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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018

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Candidates in contested primary races answer questions

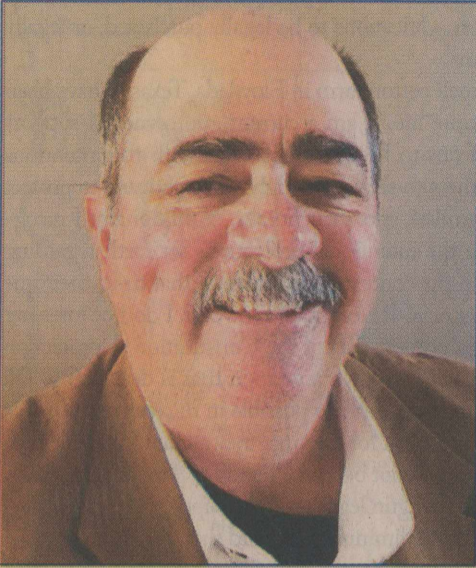
By Kay Ellington
 The Hesperian-Beacon

Four candidates are running in two contested

races in Floyd County in the March 6 Primary. Two are running for Floyd County treasurer—incumbent Lori Morales and her challenger, Elva Martinez, a former county treasurer.

Two are running for Precinct 2 on the county commission. Linden Morris, the incumbent, and his challenger, Clint Bingham of Lockney. All four candidates agreed to answer

questions about their background, experience and interest in elective office. All received the same questionnaire, and their responses can be found here.



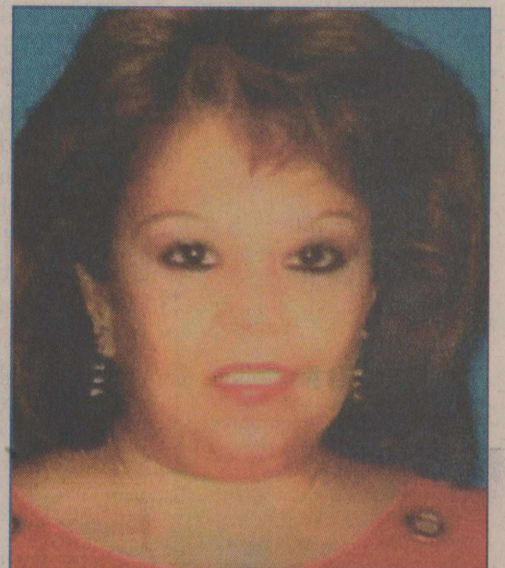
Linden Morris – County Commissioner, Precinct 2



Clint Bigham – Candidate for County Commission – Precinct 2



Lori Morales – County treasurer



Elva Martinez – Candidate for County Treasurer

Where were born and where did you grow up?

Born in Plainview 1958. Moved to Floydada 1960. I had a great childhood walking to the movies, playing baseball, fishing and hunting as often as possible.

Can you tell us about your education and your family?

I graduated Floydada High in 1976, attended Angelo State and West Texas State. I have completed almost 200 hours of continuing education through the Texas Association of Counties. July 1, my wife D'Lyn and I will celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary. We have two sons, Trevor and wife, Katelynn; Tanner and wife, Kaci and two grandsons, Deacon and Anson.

See **MORRIS**, Page 9

Where were born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Plainview, Texas raised in Lockney my whole life

Can you tell us about your education and your family?

I graduated from Lockney High School in 1991 and I attended West Texas State University for two years. I am married to Teresa and between us we have five children, Tanille, Tabetha, Christian, Sydney, and Wyatt. Our family has resided in Floyd County since 1957 and has been actively involved in farming since.

How long have you lived in Floyd County?

I have resided in Floyd county all of my life.

Where do you work and for how long?

I have been the farm manager for Eddie

See **BIGHAM**, Page 9

Where were born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Lockney and was raised in Floydada.

Can you tell us about your education and your family?

I graduated from Floydada High School in 1988. I have two wonderful sons, Troy Morales and Sean Morales. Both live in San Antonio.

How long have you lived in Floyd County?

My entire life, born and raised.

Where do you work and for how long?

I work for Floyd County. I began in 2009, and I presently hold the office as the Floyd County Treasurer.

Why did you decide to run for office?

I was appointed by the Commissioner's Court on March 10, 2014. I was willing to take

See **MORALES**, Page 9

Where were born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Lockney, and I grew up in Dougherty.

Can you tell us about your education and your family?

I went to school in Dougherty then transferred from Dougherty to Floydada to continue my education. I graduated from Floydada High School in 1980. My parents were Joe and Lila Martinez from Dougherty. I have one sister, Elda Martinez from Floydada. I have five brothers Tony of Dougherty, David, Robert Lee and Johnny Joe all of Floydada and a brother, Lee Roy that lives in Plainview.

How long have you lived in Floyd County?

See **MARTINEZ**, Page 9

Ex-student makes shooting threat

By Kay Ellington
 The Hesperian-Beacon

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, the Floydada Police Department said that an ex-student made shooting threats against Floydada High School.

Noah Sarabia, 18, was charged with making a terroristic threat, according to Floydada police.

The Floydada police said Sarabia withdrew from the school last week. They said he returned to the school to return property Tuesday.

While he was on campus,

Floydada police said Sarabia posted a Snapchat image of the carpet with the caption "school shooter." The police said he also took a photo of the front of Floydada High School.

According to police, high school staff notified the department about the threats.

"Sgt. Ramon, the Fisd School Resource Officer, worked quickly to identify the suspect and have a Warrant issued for his arrest for Terroristic Threat," according to the Floydada Police Face-



Courtesy photo

Floydada Police arrested former Floydada High student, Noah Sarabia, 18, on charges of a terroristic threat.

book post.

Sarabia was taken into custody in Crosby County, according to the post, and he is being held in the Lubbock County Jail.

Longhorns outlast Whirlwinds for Bi-District Crown



Courtesy Photo/Lockney ISD Facebook

Lockney Longhorns defeated the Floydada Whirlwinds 78-73 to claim the Bi-District Championship at the Rip Griffin Center at Lubbock Christian University on Feb. 20. Lockney fell to Sanford-Fritch 80-76 in the Area Championship on Feb. 23.

By Charles Keaton
 The Hesperian-Beacon

after biennial UIL Realignment

LUBBOCK – In the battle of Floyd County schools, the Lockney Longhorns eliminated the Floydada Whirlwinds in the Bi-District Class 2A playoffs 78-73 on Feb. 20 at the Rip Griffin Center at Lubbock Christian University for the second year in a row. For the next two years, the two teams have been assigned to the same district

The two teams battled to a 19-19 tie after the first quarter. In the second quarter, the Whirlwinds appeared to take control of the game, outscoring the Longhorns 26-16 to take a 45-35 lead into half-time. The Longhorns did not give up, cutting into the 10-point lead by outscoring the Whirlwinds 20-15 in the third quarter. The two teams

See **BI-DISTRICT**, Page 9

Bandy steps down as Whirlwinds football coach

By Charles Keaton
 The Hesperian-Beacon

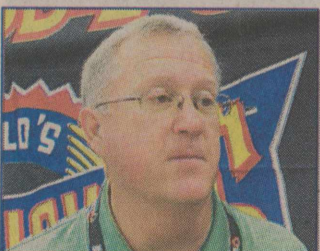
FLOYDADA – Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Todd Bandy announced Feb. 21, that he was stepping down as the football coach. Bandy will continue with his duties as Athletic Director.

"I just felt like it was time to step back from the coach-

ing duties," Bandy said. "I'll still help out where I can, but it'll be about coaching coaches instead of kids. I'll help out with track and I'll get to go see cross country meets."

Bandy was the Head Football Coach for nine years, compiling a 32-62 record. The Whirlwinds made the playoffs four times during his tenure, finishing third in

See **BANDY**, Page 9



Courtesy photo

Todd Bandy will step down as Floydada's football coach. He will stay on as Fisd Athletic Director. He won 30 games as football coach.

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.

OLD SETTLER'S ASSN.
 See **UPCOMING**, Page 9

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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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

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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon (USPS 202-680) is published every Thursday, including holidays, by Blackburn Media Group Inc., P.O. Box 1260, Childress, Texas, 79201-1260. Entered at U.S. Post Office, Floydada, Texas, for transmission through the mail as a Second-Class matter, according to an Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Floydada, Texas, 79235. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, 201 W. California, Floydada, Texas, 79235

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CORRECTION

The Hesperian-Beacon has spelled Floydada at-large councilman Cory Speed as Corey Speed in recent coverage about city elections. His name is spelled Cory Speed.

CORRECTION

In the January 22nd edition of the Hesperian-Beacon, a story about the Floydada City election reported,

"The City of Floydada will also have a special election on the May 5 ballot for a one-fourth of one cent sales tax increase."

It should have said, "The ballot initiative will reauthorize ¼ of 1% sales tax for street repair/maintenance. This is not a tax increase just a continuation of the existing street tax."

City Council gets audit, racial profiling report

By Kay Ellington
The Hesperian-Beacon

A representative from Davis Kinard & Co. appeared before the city council with a report on the annual audit. The council approved the audit.

Police Chief Darrell Gooch presented his annual report on racial profiling and concluded that law enforcement's actions reflected the demographics of the area. The council approved the report.

See **AUDIT**, Page 12

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

I wrote and submitted this letter to Senators Cornyn and Cruz, my local congresswoman, our governor, and seek to disseminate it to as many sources as possible in the attempt of continuing, highlighting, and strengthening our national conversation and in the hopes that it will affect positive dialogue and change.

WILL MY CHILD BE MURDERED NEXT???

You are my elected representative. It is your duty to represent the interests and priorities of your constituents, and maybe most importantly, the safety of your constituents. So, I would like to make my position very clear.

Unequivocally, it is my interest, my priority, my safety, and my expectation that you help to develop and pass legislation that will ban all weapons of war for individuals, all modifications that essentially create weapons of war for individuals, and require universal background checks for the purchase of all firearms, in both Texas and the United States of America. If the purpose of the weapon or the modification is to maximize death toll in the shortest period of time, it is my expectation that you will take immediate action to pass legislation banning it for private use. It is my expectation that you help to construct legislation in which there are not loopholes that allow these weapons and modifications to be legally purchased, or legally possessed, by civilians.

I grew up on a small cotton farm in Floydada, Texas. I have been around guns my entire life. I am a current gun owner. I support the right of Americans to bear arms. I agree with the intentions of our founding fathers to secure the right of Americans to protect themselves, their families, and their homes. Additionally, I recognize and appreciate the intentional protections set forth regarding militias, especially in the context and climate of that time, their importance in the American Revolution. However, I do not interpret the 2nd amendment nor any part of the Constitution as protection for any American civilian to own a weapon that is designed to kill the maximum number of people as possible in the shortest possible time. These weapons are not for hunting; they are not for home protection. And they should not be in the hands of American civilians.

If you are worried that gun legislation is a slippery slope, I understand. I do not intend to diminish or discard that fear, or dismiss the possibility that one constraint will lead to another, and another. I understand the fear that if we start down this path, congress could whittle away at the 2nd amendment to a point where it no longer looks anything like the freedoms and rights intended by our founding fathers. It could happen, yes. However, what can be certain is that another mass murder **WILL** happen. If you do not take action now, the mass murder of more innocent people *will* take place. In a church? At a concert? At a school? At my son's school? Will my son be the next victim and I will bury him at the age of 11? Or will he merely be a witness to an unspeakable horror in which he watches his friends and teachers be murdered en masse, that will haunt him, affect him, and terrorize him every single day for the rest of his life?

Arming teachers is not a viable solution. It is an absurd notion that carries significantly more dangers and risks than even the farthest-fetched imaginable benefits. Fences around schools are not the answer. Passing a universal background check system is not the answer, though I believe it is one small piece of the puzzle that I absolutely expect you to help develop legislation for and to pass. Armed guards at every entrance and exit to every school in our nation are not a solution. Bonuses for teachers who bring weapons into my son's classroom are not a solution. Nor are metal detectors. The solution is so painfully obvious. It has been demonstrated over and over again in other countries: gun legislation and restrictions reduce gun violence. It is that simple. This is incontrovertible, evidence-based, results-based **fact**. Your continued failure to enact even the most basic protections for your constituents, for my family, friends and coworkers, **for my son**, is appalling and must be course-corrected immediately. If you fail to do so, you are saying that an individual's desire to own a weapon of war is more important than the life of my son. That may be so, to you. What about the life of your son or daughter? Would you willingly trade your child's life for someone else's hobby? If not, then my expectation is that you *immediately* stop gambling the life of my child for the same.

And to those that own these weapons and/or modifications, please consider this: god forbid it's your gun used to perpetrate one of these unspeakable tragedies. God forbid it is your child, or friend, or family member, and you just missed the signs, you didn't want to believe your loved one capable of something like this, you didn't recognize their devolving stability. God forbid your child or loved one takes your weapon of war and uses it for the purpose for which it is intended: killing as many people as possible in the shortest possible time. Make no mistake, none of the people who have committed these horrendous atrocities have lived in a bubble — they had family, friends, coworkers, roommates, or neighbors. They went to grocery stores and jobs and to school. And now that we are all grappling with the real fear that our child or loved one could potentially be the next victim, imagine the horror, the responsibility, if your weapon is used to murder some else's child. How would you feel if your weapon is used to murder my son? Are you absolved if you merely support someone else's "right" to own a weapon of war that results in the murder of my only son? I do not say this to alienate, but rather to candidly address all of our own private moments of terror. "The man who did this was someone's child, someone's brother, someone's friend. No one I know could ever be capable of such a thing." But that's the point. In our current state, we all, literally **ALL** have been impacted by gun violence. We **ALL** have been horrified at the almost routine murder of our children. Or we've been victims. Or we have known or loved victims. And a small subset of us have known someone who did this. It is terrifying to think that all of us could potentially know someone capable of such an act... It's what no one wants to think about. "My child will be safe at his school; my town is different." or "My child could never do this." But our children's safety simply cannot be taken for granted anymore. Nor can we continue to bury our heads in the sand and assume that no one we know or love could do something like that. *Because reality must be given more authority in our lives than what we want to believe.*

In the aftermath of a preventable, horrific tragedy, it is the *duty* of our elected officials to take steps to prevent another such occurrence. This is not "politicizing a tragedy." It is a sacred responsibility of our elected representatives who are supposed to be serving the American People. There is a problem, we elect you to fix it.

Fix it. Determine that my son's life is more important than someone's hobby.

Help to construct and pass legislation that legally places my son's life at a higher value than an unevolved constitutional amendment from 1789, used out of context, and in the absence of reasonable maturation. Help write this legislation; pursue it. Develop it. And pass it. With your actions, act as my elected representative and prove that my son's life is worth more. Or will you continue to sit by, or worse, resist, and just let him be murdered next?

Brenna Dawdy
Benbrook, TX

Sheriff's Report

January 2nd

Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Chrysler 300 in the 500 block of West Tennessee in the City of Floydada. While the Deputy was talking to the driver, he could smell a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. Deputy conducted a probable cause search of the car, and while searching the vehicle, the driver admitted to having marijuana concealed in his shoe. The driver was identified as David Diaz, 26, of Floydada. Diaz was issued a criminal citation for Possession of Marijuana under two ounces and must appear in County court.

January 3rd

Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of E poplar about a domestic dispute. When the deputy

arrived, he was informed that the male suspect hand slapped his girlfriend and threatened her. Mark Mendez, 30, of Lockney was arrested for Assault family violence and Terroristic threat.

January 4th

Deputy conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of SE 4th Street on a 2004 Toyota Corolla in the City of Lockney. The Deputy conducted a vehicle search and found some marijuana, the driver was identified as Joshua Molina, 20, of Lockney. Molina was issued a criminal citation for Possession of Marijuana under two ounces and released.

January 18th

Deputy was contacted by a complainant that he believed an individual that he had employed had stolen a new role of copper wire along with some old copper wire from his barn in the Northeast part of the county.

January 19th

Sheriff's Office was contacted about a Sexual Assault of a child that had occurred around the year of 2015. This case is under investigation.

January 20th

Deputy was dispatched to 1100 block of FM 784 West of the City of Floydada about an accident. When the Deputy arrived, the driver was taken to W. J. Memorial where the Deputy could smell a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the driver's breath. The driver was identified as Edward Stewart, 48, of Plainview, Texas. Edwards was asked to provide a blood sample so that it can be sent to the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Lab in Lubbock for analyses. The analyses will determine the alcohol concentration in the blood. Stewart had been charged with Driving While Intoxicated.

January 24th

Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of W. Houston Street in the City of Lockney reference to a hit a run. The Complainant informed the Deputy that their 2015 Chevy Suburban had been hit and that the other vehicle had left the scene. A bystander described the vehicle as a tan in color Chevy pick-up. The vehicle was later located by the Deputy in the 100 block of E. Guest Street. The driver was identified as Maximo Nunez, 63, of Lockney. This report was forwarded to the County Attorney's Office.

January 27th

Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of W Poplar Street about an assault. When the Deputy arrived, the complainant informed the Deputy that she had been assaulted by her boyfriend. The boyfriend was identified as Augustine Ascencio, 27, of Lockney. This report has been forwarded to the County Attorney's Office.

January 29th

Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of SW 2nd Street about an assault. When the Deputy arrived, the complainant informed the Deputy that she had been assaulted by her boyfriend who had left the scene before deputies arrived. The boyfriend was identified as Jerald Johnson, 50, of Lockney. Johnson was located a short time later and arrested on an outstanding warrant for TDJC. This report has been forwarded to the County Attorney's Office.

Deputy was contacted by a complainant that someone had stolen eight to twelve batteries from his barn located on FM 28 South of Dougherty. They also informed the Deputy that they attempted to steal a trailer loaded with junk iron but weren't able to take the trailer.

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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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2	NG 3500 XF	\$1,083.00	2137	50.69	35.2	1.10	33.5	3.4	82.3	36.5
3	NG 3517 B2XF	\$880.83	1681	52.39	37.8	1.18	33.3	3.4	83.6	35.0
4	NG 3406 B2XF	\$868.68	1816	47.84	36.8	1.15	30.6	2.9	82.3	33.5
TEST AVERAGE		\$985.37	1939	50.80	37.0	1.16	32.4	3.3	83.0	34.9

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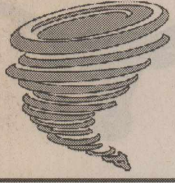


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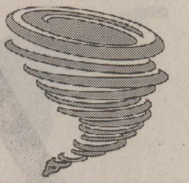
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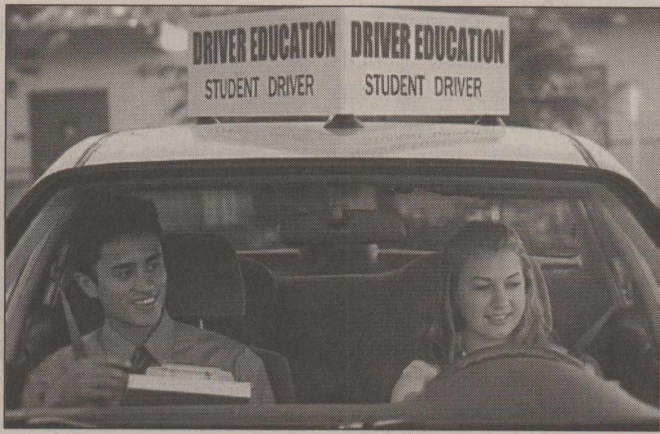


Floydada Whirlwinds



We Need Driver's Education

By Jacob Chavarria
FHS Journalism



Getting a license is something that every teen should do, especially during their high school years. Licenses are a "big deal" because they give you the right to drive legally. Not every teen is able to take time out of their busy schedule during the school year to do an online driving course, and doing it during the summer can be hard because...this is when teens like to hang out with their friends; they don't want to worry about having to do work! Having a solution for driving education would be beneficial to high school students because - let's face it - the alternative is to turn the other cheek when they are driving anyway.

Not every student in high school is able to afford to enroll in private driving courses, nor do they have the time. Teens are notorious for being unable to be pinned down for very long or for arbitrary reasons. Driver's Ed would create an opportunity that favors the real world. Most teenagers can acknowledge the benefit of a well-implemented

course and would celebrate the chance at earning something for themselves.

In its current state, FHS has an abundance of juniors and seniors who would gladly fill their schedules with something like Driver's Ed. Upperclassmen need to be able to earn something tangible with their real-world knowledge and skills, and not doing so when given the chance seems like a waste. In our school, students aren't allowed far from the shackles of the classroom. We are forced into academic pursuits and to adhere to curriculums that are decided by someone else. From a common sense approach, it seems impossible that Driver's Ed ever went away because everyone drives. Logic would dictate

that we need to prepare our youth for transportation. It's sort of a no-brainer that teens would welcome something as basic as this kind of class.

In your hometown, half of the teens on the road are unlicensed and uninsured, and less than half of those are working towards a permit. You might not call it a hazard...yet. Of course, there are circumstances in students' own lives that prevent them from being licensed at the first opportunity, but I still advocate for a school-taught approach to driving because - in Texas - driving is an expectation of most adults. We are morally obligated to protect others on the road...even if it's from ourselves!

Tahoka Defeats Resilient Whirlwinds

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Whirlwinds fought back after falling down by seven runs in the sixth inning. The comeback fell just short though, in an 11-9 defeat to Tahoka on Monday. Whirlwinds scored five runs in the failed comeback on a single by Jeremiah Johnston in the sixth, a single by Devan Perez in the sixth, a groundout by Mike Delafuente in the seventh, and a groundout by Jacob Chavarria in the seventh.

Despite the loss, Whirlwinds did collect eight hits in the high-scoring affair. Unfortunately, Tahoka had nine hits on the way to victory.

Whirlwinds scored three runs in the sixth inning. Whirlwinds' big bats in the inning were led by singles by Johnston and Perez.

Tahoka scored four runs in the sixth inning. Tahoka scored its runs on a grand slam by Brayden Castellon.

Ruben Quinonez got the start for Tahoka. He lasted five and two-thirds innings, allowing six hits and seven runs while striking out nine and walking zero.

Alex Glass led things off on the hill for Whirlwinds. He went four innings, allowing six runs on five hits and striking out five. Perez and Luke Holcombe entered the game as relief, throwing two innings and one inning respectively. Whirlwinds scattered eight hits in the game. Perez and

Glass each had multiple hits for Whirlwinds. Glass and Perez each managed two hits to lead Whirlwinds. Whirlwinds was sure-handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Jose Lira had the most chances

in the field with ten.

Tahoka racked up nine hits. Castellon, Juwan Hamilton, and Quinonez all collected multiple hits for Tahoka. Castellon went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead Tahoka in hits.

Tahoka (TX) 11 - 9 Whirlwinds

Home Non-League Monday, February 19th, 2018

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
THK	0	0	4	0	3	4	0	11	9	5
FLYD	0	0	2	0	2	3	2	9	8	0

BATTING

Floydada	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
D Perez	4	1	2	1	0	0	1
A Suarez	4	2	1	1	0	2	3
M Martinez	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A Glass	4	1	2	1	0	0	1
J Lira	4	1	1	0	0	1	3
E Ibarra	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
M Delafue...	2	1	0	1	0	0	1
J Chavarria	4	0	0	1	0	1	1
A Martinez	3	1	0	0	0	2	1
R Glass	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
G DeLaFuen...	2	1	0	0	0	2	0
L Holcombe	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
J Johnston	3	1	1	1	0	0	1
Totals	34	9	8	6	0	11	4

1B: Perez 2, Glass, Lira, Glass, Johnston 2B: Suarez, Glass TB: Perez 2, Suarez 2, Glass 3, Lira, Glass, Johnston SB: Perez, Glass, Delafuente, Martinez, DeLaFuente, Johnston 2

PITCHING

Floydada	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
A Glass	4.0	5	6	6	2	5	0
D Perez	2.0	3	5	4	1	3	1
L Holcombe	1.0	1	0	0	1	2	0
Totals	7.0	9	11	10	4	10	1

HBP: Glass, Perez, Holcombe P-S: Glass 56-39, Perez 44-26, Holcombe 25-13

GAMECHANGER Scorekeeping, Stats, Live Game Updates, gc.com

Be the early bird. Waking up early can help late-night stress to subside

By Jacob Chavarria
FHS Journalism

As a high school or college student, there are always times when you forget to do a paper or you go "hang out" with friends. Then you remember that you have not done that one paper or essay you have to do. By the time you start this paper it may be almost midnight or about time when you should be going to sleep. And when you get this paper done it is late and you have to start getting up to get ready for school in about 4 or 5 hours. As a young teen I to have fell in this same position at times. Recently I have found that going to bed at a decent time and doing that work you forgot about early in the morning is very beneficial. Doing the work in the morning is useful because your more alert and you still get a decent amount of sleep.

When you stay up late to finish whatever assignments you owe, majority of the time you are just trying to get the work done with. By the time you remember about this work you might have already been asleep or you could have had a long exhausting day. So now your just trying to get that work done so you can go to sleep. This means that the quality of the work isn't going to be as

excellent as it should be. However if you wake up early to do your work your brain and body has had time to rest and now you can think clearly. Now you not stressed about going to bed at a reasonable time in-friars. Instead you're just worried about getting the paper done in time, but if you give yourself enough time to work this is no big deal. Not only does getting up early help getting your work done but it can also help your sleep amount increase.

As a teen in high school sleep is very important especially to keep you active and making sure your focused when you get to school. Even though we know how important sleep is to us we never seem to go to sleep at a reasonable time during a school week. You may ask why this is? Majority of the time the answer is that the student stayed up late to do work. If most students went to bed early and woke up early they could still get a decent amount of time to work while getting 6-7 hours of sleep. While 6 or 7 hours is not a very great amount of sleep for teens it is still better then 3 or none at all. Most teens can go to bed between 10 and 11 and depending on the amount of work they have get up at about 5 AM to start working. Why this sound very early it still allows student that

6-7 hours of sleep.

A recent survey showed that 86 percent of students said they gave up sleep to finish work. This could all change by teens making a switch in their choices they make. Parents should be aware of their student's habits and see the impact of doing work in the morning versus doing work at late hours of the night. So to help teens get more sleep they should change from doing work at night to getting up early and doing work all while getting a decent amount of sleep to where the student isn't falling asleep in classes.

State qualifying brass ensemble



Courtesy Photo
These FISD students played in a State Qualifying Brass Ensemble:
Destiny Marmolejo, Ryder Glass, Jerry Reyes, Kyle Bruington, Alonzo Ascencio, Dylan Ramos and Angela Vega

FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU

March 5 - March 9

Monday

Breakfast - Apple cinnamon muffin, cereal, fresh fruit selection, milk
Lunch - Beef & bean burrito, cheeseburger, seasoned refried beans, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

TUESDAY

Breakfast - Sausage roll, fresh fruit, milk
Lunch - Creamy macaroni & cheese, BBQ beef sandwich, baked beans, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast - Turkey pancake breakfast on a stick, cereal, fresh fruit, milk
Lunch - Chicken nuggets w/ roll, Sloppy Joe sandwich, seasoned, mashed potatoes, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

THURSDAY

Breakfast - Sausage breakfast pizza, graham crackers, fresh fruit, milk
Lunch - Chicken parmesan, cheese pizza, peppered corn fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

FRIDAY

Breakfast - Sugar Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, graham cracker, fresh fruit, milk
Lunch - Crispy fish & chips w/roll, ham & cheese sub, fresh fruit, vegetable bar, milk

State qualifying woodwinds ensemble



Courtesy Photo
These FISD students played in a State Qualifying Woodwind Ensemble:
Brianna Casillas, Allison Muniz, Cassandra Cervera, Donald Gibbns, Kim Rios, Jacob Johnston, Dusty Prisk, Aliana Gonzales, Audrie Strange, James Gibbns, Angela Vega, LaMychal Henderson and Destiny Marmolejo

No Floydada School Board election in May

By Kay Ellington
The Hesperian-Beacon

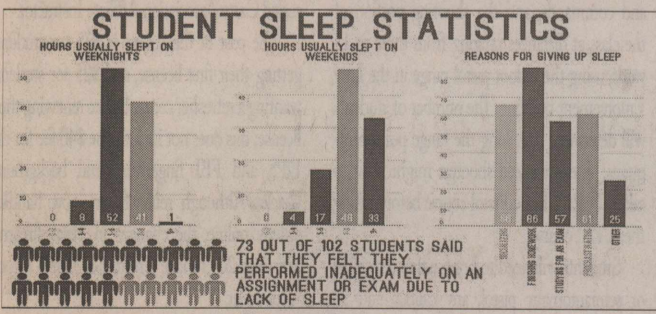
tested positions on the ballot for May 5. Both incumbents have filed to run again, but drew no opponents; so, there will not be a school board election in Floydada on May 5.

The Floydada Independent School District has two uncon-

tested positions on the ballot for

For FISD the District 1 position currently held by Roger Hughes and the District 2 position currently held by Dr.

William Dean are both up for re-election. Both incumbents filed, but drew no opponents. So they both will serve the next term.



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Lockney Longhorns

Longhorns fall to Sanford-Fritch in Area playoff

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

AMARILLO – Lockney could not make the magic happen two games in a row as the Sanford-Fritch Eagles held off a Longhorn comeback at Canyon Randall High School on Friday, Feb. 23, defeating Lockney 80-76.

The Eagles jumped out to a 10-point lead in the first quarter, outscoring the Longhorns 23-13. In the second quarter, the Longhorns pulled to within one point at halftime, outscoring the Eagles 26-17 but the Eagles had the 40-39 lead at the half. Sanford-Fritch put the heat back on Lockney,

as they outscored the Longhorns 22-14 to take a 62-53 lead after three quarters. Lockney made a game of it in the fourth quarter as they outscored the Eagles 23-18, but it wasn't enough as Sanford-Fritch took home the Area title, 80-76. The Eagles move on to take on Stratford, a 59-35 winner over Post.

For Lockney, Jaden Rosales had 28 points and Chris Emert had 22 points to lead the Longhorns.

For Sanford-Fritch, Brayden Fry had 36 points and Sam Plumley had 20 points to lead the Eagles.

Lockney finishes their season with a 20-9 record

Dietrich announced as new SPC Plainview Center Director

PLAINVIEW – South Plains College Plainview Center has announced the hiring of Jolee Dietrich as the Director for the SPC Plainview Center. She begins her new post on March 5.

Prior to coming to SPC, Dietrich worked at Escabado Middle School for Plainview Independent School District as the registrar and technologist, a position she held since May 2015. She was responsible for technology integration, student registration, and records management. From August 2010 to May 2015, Dietrich served as a Career and Technical Education teacher and technologist. She was responsible for troubleshooting technology issues for the faculty and staff as well as implementing online-based instruction. Dietrich also served as the advisor for the National Junior Honor Society.

Dietrich served as a CTE business teacher at Lockney Independent School District for three years, prior to her position at PISD. She taught business courses and served on the Technology Site Based Committee. She was a member of the Floyd County AgriLife Committee that helped educate teachers, students and community members on a diverse array of programs and resources for West Texas.

Prior to her time at Lockney ISD, Dietrich also worked in the Academic Records as a Degree Evaluator at Wayland Baptist University. She updated and audited student files and calculated student Grade Point Average for graduation and eligibility. She advised degree plans for freshmen, soph-

omore and transfer students at the Plainview campus and 13 external campuses.

"I love challenges," she said. "I see it as an opportunity for growth."

"Throughout the years, I've taken groups of local students to South Plains College to tour facilities and meet instructors," she said. "SPC has amazing programs, faculty and staff."

Dietrich added, "I would like to bridge the path from our West Texas public schools to success in life. I look forward to helping all area students reach their full potential and achieve post-secondary education."

"The SPC family is thrilled to welcome Jolee Dietrich," said Dr. Ryan Gibbs, vice president for academic affairs. "Jolee is a well-established and respected member of the greater Plainview Community. Her personal and professional contacts will prove to be instrumental in the continued growth of the SPC Plainview Center."

Dietrich received her bachelor of Business Administration and master of Education from Wayland Baptist University.

She is active in the Providence community where her family lives and farms. She enjoys spending time with her family, reading, and traveling. Dietrich and her husband, Aaron, are the parents of Andrew, 8, and Adam, 4.

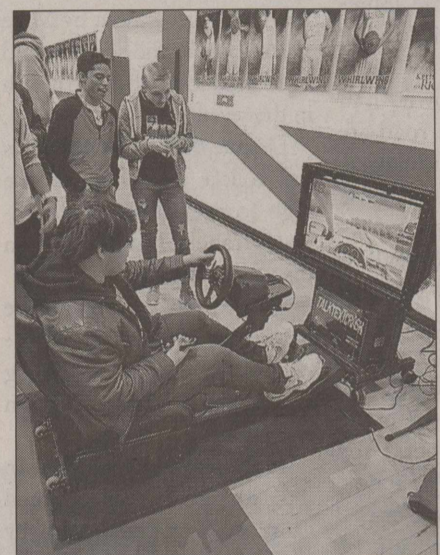
Dietrich will be honored with a Welcome Reception on April 5 from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 102 at the SPC Plainview Center. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, contact Dane Dewbre, associate dean of Marketing and Recruitment, at (806) 716-2210.

Watch UR BAC Program Comes to Floyd County

By Amy Kress
CEA-FCH, Floyd County

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), has a campaign, Watch UR BAC, to teach Texans about the dangers of alcohol and other drugs misuse—including binge drinking, the understanding of alcohol poisoning as well as the dangers of impaired driving. The Watch UR BAC program is a free resource to Texas community groups, faith-based organizations, schools, and businesses. Watch UR BAC is an awareness campaign that refers to blood alcohol concentration (BAC) which is used as a measure of the

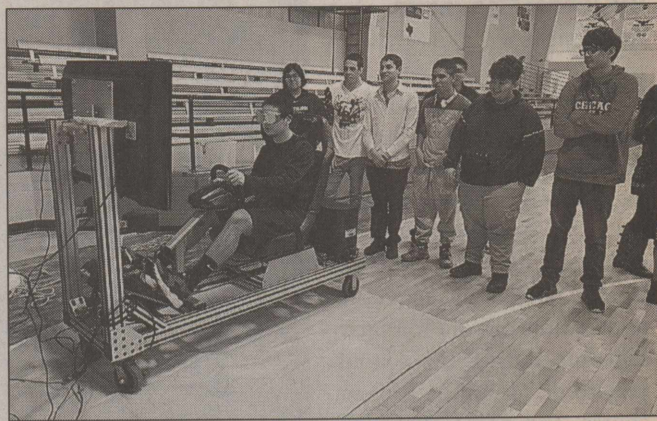


degree of intoxication of an individual. Binge drinking is a continuing problem in Texas, and most who binge drink do not know the amount and effects of the alcohol they are consuming.

In 2017 there were 3,315 fatal motor vehicle crashes and of these crashes, 1,073 were caused by a driver under the influence. The average BAC of a driver in a fatal DUI crash is 0.157 – almost twice the legal limit. With the support of the Floyd County Commissioners' Court, County Extension Agents, Amy Kress and Cristen Brooks implemented the Watch UR BAC program in Floyd County. On February 12,

the Floyd County Extension Office and members of the Watch UR BAC team hosted a special training for local law enforcement. Bobbi Brooks, program manager, and Denise Klaus, program assistant, provided information about emerging alcohol and drug trends and ways to recognize signs of abuse along with prevention methods.

Eighty Floydada High School juniors and seniors and sixty Lockney High School juniors and seniors participated in assemblies on February 13 and February 14 educating students about driving while intoxicated, alcohol poisoning, and binge drinking. On both days after a short assembly hosted by Bobbi Brooks and Denise Klaus, students participated in four hands-on activities. The first rotation was the DWI (driving while intoxicated) prevention simulator which is used to demonstrate the effect of alcohol and other drugs on driving skills. Through a video game atmosphere, drivers experience obstacles and hazards to simulate those that one might encounter if driving impaired. Fatal Vision© goggles, which distort vision, are worn by the driver during the simulation experience to further duplicate the effect of alcohol or other drugs on one's vision. The next station was a Distracted Driving simulator which is similar to the DWI prevention simulator, however students are asked to use their phone and other distractions while driving in order to experience the risks. In the third hands-on activity, students went through a series of standard field sobriety tests, conducted by deputies from the Floyd County Sheriff's Office, while wearing the Fatal Vision© goggles. The last activity utilized goggles simulating the effects of marijuana use; students performed activities involving their decision-

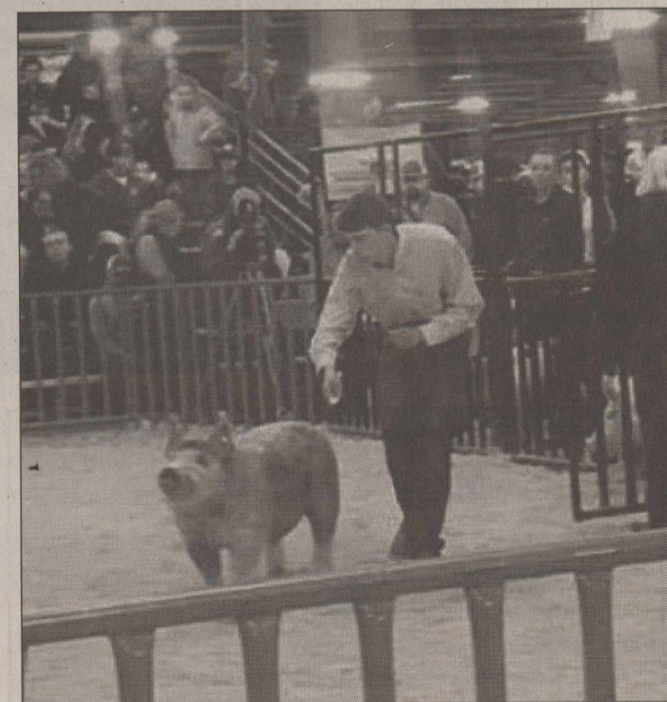


making skills. Floyd County Extension Office would like to thank Floyd County Commissioners' Court for their continued support of programming, Floydada ISD and Lockney ISD for allowing us to come speak to students, and the Floyd County Sheriff's Office for helping prepare and execute the program. If you have any questions about Watch UR BAC or other extension programming, please contact the Floyd County Extension Office at 983-4912.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners of Texas Cooperating.



Bryce Reese 7th at San Antonio Stock Show



Courtesy photo
Congratulations to Bryce Reese for placing 7th at the San Antonio Stock Show last week. He represented Lockney FFA and Lockney ISD.

LOCKNEY SCHOOL MENU	
March 5-9	
Monday, Mar. 5	
Breakfast	Waffles, Bacon or Muffin, Yogurt, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch	Steak Patty or Meatloaf, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Okra, Roll, Fruit, Milk
Tuesday, Mar. 6	
Breakfast	Cinnamon Roll, Sausage or Breakfast Strudel, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch	Enchiladas, Cucumbers, Refried Beans, Garnish, Applesauce, Milk
Wednesday, Mar. 7	
Breakfast	Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch	Hamburger/Cheeseburger, Broccoli, Fries, Mixed Fruit, Cereal Treat, Milk
Thursday, Mar. 8	
Breakfast	Sausage, Egg, Cheese or Animal Crackers, Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch	Chicken Spaghetti or Pizza, Salad, Carrots, Apples, Milk
Friday, Mar. 9	
Breakfast	Pita Pocket Breakfast or Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch	BBQ on a Bun or Fish Sticks, Coleslaw, Green Beans, Oranges, Milk

SPC to offer License to Carry class on March 3

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

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

break. Students need to register and pay in advance. Space is limited. To sign up, email kreyes@southplainscollege.edu or contact Kasey Reyes, administrative assistant to the Dean of Continuing and Distance Education, at (806) 716-2341.

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 also covers holsters for concealed and open carry, and 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 might want to take a N.R.A. Basic Pistol course before taking the L.T.C. course.

Students will need to bring either a revolver or semiautomatic pistol, any 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, a retired SPC professor, NRA Advanced Pistol Instructor, D.P.S. 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 \$40 fee for the DPS and FBI fingerprint and background checks. Although renewals are now handled strictly online, the changes in Texas firearms law since 2015 make a refresher course a good investment.

Lockney School Board has 1 contested race

By Kay Ellington
The Hesperian-Beacon

The Lockney Independent

School District has only one contested race for school board. Melinda Morales has filed to run in

place 2, currently occupied by Mike Lass.

In Place 2 Charles Keaton is unopposed. Both

positions serve for three years.

The election will be held Saturday, May 5.

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MORRIS
From Page 1

How long have you lived in Floyd County?

I have lived in Floyd County over 50 years

Where do you work and for how long?

Currently, I serve as County Commissioner in Precinct 2 and for the last nine years. D'Lyn and I own Floyd County Supply established in 1996. July will start our 22nd year. I also serve as a Deacon at the West College Church of Christ in Lockney.

Why did you decide to run for office?

I want to continue doing my part in keeping Floyd County debt free. It has taken a long time to get there.

What would you do, if elected, or change, if re-elected.

It is important to me to keep our county financially strong. As your Commissioner I will continue doing all I can to balance the needs of our citizens with the responsible use of your tax dollars keeping Floyd County debt free.

What's the one thing you want voters to know about you?

The people of Floyd County, especially Precinct 2, have been good to me. I have been blessed to raise my family and make a living here. I want you to know the feeling of responsibility I have to represent each of you is very high. Floyd County is and will always be my home.

BIGHAM
From Page 1

Smith Farms for 12 years. Why did you decide to run for office?

I have been involved in community activities all of my adult life. I have served on the Lockney Volunteer Fire Dept., Floyd County Stock Show Board serving as Vice President and President for 10 years, as well as Floyd County Unity Center Board. I see my running for County Commissioner as a way to continue to serve my community and to give back.

What would you do, if elected, or change, if re-elected.

First of all, I want to create a great working relationship with the county employees to maintain our precinct roads and equipment. As well as knowing the needs of the residents in Precinct 2. Secondly, I believe it is important to work closely with the commissioner's court and other county offices to be transparent in all that we do. Equally important is to operate within our county budgets and maintain a debt free county.

What's the one thing you want voters to know about you?

I want the residents of Precinct 2 to know that I will be available and that I will conduct myself with the greatest of integrity and high ideals for Precinct 2 and Floyd County.

MORALES
From Page 1

the position because I wanted to be able to help the citizens of Floyd County, and I knew the job would take someone dedicated to Floyd County. The first year of my term was very hard and overwhelming. There were many long hours full of dedicated hard work, perseverance, and the encouragement of the elected officials. I am proud to say I have been a contributing factor to Floyd County which now is debt free and has received outstanding audits. That is one of the greatest accomplishments.

What would you do, if elected, or change, if re-elected.

If re-elected, my goal is to keep Floyd County debt free. **What's the one thing you want voters to know about you?** That I am a hard worker and I will continually work hard for Floyd County.

MARTINEZ
From Page 1

I have lived in Floyd County all my life. Where do you work and for how long?

I am currently working for Prosperity Bank as a Lending Assistant in Floydada. I have been there since September 2009. Before working for Prosperity Bank, I was the former Floyd County Treasurer serving from January 2003 to September 2009. I resigned from being a Floyd County Treasurer due to health issues. Before resigning from being an elected official, I went before the commissioner courts to have Davis Kinard & Company, CPA from Abilene audit my books to make sure everything was in good standing. Report showed everything was in good standing when I left office. Then the newly appointed official Jo Elliot took my place in September 2009.

Why did you decide to run for office?

I decided to run for Floyd County Treasurer due to having the past experience and knowledge and success in my previous terms as Floyd County Treasurer with having six annual audits all in good standing, not including my final audit which was also in good standing.

What would you do, if elected, or change, if re-elected.

If elected I would like to pick-up where I left off during my previous terms serving the County to the best of my ability. I would also like the citizens to know that I will fulfill my duties as Floyd County Treasurer in a dedicated and responsible matter.

What's the one thing you want voters to know about you?

That I will strive to earn the trust and respect from the voters in Floyd County.

UPCOMING
From Page 1

MEETING

The Old Settler's Association will hold a meeting on Monday, March 5th at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at First National Bank, Floydada.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Floydada will be having their Lenten Fish Fry on these following Fridays: March 9th, and March 23rd. They will start serving at 11 a.m. until sold out. Cost is \$10 per plate. All plates include catfish, hushpuppies, French fries, coleslaw, tea. Dine-in, carry-out or have it delivered. For orders please call 806-983-5878 or 806-983-9639. 309 S. Wall, Floydada, Texas.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Stations of Cross" will be held every Friday at 6 p.m. with Mass held at 6:30 p.m.

FLOYDADA SENIOR CITIZENS FUNDRAISER

The Floydada Senior Citizens will hold their next fundraiser on Friday, March 23, 2018. It will be "All You Can Eat" Fish Fry. The menu will be fried fish, French fries, and coleslaw. Eat in or carry out. We will open our doors at 4:30 p.m. and serve until we have fed everyone. Minimum donation \$7 per plate. Call 806-983-2032 for delivery. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!**

LOVE FUND

A "Love Fund" has been set up for Donna Schultz Rogers (formally of Harmony community) and husband, Doug Rogers of Lubbock. Anyone wishing to contribute may do so at the First National Bank in Floydada, Texas.

BURN BAN

BURN BAN IN EFFECT FOR FLOYD COUNTY! A person violates this order if while burning they do not possess a means for extinguishing a fire, including a fire extinguisher or an amount of water to extinguish a fire that is a foreseeable result of the intended burning.

PRAY FOR RAIN!!

OBITS
From Page 4

Lockney Cemetery.

Arrangements were by LaGrone Blackburn Shaw Funeral Directors in Amarillo.

Kenneth was born on September 18, 1923 in Lexington, Oklahoma to Doc and Hattie Tate.

He graduated from Lockney High School in 1941. He married Melba Smalley in Floydada, Texas on February 21, 1948.

Kenneth was inducted into the 24th Army Infantry Division in 1944 and trained at Camp Roberts, California and Fort Benning, Georgia. He served in the Philippine Islands, Corregidor and Leyte and was honorably discharged in 1946.

Soon after the war, he began employment with Southwestern Public Service (SPS) Company in Floydada, Texas. In 1956, he moved his family to Silverton, Texas where he was manager for SPS. In 1972, Kenneth and Melba moved to Lockney, where he was the SPS manager until he retired in 1986, after forty years of service.

Kenneth loved his church and enjoyed civic activities. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Lockney Housing Authority, the WJ. Mangold Hospital Board, Mackenzie Municipal Water Authority and the Lockney Rotary Club.

Kenneth is survived by his loving wife, Melba of seventy years; a son, Mike Tate and wife, Tess of Garland; two daughters, Gayla Nelson and husband, John of Santa Fe and Theresa Atkins and husband, James of Amarillo; a brother, Percy Tate of Midland; two sisters, Virginia Gann and Mavis Reecer of Alto, New Mexico; five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to your local Alzheimers Association.

Please sign the online guest book at www.lagroneblackburnshaw.com.

BANDY
From Page 1

district in 2009 and 2014 and fourth in 2015 and 2017. Prior to Floydada, Bandy spent four years as the head coach at Brady.

"We've already seen a lot of applications," Bandy said, "and I'm sure we'll be able to find the right person for the job. We want to

move as quickly as possible and do what's right for the program."

Bandy said they, he and Superintendent Dr. Gilbert Trevino, plan to finalize a new coach towards the end of March.

"I'm really excited about this decision," Bandy said, "and I'm going to enjoy stepping back from the football coaching but I will miss being involved with the kids on a daily basis."

BI-DISTRICT
From Page 1

fourth quarter before the Longhorns took control, outscoring the Whirlwinds 23-13 and claimed the 78-73 victory.

For Floydada, Garret Hobbs had 29 points, Remington Ricketts had 17 points, Quincy Gonzales had 11 points, Andrew Vega had 10 points, Marcus Perez had four points and Jerry Reyes had two points.

For Lockney, Jaden Rosales had 29 pints, Chris Emert had 25 points, Bryson Walker had 10 points, Jeremiah Muniz had seven points, Israel Cuellar had five points and Sebastian Perez had two points.

Lockney Longhorns played Sanford-Fritch Eagles in the Area Round of the playoffs. See the full story on the Lockney school page in this week's edition.

Prices Good Thru 03/24/18

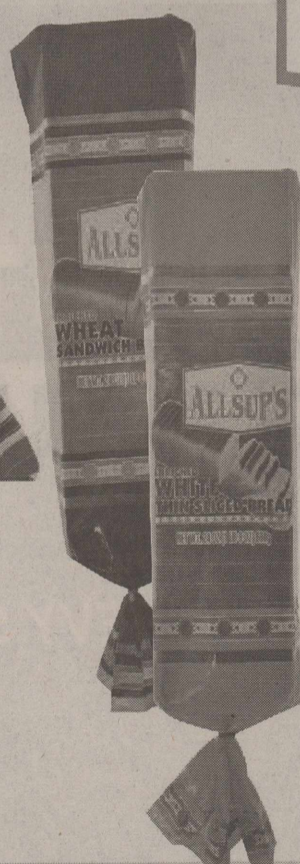


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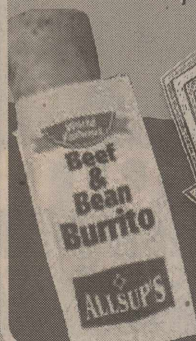
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Baum speaks at Lockney Rotary meeting

By Joseph Tillery

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lockney

Jim Baum, Superintendent of Lockney schools spoke at the Lockney Rotary meeting on Friday, February 23rd.

Mr. Baum shared the following items with the club. He reinforced the five keys they are seeking to instill in students.

- Work ethic
- Character
- Attitude
- Teamwork
- Knowledge/skills

LISD is working with our architect (BGR) and construction manager (Lee Lewis) to define the renovations to the elementary school and the junior high. We are focusing our attention on the mechanical systems that will allow our buildings to serve us well into the future.

We are also addressing safety and accessibility issues on both campuses. It is our hope to have final renderings prior to the end of April so we can initiate construction as soon as school is out. We appreciate everyone's support and patience as we work our way through this process.

The athletic portion of the bond is nearing completion. All of the competition surfaces have been replaced and we are placing the finishing touches on the new concession/restroom at the baseball field. Unfortunately, the areas sur-



rounding the construction sites has not had sufficient time to heal from all of the construction activities. It is our hope that these peripheral areas will be in great shape once we have had a growing season. In the end, we will have a very nice athletic facilities for you to enjoy as you support the Longhorns and Lady Horns.

Lockney ISD has purchased the former Tye Manufacturing Building on Highway 70 and will initially utilize the property, to provide a new animal production facility, for our Ag Department. Overall, the facility consists of over 180,000 square feet of area under roof. Our immediate plans are to meet the expectation of the bond by developing one 60,000 square foot building into a comprehensive animal production barn.

This facility will allow

the students of Lockney ISD to have a state of the art barn that will surely be one of the best in Texas. We are working on long term plans to utilize the remainder of the property to benefit the district and the community. This project was made possible through a very generous donation by the previous owner, Mr. Jerrot Owen.

Community/School Partnership:

L.I.S.D. is very appreciative of the interest that the Rotary Club has in our schools and for their ongoing service projects. We understand that it takes the entire village to raise children and we are pleased to partner with the parents and adults in our community to raise them well. With your continued support and encouragement, we have no doubt that Lockney ISD will be among the best schools in Texas.

Morales gets 16-month prison sentence

Compiled from media reports

LUBBOCK-A federal judge in Lubbock sentenced Amado Morales, Jr., formerly of Floydada, to more than a year in prison after sheriff's narcotics investigators seized more than 10 pounds of marijuana from his south Lubbock home two years ago.

U.S. Senior District Judge Sam Cummings on Friday handed a 16-month prison sentence to the 34-year old who pleaded guilty in October to a federal felony count of possession with intent to distribute marijuana. Morales faced a punishment of up to five years in prison.

Cummings allowed Morales, who has been out on bond, to surrender to the Bureau of Prisons by March 23 to start serving his sentence.

He was arrested in September 2016 in connection with a narcotics investigation four months earlier by the Lubbock County Sheriff's office.

According to court documents, narcotics investigators with the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office learned in May 2016 that Morales trafficked marijuana in the Lubbock area out of his home in the 5500 block of 104th Street.

On two occasions that month, investigators collected trash bags from a trash container near Morales' residence.

The first run yielded evidence including traces of marijuana and a receipt with Morales' name on it.

Investigators also noted an "overwhelming odor of marijuana" when they opened the bag.

During the second run, investigators took two more trash bags from the same container



Courtesy photo

A federal judge in Lubbock sentenced Amado Morales, Jr., formerly of Floydada, to more than a year in prison after sheriff's narcotics investigators seized more than 10 pounds of marijuana from his south Lubbock home two years ago.

and found what appeared to be a drug ledger and a Mother's Day card Morales signed.

The evidence collected from the trash container allowed investigators to obtain a search warrant for Morales' home, where they seized more evidence including nine bricks of marijuana, three of which were hidden in a dishwasher, and 32 grams of cocaine, a drug ledger and a 9mm pistol, the court documents state. The marijuana weighed more than 10 pounds, court records show.

Morales reportedly told investigators he routinely received drugs from Esteban Garcia, a Lubbock trucker who was arrested also in September 2016 after local and federal law enforcement agents searched three properties -- including his home in the LakeRidge neighborhood

-- in connection with a year-long federal drug investigation.

Garcia was among 20 people indicted in August 2016 by a federal grand jury in El Paso as a result of the investigation.

Federal agents told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal that about 61 pounds of narcotics, \$38,000 in cash, two vehicles, three boats, two motorcycles and one jet ski were seized from properties they searched.

Garcia pleaded guilty in September in El Paso to a federal felony count of possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine and aiding and abetting. He was sentenced to 70 months in prison. Court records show a federal judge gave Garcia until March 2 to surrender to the Federal Bureau of Prisons to start serving his sentence because of medical issues.

Win the war against weeds in warm-season pastures

By Adam Russell

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

OVERTON — Weeds in warm-season pastures can be an annual battle, and producers should prepare their spray equipment to win the war, said a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Now is a good time to calibrate equipment and reflect on the previous year's weed and pest insect issues to apply successful treatments to warm-season pastures, said Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson, AgriLife Extension forage specialist, Overton.

"Take the time to calibrate sprayer equipment to make sure it is working properly," she said. "As it sits over winter the rig may be displaced or dirt daubers or other bugs might have gummed the

nozzles up. The main thing to make sure it's putting out the correct amount of herbicide or insecticide intended."

Too much or too little product application on a hayfield can cost producers, Corriher-Olson said. Spraying too much increases the cost of an application and could be against the label recommendation, which is the law. Too little application could be ineffective and require additional treatments.

"Proper calibration could mean huge savings because those applications represent money," she said. "It's worth the time to check."

When calibrating, Corriher-Olson said equipment should be run as if spraying a field under normal conditions.

"Don't go faster or slower than you would go in the field," she said. "Fields may have hog damage or ant mounds or other terrain features that can affect speed and changes of speed will affect the volumes being applied to the field."

Corriher-Olson said how many gallons of water the sprayer puts out per acre and following individual products' mixing rates are a big part of ensuring fields receive the right amount of product. She also suggests producers who use multiple products to test mix them in mason jars to check for coagulation and avoid damage to equipment.

"Follow the directions," she said. "There is a lot of information on the product label because most have different instructions based on

chemistry."

Corriher-Olson said her site <https://foragefax.tamu.edu/> has several publications that focus on weed control and management of pastures and forages, including links to assist with weed identification.

Weeds will begin to emerge as temperatures begin to rise, she said. Producers should be scouting improved pastures and be prepared to spray at the appropriate time to deal with common weeds.

Identifying weeds correctly and understanding when and what to apply is paramount when treating pastures meant for hay production or grazing, she said. "ID weeds as soon as possible to make the best herbicide selection and time to spray," she said.

For instance, annual weeds such as goatweed, or woolly croton, should be sprayed when they are small and growing, she said. Perennial weeds such as wild black-

berries should be sprayed at bloom or after seed drop.

Corriher-Olson said landowners with questions or concerns should contact their county's AgriLife Extension office for application recommendations based on local conditions.

"There are a lot of good general-use, broadleaf products available," she said. "The most important thing is to use products labeled for pastures and forages and to apply them effectively."

AUDIT

From Page 2

The council approved Martha and Harvey Garza to be the managers for the swimming pool this summer.

A joint election agreement between Floydada ISD and the Caprock Hospital District for May 5 at the Massie Activ-

ity Center was approved by the council.

The council agreed to be a part of the discussion with Parkhill Smith & Cooper about a possible seal coat project.

A rate review mechanism for electricity was approved by the

council. This enables Floydada and the steering committee of cities served by Atmos to study rate cases affected by adjustments.

The council approved the Mobility right-of-way agreement for their cell tower.

Deacon says, "Vote for Mepaw. He will help keep Floyd County debt free for future generations".

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