The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2016

HESPERIANBEACONONLINE.COM



Finley Named **EDC** Director

By Kay Ellington The Hesperian-Beacon

Jesse Finley has been named the director of the Floydada Economic Development Corporation, according to Jeff Johnchair of the Floydada EDC.

He most recently served as a police officer with the city and handled public information responsibilities among his other

Finley's roots run deep with Floydada. "My family came here before there was even Floyd County," he said, "they came here on horseback."

He was born in Floydada at the old hospital, raised here and attended school here in Floydada.

After high school he attended South Plains College where he received his associate's degree in Law Enforcement tech. He then attended Wayland where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Justice Administration.

While in college at Wayland he worked for the Floyd County Sheriff's Office for three

Donations made

to the Floydada and

Lockney Volunteer

Fire Departments

at Christmas Ball

years, then moved over to the Floydada Police Department where he worked as a full-time officer for 3½ years. He still works for the F.P.D. as the PR and information officer.

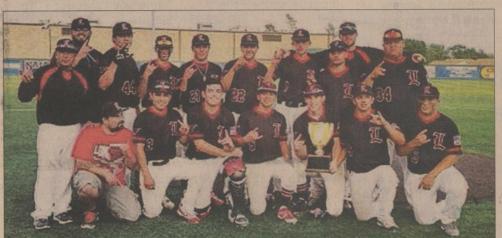
His wife, Amy is employed son, Floydada city manager and at First National Bank of Floydada. She was born in Washington state, but graduated from Frenship High School in

> According to Finley, his interest in the Floydada EDC is being able to serve the community, to play a key role in the future of the city and in community development.

His goals are to focus on bringing Industrial/Manufacturing jobs to Floydada, while maintaining local businesses, and to create a firm and stable foundation for Floydada's

He believes Floydada needs more availability of jobs, and would like to see the continuation of improvements with regards to the investment of Quality of Life for the citizens and some improvements on the city's aesthetics.

2016: Year in



The Lockney baseball and softball teams both made it through the playoffs at district, bi-district, area, and regional quarterfinals, only to be stopped at the regional semifinals to embody one of the most exciting stories of 2016. We track the year in review for Floyd County, month-by-month.

By Kay Ellington The Hesperian-Beacon

January kicked off 2016 with one of the worst snowstorm's in the region's history, but that didn't slow down a string of burglaries. With security camera photos and cooperation from law enforcement across the state, the perpetrator in the white Chevy Impala was nabbed—napping—on a roadside near Monahans. On a month of the year the Junior Livestock Show continued youth showing their best. 2016

was an election year and candidates for sheriff and district attorney threw their hats into the ring early. As January drew to a close, a press conference was held in downtown Floydada announcing that Reagor-Dykes, one of the fastest growing car dealerships in the country, had purchased Oden Chevrolet. The transformation to the new downtown dealership was seemingly overnight.

In February the Lockney more positive note for the first school board, called for a bond election, Goen and Goen Insurance in downtown Floydathe tradition of Floyd County da celebrated their 90th Anniversary, and Producers Co-Op

opened a new tire showroom. The election to replace Congressman Randy Neugebauer in U.S. District 19 was beginning to heat up in the second month of the year with Plainview native Jodey Arrington, a former staffer for President George W. Bush and Texas Tech administrator and Lubbock business owner and mayor Glen Robertson campaigning in Floyd County. Lockney High School paid tribute to farming with Drive Your Tractor to School day. February ended with Lockney High voting on Mr. and Miss LHS, and

See 2016, Page 8

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.

HESPERIAN-BEACON DEADLINES

The Floyd County Heperian-Beacon office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2. The deadline for the Jan. 5th issue is Thursday, Dec. 30th at 5 p.m.

FLOYD COUNTY STOCK SHOW

The Floyd County Stock Show will be held January 5 - 7, 2016 at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center in Muncy. Dairy Heifers, Heifers and Steer show will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 5. Friday, January 6th will be moving in day for Swine, Goats and Lambs. The Gilt show will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, January 7th followed by the Barrow Show. There will be a short break for lunch around 12 noon and then the Goat and Lamb shows will begin. The Buyer's meal will be around 5 p.m. followed immediately by the Premium Sale.

BINGO NIGHT FLOYDADA SR. CITIZENS

Bingo night is the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Bingo Night is open to anyone ages 16 and over. Watch for January's special in the Hesperian-Beacon. Date and info to be announced soon.

Correction

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

News on the go



smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

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Floyd Co. Gins Report Good Year, Not Done



2016 is far from over for cotton ginners. This year's robust crop will keep most area

By Kay Ellington The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA- According

ginners busy deep into the new year.

to Aaron Hendricks, manager of Floydada Co-Op Gin there's a record-breaking year of cotton on their lot. "At

65,000 bales, we're already over average," he said, "and I expect us to hit 110,000 to See GINS, Page 6

Wishing everyone a Happy **Nand Safe New Year** thy's Floral & Gifts 128 W. California St. Floydada · 806-983-5013

Wendell and Dustee Sollis presented a donation to the Lockney and Floydada Fire Departments for \$6000.00

from proceeds received at the Cowboy Christmas Ball on

December 17. Shown are (I-r) Wendell and Dustee Sollis,

people attended, and enjoyed

big band, western swing, classic

country, Cajun, and Christmas

songs. Wendell Sollis and the

Sidekicks All Star Band provided the entertainment.

contributed to the silent auc-

See DONATIONS, Page 5

The participants generously

Craig Dubois, Donny McGlaughlin, and Chad Guthrie.

By Dustee Sollis

Special for The Heperian-Beacon

The Second Annual Cow-

boy Christmas Ball was held

at the Floyd County Friends

Unity Center on December

17th. In spite of extremely

cold temperatures, around 450





SOCIETY

The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, 201 W. California, Floydada, Texas 79235, Is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday Phone (888) 400-1083 Email fchb.editor@yahoo.com

PUBLISHER William C. Blackburn

REPORTER Charles Keaton GENERAL MANAGER Barbara Anderson

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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.

DEADLINES Advertising: Noon Fridays Editorial: Noon Mondays

SUBSCRIPTIONS \$36 a year in the county \$42 a year outside the

Call 888-400-1083



Brewer Promoted By Pilgrim Bank

By Brent Woodruff President, COO and CFO Pilgrim Bank

Chairman Emeritus Bo Pilgrim, Chairman Ken Pilgrim and the Board of Directors are pleased to announce the promotion of Charlotte Brewer to President, Wichita Falls market, effective January 1st, 2017. Charlotte will continue to serve as Corporate Director of Marketing and as Board Advisory Director for Pilgrim Bank.

Charlotte joined Pilgrim Bank in 1993 with nine years previous banking experience. During her ca-

reer, she has held positions in loan administration and funding, account services, financial services and bank operations, and has an extensive background in regulatory compliance and reporting, and marketing.

Charlotte, a native of Floydada, Texas, currently serves as a director for Bi-County Water Supply Corporation, serves on the Titus Regional Medical Center Foundation Board and the Pilot Club of Mount Pleasant Board.

"Charlotte's passion for people, coupled with her integrity and consummate skill, make her the perfect

fit for Wichita Falls," said Lanny Brenner, Pilgrim Bank chief executive officer. "She directs our bank's marketing and branding effort and will continue to hold this senior corporate position in her new role. This a great move for Charlotte, and an exceptional move for our Company."

Charlotte's energy and enthusiasm for the Pilgrim brand will be instrumental as we grow organically in the Wichita Falls market. Please join me in congratulating Charlotte on this well deserved and important milestone in her career.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I went to Lockney last week for a checkup with my doctor and as I was driving down the streets of Lockney I noticed that the lamp posts were decorated with green garland and red ribbon was wrapped around the pole...very simple, but

I think that there were also white lights wrapped around the pole too.

I drove back to Floydada and while driving on Missouri Street to my husband's office, I noticed there were no decorations downtown. Oh, pardon me, the Floyd County Museum had cedar and red bows on the posts. I would think someone took the time to go beyond the Caprock to get the cedar branches, simple, but pretty.

I'm not blaming anyone for not having any decorations downtown, perhaps one may think, oh well no one goes downtown at night.

My suggestion is why don't some high school wood work, art class, clubs, 4-H, Boy Scouts, different businesses and churches donate to purchase items needed, then all work, plan, get together next year to bring some spirit to our town.

Another suggestion is why not decorate 2nd Street? A lot of traffic goes on that street.

I remember stars, bells, trees and angels that have been put up in the past.

Thanks for reading my suggestions.

Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Sincerely, Jo Wilbanks Floydada, Texas

Museum Archives

Floyd County Historical Museum "Memories, 1979"

THE R.T. MILLER FAMILY

Floyd County from Johnson County in 1887 and built a one-room sod house at Delia Plain. Then in 1889 he went back and brought his family out in a covered wagon. They arrived late in the evening and spent the first night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McLain, who lived in a two-room dugout.

The first year they lived there, the three oldest children went to school at Delia Plain and Mr. W.M. Massie was their teacher.

In 1890 when the county was organized, Father was elected county clerk and served in the capacity for eight and one-half years. Later he served as county attorney, and at the time of

R. T. Miller came to his death in 1917 was the justice of the peace.

In 1891 Father hauled lumber from Childress and built a two-room house in Floydada and moved the family from Delia Plain to Floydada to be near his work. All the early day church services at Floydada were held in the school building, the different denominations taking Sunday about. Father was always there ready to lead the singing regardless of who was preaching. In leading the singing he used a tuning fork to get the right pitch until they got an organ. My father and mother were charter members of the First Methodist Church in Floydada, and the early days preachers

were always welcome to stay in our home until they could find a place to live.

My father was a schoolteacher before he came to Delia Plain and while teaching in a small community in Hood County, he married one of his school girls, Mary Francis Hutchinson, in December of 1875, and to this union were born eight children; Emma Robbins, Allie Morse, Lula Gound, Rena Green, Olin S. Miller, Fannie Scott, Robert T. Miller, and Sudie Thomas. All are gone now except the two youngest girls, Mrs. Price Scott of Beuna Park, California and Mrs. Hal Thomas of Floydada. Our mother passed away in October of

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By LuAnn Collins

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA -The Center will be closed Monday, January 2 for the New Year holiday. We hope all of you have a very Happy New Year!

The Center's "Bingo Night" is held the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Join us for a night full of fun! Bingo Night is open to anyone ages 16 and over.

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 January 2 – 6

Monday - CLOSED Tuesday - Chicken strips Wednesday - Christi's beef enchiladas

Thursday - BBQ ribs Friday - Chili dogs (Menus subject to change without notice)

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.



Has now partnered with Dr. Sharie Moore to bring quality health care to our residents. There is no longer a need to travel for health care. Dr. Moore will be making on-site monthly visits and will assist with new resident admission paperwork.

*Low Monthly Rates * Low Move-in Rates *Move in and enjoy the BeeHive Family!

FOR MORE INFO CALL 806-983-8177 1230 S. Ralls Highway, Floydada, Texas 79235

Ninth Mumps Case in Dallas County

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

DALLAS (Dec. 22, 2016) -Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) has identified nine cases of mumps in the Dallas County area. The exposure to mumps for cases one through six likely occurred between adults during a Halloween party on Oct. 29 in the 75219 zip code of Dallas. The seventh, eighth, and ninth adult cases are not related as all three infections have been associated with travel.

Dallas County Health officials are urging immunization to protect against and prevent the spread of mumps. People who have had two mumps vaccinations (such as two MMR vaccines) are usually considered immune from mumps.

"At two doses, the MMR vaccine has 88% effectiveness," said Dr. Christopher Perkins, Dallas County medical director/health authority. "Getting vaccinated is the best option for protection in addition to washing hands frequently and cleaning/disinfecting objects or surfaces that may be con-

DCHHS provides the MMR vaccine for children and adults at the main clinic located at 2377 N. Stemmons Frwy in Dallas, Monday through Fri-

day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. "The increased number of mumps cases reported in the North Texas area underscore the importance of getting your children vaccinated," said Zachary Thompson, DCHHS director.

About Mumps

Mumps is a highly contagious viral disease that is spread by droplets of saliva or mucus from the mouth, nose or throat of an infected person, usually when the person coughs, sneezes or talks. Items used by an infected person, such as cups or soft drink cans, can also be contaminated with the virus, which may spread to others if those items are shared.

Symptoms of mumps are characterized by fever, headache and swelling of the salivary glands., fatigue, muscle aches and loss of appetite. After a person is exposed to mumps, symptoms usually appear 16 to 18 days after infection, but this period can range from 12-25 days after infection.

What to Do if You Become Infected with Mumps:

1. Contact your health pro-

2. Stay at home for five days after symptoms begin.

3. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or

sneeze. 4. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.

For information about mumps, measles and rubella call 214-819-2163 or visit the DCHHS website http:// www.dallascounty.org/department/hhs/measles.html

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

LOCKNEY -The Center will be closed Friday, December 30th and Monday, January 2nd for New Year's holiday.

Breakfast is 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- Satur-

day - 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

> MENU January 2 - 6

Monday - CLOSED Tuesday -Tacos Wednesday - Pulled pork Thursday - Cheeseburgers Friday -Brisket (Menus subject to change without notice)

Wit and Wisdom

By Charles Keaton

The Hesperian-Beacon

The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. We can help write that story by setting goals. -Melody Beattie

I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something. -Neil Gaiman

Take a leap of faith and begin this wondrous new year by believing. Believe in yourself. And believe that there is a loving Source - a Sower of Dreams - just waiting to be asked to help you make your dreams come true.

—Sarah Ban Breathnach

If you asked me for my New Year Resolution, it would be to find out who I am.

—Cyril Cusack

Make New Year's goals. Dig within, and discover what you would like to have happen in your life this year. This helps you do your part. It is an affirmation that you're interested in fully living life in the year to come.

-Melody Beattie



From the Reagor Dykes Auto Group & RD7 Partners

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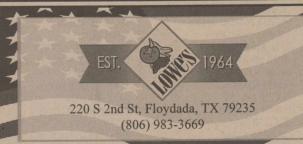
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OBITUARIES/CHURCH

Margarette Wasson Bond Word

Word, 90, passed away on Saturday, December 24, 2016 at her home, Shepherds Meadow Assisted Living in Floydada.

She was born November 11, 1926, in Amarillo to Melvin Scott and Myrtle Mae Wasson. She graduated from Amarillo High School. Mrs. Word worked as the elementary school secretary at Floydada Independent School District for 30 years until retirement.

She was a member of First Baptist Floydada.

She is preceded in death by husbands, Wilson Bond and James Word, sisters, Lizzie Mae Reyolds and

Margarette Wasson Bond Ella Oglesby, stepdaughters, Ann Carr and Elizabeth Atkinson, and stepgrandson David Carr.

She is survived by sons, Greg Bond and wife, Mona, and Gordon Bond and wife, Francine, both of Granbury, step-daughter, Mary Garrett of Floydada, and sister, Melva Fowler of Amarillo, nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the Floydada Cemetery under the direction of Moore-Rose Funeral Home in Floydada.

Arrangements were under the personal care of



MARGARETTE WASSON BOND WORD

in Floydada.

Suggested memorials can al Home in Floydada. be made to the Floydada Senior Citizens: P.O. Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235.

Online condolences may be made at www.moore-

James A. "Buck" Marricle

James A. "Buck" Marricle, 87, of Floydada, joined his beloved wife, Willie Mae, in Heaven on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 in Lubbock.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Monday, December 26, 2016 at the First Baptist Church in Floydada.

Burial followed at the Floydada Cemetery. Ar-Moore-Rose Funeral Home rangements were under the care of Moore-Rose Funer-

Buck was born on June 27, 1929 in Silverton. He graduated from Idalou High School, then went to work for the Floyd County REA. He was drafted in 1950 and served actively at Ft. Carson until 1952 and in the reserves until 1956.

When he returned home he married Willie Mae Lathham on July 3, 1953. They raised 3 boys where he coached many baseball teams. He continued to work at Lighthouse Electric Cooperative in several positions and mentored many apprentice Lineman until his retirement in 1994. He loved spending time with his grandkids, working with his hands, and gardening.

He was preceded in death by two brothers and

Thank you for Reading 60 years and one greatgrandson

Buck is survived by three sons, David (Terry) Marricle, Keith (Deneen) Marricle and Billy Marricle, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, a sister, Patsy (Monroe) Joslin, and brother-in-law, Ernest (Linda) Lathham and Ar-

two sisters and his wife of thur Fewell, a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

> Contributions can be made to First Baptist Church or Killin' it for Kreid in memory of his great-grandson.

www.killinitforkreid. webs.com/donate

Online condolences may be made at www.moorerose.com



Each one of us needs leadership, be bothered with others, isn't it? Yet We need people who will make in for med, people two with others, but will move in for med, people toward maturity.

""". **encourage the fainthearted...**

"">People are afraid.**

"">People are afra

they follow.

Admonish the idle.

80% of the work, they say, is done by 20% of the people. Why is everyone else in your organization, church, family, etc., just sitting there while do carry the load? It's often

Expectations of Leadership



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

DONATIONS From Page 1

tions, the live auctions, and the sale of the centerpieces from the tables. Several sponsors, local businesses also donated funds in appreciation to the local volunteer fire departments.

Tim Assiter conducted the live auction of several sister, Darla Assiter Carthents Tommy and Joy As- partments of Lockney and such a worthwhile event.

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siter and in appreciation to the EMS and firefighters of the area.

During the night, Brian Bruce, from the local Reagor Dykes dealership, presented the fire departments with a check for \$2500.00, from General Motors. Inside the Unity building, Reagor Dykes displayed two of their ve-Kenneth Wyatt paintings, hicles, a 2017 Corvette and homemade fudge, various a 2017 Chevrolet truck. hand made items, and a In addition, on Friday, Dehand painted fiddle. The cember 23, Wendell and fiddle was donated by his Dustee Sollis presented a check for \$6000.00 to el, in memory of their par- the local volunteer fire de-

Floydada.

Jodey Arrington, U.S. Representative-elect Texas's 19th congressional district attended and visited with several local farmers and ranchers.

Wendell and Dustee Sollis would like to express their appreciation to Jon and Elaine LaBaume for their time and help in setting up the building and making decorations. Thanks goes to Sherry Hacker and the Unity Board for making the building available and cooperating with the band on

CHURCH DIRECTORY

A Time For Everything

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: ... a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to

—Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4 (NIV)

When my nephew called to tell me that my 27-year-old niece, Jen, had died suddenly and unexpectedly, my whole body began to shake. She had been like a daughter to me. During the agonizing days after her death, I wondered if I would ever smile again. I wanted to be transported many years down the road where I hoped the pain might be less. My heart was broken, and I was not sure it could ever be repaired.

Today's reading from Ecclesiastes reminds us that some seasons of our lives bring sorrow, but some bring joy. Sometimes, when we are in the midst of heartbreak, we are filled with unrelenting pain.

We find it hard to imagine a less-painful time in the future. We feel trapped in sorrow with no hope.

I have found that although I still carry a heaviness about my

niece's death, I am now able to smile again and enjoy those blessings that God has so graciously given to me. God's word gives us hope for another season after sorrow, a season of joy and celebration reminding us that God will walk with us in both seasons and bring healing as we go forward. We will not always stay in that season of grief; we will be able to rejoice again.

Lin Daniels (Massachusetts, USA)

Thought for the Day

Because God is with me, even in grief I can have hope. (See 1 Thess. 4:13.)

Aiken Baptist Church Dennis Butler, Pastor Morning Worship..11 a.m.

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.

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.

Carr's Chapel Service Every Sunday Morning Worship - 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

> **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.

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.

> **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.

First Baptist Church Lockney Joseph Tillery, Pastor Chad Cook, Youth Min. Phil Cotham, Music Min

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

New Salem Primitive Baptist Church

310 Mississippi

Floydada Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges (806) 637-0430 Sunday Singing - 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship -11 a.m. **Out Reach Harvest Pentecostal Church**

Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible - 10 a.m. Morning Praise - 11 a.m. Evening Praise 5 - p.m. Wed Worship - 7 p.m.

Floydada

Rev David Ramos, Pastor

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.

> 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. 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.

San Jose Catholic Church Lockney Msgr. Nickolas Rendon Wed. Communion - 8 p.m. Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m.

South Plains Baptist Church Joe Weldon, Pastor SuNday School - 10 a.m. Morning Worship - 11 a.m. Prayer Meeting - 7 p.m.

**** **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.

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.

Templo Bautista Salem Lockney Rev. Joe Hernandez

Bun 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.

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.

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.

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.

Trinity Luthern Church Providence Community On Fm 2301

293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington, Minister Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11 - a.m.

West Side Church of Christ Floydada 983-2672 Or 470-0950

Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening - 2 p.m.

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AGRICULTURE

City to Pursue Economic **Development Grant with SPAG**

By Kay Ellington The Hesperian-Beacon

In its last meeting of 2016 the Floydada City Council voted to pursue a \$100,000 economic development grant with the assistance of the South Plains Association of Governments.

The grant requires a \$10,000 match, but if the city receives the grant, it can be used to help existing businesses expand or to attract new businesses. The requirement for the grant is that the business

It is a Texas Community Development Block Grant and the council voted unanimously to authorize SPAG to write the grant application for the Small and Micro-Enterprise Revolving Fund.

The council also voted to authorize a contract with Caprock Business Finance Corporation for the operation and administration of the potential award.

Caprock BFC is a non-profit entity created under the auspices of SPAG. Caprock BFC makes

low interest and longer term loans to small businesses for the purpose of job creation. The city would use Caprock BFC to utilize the grant funds as a part of a small business loan and job incentive program.

In other council action, Jesse Finley was introduced to the council as the new director of the Floydada Economic Development Corporation. He shared a first pass draft of an annual budget and said that he was working on a program of work for the fis-

Annual water level measurements in progress

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) personnel are now making water level measurements to determine the effect of 2016 pumping on groundwater levels in the aquifers within the district's 16-county service area.

Measurements are made annually in a network of more than 1,400 privately-owned water wells. These observation wells are spaced at a density of about one well per nine square miles throughout the district.

After the measurement is

made, a blue vinyl sticker with levels. the observation well number, the ment, and the date of the measurement is affixed to the well within its service area. equipment or other appropriate

surface near the well site.

the same wells in the observation well network each year as long as the individual wells are accessible in an annual water level measureand continue to provide satisfac-

The current depth-to-water level measurements in individual wells are compared to those of average annual change in water at www.hpwd.org.

In recent years, the district has depth-to-water level measure- established a network of observation wells in the Dockum Aquifer

These water level data are made available to the public through an HPWD personnel measure interactive observation well map on the district's web site (map. hpwd.org) as well as publication ment report.

Additional information about the water level measurement program is available by contacting HPWD at (806) 762-0181 or previous years to determine the by visiting the district's web site

2017 Texas Farm-Ranch-Wildlife Expo

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

Abilene, Texas - For the 18th year, the Abilene Chamber of Commerce and the Taylor County AgriLife Extension Service are proud to co-host the 2017 Texas Farm Ranch and Wildlife Expo (TFRWE) on Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Taylor County Expo Center in Abilene, Texas.

This year's Texas Farm, Ranch and Wildlife Expo features over 155 booths with over 90 exhibitors. Vendors will showcase products and services directly related to wildlife, ranching, and agri-business, and displays can be viewed on the coliseum floor, mezzanine area and outdoor. Admission is free.

Along with the great displays, the educational programs available will be very timely for those invested in agriculture, ranching and wildlife. The Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association will hold its annual meeting Tuesday morning followed by the annual

Range Management seminar, Wildlife Management Seminar and Cotton Production Conference will also be held on Tuesday. The Town and Country Women's Fair, coordinated by the Family & Consumer Sciences Committee, will begin in the morning and continue throughout the early afternoon.

The 2017 farm show has lots of new and exciting seminars for all involved in agriculture including renowned Hangin' Tree Cowdog trainer Charlie Trayer who will feature demonstrations throughout the two-day event.

Are you one of the many Texans suffering from feral hog damage? Lone Star Trapping will feature feral hog removal seminars and will demonstrate a new way to remove the invasive species on your land utilizing cellular technology.

The first-ever Cattlemen's Collective sponsored by Central Texas Farm Credit, Capital Farm Credit and Lonestar Ag Credit will take place Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Country

luncheon. A Big Country Hall. Featuring CattleFax analyst Lance Zimmerman of Castle Rock, Colo., the Cattlemen's Collective

will discuss the 2017 market outlook for the cattle industry. The dinner and seminar is free for the first 300 registrants. The Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Scholarship Luncheon, sponsored by United Rentals, will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m. in the Big Country Hall. The luncheon will feature 2016 Abilene Citizen of the Year, Donna Albus, recognition of the Farm Family of the Year and entertainment from AISD band Revolution. A portion of each table sale will go directly toward agriculture scholarships for youth in the Big Country area. Call (325) 677-7241 to reserve your spot for lunch or register online at www.abilenechamber.com, seating is limited.

For booth information, sponsorship opportunities or a tentative schedule of events, please visit abilenechamber. com or email at kimbosher@ abilenechamber.com.

Hybrid wheat breeding gets almost \$1 million USDA investment

By Adam Russell

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

COLLEGE STATION -Texas A&M AgriLife Research wheat breeders will continue to build on their development of

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hybrid wheat varieties through a joint grant with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the International Wheat Yield Partnership are jointly funding a three-year grant for \$975,000. The grant, titled "Developing the Tools and Germplasm for Hybrid Wheat" will involve Texas A&M's Dr. Amir Ibrahim, a wheat breeder in College Station, and Dr. Jackie Rudd, a wheat breeder in Amarillo.

The first year of funding has been released with the last two years subject to release based

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By Ace Reid

upon continued progress in the grant research. The project will be led by Dr.

Stephen Baenziger, University of Nebraska-Lincoln small grains breeder; and also include Dr. Bhoja Basnet, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, known as CIMMYT, hybrid wheat breeder, El Batan, Mexico; Dr. Friedrich Longin, University of Hohenheim wheat breeder, Stuttgart, Germany; Dr. Jesse Poland, Kansas State University geneticist, Manhattan, Kansas; and Dr. Jochen Reif, Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Science department head, Gatersleben, Germany.

Individually, the project team has made great strides in the U.S. and abroad toward developing the tools to foster hybrid wheat development to maximize wheat yield potential, Ibrahim said.

Using an integrated approach involving in-house germplasm, chemical hybridizing agents, breeding, phenotyping, genomic selection and quantitative trait loci mapping, the researchers expect this project to help create scientific and germplasm foundations for successfully launching the hybrid wheat industry in the U.S.

To feed a larger global population with increasing dietary needs, Ibrahim said wheat yields need to increase by 1.7 percent per year. Currently, yields are only increasing 0.9 percent annually. Ibrahim said hybrid crops have

increased vigor over the two parents in yield and other traits. In hybrids, the female parent does not produce viable pollen, but is used as a seed plant. The male parent has the role of pollinator. Together they have the capacity to combine and express hybrid

For wheat, past conventional breeding efforts increased hybrid vigor about 10 percent, but Ibrahim said they want to get producers.

"We believe hybrid wheat, which is more climate resilient than pure-line wheat, can contribute to achieving this goal," he

Ibrahim said there are two systems for producing seed: chemical hybridization agents, which kill the anthers on the female; and the male sterility system, which includes breeding females and males separately and making selections based on the best combination.

The effort now is aimed at developing cytoplasmic malesterile females and male parents by breeding fertility restoration genes into them, he said. A minimum of three fertility restoration genes is needed in the males. This genetic system is very slow.

Ibrahim and Baenziger have been working jointly toward the development of hybrid wheat since 2013, testing more than 600 lines of hybrid wheat varieties in



that figure in the range of 15-20 Texas A&M AgriLife Research will play a role in the developpercent to make it attractive to ment of hybrid wheat to maximize wheat yield potential.

Nebraska and Texas.

In this new project, the objectives will include continued screening of these two large wheat breeding programs for the floral and plant traits needed for efficient hybrid seed production and hybrid performance.

The researchers are also tasked with creating and testing hybrids to establish and confirm heterotic pools in wheat, and to genotype the lines going into the heterotic pools to improve algorithms to separate lines into maximum likelihood pools for future testing and validation.

Additionally, they will map restorer genes and create a series of cytoplasmic male sterility, or CMS, tester lines - the maintainer lines - and a series of elite restorer lines, or R-lines, to begin to determine the efficacy of CMSbased hybrid systems.

Ibrahim said it will take several more years to successfully maximize hybrid vigor, but through this collaboration the first commercially available and affordable hybrid wheat seed should be available to producers sooner.

GINS From Page 1

120,000." He indicated that this volume would break the gin's previous records.

Floydada Co-Op was not alone. Several area gins indicated that 2016 could be a potential record-breaking year. On Friday all ginners said it was a good year, if not a record-breaking year, and none of the area gins contacted were finished ginning. Most indicated it would be in January, some even said late January before they were done.

Here's an at-a-glance at area gin activity:

co an ac a gianec.		9	
Darty Gin	27,084	Not finished	
Scott Gin	16,441	Not finished	
Floydada Co-Op Gin	65,000	Not finished	
Lockney Co-Op Gin	26,518	Not finished	
D&J Gin	32,522	Not finished	
Barwise Gin was not available at press time.			

27,084	Not finished		
16,441	Not finished		
65,000	Not finished		
26,518	Not finished		
32,522	Not finished		
Barwise Gin was not available at press time.			
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the winners were Anissa Guerrero and Tevin Phillips.

Floyd County Sheriff Paul Raissez was re-elected in the March 1 Republican primary garnering 797 votes to Jesse Finley's 577. Turn-out was robust for a primary-1,505 out 7,796 eligible voters. The candidates for 110th District Attorney and the 19th Congressional would be determined by a run-off. The Floydada City Council cancelled elections for District 1 and District 4 due to non-contested races. Corey Speed challenged Gabriel de la Fuente for the at-large city council seat. Lockney and Floydada both advanced to bi-district in One Act Play competition in March. Floydada High School's BPA website design team of Remington Ricketts, Kaylee Morren, and Macee Brotherton placed first in the state, qualifying them to head to nationals to compete. The Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt provided family fun on March 27. Don Hardy and Kelly Chadwick were inducted into the Amarillo Motor Sports Hall of

In April Lockney won their UIL District meet. The Science Team placed first and advanced to regionals for the fourth consecutive year. Overall, 22 LHS students advanced to regionals. Lockney also won district in baseball, coming from behind to beat the Ralls Jackrabbits, 10-6, to win the title outright. The Lockney Lady Horns softball team finished third in their district and advanced to Area playoffs by sweeping two bi-district games with Gruver. Floydada baseball advanced to bi-district playoffs taking on Smyer. Floydada High School won third place at UIL District, and 17 students advanced to regionals. The Floyd County 4-H Rifle Team advanced to state. Little Texas was the headliner for the 21st Annual Gala at the Unity Center in Muncy which set a record for fundraising, bringing in more than \$75,000. The Lockney Chamber recognized Renee Armstrong as the Citizen of the Year and Davis Lumber as the Business of the Year. The Floydada Clinic announced a



new family nurse practitioner, Jennifer Haterius. Two ballot initiatives forecast change in the future for Lockney—sale of alcohol and an option to change Lockney to a city manager form of government.

Big changes came to Lockney in May: 1. It went wet; 2. It approved a city manager form of government; 3. It approved the school bond vote; 4. It elected a new mayor; 5. It elected a new school board member. The new mayor was Archie Jones, who has worked at Atmos Energy for 25 years. He received 230 votes to Tina Graves' 143. Jones served with the Lockney Chamber of Commerce for five years and was Lockney Citizen of the Year in 2013. Kirk Wilson gained a seat on the Lockney school board by defeating Joe Smith 255 to 208. Floydada voted for change in its one city election. Corey Speed defeated Gabriel de la Fuente for a contested at-large seat 81 to 73. The Lockney UIL Science Team won the state 2A title. Luke Kasner won the bronze medal in prose. Macee Brotherton of Floydada finished fourth at state in ready writing. The Lockney baseball won Bi-District by sweeping Tahoka in two games; then swept Kress for the Area championship; then forced a three-game playoff to win the Regional Quarterfinals over the West Texas Comanches. The Longhorns lost to Albany in the Regional Semi-finals to end their season. The Lockney Lady Horns claimed the Area softball crown by sweeping Van Horn in a twogame series and then swept Forsan to claim the Regional Quarterfinals title. The Lady Longhorns lost a one-game playoff in the Regional Semi-finals to Windhorst

to end their season. Tevin Phillips, Haley Walker and Jaden Butler represented Lockney at the UIL state track meet. Walker and Butler both finished second in discus and Phillips finished sixth in long jump. Floydada swept Smyer in their bi-district playoff but fell to West Texas in their Area playoff game. Luke Kasner was named valedictorian and Jake Moore was named salutatorian at Lockney High School. Roxann Chavarria was named valedictorian and Kirby Nixon was named salutatorian at Floydada High School. The 87th Annual Old Settlers' Day in Floydada featured a barbecue cook-off, open house at the museum, wildflower show, and street dance.

In June, theft hit Floydada again, as a security camera captured a break-in at the Dairy Queen and thieves made off with \$16,000 worth of tires and wheels at Reagor-Dykes Chevrolet. Law enforcement actively sought citizens' assistance in solving these crimes.

solving these crimes.

The Floydada Chamber of Commerce hosted a city-wide garage sale. Karis Carstensen of Lockney won a \$1,500 scholarship from the America's Farmers Grow Ag Leaders sponsored by Monsanto Fund. Lockney Lady Horn pitcher Rachel Coates was named to the 2A All State softball team. Daylen Gatica was named co-MVP and Mark McGowen was named Pitcher MVP for District 3-2A baseball. Tanner Smith announced his candidacy as a write-in candidate for County Commissioner, Precinct 1.

Beer and wine sales began in July in Lockney at the Lowes grocery store and the Allsup's convenience store. To celebrate the Fourth of July the Lowes grocery store in

Floydada held its annual hot dog and hamburger lunch and Lockney held its annual bike parade. The 53rd Harmony Plains Singing School celebrated its week of song and fellowship in Cone. At the Floydada Rotary club Karen Houchin was succeeded in the presidency by Clar Schacht. A strong thunderstorm which broke nine transmission poles forced Lighthouse Electric crews to work all night long to repair the damage. The Floyd County Commission voted to demolish the old jail located on the courthouse grounds. The Texas Interscholastic League Foundation awarded Jace Klein and Levi Kasner \$8,000 in scholarships based on their UIL participation. Klein was a three-time 2A State Science champion. Kasner and Klein were both members of the 2016 Lockney team that won the 2A State Science

In August, Western Equipment, based in Clinton, Oklahoma acguired Ray Lee Equipment, which has six John Deere implement stores in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico, including the one in Floydada. Tommy Lyles announced his candidacy as a write-in candidate for County Commission, Precinct 1. First United Methodist Church of Lockney held its fifth annual Festival of Tables fundraiser. Lockney Ol' Fashion Saturday was held with a scholarship pageant, car show, knockerball tournament and street dance. Floydada school teachers held in-service training to get ready for the new school year. Meet the Whirlwinds introduced the community to the new football team, and Lockney hosted a back-to-school movie. Community volunteers helped a new Ag teacher get the Ag barn ready for a new school year. Sixty-four members of 4-H received their pins at the 4-H Achievement banquet. Tracy Turner of Floydada retired after 30 years with the U.S. Postal Service. Floydada ISD earned the state's highest fiscal accountability rating. Floydada and Lockney both won their season openers, prevailing over Slaton and Smyer respectively.

The biennial Floydada Homecoming and the Battle of Floyd County both came together on the weekend of September 9 as well as

the 125th Anniversary of First Baptist Church of Floydada. Floydada school exes came in from around the world to be a part of all of the celebrations. The Floydada Whirlwinds shut out the Lockney Longhorns 39-0 to capture the county championship. The Floyd County 4-H Fundraiser to help the South Plains Honor Flight was held on September 18. Lockney had its homecoming September 23. First Baptist Church of Lockney celebrated its 125th Anniversary September 25. The Lockney Rotary Club presented a \$5,000 check to the Lockney LIFE Foundation to go toward a scholarship fund for deserving seniors. The Floydada Cross Country team took first place at the Lockney Cross Country meet.

October kicked off with the biennial Join in the Journey Women's Christian Conference on October 1 held this year at the First Baptist Church of Floydada. Since 2007 this day of inspirational talks and music has been a fundraiser for the Christian Women's Job Corps. Lockney ISD received a \$10,000 educational grant from Monsanto. The 29th Annual Punkin Day was held in Floydada with a chili cookoff, pie-eating contest, costume contest, cake walk, street dance and more. The old jail was demolished on the courthouse grounds. Darty Gin in Dougherty baled the first bale of cotton in Floyd County on October 11. D&J Gin in Lockney baled the first bale of cotton in Lockney on October 14. Floydada and Lockney both held trunk or treats for Halloween. The Floydada boys' cross-country team finished as district runner-up, earning the right to go to regionals in Lubbock. At regionals their fourth-place finish qualified them to go to state. The Floydada band won back-to-back Division 1's and the Lockney Band earned a Division 1. October was not a kind month to Floyd County football teams. At month's end in district play, both Floydada and Lockney were 0-3.

For the first time in several years neither Floyd County football team made the playoffs. A tough season for the Longhorns and the Whirlwinds came to a close in early November with both teams finish-

ing 3-7. Donald Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in Floyd County, and write-in candidate Tanner Smith defeated Mike Anderson for County Commission, precinct 1.

Floydada ISD Gilbert Trevino was named to a statewide task force on rural schools. Lockney's EDC and the City of Lockney launched a community-wide effort to install the new playground equipment they had attained for their city park. Floydada and Lockney schools honored veterans with special events at each school. First United Methodist Church Lockney held a community wide event for people of all churches to come together for a special service with food donations to the Salvation Army. The Floydada boys' basketball team opened their season with a win over Morton. The Lockney boys' basketball team opened their season with a win over Ralls.

December was all about the community chipping in to help others. Prosperity Bank Floydada continued its U Can Share food drive tradition with South Plains Food Bank. All food and funds for this campaign helped to address hunger in Floydada. Operation Christmas Child sent almost 500 gifts to needy children around the world with First Baptist Church of Floydada being a donation facility. The volunteer program, The Spirit of Christmas, helped make sure that everyone got a good hot meal on Christmas. The Floydada Chamber hosted its second annual Santa on the Square. Lockney hosted a world of Nativity scenes at the Dove Room sponsored by Hospice Hands. The Cowboy Christmas Ball was held at the Unity Center with portions of the proceeds to benefit local fire departments. The Lockney boys' basketball team won the Abernathy tournament. Floyd County received a good audit at the end of 2016. Apex Wind Energy donated bullet-proof vests to the Sheriff's department. Producers Coop donated body armor to the Sheriff's Department. Rose-Moore Funeral Home held a special luncheon to recognize first responders. Jesse Finley was named to head up the Floydada Economic Development Corporation.



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