of you realizes there are things to give thanks about regardless of your situation.

Something amazing has happened in the Rolling Plains. The quail population has come back more plentiful than many thought possible.

The area used to be known for the best quail hunting in the United States. Looks like it's heading that way again. However, most of the landowners I know will only allow limited hunting of quail.

And besides the weather aiding the quail in their comeback, land owners and their retraction of hunting have also been a great help.

When I was a boy, I enjoyed hunting quail with my dad and grandfather and it was sad to see how scarce quail had become. Now, you can't head down a country road without stirring up a covey. That's a great thing in the name of conservation and common sense.

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National Ranching Heritage Center Hosts 38th Annual Candlelight at the Ranch

By Sue H. Jones

Communications Coordinator
National Ranching Heritage Center

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

Visitors to the National Ranching Heritage Center (NRHC) at Texas Tech University will experience a frontier Christmas from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Dec. 9-10 during the 38th Annual Candlelight at the Ranch.

Sponsored by Centennial Bank, the event will celebrate Christmas as it might have been on the open prairie from 1780 to 1950 and include more than 4,000 luminaries lining the paths of the historic park. More than 150 volunteer Ranch Hosts will dress in period clothing to recreate holiday scenes from another era.

"Christmas was an important part of family life on the Plains, whether it meant stringing popcorn to decorate a tree, preparing holiday food, playing Christmas music or whittling a wooden toy," explained NRHC Helen DeVitt Jones Director of Education Julie Hodges. "Visitors will see our volunteers doing whatever a family might have done in that particular struc-

ture in that day and time. We'll even have holiday travelers waiting for the train in our 1918 train depot."

Holiday scenes will be recreated in 15 diverse structures such as an 1888 half-dugout, an 1880 XIT ranch headquarters, an 1890 one-room schoolhouse, a 1780 fortified Spanish compound and the 1909 two-story Barton House.

The annual event is free to the public with a minimum suggested \$5 donation per family. VIP tickets costing \$50 (max 7 persons per car) are available for those seeking early admission at 6 p.m. and VIP parking. To purchase VIP tickets, go to www.ranchingheritage.org/candlelight.

Perhaps the most welcome feature of this year's event will be no long entry line. Guests will enter through the front doors and proceed to Campbell Patio, where they can access park trails, buy kettle corn and hear Christmas carols provided by the Lubbock High School choir. 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.

Santa Claus will be locat-



Courtesy Photo

The 1909 Barton House will be decorated for an old-fashioned Christmas Dec. 9-10 as more than 4,000 luminaries will line the pathways of the National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock for the 38th Annual Candlelight at the Ranch. Visitors will experience a frontier Christmas complete with popcorn and cranberries strung on Christmas trees and cowboys camped out with their horses.

ed in the Pitchfork Pavilion but will leave promptly at 9:30 p.m. Visitors can purchase hot cocoa, apple cider and cookies in the decorated 6666 Barn while they listen to Brazos West play Christmas music with a Texas swing.

Texas State Photographer Wyman Meinzer and Wilder Good author S.J. Dahlstrom will be at Cogdell's General

Store to sell and sign copies of their new books: *Horses to Ride and Cattle to Cut* by Meinzer (text by Henry Chappell) and *The Green Colt* by Dahlstrom.

"Just as pioneer ranches had no electricity, our historic structures will be lit as much as possible with only lanterns, fireplaces and campfires," Hodges said. The lighted pathways will be

wheelchair and stroller accessible as visitors pass cowboys camped out with their horses nearby and a cowboy brewing coffee over a chuck wagon fire.

The National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock is located on the Texas Tech University campus at 3121 Fourth St. For additional information, call (806) 742-0498 or view nrhc.ttu.edu.

Unique 'Don't Mess With Texas' Commemorative Coin Makes Great Gift

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

AUSTIN – It's rare that a phrase is literally coined, but such is the case with "Don't mess with Texas." Now in its 30th year, the Texas Department of Transportation's world-famous, anti-littering slogan is now available as a commemorative coin that not only makes a unique gift, but also reminds its recipients and admirers to keep Texas roadsides beautiful

and litter-free.

"Don't mess with Texas" has been a point of Texas pride for three decades and we couldn't be happier to have it minted into such a meaningful keepsake," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "What better way to show or share your Texas spirit than by owning or giving one of these truly unique collector's items?"

Produced by Charitable Mint, the coins are available

in silver and gold, and bear the world-famous "Don't mess with Texas" slogan on one side and the Texas State Seal on the other.

"We are extremely pleased to be partnering with TxDOT to produce these beautiful coins that also carry such an important and iconic message," said Joel Duncan, owner and founder of Charitable Mint. "Being a part of the 'Don't mess with Texas' campaign is truly an honor."

Sure to enhance any collection, the "Don't mess with Texas" Commemorative Coin also helps offset the costs of litter pick-up services. On average, Texas spends more than \$30 million annually on litter pickup. With Texas growing by 650 people each day, the message of litter prevention via the "Don't mess with Texas" campaign is as critical as ever to help save taxpayer dollars.

To purchase the "Don't mess with Texas" Commemorative Coin, visit www.dontmesswithtexascoin.com

About The Charitable Mint

The Charitable Mint is a turnkey minting, marketing and development company whose business is to develop relationships with some of the largest charities and organizations in the United States, and around the globe. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, The Charitable Mint is dedicated to providing a means and a way to fundraise for non-

profits, schools and organizations. The company's fine gold and silver custom-minted coins are uniquely designed and made of the finest bullion available.

About 'Don't mess with Texas'

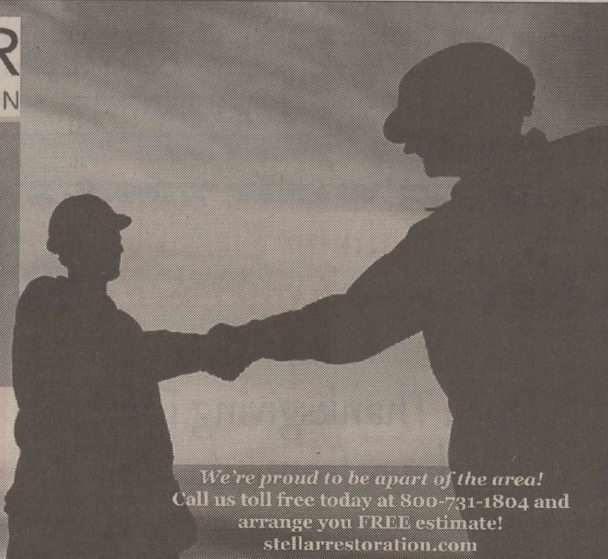
TxDOT's "Don't Mess with Texas" litter prevention campaign has been educating Texans about litter prevention since 1986. For more information, visit dontmesswithtexas.org. Don't Mess with Texas® is a registered trademark and service mark owned by the Texas Department of Transportation.

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. Through collaboration and leadership, we deliver a safe, reliable, and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods. Find out more at TxDOT.gov. "Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

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SOCIETY

Floydada Girls Win Dance Competition Honors

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

Monique Lara and Allison Torres competed in Dance Masters of America competition the weekend of November 4 and 5, and they won high gold.

They won overall high score in their division and overall high score in the junior division over all dancers. They also made it to Nationals next summer in New Orleans.

Torres also competed for Miss Dance in the Junior division, and was 2nd runner up. She will get to compete in Nationals as well in New Orleans.

Their teacher is Sherry Forgeson.



Courtesy photos

Floyd County Historical Museum "Memories, 1979"

JAMES (Jim) HOLMES

Jim Holmes was born in El-dorado, Oklahoma on January 27, 1899. He moved to Floyd County when he was nine years old. He and his brothers and sisters lived with his parents William Finnis Holmes and Mary Brown Holmes.

He attended school in Sandhill Community. In March 1918, he joined the army. This was during World War I and he was in France when the truce was signed.

In 1921, he married Cora Gertrude Glenn, daughter of Willa F. Glenn and Emma Moore Glenn. He and Gertrude lived in Floyd County. In 1922 a daughter Glenna Florene was born.

Jim and two good friends decided to go homestead some land near Pie Town, New Mexico. They went out by wagon and herded cattle to make their new homes. After approximately two years they decided to return to Floyd County. He bought a farm, and built a house on it in Sandhill Community. Jim was a dry land fanner and used horse and plow to work his fields. He

also had some cattle. Glenna helped her parents work on the farm. She loved to visit with her Grandmother Holmes. Once while visiting, she was helping her uncles grind sausage. They had told her that she could not go to town with then and this upset her. While helping them with the sausage, she got a finger in the grinder and her first remark was, "Now I get to go to town" (to the doctor). She is a graduate of Floydada High School.

On December 26, 1940, another daughter, Billie Gail was born.

In the late 1940's, Jim drove the Sandhill School bus to help ends meet with his fanning. A few years later Jim got irrigation and by this time was using a tractor to work his fields. On April 19, 1955 Gertrude passed away of cancer. She is buried in the Floydada Cemetery Billie (I) was 14 years of age when Mom passed away. My dad and I continued to live on the farm and he did most of the work as I now was responsible for the housework and cooking. We had many unusual

experiences during this time. I was always calling my aunt or some neighbor to find out how to cook something and everytime we decided to cook pinto beans we let them bum. Also, one day I returned home from school to find him mopping water as fast as he could. He had decided to wash his felt work hats in the automatic washing machine.

In June, 1958, he married a very dear friend of his, Lillian Jones. I left Floyd County in 1959 after graduating from Floydada High School. Jim and Lillian worked the farm until 1961. They retired and moved to Midland, Texas. He lived here until his death by cancer on February 12, 1974. He is now resting in peace along side Gertrude.

Lillian Holmes is living in Midland, Texas.

Glenna Holmes Cornwell has one daughter, Jan and two grandchildren. She now lives in Lubbock, Texas.

I make my home in Grand Prairie, Texas with my husband, Marc Green and two sons, Mike and Brad.

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

LOCKNEY - Breakfast is now served here at the Center from 5:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Monday thru Friday only.

Be sure and call the Center by 9:30 a.m. if you would like to eat. Our phone number is 652-2745.

Remember Exercise with Dorothy - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8:45 - 9:15 a.m.

Coffee time - Monday-Saturday - 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Thursday night pot luck. Bring a dish and a friend and enjoy games afterwards. 5 - 9 p.m.

Hope you all have a great week!!

MENU Nov. 28-Dec. 2

Monday - Frito pie
Tuesday - Soup & cornbread
Wednesday - Swiss steak
Thursday - Chicken & dumplings
Friday - Brisket
(Menus subject to change without notice)

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By LuAnn Collins

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA - The Floydada Senior Citizen's Center holds their BINGO NIGHT on the second Tuesday of each month from 7 - 9 p.m. Refreshments will be available for purchase at the door. Bingo Night is open to anyone age 16 and over. Mark it on your calendar and join us for a fun activity.

Floydada Senior Citizen's Center is open to people of

all ages. You do not need to be a senior citizen, nor a member to eat with us. However, if you are a member, your meal is \$5.00 instead of non-member price of \$6.00. To become a member, all you need do is pay a \$25.00 yearly membership fee.

We serve a delicious meal with salad bar at 12 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. Join us at 925 W. Crockett Street or we will deliver a meal anywhere in town. Call 983-2032.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235

MENU Nov. 28-Dec. 2

Monday - Chicken & dumplings
Tuesday - Salisbury steak
Wednesday - Jerlean's fried chicken
Thursday - Spaghetti
Friday - Beef & hominy casserole
(Menus subject to change without notice)

Xcel Energy raises awareness to protect customers from scammers

AMARILLO, Texas (Nov. 16, 2016) - Today is the North American Utilities United Against Scams Day, and Xcel Energy is joining more than 80 gas and electric companies across the United States and Canada to protect customers from long-running scams that target utility customers.

Utilities are kicking off a week-long campaign today that will provide information to customers about what they should do if they suspect scam activity. The collaborative effort encourages the public to share prevention messages.

"Customers are getting the message that if they think they are being targeted by a scammer to simply end the conversation and call us to verify their account status," said Pat Boland, Customer Policy and Assistance manager at Xcel Energy. "It is difficult to identify scammers, but by raising awareness we can foil their plans."

The most common traps

During a typical scam, a customer receives a call from an individual who falsely claims to be an Xcel Energy representative -- or a representative from another utility. The caller claims that the customer's account is past due and that electric service will be disconnected if the customer doesn't pay.

Often, the scammers will demand payment via a pre-paid debit card or money order. And they'll ask for payment within a specified time frame -- usually an hour or less. The scammers use technology to "spoof" an Xcel Energy phone number so when a customer views call ID, it appears the call is actually coming from Xcel Energy -- when it is not. In some cases, the scammers have tricked people into providing their bank ac-

count information after they falsely claim that the customer overpaid a bill and they will receive a refund.

Red flags for scam activity

- The scammer becomes angry and tells the customer his or her account is past due and service will be disconnected if a large payment isn't made -- usually within an hour.

- The scammer instructs the customer to purchase a pre-paid debit card or a pre-paid credit card. The customer is instructed to call back to supposedly make a payment.

How to protect yourself

- Xcel Energy never asks a customer with an overdue account to purchase a prepaid debit card to avoid disconnection. Customers have several payment options.

- Xcel Energy customers who are behind on their bill will receive an advance disconnection notification with their regular monthly billing. Customers never receive a single notification one hour before disconnection.

- NEVER give out personal information, debit/credit card numbers, or wire money as a result of an unexpected call or email.

- If you are suspicious about a phone call, hang up and call Xcel Energy directly after locating an authentic phone number from your

bill. The Xcel Energy Customer Service number is 1-800-895-4999.

- To report a theft or attempted theft due to a scam, contact your local police and then call Xcel Energy Customer Service to report the incident.

Efforts to protect customers

Xcel Energy continues to enhance its efforts to educate the public. Previous communications aimed to combat scammers and protect customers include bill messages and alerts, customer letters, online alerts, public service announcements, advertising, and prevention outreach at community events. Xcel Energy continues to work with law enforcement, other utilities, and the media to denounce scams.

For more information visit www.xcelenergy.com or follow Xcel Energy on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn to learn more.

About Xcel Energy
Xcel Energy (NYSE: XEL) provides the energy that powers millions of homes and businesses across eight Western and Midwestern states. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company is an industry leader in responsibly reducing carbon emissions and producing and delivering clean energy solutions from a variety of renewable sources at competitive prices. For more information, visit xcelenergy.com or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Four Easy Care Gardening Trends for the Holiday Season

By Melinda Myers

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

Dress up the holidays or give gifts that continue giving throughout the year with these low maintenance gardening trends. Just add a little fun, classic beauty or style to make it even more memorable now and throughout the year.

Terrariums. These mini greenhouses continue to grow in popularity and are perfect for new or timid gardeners. Just plant a few small tropical plants, moisten the soil, close the lid and you have a self contained growing chamber. Show off your green thumb with a modern, classic or vintage style vessel.

Use the Gazebo Tabletop terrarium, classic bell jar or other mini garden as a centerpiece for the dining table or buffet. Or create a miniature garden in glass to give as a hostess gift. When the party is over, it's a great memento of a fun holiday gathering.

Succulents. Growing succulents is another low maintenance garden trend that is perfect for busy gardeners during the hectic holiday season. Just place them in a sunny window and water whenever the soil is dry. It's truly as easy as that.

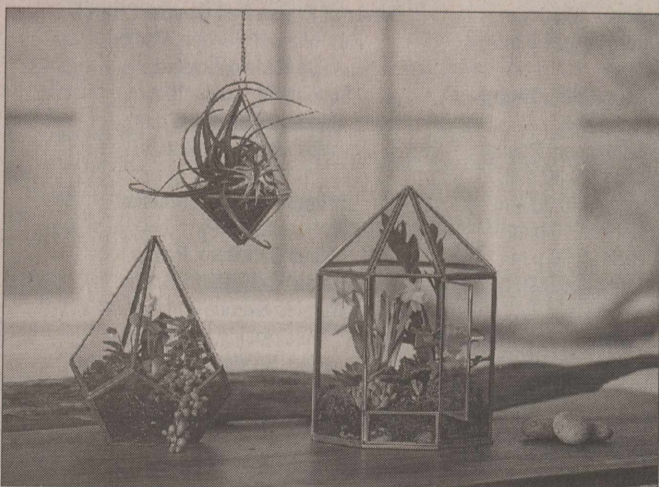


Photo Courtesy of Gardener's Supply Company

Terrariums are mini greenhouses that continue to grow in popularity, don't require a lot of care and are perfect for the holiday season whether given as gifts or used for décor.

The small scale cacti and succulents provide a multitude of opportunities for incorporating them into your holiday celebrations. You won't need much space to enjoy the subtle colors and dramatic form of these drought tolerant plants. Just select containers that complement, but don't overpower their charm.

Consider buying a few extras for guests to take home and enjoy for years to come.

But first, use them to dress up the table by making them into place cards for your guests. Simply add a name to the decorative pot. Or display them all together in a copper plant

tray (gardeners.com), terracotta saucer or other shallow container to use as a centerpiece throughout the evening. When the party is over, each guest can pick their own plant to take home.

Air Plants. Unique and amazing air plants are all the rage and could certainly be described as the definitive easy care plant. Many are native to rain forests where they grow in the canopy of trees, gathering water and nutrients that pass by. No soil is needed for these versatile plants. Just hang them in a bright location and soak in tepid non-softened water once every week or two.

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OBITUARIES/CHURCH

Shirley L. Durmon

Shirley L. Durmon, 82, of Amarillo died on Thursday, November 17, 2016.

Funeral services were held at 2 pm, Monday, November 21, 2016 in LaGrone Blackburn Shaw Funeral Directors Coulter Road Chapel with Rev. Ken Holmes officiating.

Burial followed at the Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the direction of LaGrone Blackburn Shaw Funeral Directors, Coulter Road Chapel in Amarillo, Texas.

Shirley was born on April 29, 1934 in Cedar Hill Community, Floyd County, Texas to Clarence Earl and

Kathelene Dorothea Cooper. She graduated from Lockney High School in 1951. Shirley was an oil and gas legal secretary where she worked for Whittenburg Trust and Tom Marsh, Inc. She also worked as a secretary for Ramona Acosta Bañuelos who was the former Treasurer of the United States under President Richard Nixon.

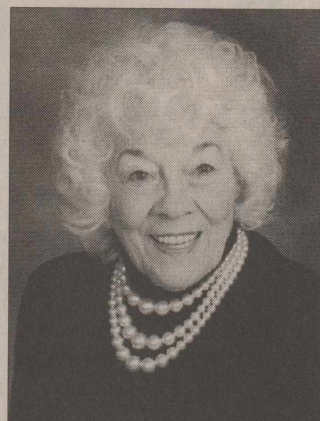
Shirley married Ronald Durmon on October 30, 1979 in Amarillo. She was a member of Legal Secretaries and Daughters of American Revolution. She attended Arden Road Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death

by her parents, her husband, Ron Durmon and a brother, Eddie Wayne Cooper.

She is survived by her children, Randy Beedy of Floydada and Cindy Waldrop and husband, Phil of Austin; grandchildren, Cheree Monden, Chris Monden and wife, Jenni, Courtney Monden, Ragan Beedy and Charles Beedy; four great-grandchildren; four step-children, Kathy Goldman, Kenny Osborn, Rona Shoopack and Rick Durmon; five step-grandchildren, six step-great-grandchildren and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Viewing was held on Sunday afternoon from 12



SHIRLEY L. DURMON

noon until 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials to BSA Hospice of the Southwest, 6600 Killgore Dr. #110, Amarillo, TX 79106 or Harrington Cancer Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.



Holy Imagination

Levi Sisemore

A conversation to "dream up" a new life, between me empowered by the Spirit and my four-actuated in faith? Are we so year-old as I attached to what how we live scrambled eggs now that we couldn't even envision really having a new life with new priorities, new rewards, new relationships, new values?

"Daddy, are we always going to live here?" "What do you mean, son?" "I mean this house, are we always going to live in this house?" "No, probably not. No time soon, but someday I'm sure we'll live in a different house. Why, do you want a different house?" "Yes, I really do. I don't like this house." "You don't? Well, what would you like in a new house?" "Someday I would like a house with a kitchen (just like this), and a bedroom (just like mine and my brother's), and a bedroom for you and mommy (just like yours)..."

Ask yourself, "If I got to live out my faith in God, to the fullness of my spiritual imagination, what would that life look like?" You see, before we offer excuses for how we're too busy, too uneducated, too this or that - let's give ourselves room to dream! What lives could be changed, what lessons learned and taught, what people fed, what relationships mended - if we lived out a godly dream and vision for our lives?

In other words, he wants a new house that's just like his current one.

Instead, we say, "I wish things were better, I wish I had more of God in my life..." "Oh," says the preacher, "and what would that look like to have more God in your life or to be fully given to him?" Usually the answer comes back, "Hmmm, I guess I'd do the same things I'm doing now."

It's the only real image of house that he has. He doesn't particularly remember our old house. This one is familiar, it is - after all - home (and the only one he's ever really known at that).

Friends, give yourselves permission to dream big dreams and to exercise your imagination. Just what could you do for God if we dropped our attachment to the safety of the familiar?

What if God invited you

Aren't we the same way in our spiritual lives? God has redeemed us from sin and promised us "newness of life" (Ro. 6), yet all we can bring ourselves to imagine and wish for is a new paint job on our old life. Too often there's no substantial remodel of our lives; there's only a new façade.

Levi Sisemore preaches for the 37th Street church of Christ, meeting Sunday for Bible Classes (9:30 AM), Worship (10:30 AM & 5:00 PM); Wednesday for Bible Classes (7:00 PM). snyder37church@gmail.com

ORNAMENT

From Page 1

Missouri Street, Floydada. The price of this ornament is \$20 each. For further info you may contact Dorothy Turner at 806-983-2415. FOR INFORMATION AND TICKET PURCHASES: Elaine LaBaume 806-983-9153; Dustee Sollis 806-983-6228; D&J Gin Lockney; Payne's Pharmacy Floydada.

Tickets: Individual-\$35, Tables for 8-\$350. Meal is included, serving at 6 p.m.

See our Facebook page: Wendell Sollis and the Sidekicks All Star Band

TOURS

From Page 1

state-of-the-art O.R. rooms is going to be amazing. It's really going to facilitate the work flow of surgery and we are going to be able provide more modern and efficient care."

The new surgical center project will add four additional operating rooms to Covenant Health Plainview and also will renovate two existing operating rooms into endoscopy and cystoscopy areas.

The new surgical rooms are double the size of the hospital's current 15x15-foot rooms.

"It's going to be a huge upgrade to what we've had," said construction project manager Ron Smith.

Each surgical room will be equipped with the latest technology and tools, including advanced computers, monitors and all LED lighting.

Walls of the surgical rooms are composed of special medical Corian materials while the floor is made up of a strong, seamless, impenetrable rubber material for safer and easier cleanup.

Even air flow systems are constructed to eliminate all dust risk while an air-pressure system ensures all rooms are sealed air tight.

The center also features a larger modern surgical recovery room with bigger patient

bays with advanced medical capabilities, including portable equipment and monitors and critical nursing tools built right on the wall.

Aesthetically natural lighting from windows, soft lighting from LEDs, a special noise reducing floor and a home-like contemporary interior design will help with the transitions as patients wake up from anesthesia in the recovery room.

The sheer size of the surgical center has to be seen to be believed as it features larger nursing stations and massive storage space for medical equipment.

"The ability for the nursing staff to be in visible contact with all of the folks is much better than before,"

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Advertising in Public

[Jesus] said to [his apostles], "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."

—Mark 16:15 (NIV)

I was traveling by bus when a well-dressed young man stood up and started talking about a new herbal product. He was moving from the front of the bus to the back, making sure all could hear him. I appreciated this man's courage. He had a job to do, and he did it with conviction. He did not worry what passengers thought of him or whether his continual babbling disturbed them. In the end two persons bought the product. He waited a few more minutes before getting off the bus, probably to board another and continue selling his product.

In today's reading the healed man wanted to accompany Jesus, who had given him a new life. But Jesus asked him to go back and share the goodness of God with his family and friends. So he went proclaiming his healing in the decapolis and people were amazed. He obeyed the Lord.

The same command to share the good news is given to all who have received new life in Christ. We may not all go to far-off places or public gatherings to proclaim the gospel, but we can share it with our family members, friends, colleagues, and others we see in everyday life.

Pramila Barkataki (Assam, India)

Thought for the Day

Today I will not hesitate to share the good news.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Aiken Baptist Church
Dennis Butler, Pastor
Morning Worship...11 a.m.
*****</p> <p>Bible Baptist Church
810 S. 3rd, Floydada
Darwin Robinson, Pastor
983-2578
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
Matthew Benfield, Minister
Floydada
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
Tim Franks, Pastor
Logan Lamb, Min. Students
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
Chad Cook, Youth Min.
Phil Cotham, Music Min.</p> | <p>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
Rev. Ken Peterson, 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. Ricky Carsensen, Pastor
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Wed. Jr. High - 5:30 p.m.
Wed High School - 6:30 p.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
Rev. Timothy Askey
401 N 12th Sty. 983-5805
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</p> | <p>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
Lockney
Jesus Caballero, Pastor
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
Discipleship - 5 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7 p.m.
*****</p> <p>Primera Iglesia Bautista
Floydada
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>San Jose Catholic Church
Lockney
Msgr. Nickolas Rendon
Wed. Communion - 8 p.m.
Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m.
*****</p> <p>South Plains Baptist Church
Joe Weldon, Pastor
SuNday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting - 7 p.m.
*****</p> <p>Templo Getsemani Assembly of God
701 W. Missouri
Joe M. Hernandez
983-5286 (Church)
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>*****</p> <p>St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
Floydada
Rev. Ike Temporaza
983-5878
Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m.
Mon. & Wed. Mass - 6:30 p.m.
Confession Sat - 10-11 a.m.
*****</p> <p>Templo Bautista Salem
Lockney
Rev. Joe Hernandez
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
308 W. Tennessee, Floydada
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Evening Worship - 5 p.m.
Tuesday - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday Service - 7:30 p.m.
*****</p> <p>Trinity Assembly
500 W. Houston
Tom Ross, Pastor
983-5499
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> |
|---|--|---|--|

AGRICULTURE

USDA to offer new CRP plan Mule Deer Season Opens Soon

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

HARRISBURG, PA—Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Deputy Under Secretary Alexis Taylor announced recently that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will offer a new Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Grasslands practice specifically tailored for small-scale livestock grazing operations.

Small livestock operations with 100 or fewer head of grazing dairy cows (or the

equivalent) can submit applications to enroll up to 200 acres of grasslands per farm. USDA's goal is to enroll up to 200,000 acres.

"For 30 years, lands in the Conservation Reserve Program have contributed to soil and water protection and wildlife and pollinator habitat, while playing a significant role in mitigating climate change," said Taylor. "CRP Grasslands recognizes the conservation value of well-managed, working grazing lands and

pasturelands."

Small livestock operations are encouraged to contact their local Farm Service Agency office to learn more about this program. The new practice for small-scale livestock grazers aims, in part, to encourage greater diversity geographically and in types of livestock operation. This opportunity will close on Dec. 16, 2016. Offers selected this fiscal year will be enrolled into CRP Grasslands beginning Oct. 1, 2017.

Mule deer general season opens November 19 in the Panhandle and Southwestern Panhandle, November 25 in the Trans-Pecos region. The bag limit is one buck, and antlerless is by permit only.

We'll never get tired of saying this: the forecast for the upcoming mule deer season is excellent. Our mild, rainy spring extended into mule deer country, creating exceptional habitat conditions. Refer to your Outdoor Annual for all mule deer regulations, including antlerless permit requirements. Don't forget to carry proof of Hunter Education and a current license while hunting.

If you've ever wanted to go for one of these trophies, this is the year to head to West

Texas. The robust buck taken in last year's Ultimate Mule Deer Hunt was found in the Southwestern Panhandle. At 232 0/8 gross and 226 2/8 net, it was the largest scoring deer ever harvested at a Texas WMA. And the combination of good wildlife management and mild weather guarantees there are more like him.

There's new CWD regulations for hunting mule deer this year. Hunters who harvest mule deer within the Trans-Pecos and Panhandle Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) zones are now REQUIRED to bring their animals to a check station within 24 hours of harvest. CWD zones are currently in these counties: Culberson, Dallam, Deaf

Smith, El Paso, Hartley, Hudspeth, Moore, Parmer, Potter, Reeves and Sherman.

Hunting can require spit-second decision-making. And before you take a shot, ask yourself 3 questions: Is the shot safe? Is it legal? Is it ethical? Your skill at assessing all the factors in your shooting situation will determine if you answer these questions correctly.

Want to easily report your hunting success? Download the My Texas Hunt Harvest app, and do your reporting in real time, locate CWD check stations and get your test results. Your reporting plays a necessary part in using game management to create first-class hunting in Texas.

QuailMasters 2017 workshop dates set

By Steve Byrns

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

SAN ANGELO – The QuailMasters 2017 workshop dates have been set, said the series' lead instructor.

Dr. Dale Rollins, statewide coordinator for Texas A&M AgriLife's Reversing the Decline of Quail Initiative, San Angelo, said the workshop series is co-sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas Wildlife Association.

"QuailMasters is a series of intensive, hands-on training sessions designed to expose participants to the best of the best quail habitat in Texas and make them 'masters' of the art and science of

quail management," Rollins said. "QuailMasters' goal is to enhance participants' decision-making skills relative to quail management."

"This is an intensive program and participants are expected to attend all four sessions with 110 percent enthusiasm and participation. Prospective attendees would include landowners and managers, hunters, quail enthusiasts, consultants, AgriLife Extension agents, wildlife biologists and college students."

The sessions are:
– Session I; March 26-28, Sweetwater and Roby.
– Session II; April 30-May 2, location to be determined by student consensus.
– Session III; June 4-6,

Sweetwater and Roby. – Session IV; Aug. 14-16, Abilene.

The series is limited to 35 participants, so early sign-up is advised.

Tuition is \$500 for individuals and \$250 for college students, which includes most meals and educational support materials.

Three hours of graduate college credit are available for an additional charge through Texas A&M University's wildlife and fisheries sciences department.

The registration deadline is April 12.

For more information or to register, contact Clinton Faas, 800-893-9453, cfaas@texas-wildlife.org, or Rollins at 325-653-4576, drollins@tamu.edu.

Sullivan joins Texas Wheat Producers Board

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

AMARILLO—The Texas Wheat Producers Board and Association recently selected Darby Sullivan as the new Director of Communications and Producer Relations. She will manage communications between producers and industry professionals as well as with state and national partner organizations.

"It's an honor to be working in an industry that I'm so passionate about, especially when the importance of agriculture needs to be recognized now more than ever," Sullivan said.

Sullivan graduated from Texas Tech University in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural communications. She is originally from Canyon and comes from several generations of

farmers and ranchers.

Sullivan also spent a summer interning for Texas Congressman Mac Thornberry in Washington, D.C. She was exposed to the legislative side of agriculture and given the opportunity to write press releases for his office.

The Texas Wheat Producers Board is a statewide board funded by a voluntary two cent per bushel checkoff program.

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

LAWTON, OK—For ranchers in Texas and Oklahoma, tough marketing times with low cattle prices make it more critical than ever for their operations to become more efficient productively and financially.

Experts and the latest information on topics that will influence profits can be found at the annual Cattle Trails Cow-Calf Conference – Driving Your Cattle to Profit, to be held here Dec. 1 at the Comanche County Fairgrounds Annex Building.

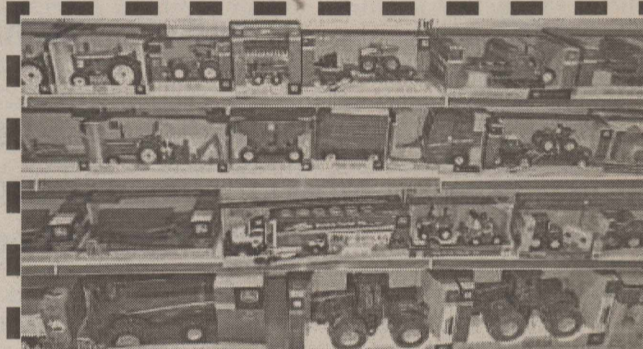
The conference is a joint effort between the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

Registration is \$25 and includes educational materials, a noon meal and

refreshments. For purposes of meal planning, preregistration is encouraged. To preregister, contact your local county Extension office in Texas or Oklahoma or contact Marty New at 580-255-0546.

county Extension office in Texas or Oklahoma or contact Marty New at 580-255-0546.

Cattle conference set Dec. 1



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Medicaid will pay for repellent to fight Zika

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

AUSTIN—Amid news that mosquito-to-human transmission of the virus has spread to the continental United States, Texas officials announced they would allow Medicaid to pay for mosquito repellent for women in the hopes of preventing the disease.

The decision comes two months after the Obama administration first told states they could allow Medicaid, the federal-state health insurance program for the poor and disabled, to pay for Zika prevention services, including mosquito repellent and family planning.

Women who are pregnant or are between the ages of 10 and 45 are eligible so long as a doctor prescribes the mosquito repellent and the patient picks it up at a pharmacy. Eligible women can get up to two cans of repellent per month through Oct. 31 by presenting their Medicaid prescription card just like they do with any prescription.

"The best way to protect yourself from Zika is by avoiding mosquito bites," said Charles Smith, executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, in a statement. "There is currently no vaccine to prevent the disease or drug to treat it, making it essential that

people use mosquito repellent to protect women and unborn babies."

Researchers have linked the Zika virus in pregnant women to microcephaly, a condition causing babies to be born with abnormally small brains and skulls. In addition, scientists say a small proportion of Zika infections may also trigger Guillain-Barré syndrome, an illness that targets the nervous system.

State and local officials in Texas have long clamored for more funding to help combat the Zika virus although the state's public health agency reported there was no reason to panic over the spread of Zika.

THANKS FOR READING!

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"That's my brother-in-law. He came here six months ago with \$20 and a shirt and he ain't

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GIVE THANKS

On a day when America gives thanks for its food, let's also thank those who grow it.

Before the turkey was stuffed, the potatoes mashed and cranberries became relish, there were people growing them – farmers and ranchers, individuals and families – who planted, fed, nurtured, worked, worried and proudly harvested them.

Nobody beats the American farmer when it comes to producing food, and for that we can be truly grateful.



This message is brought to you by
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on behalf of its customer-owners,
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Drew Springer

STATE REPRESENTATIVE HD 68

Rep. Springer files several bills on opening day of filing for the 85th session

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

Austin, TX-- Representative Drew Springer (HD 68) filed his first round of bills for the 85th Legislative Session. Typically there are over 6,000 bills filed each session, with approximately 1,200 that become law. Over the next 90 days, Rep. Springer will be filing a broad range of bills focused on promoting rural values, protecting liberties, and fixing local issues.

In focusing on local issues, the representative filed a bill that will allow rural com-

munities the option to restrict sex offenders from child safety zones, a benefit that larger cities already have. Additionally, Springer in the coming weeks will be filing legislation to further protect the Second Amendment and defend the rights of lawful gun owners.

When asked about his plans for additional bills to file, Rep. Springer replied, "I will continue to look for bills that benefit rural Texas, respect basic human rights, and protect our freedom and liberties from state and federal overreach!"

Perry files legislation to eliminate Sanctuary Cities in Texas

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

AUSTIN, TX – Today, Senator Charles Perry filed SB 4 to eliminate Sanctuary Cities in the State of Texas by requiring local governments and law enforcement to uphold the rule of law and enforce the immigration laws currently on the books.

Yesterday, Lt. Governor Patrick listed ending sanctuary city policies as one of his top 10 priorities for the session stating: "No city in Texas should be allowed to ignore the law. We will end this practice once and for all this session."

"By electing a Republican president and Republican majorities in Congress, the American people made it clear that solving our illegal immigration crisis must be a priority," said Senator Charles Perry. "That starts by eliminating sanctuary cities, securing our border, and enforcing the immigration laws we currently have on the books. We cannot sit idly by and allow local policies to undercut efforts made at the federal and state level."

In 2015, Perry authored SB 185 which would have eliminated Sanctuary Cities within the State of Tex-

as. Later that year, the murder of Kate Steinle led to a national uproar and movement to eliminate Sanctuary City policies that allow for violent criminal aliens to walk our streets freely.

In July of this year, the U.S. Department of Justice released updated rules disqualifying sanctuary cities from receiving U.S. Department of Justice grant money.

"Banning sanctuary city policies will help prevent criminal aliens from being put back on our streets," continued Perry. "I have no doubt that with the help of my colleagues in the Texas Legislature, we will pass this bill."

SPC to offer License to Carry class distracted driving bill

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

LEVELLAND – South Plains College will offer the Texas License to Carry a Handgun class Dec. 3 (Saturday) in the Law Enforcement Technology building on the Levelland campus. The class will begin at 8 a.m. with breaks every hour as well as a lunch break.

The classroom portion covers firearm safety, the use of force, non-violent conflict resolution, lawful concealed or open carry, storage with children in the home and contacts with law enforcement personnel. It runs about six hours.

The range portion covers range safety rules and commands, and the shooting portion of the class at distances

ranging from three to 15 yards, using the indoor pistol range in the Law Enforcement building. The number of students will determine how long the range portion requires. Inexperienced shooters may want to take an Introduction to Handguns course before taking the LTC course.

Students will need to bring either a revolver or semiautomatic pistol of at least .32 caliber, and 50 rounds of ammunition to match. Eye and hearing protection are provided for students who do not have their own.

The instructor is Dr. Mike Felker is a retired SPC professor. He is a NRA Advanced Pistol instructor; Department of Public Safety

certified LTC instructor and U.S. Concealed Carry Association Affiliate instructor.

The cost of the course is \$75 for students getting their first license, and \$25 for students wanting a refresher course before renewing their license. This does not include the fee for the DPS and FBI fingerprint and background checks. Although renewals are now handled strictly online, the changes in Texas firearms law in 2013 and 2015 make a refresher course a good investment.

Students need to register and pay in advance. Space is limited.

To sign up, call Kasey Reyes at (806) 716-2341 or email kreyes@southplainscollege.edu.

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

AUSTIN—For the fourth session in a row, Rep. Tom Craddick (Midland) filed a bill to create a traffic violation for smartphone use while driving.

"I am proud to propose House Bill 62 during this upcoming 85th Texas Legislative Session. Distracted driving is an epidemic in Texas and we must pass a law to address this life-threatening habit," Craddick said. "I am committed to giving our Texas drivers safer roads; I am determined to be a voice for the distracted driving victims and families of victims; and I am extremely motivated to enact legislation that will

prevent any loss of life."

"Ninety-eight cities in Texas have an ordinance governing the use of smartphones while driving, and 46 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin islands have a law governing the use of smartphones while driving," Craddick said. "But the number that gets my attention and concerns me gravely is the 482 deaths that occurred on Texas roadways in 2015 due to distracted driving. I filed House Bill 62 because there should be ZERO deaths."

While there is not a statewide smartphone use law for all drivers, Texas has several laws in place that regulate cell phone use while driving. State

law bans cell phone use for drivers under 18; school bus drivers are prohibited from using a cell phone while driving with children on the bus; and drivers cannot use a cell phone or other handheld wireless device in an active school zone where signs are present.

"We have come to a tipping point in this distracted driving crisis. ZERO Texans need to die because of the selfishness of Texas drivers who are addicted to their phones," Craddick said. "When HB62 is passed into law, I will be able to resolutely reassure victims and family members that their loved one's death was not in vain and others' lives will be saved."

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SCHOOL NEWS

Lockney High School results from Texas Tech Fall Fandango UIL Academic Meet held on November 13, 2016

JOURNALISM TEAM: Placed 2nd and is coached by Sarah Clement.

EDITORIAL WRITING: Emilee Encizo placed 5th

FEATURE WRITING: Mackenzie Ragland 5th

HEADLINE WRITING: Emilee Encizo 3rd, Mackenzie Ragland 6th

NEWS WRITING: Mackenzie Ragland 4th

NUMBER SENSE: Team placed 3rd. Seattle Jackson placed 3rd in 12th grade and 6th overall, Skyler Dunn placed 4th in 12th grade and 9th overall, Diego Auza placed 5th in 9th grade, Fernando Valdez 7th in 10th grade. Coached by Pam Fulton.

MATH: Diego Auza won 5th in 9th grade. Fernando Valdez also competed. Brandon Jackson is the coach.

SOCIAL STUDIES: Brett Moore placed 3rd. Edwin Martinez and Tyrell Egnew also competed. Coached by Kathy Azua.

CALCULATOR: Bryson Hallmark placed 10th in 10th grade. Brandon Jackson

is the coach.

LITERARY CRITICISM: Team won 1st place. Lyndee Setliff placed 3rd, Haley Sanchez 4th, Madison Chance 5th, Karissa Petty 7th, Lizzie Belt 8th and Sierra Landeros 10th. Coached by Melanie Ragland.

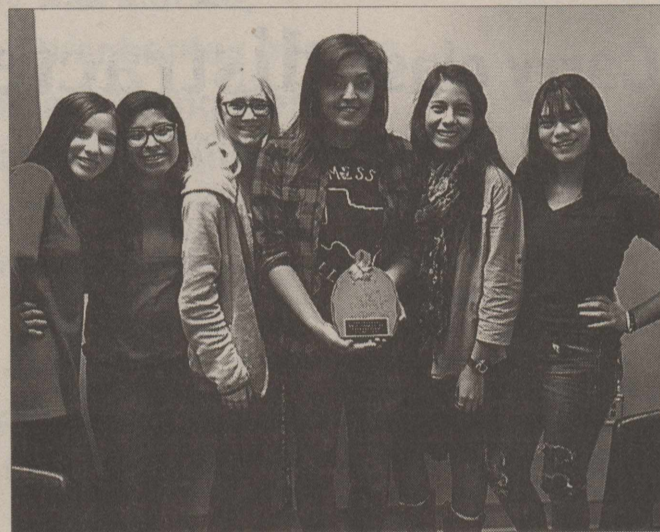
CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS: Team won 1st place. Karissa Petty placed 2nd, Valerie Hernandez 4th and Haley Sanchez 8th. Alexa Poole, Sierra Landeros, and Bethany Salazar also competed. Coached by D'Lyn Morris

SCIENCE: Seattle Jackson placed 3rd overall and 3rd in 12th grade. Tabetha Bigham placed 9th in 12th grade. Bryson Hallmark placed 9 in 10th grade and Brett Moore placed 8th in 9th grade. Diego Azua and Fernando Valdez also competed. Racheal Kasner and D'Lyn Morris are the coaches.

Congratulations to all these students and their coaches. The next meet will be at Tech on December 3.



Courtesy photo
The Lockney Current Issues and Events Team Placed 1st in their first UIL meet of the year. L to R: Sierra Landeros, Haley Sanchez placed 8th, Karissa Petty placed 2nd, Valerie Hernandez placed 4th, Bethany Salazar, Alexa Poole. Coached by D'Lyn Morris



Courtesy photo
Literary Criticism team placed 1st. Front row Sierra Landeros placed 10th, Lyndee Setliff placed 3rd, Luke Kasner. Back row: Lizzie Belt placed 8th, Haley Sanchez placed 4th, Ricky Cuellar, Karissa Petty placed 7th, Madison Chance placed 5th.

Morton defeats Lady Winds 58-23

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

MORTON - Kylie Ricketts and Kaylee Morren each had seven points to lead the Floydada Lady Winds but it was enough as the Morton Maidens won 58-23. The Lady Winds are now 0-2 on the season.

The Maidens jumped out to a 14-7 lead after the first quarter and continued their push by taking a 29-15 lead at halftime.

In the second half, Morton held Floydada scoreless in the third quarter to jump out to a 45-15 lead.

Morton added 13 more points while limiting the Lady Winds to eight points as the Maidens claimed the 58-23 victory.

For Floydada, Ricketts had seven points, Morren had seven points, Brooke Galvan had four points, Hannah Morales had three points and Valerie Espinosa had two points.

For Morton, Anna Molinar had nine points, Marissa Rodriguez had nine points, Alyssa Rodriguez had eight points, Ashley Roboerts, Jackie Acevedo, Mariah Cavezuela and Trinity Morin had six point each, Valeria Hernandez had five points and Dankya Mendoza had three points in the Maidens victory.

Floydada was scheduled to host Petersburg on Friday, November 18 and Olton on Tuesday, November 22. The Lady Winds will participate in the Anton Tournament December 1-3.

Whirlwinds open season defeating Morton

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

MORTON - Brayden Campbell hit a two-point shot late in the fourth quarter and Andrew added a free throw to give the Floydada Whirlwinds a 53-51 victory over the Morton Indians in the Whirlwinds season opener.

The game was tight from the beginning as the Whirlwinds held a one-point advantage, 17-16 after the first quarter.

The Indians took a halftime lead at 31-29, then stretched the lead to 46-41 after three quarters.

In the fourth quarter, the Whirlwinds held Morton to only five points while scoring 12 points to claim the 53-51 victory.

For the Whirlwinds, Remington Ricketts led the way

with 26 points, Campbell added 14, Albert Dehoyos added eight, Esteban Lerma and Jordan Mendoza had two points each and Vega had one point.

For the Indians, Noah Rodriguez had 20 points, Nash Willingham had 12 points, Chris Spivey had six points, Malachi Villareal had five points, Kaleb Padilla and Aizik Garza had three each and Giovanni Perez had two points.

The Whirlwinds were scheduled to play Petersburg on Friday, November 18 but due to the Buffalos still being in the football playoffs, Floydada was traveling to Vega to play the Longhorns. They were scheduled to host Olton on Tuesday, November 22 and will travel to Slaton on Monday, November 28 at 6:15 P.M. and will participate in the Anton tournament December 1-3.

LOCKNEY SCHOOL MENU November 28 - December 2

Monday, Nov. 28
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Nov. 29
Breakfast - Chicken-n-Biscuit, Fruit, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch - Asian Bowl with Eggroll or Pizza Choice, Baby Carrots, Steamed Broccoli Pineapple, Cookie, Milk

Wednesday, Nov. 30
Breakfast - French Toast, Sausage, Fruit, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch - Tex-Mex Stack or Chicken Fajitas, Refried Beans, Tomato Cup, Hot Cinnamon Apples, Salsa, Garnish, Milk

Thursday, Dec. 1
Breakfast - Early Bird Sandwich, Fruit, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch - Hamburger with Cheese or Pig in Blanket, Fries, Veggie Cup, Oranges, Milk

Friday, Dec. 2
Breakfast - Dutch Waffle, Bacon, Fruit, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch - Chicken Parmesan with Salad and Breadstick or Pulled Pork Slider with Chips and Coleslaw, Green Beans, Apples, Milk

Wit and Wisdom

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

Black Friday: Because only in America, people trample others for sales exactly one day after being thankful for what they already have.

—Unknown quotes

Whoever said money can't buy happiness simply didn't know where to go shopping.

—Bo Derek

Win or lose, we go shopping after the election.

—Imelda Marcos

I hate last-minute shopping, it's always unsuccessful.

—Cat Deeley

I love consumerism, TV culture, shopping malls. There's nothing I'd ever buy, but I like being there. It's wacky.

—John Lydon

People are always going to go shopping. A lot of our effort is just: 'How do we make the retail experience a great one?'

—Philip Green

When women are depressed, they eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. It's a whole different way of thinking.

—Elayne Boosler

You may have heard of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. There's another day you might want to know about: Giving Tuesday. The idea is pretty straightforward. On the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, shoppers take a break from their gift-buying and donate what they can to charity.

—Bill Gates

Floyd County 4-H'ers Participate in Food & Nutrition

By Amy Kress
CEA-FCS - Floyd County

Floyd County 4-H members began their 4-H Food and Nutrition project in September by participating in weekly meetings where they made Pumpkin Protein Balls, toured Assister's Pumpkin Patch, and made Bread-in-a-bag.

4-H members were also practicing for District contests as well. The first contest was District 2 4-H Food Challenge held on October 24th at the Mallet Event Center in Levelland. Food Challenge is a contest that allows 4-H members to demonstrate their culinary knowledge and skills. From a set of predetermined ingredients provided, teams of 3 to 5 4-H members must develop a recipe and prepare the dish within 40 minutes. Teams then make a presentation to a judging panel, explaining the preparation steps, serving size, food safety concerns, nutrition value and cost of the dish.

Intermediate team members from Floyd County were Peyton Anderson, Lindee Miller, Tyann Phillips, and Hunter Lefevre. The team competed in the Fruits and Vegetables category. Junior Team mem-

bers from Floyd County were Haygen Lefevre, Brinley Lefevre, Payten Shuping, and Karlie McHam. The team competed in the Nutritious Snacks category.

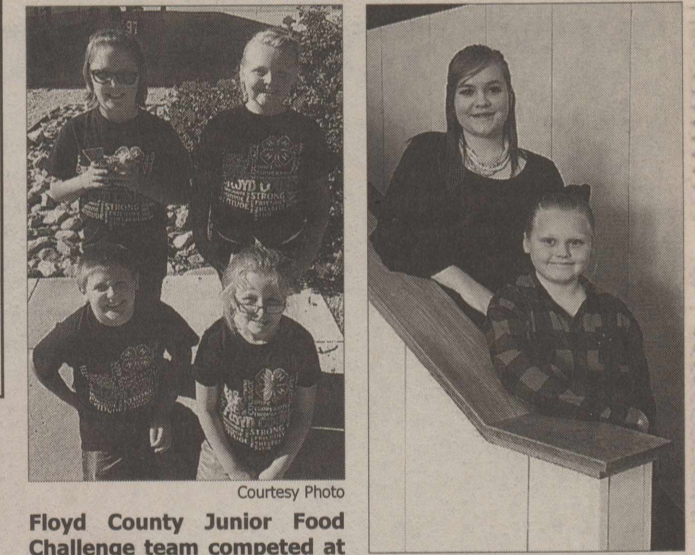
The next Food & Nutrition contest was Food Show which is a contest in which a 4-H member prepares a dish that fits into one of the four categories: Protein, Grains, Dairy, and Fruits and Vegetables. Then they make a presentation in front of judges about their dish, including information about MyPlate, nutrition, food preparation, food safety, and 4-H experiences.

This year's District 2 Food Show theme was "Family Favorites" and was held on November 12th at Levelland High School. Senior Rachel Graham made Granny's Favorite Goulash and placed 4th in the Protein category. Junior Payten Shuping made Mom's Famous Macaroni and Cheese and placed 4th in the Grains category.

If you see any of these amazing 4-H members, please congratulate them on a job well done. If you want to learn more about Floyd County 4-H please visit the extension office or call 983-4912.



Courtesy Photo
Floyd County Junior Food Challenge team competed at the District Food Challenge contest in Levelland on October 24. Shown are Brinley Lefevre, Payten Shuping, Haygen Lefevre, and Karlie McHam.



Courtesy Photo
Floyd County 4-H Senior Rachel Graham and Junior Payten Shuping competed at District Food Show in Levelland on November 12.

FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU November 28 - December 2

Monday
STUDENT HOLIDAY

Tuesday
Breakfast - Egg, cheese and turkey sausage burrito, cereal, fresh fruit, milk
Lunch Beef fingers w/roll, chicken salad wrap, seasoned mashed potatoes, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

Wednesday
Breakfast - Apple frudel, cereal, fresh fruit, milk
Lunch - Sweet & sour chicken w/rice, turkey and cheese sub, peppered corn, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

Thursday
Breakfast - Not Available
Lunch - Not Available

Friday
Breakfast - Not Available
Lunch - Not Available

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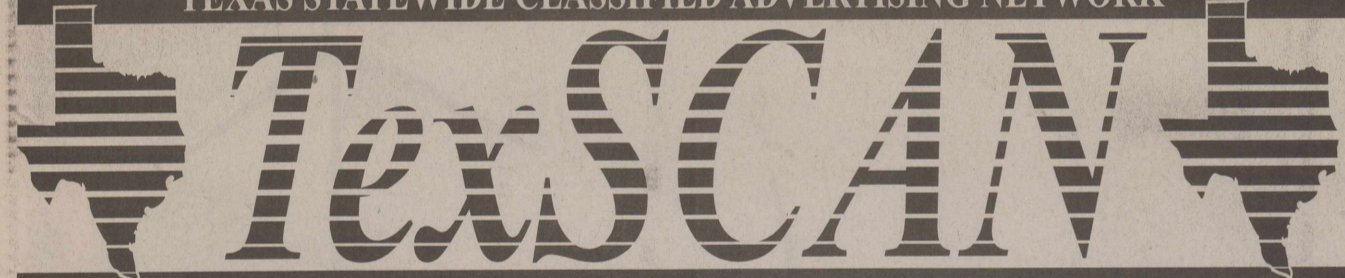
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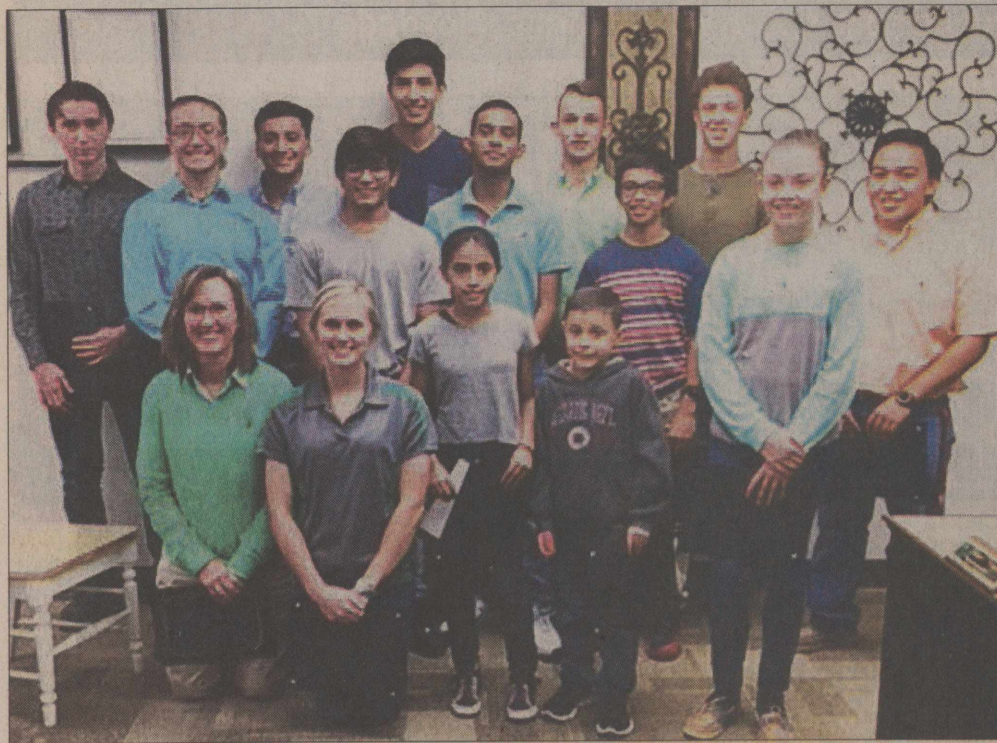
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FISD Recognizes Students, Staff for November



Courtesy photo

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

The Floydada Independent School District board recognized the following students and staff for their efforts to make education the best it can be at their monthly meeting November 8.

Each month FISD staff selects students that exemplify education at its best and those students are recognized at the monthly school board meeting. The elementary

students recognized were Jermiah Herrera and Luna Castillo both 4th graders at A.B. Duncan Elementary. The Junior High student of the month was Ashlyn Green who is in the 7th grade at Floydada Junior High.

The High School students recognized were the 2016 Cross Country team. They ran in the State Cross Country Meet in Round Rock. The team consists of Tyler Saldana, Keenan Nixon, Jer-

emiah Johnston, James Gibbens, Alejandro Pinon, Marcus Perez, Casey Cage, Andrez Suarez, and Donald Gibbens. The coaches are Coach Robin Nixon, Coach T.J. Fly and Coach Chelsea Wheeler. Jacob Chavarria and Stefanni Chavarria are the managers.

The elementary educator selected this month was Joy Forbes who teaches 3rd grade ELAR and Social Studies at A.B. Duncan Elementary.

Fossil Discovery Shows Birds Have Sung for 65 Million Years

LUBBOCK - A Texas Tech paleontologist was part of a team that discovered birds had a vocal organ when dinosaurs of the same era did not.

Birds sing. Dinosaurs didn't. Scientists know this after the recent discovery of the oldest known vocal organ of a bird, found in an Antarctic fossil of an ancestor of ducks and geese that lived more than 66 million years ago during the last days of dinosaurs. No dinosaur of that era had it.

The discovery of the Cretaceous-era vocal organ, called a syrinx, and its apparent absence in nonavian dinosaur fossils of the same age, indicates the organ may have originated late in the evolution of modern birds, and that other dinosaurs may not have been able to make noises similar to the bird calls heard today, according to findings published in Nature Wednesday (Oct. 12) by an international team of paleontologists that included Horn Professor Sankar Chatterjee, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech University.

Acoustic communication in sonic vertebrates involves both the generation and detection of signals. Those who make sounds can discriminate those auditory cues in their cochlear duct of the inner ear. In terrestrial vertebrates, vocalizations

are produced by specialized organs such as the larynx in amphibians, reptiles and mammals or the syrinx in birds that vibrate air as it moves from the lungs through the respiratory tubes. Vocalizations are used to communicate across as well as within species.

"This finding helps explain why no such organ has been preserved in a nonbird dinosaur or crocodile relative," said Julie Clarke, a paleontologist at The University of Texas at Austin Jackson School of Geosciences, who discovered the fossil syrinx and led the analysis. "This is another important step to figuring out what dinosaurs sound like as well as giving us insight into the evolution of birds."

The syrinx is made of stiff cartilage rings supporting soft tissues that vibrate to produce the complex songs and calls of modern birds. Cartilage does not fossilize as well as hard tissues such as bone. But the high mineral content in the syrinx's

rings sometimes allows for fossilization. All other known examples of fossilized syrinxes occur in birds that lived well after nonavian dinosaurs were extinct.

The team found the syrinx in a fossil of *Vegavis iaai*, a foot-propelled bird that lived during the end of the Cretaceous period (about 65 million years ago). The specimen in which the syrinx was found was discovered on Antarctica's Vega Island in 1992 by a team from the Argentic Antarctic Institute, who gave it to Chatterjee for collaborative work. Chatterjee has built a reputation among the paleontological community; he and several students have been to Antarctica several times and amassed a large collection of fossils from Antarctica.

Lockney School Board approves ag equipment

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

LOCKNEY - Lockney ISD School Board met in regular session, Thursday, Nov. 17. The Board approved the payment of bills and the financial report for \$3,130,309.43.

The Board approved a request from Ag Teacher Vance Lemons to increase his welding budget to purchase a new Thermal Dynamics Cutmaster A60 plasma cutter along with a computer and re-

quired software.

In other action, the Board approved a resolution to repeal the small school allotment formula for school districts under 300 square miles and approved moving forward with starting the process to designate Lockney ISD as a District of Innovation.

Superintendent Phil Cotham explained a District of Innovation must first meet standard on the district academic accountability rating. Cotham said if the District proceeds with the request, and is approved, it gives the District flexibility in nu-

merous things, including curriculum, modifications to days or school year, accountability and assessment and other innovations prescribed by the Board of Trustees.

Cotham also updated the Board about various activities within the District including wind farms and progress on the bonds.

The Board then spent time in training about the Chain of Command.

The Board's next meeting will be Dec. 15 at 6:00 P.M.

Letters to Santa

Letters will be published in the December 22nd edition
Santa letters due December 6

The Floyd County
HESPERIAN-BEACON

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