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# The Floyd County HESPERIAN-BEACON

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(USPS 202-680)

www.hesperianbeacononline.com

VOLUME 116 NUMBER 48

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

10 PAGES - 75¢

## Grand Opening for Lucio's Dog House, Feb. 12

By Jennifer Harbin

Lucio's Dog House Adoption Services, offered through the City of Floydada, will be celebrating their Grand Opening and Open House on Tuesday, February 12. The public is invited to come enjoy refreshments (a cake shaped like a paw and "dog treats" for dogs and humans alike), get a chance to win a door prize, see the new facilities and, of course, adopt a new dog or cat that needs a loving home.

The new facilities are a great improvement, with heating, water, and ap-

proved caging, and will be a good transitioning area to the animal's new homes.

"We will try to hold a special, once a month adoption day," said Karen Houchin. "But animals will be available for adoption any time by calling City Hall."

Appointments to visit Lucio's Dog House and look at the animals available for adoption can be made by calling 806-983-2834 or visiting City Hall at 114 W. Virginia between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If you don't want a live

animal but want to contribute to the cause, stuffed animals are on display and may be purchased for \$5 at Karen Houchin Law, Texas Plains Federal and City Hall. Also, memorial donations may be made as well by contacting City Hall.

All proceeds go to benefit the adoption program.

The Grand Opening for Lucio's Dog House Adoption Service will be held at the Floydada Animal Shelter located on north Wall Street past the Parent and Adolescent Center (PAC) from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

Door prizes will be offered at the Lucio's Dog House Open House on Friday, February 12, and animals will up for adoption as the Grand Opening is celebrated.

## Citizens meeting ends in decision to start Precinct 2 watch group

By Jennifer Harbin

A group of concerned Lockney citizens gathered together Tuesday, January 29 at the Lockney Senior Center to discuss the recent illegal thefts that have been taking place in Precinct 2. Lindan Morris, County Commissioner for Precinct 2, called the meeting that discussed the Rural Watch Pilot Program and was attended by a large crowd of individuals.

According to Morris and attendees, several instances of theft have occurred in the county that are a cause for concern.

Local farmer Martin Stomer had about eight irrigation motors and six gear heads stolen from a barn northwest of Providence over a period of two months, as well span cables and welding leads.

John Quebe has had multiple span cables from his sprinkler systems stolen that cost approximately \$1,000 a span. The pricey items were



Photo by Jennifer Harbin

Members of the Lockney community met at the Lockney Senior Center to discuss implementing a Rural Watch Pilot Program for Precinct 2.

most likely sold for less than \$10 each.

With 2,000 miles of county road, two deputies and one sheriff, there is not enough manpower to oversee and protect the entire county, which is

why the group decided to set up a rural watch program.

Sheriff Paul Raisse was also in attendance and is supportive of the group's efforts.

If the program helps to deter crime in the 275 square miles

of Precinct 2, then perhaps other precincts will follow suit.

If you would like to participate in the Precinct 2 Watch, contact the Sheriff's Office at 806-983-4901 or Lindan Morris at 806-652-2312.

## Houchin honored as distinguished staff at Texas Tech



Courtesy Photo

Daniel Houchin, son of Eddy and Karen Houchin of Floydada, was honored with the Masked Rider Award for his distinguishing efforts in the Texas Tech University Information Technology Division.

Daniel Houchin, formerly of Floydada, received recognition at the 2012 Distinguished Staff Awards Program held for Texas Tech staff on Tuesday, January 29.

Houchin, who works in the Information Technology Division, was nominated by Bradley Martin for the Masked Rider Award.

According to Martin, "Daniel is the type of employee we need to be recognized for his

service and the difference it makes for everyone. Daniel's job, by its very nature, is "behind the scenes." Very few TTU employees know Daniel's name or his role, ironically, we would all know if he wasn't here to take care of us. I whole-heartedly, and without reservation, recommend Daniel for the Masked Rider Award."

HONORS  
 continued on page 9

## Nominations for Citizen of the Year being accepted

By Jennifer Harbin

Everyone knows someone in their community that goes that extra mile, who seems to give of themselves and their time to help others or are extraordinary city leaders who have dedicated their time for the improvement of the community as a whole.

Some of these unsung heroes never receive the recognition that they deserve, but Lockney citizens have the chance to write to the

Lockney Chamber of Commerce to submit nominations for the Citizen of the Year.

Nominations should include the name of the individual and approximately a one page explanation of why they are being nominated. They may be mailed to P.O. Box 531, Lockney, Texas 79241.

Nominations will be accepted until 5 p.m. on February 15.

## Pesticide applicators training course, pre-register now

By Ethan Fortenberry  
 CEA-AG/NR

Floyd County Extension Office will hold a pesticide applicators training course in March for any one interested. The test will be administered at the extension office by Texas Department of Agriculture after the training is completed.

Anyone interested should contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office to pre-register. The course

will only take place if an adequate number of attendees pre-register. Date of training to be determined based on the needs of participants.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U. S.

PESTICIDE  
 continued on page 9

## CORRECTION

The City Hall in Floydada is open every day at 7 a.m. Monday through Friday. Mondays through Thursdays City Hall closes at 6 p.m. and on Fridays it closes at 5 p.m. All payments on bills must be made during these hours at City Hall, 114 W. Virginia Street.

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# Floyd County Church Directory

**AIKEN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Dennis Butler, Pastor  
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m..  
\*\*\*\*\*

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
810 S. 3rd, Floydada  
Darwin Robinson, Pastor  
983-5278  
Sunday School .....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..10:50 a.m.  
Evening Worship .... 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**CALVARY'S CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP**  
Floydada  
Armando Morales, Pastor  
Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study .....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**CARR'S CHAPEL**  
Service Every Sunday:  
Morning Worship .....9:00 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**  
Levi Sisemore, Minister  
Ivan Gomez, Minister  
Floydada  
Sunday Bible Study..9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Tim Franks, Pastor  
Terry Simmons,  
Minister of Ed./Music  
Josh Burgett - Min. Students  
Sunday School .....9:15 a.m.  
Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship .....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study ....6:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,**  
Lockney  
Jonathan Sullivan, 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.  
Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday (Youth) .7:15 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Floydada  
Rev. Les Hall, Pastor  
Morning Worship .....9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School..... 10:50 a.m.  
Youth (Sunday).....5:00 p.m.  
Youth (Wednesday)..6:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Lockney  
Rev. Ricky Carstensen  
Pastor  
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service .....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Service..... 6:00 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 .....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service.....7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday.....8:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service .....7:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Lockney  
Beau A. Hart, Minister  
Bible Study .....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Floydada  
Rev. Timothy Askew  
401 N 12th St (983-5805)  
Sunday School .....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship .....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Study ...7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Floydada  
Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges  
(806) 637-0430  
\*\*\*\*\*

**OUT REACH HARVEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
310 E. Mississippi  
Floydada  
Rev. David Ramos, Pastor  
Ester Ramos, Praise Leader  
Sunday Bible...10:00 a.m.  
Morning Praise..11:00 a.m.  
Evening Praise ....5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Worship.... 7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**POWER OF PRAISE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH**  
Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor  
704 N. Main, Lockney  
Sunday Services.....10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening ..... 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA**  
Lockney  
Jesus Caballero, Pastor  
Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service .....11:00 a.m.  
Discipleship .....5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service .....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA**  
Floydada  
Rev. Toby Gonzales  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..10:40 a.m.  
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Evening .....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**SAN JOSE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Lockney  
Jim McCartney, Pastor  
Wed. Communion.....8:00 p.m.  
Sunday Mass.....11:30 a.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**SOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Joe Weldon, Pastor  
Sunday School .....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting..... 7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**TEMPLO GETSEMANI ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
701 W. Missouri  
Joe M. Hernandez  
983-5286 (church)  
..... Sunday School .....  
English..... 9:45 a.m.  
Spanish..... 11:00 a.m.  
Spanish Worship .....9:30 a.m.  
English Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service.....5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Floydada  
Rev. Angelo Consemينو  
Phone: 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  
Sun. Prayer Service 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School .....9:45 p.m.  
Worship Service ....11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Meeting .....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**TEMPLO BETHEL SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Washington and 1st St.  
Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship .... 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service .....7:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

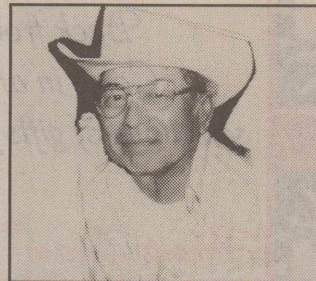
**TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA**  
Rev. Herman Martinez  
308 W. Tennessee, Floydada  
Sunday School .....10:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship .....5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday.....7:30 p.m.  
Thursday Service.....7:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**TRINITY ASSEMBLY**  
500 W. Houston  
Henry Russell, Co-Pastor  
Vance Mitchell, Co-Pastor  
983-5499 or 983-2887  
Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship ...10:40 a.m.  
Sunday Evening .....6:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Providence Community  
on FM 2301 293-3009  
Rev. Peter W. Harrington Minister  
Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service ....11:00 a.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Floydada 983-3548  
Sunday Worship ...10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening .....5:00 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

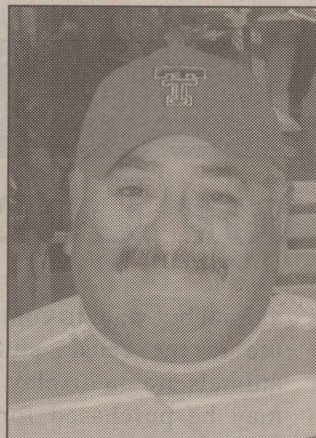
# OBITUARIES



**BENITO PONCE**  
Benito Ponce, age 84, of Floydada, passed away Tuesday, January 29, 2013. A Mass of Christian burial was held on Friday, February 1, 2013 at 2 p.m. at the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church with Father Angelo Consemينو of-

ficiating. Interment followed at the Floydada Cemetery. Rosary was held at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 31, 2013 at the Moore-Rose Funeral Home Chapel. Arrangements were under the care of Moore-Rose Funeral Home in Floydada. Benito was born on March 21, 1928 in Fulshear, Texas to the late Theodoro Ponce and Refugia Saucedo from Mexico. He was a retired farm labor worker. Benito was a member of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Floydada.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Elida Ponce of the home and five step-children, Mary Cervantes and husband, Jimmy, Daniel Pesina, Elizabeth Pesina and Sylvia Vela, all of Floydada and Jovita Flores and husband, Emilio of Minnesota. He is also survived by his grandchildren, George Perez and wife, Kim, Leslie Perez, Christina Cervantes and Chris Cervantes; eight great-grandchildren and numerous step grandchildren and great grandchildren.



**ABEL M. VASQUEZ**  
Abel M. Vasquez, age 63, passed away Thursday, January 31, 2013. A Mass of Christian burial was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 2 p.m. at the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church with Father Angelo Consemينو officiating. Interment followed at the Floydada Cemetery. Rosary was held on Monday February 4, 2013 at 6 p.m. at the Moore Rose Funeral Home. Arrangements were under the care of Moore-Rose

Funeral Home in Floydada. Abel was born on July 1, 1949 in Pearsall, Texas to Luis and Jaunita (Martinez) Vasquez. He attended school in Dougherty, Texas and received his GED in Plainview, Texas. He graduated in A.C and heating school in Lubbock. He worked for the Tye Company, Floydada ISD, and for Max Yearly until his illness. Abel was a member of the Texas National Guard, within his time; he was a guard for Pope John Paul II in San Antonio in 1987. He was a curisillista and very active in the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church. He was a resident at Prairie House Living Center. Abel spent his quality time at Wal-Mart where he was well known. He was a hardcore Texas Tech fan. He is survived by three daughters, Moraima Ybarra and Brenda Vasquez, both of Floydada, Abelina

Vasquez of Plainview, and a son, Abel Xavier Vasquez of Lockney; eight grandchildren, Evan Ybarra and Lourie Ybarra, both of Floydada, Guadalupe Maldonado Jr. and Edurado Lopez, both of Floydada, Alazai, Jasiah, Nicholas, and Jeremiah Vasquez, all of Lockney; one great-granddaughter, Khloe Jaylynn Ybarra of Floydada; two sisters, Virginia Vasquez of San Antonio, and Lilia Garcia of Chicago, Illinois; and four brothers, Lucio Vasquez of Floydada, Ricky Vasquez of Lubbock, Carlos Vasquez of San Antonio and Mike Vasquez of Sabinas, Mexico. He is preceded in death by his parents, Luis and Juanita Vasquez, a brother, Luis Vasquez Jr., three sisters, Olga Enriquez, Emma Sanchez and Teresa Del Toro and a grandson, Elijah Seth Lopez. He will be truly missed by many family and friends.

**He Is My Song! ladies' luncheon to feature music from area churches**

All women of the area are invited to attend and bring their friends to the upcoming He Is My Song! Ladies' Salad Luncheon on Saturday, February 16, at 12:00 noon at First Baptist Church, Matador (FBCM). He Is My Song!, a musical focus on the love and joy we find in Christ, will feature musicians from several area churches. The theme is based on Psalm 118:14, "The LORD is my strength and my song." Guests who would like to bring a salad are encouraged to do so, but this is not required. Also, women attending as a group are asked to bring one salad for every two or three women in the group. The event is hosted annually by the Women on Mission of the church's WMU. For more information, call the FBCM church office (347-2345).

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652-3353

**Payne Family Pharmacy**  
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983-5111

**Davis Lumber**  
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652-3385

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983-3524

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**Lighthouse Electric Coop**  
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983-2814

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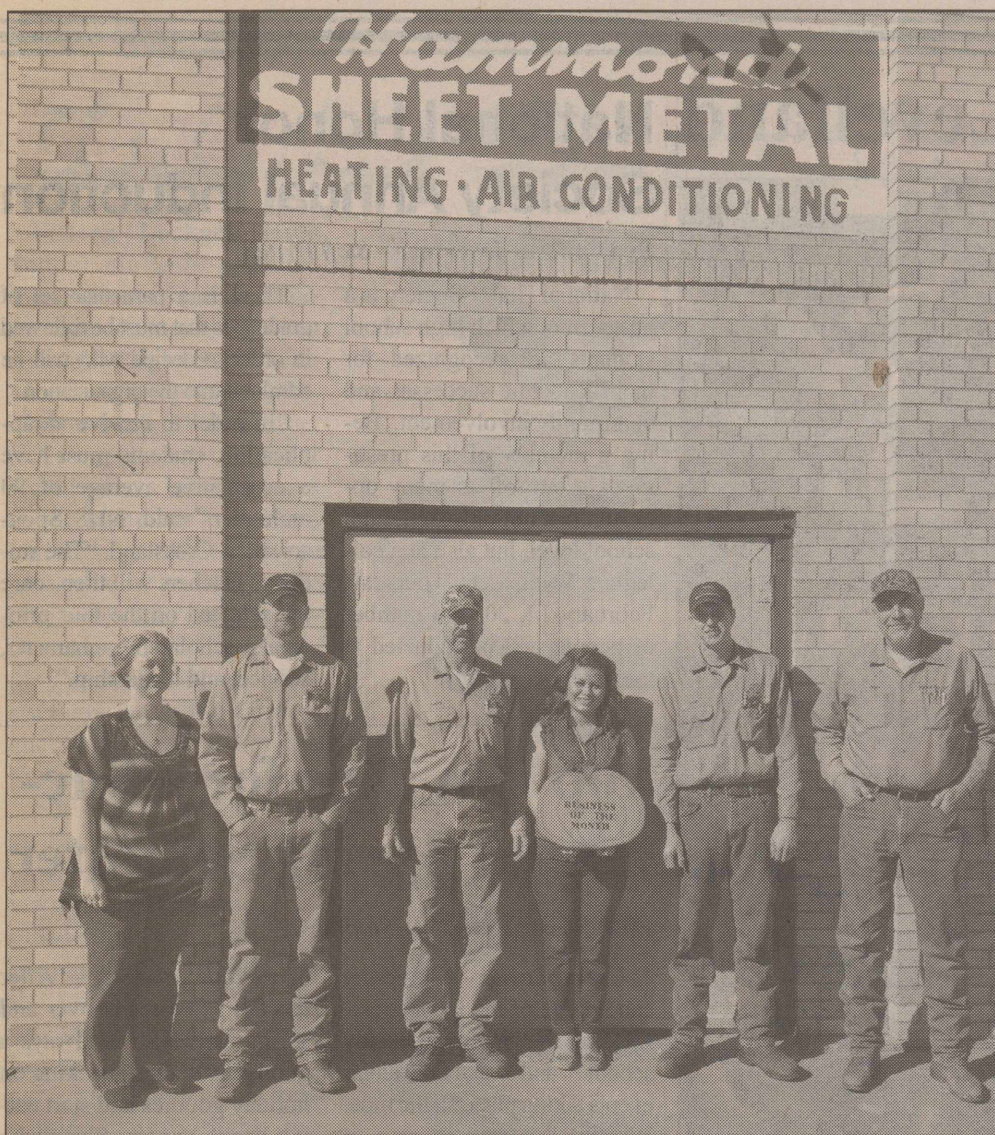
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*These deadlines must be met in order to guarantee your ad or editorial is placed in the Hesperian-Beacon on the date requested.*



# LIFESTYLES

## Business of the Month



Courtesy Photo

The Floydada Chamber of Commerce has named Hammond Sheet Metal as the February Business of the Month. Pictured are (left to right) Charla McHam, Rusty Hopper, Larry Stovall, Christina Speed, Zach Emert and Roger Emert.

## Dixie Divas The Gate

It all started with a break-in then continued to a breaking point when a crazy woman showed up at my door,



RONDA RICH

ranting about aliens who had landed at her house. She needed me to write an article to warn their commander not to send them back to her house.

When Tink heard I had run off a car full of Jehovah Witnesses with my shotgun, he said, "That's it. We're putting in a gate. For your safety as well as the safety of aliens and Jehovah Witnesses."

For a while, I had demurred over installing a privacy gate but, finally, I was ready to agree. The crazy woman and her aliens had persuaded me.

"But I'm not going to be in charge of construction," I warned. We had just had to make what started as minor repair to the balcony but became major. To anyone who has ever had to work with a contractor - especially those who look at women's ideas and questions with disdain - you'll understand that my nerves were stretched to the max.

"Great," he said. It didn't work out that

way. He was working four-teen hour days in Los Angeles, executive producing a television series and I was home.

"Just get it started for me. Get the quotes and I'll take it from there."

I called for four quotes. I drew a picture and gave a list of what we wanted. One contractor, the friend of a friend, came but never followed up. One - the one I thought I could count on the most - dawdled at putting the quote together which left two vying for the job. One man - Brian Parks - hustled to get the job and strived to get it close to our budget. Brian was going to custom weld the wrought iron gate. Tink, who had been preoccupied with script rewrites and a star with laryngitis, suddenly arose from oblivion when he saw the gate I had sketched.

"Not arched," he said. "Something straight across and not so high."

"Okay, send me a sketch of what you want and I'll give it to Brian." After a few days of reminders and not receiving the sketch, I met with Brian and gave him a revised sketch. "You can meet with Tink next week and go over it with him."

Suddenly, out of nowhere, Tink roared to life. He got online and started looking at gates. From an airport somewhere, he texted a photo of the gate he wanted. Sit down. Get ready for this. A cattle gate. The kind that you can go to the local

hardware store or farmer's supply and purchase. The kind that when I had a board fence built, I shunned. I had a wood gate built to keep from using the plain, utility gate.

I thought it was a joke. I'm still in hopes that it was, that I haven't married a guy who was serious about using a cattle gate for an entrance gate.

"Please, baby, please," he said. "Please let me have this gate. It's perfect for the Rondarosa (which he has christened our place)."

I laughed it off. "No way." I couldn't believe we were in a disagreement over such. Normally, when it comes to style issues, we agree unflinchingly.

Facing defeat, he said, "Let me send an email and ask your family to vote."

"Go ahead. We may be simple, country folks but we have class, style and taste. No one will vote for a cattle gate." I had complete confidence.

Tink attempted to win votes by offering to help get up hay. Still, one by one - with nary a word from me - voted zealously for a wrought iron gate.

Rodney, after casting his vote, added, "See you this weekend. We're gettin' up hay."

Tink, somewhat graciously, accepted the unanimous vote. But get up hay? Huh, no. He chose a weekend at the Cloister instead.

Ronda Rich is the best-selling author of the forthcoming *There's A Better Day A-Comin'*. Visit [www.rondarich.com](http://www.rondarich.com) to sign up for her weekly newsletter.

## LOOK WHO'S NEW



### SILVERS

Jurahee and Sam Silvers are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Samuel Shepherd Silvers.

Shepherd was born on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at San Angelo Community Hospital. He weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. Mother, father and baby are all doing great!

His proud grandparents are Joe and Anne Jones of Floydada, Sammy and Rocky Edwards of Winters and Gary and Melissa Silvers of Academy.

Shepherd's great-grandfather is Travis Jones of Floydada.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

OF THE FLOYD COUNTY MUSEUM

### ROCKS AT \$1 PER POUND

Floyd County Hesperian April 29, 1971

By Homer Steen

The Hesperian got mentioned in Frank Collinson's store of anecdotes, though not by name, as a by-product of the 1889 meteor that appeared to hit South Quitaque Peak. He and one of his employers watched the fireball as they rode the divide between Duck and Cottonwood creeks.

The meteor seemed to them to hit with great force and there was smoke from the impact, but there was the peak as usual when the atmosphere cleared.

In 1936-fifty-six years after he felt the heat of the meteor- he went with a friend to hunt it. "But we never found it" he wrote. "I believe that it lies buried today in the vicinity of the Quitaque canyons." Continuing he says:

"Out 1939 a piece of a meteor was found near Dougherty and taken to the newspaper office in Floydada, Texas. It could have

been a piece of the meteor we saw fall in 1880."

### Finds a Rock

In the late thirties C.L. Bradford, now deceased, who farmed in east Floyd County, brought a rock weighing thirty or forty pounds to the Hesperian office. He had found it in his field. Since there are no natural deposits of rock in plains fields and this rock was dark as though colored by heat, it aroused Mr. Bradford's curiosity. He bought it to The Hesperian office for a window display and for us to get it identified.

Mr. Bradford thought, and we thought, it probably was a meteor. To make sure we got J. M. Massie of W.M. Massie and Bro. to send a sliver to a Denver "rock hound" of his acquaintance - whose name I can almost, but not quite, recall. This authority's reply was positive. The rock was a meteor.

The rock stayed in our window for weeks, possibly months, until one day, returning from a round of the town, I noticed the rock missing from the window.

I was informed that Mr. Bradford and a young man from Fort Worth had come to the office and carried the rock away. Mr. Bradford, in fact, had sold the rock to Mr. Monnig- the Fort Worth man - for \$1 per pound.

### A Careless Trick

Two direct results of the "meteoric" transaction that I know of: First, Marvin was vexed at me for letting the meteor "get away". By rights it should have gone to the friend of ours in Denver, whereas the Fort Worth man was a competitor in collecting meteors. Marvin thought it was a mighty careless trick of mine to let this happen.

The other result was that it dumped a lot of money into the hands of Mr. Bradford at a time he could use it to good advantage. The Bradford boys that I talked to - Bob and Charles- remember the sale of the rock quite well. It was a most fortunate windfall.

Not only was this sale a windfall for the Bradfords to be well remembered, but such a peculiar way to get money. Whoever heard of selling a rock!

*We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, food, flowers, calls, texts, emails and memorials during the loss of our husband, Dad, Pop, and brother. We are blessed to be surrounded by such wonderful people.*

*De Chance  
Ed, Melode, Dakotah & Hunter Watson  
Randy, Haley, Braydon,  
Brylie & Brody Chance  
Gerald Chance*

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# Whirlwind News



## Powerlifting Lifts the Bar at Levelland



Powerlifters competed at the Levelland meet on Saturday. Overall the competition went well for FISD. Homero Ramirez-1st, Emily Prisk 2nd, Adrian Gonzalez- 4th, Aaron Chavarria-1st, Caëlon Gibson- 7th, and Danny Martinez- 10th

By Carly Carthel- Staff Writer

The second powerlifting meet for high school took place on Saturday 2, 2013 in Levelland. The lifters were all very excited to go and dominate the competition.

Practice began on 1.1.1 and the athletes have continued to strive to set goals for

themselves. "I think that we have grown a lot as a team and have gotten stronger", said senior Homero Ramirez

We have some new coaches this year that will give us new strategies to lead us to state this year.

"I'm excited! I think that we have a good chance of

making it far this year", said powerlifting coach, Matt Nix. The lifters were all confident going into the meet this past Saturday.

"I'm pretty prepared because last year at this meet I placed first, and I had to work equally as hard to try for another win this year", said junior Emily Prisk

Although very nervous, the power-lifters were extremely excited about competition.

"I wasn't really nervous I was really just ready to compete because it was my first meet and it was exciting for me to try a new sport. I ended up doing really well and placed fourth", said junior Adrian Gonzalez.

## National Honor Society Annual Induction

By Hunter Schwertner - Staff Writer

National Honor Society is a program in which high school students are recognized for their academic successes and community involvement. Being a member of this prestigious group offers many opportunities not only on a high school level, but also at a collegiate level. On Thursday, February 14, 2013, a number of people will be inducted at the yearly ceremony.

There is a particular set of guidelines that must be followed in order to decide who will be admitted into the organization.

"In order to receive an application, students must have a cumulative average of 90 or higher," said, NHS Sponsor, Mrs. Crossland. "The student's teachers will then score the selected on the four principals; scholarship, character, service, and leadership."

## Top Ten Tips for a Successful Spring Semester

By: Merritt Johnson - Staff Writer

- 1. Use a planner** - The spring can be one of the most stressful times of the year with many school and extracurricular events taking place all the time. Whether it is prom, exams, or baseball games, jot it down to stay reminded and aware of dates to reduce anxiety about missing out on something.
- 2. Get involved** - In the spring, the community and school have countless activities that are fun, beneficial, and allow you to meet new people. For instance, sign up for a mission trip and travel, or try a different sport like tennis. These activities will broaden one's comfort zone.
- 3. Take time to relax** - Since the spring is extremely busy, schedule a relaxing day every week. This day can be for hanging out with friends or just watching television on the couch. It will help reduce stress and still help a person feel social.
- 4. Be attentive during class** - Tests like STAAR, SAT, ACT, and AP Exams all happen within the spring. Pay attention while teachers are reviewing or going over material instead of daydreaming. Do not hesitate to ask questions either. By learning and listening more, students are only increasing the chances of a higher score on a test.
- 5. Distractions can cause devastation** - With summer approaching, it is sometimes difficult for students to stay on task. Putting aside schoolwork and trying to start summer break early can ruin the rest of one's school year! Find a balance between work and play.
- 6. Health matters** - After the fall semester is over and spring arrives, it is always a good idea to stop snacking on holiday goodies and start eating healthy again. Plus, once the weather warms up, it is easy to go outside to jog or workout. Having good health will benefit the mind and body's performance.
- 7. Sleep at least six hours** - It is easy to get off of a sleeping schedule with spring break and the buzz of spring happenings. However, it is essential to get about six hours of sleep to operate well at school and anything else. If a person gets sleep deprived, grades and health can drop substantially.
- 8. Never procrastinate** - Finals, college preparation, prom, senior pictures, and all spring activities make everyone's schedule tight. Therefore, it is extremely important to not wait until the last minute to study or do homework because time is exceptionally limited.
- 9. Plan for the future** - If it is making housing arrangements for college or deciding what schools to apply to, start making plans. The spring semester is a good time to start looking towards what lies ahead without feeling too rushed.
- 10. Make memories and have fun** - The spring semester is bittersweet for seniors as they walk the halls with classmates for the last time. Make the most of this time. Do not be too overwhelmed by everything that is happening. Remember, cherish every moment!

## Floydada ISD Celebrates Black History Month

Mattie Sanders - Staff Writer

This February Floydada High School would like to celebrate Black History Month by educating the community on the many contributions that African Americans have made in America. Black History Month allows a chance to all citizens of the United States to learn about important people within our country who have made a difference over time.

Did you know that one of the greatest Blues and Jazz singers was a woman? Bessie Smith was born on April 15, 1894 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. From the beginning she enjoyed dancing and entertaining her family with her talents. Columbia Records signed her as an artist in the year of 1923 when she was twenty-nine. She topped the records for African American singers of her time with her

song "Downhearted Blues" and many others like it. Her first album sold 800,000 copies, which brought attention to her voice and herself across the nation.

Bessie Smith constantly endured people who despised her for her heritage. Because of the racism she was dealt, she was driven to purchase a railroad car so her troupe would have somewhere to eat and sleep on the

road. Despite the persecution she faced daily for being a 'woman of color,' she soon was given the title of "Empress of the Blues."

At end of the 1920s Smith continued to her performances but was tragically cut short when she died in a car accident in Mississippi on September 26, 1937. Bessie Smith is forever remembered to have made an impact on jazz and blues music.

## Social Studies U.I.L.

By Malorie Alaniz- Staff Writer

The spring semester brings U.I.L. into full swing at Floydada High. This week's U.I.L. spotlight is the Social Studies team. The coach is Sallye Lyles and the team members include: R.J. Gomez, Landry Morren, Jianna Davenport, Jordan Woody, and Ryan Chavarria. There are many different parts comprising this U.I.L. event.

"We answer objective questions and write an essay about Native Americans since it's this years topic,"

said Lyles. The students have the potential to go beyond the district competition.

"I think they will advance past district," said Lyles. "They can go as far as they want to study for."

Each of the students must be as prepared as possible for the district meet in hopes of advancing to regionals.

"We prepare for our competition by studying hard every week and reviewing our notes as much as we can," said se-



nior, Jordan Woody. "Then on game day we get down and crush the competition."

There are many benefits for everyone of the Social Studies team.

"My favorite part about the

Social Studies U.I.L. is that I get to be on a team with some cool people and learn more about History," said senior, Landry Morren. "I also like that you don't get counted off for missing questions on the test."

## The Challenge of Paying for College Made Easier

By: Homero Ramirez- Staff Writer

Richie's Spirit Foundation is a non-profit organization that wants to reward high school students that have gone through significant challenges. What better way to reward hard working students, than with a scholarship to help pay for college expenses? Contenders for this scholarship must fill out an on-line application and respond to two prompts. The topics are, "Briefly describe a significant challenge you have faced in your life," and "Describe how you overcame this challenge. Tell us how it has shaped you as an individual." The max

limit for both responses is 750 words. The deadline for this scholarship will be on February 15, 2013 and the winner will receive \$1,000. For more details concerning this scholarship and other refer to the links below. Some scholarships may require the creation of a profile to access them; it should take no more than five minutes.

<http://richiesspirit.org/apply/>  
<http://www.kfcscholars.org/scholarships/>

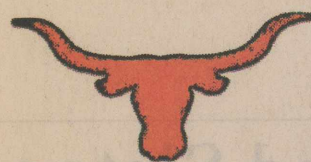
## Upcoming Events for FISD

By Emily Hall-Staff Writer

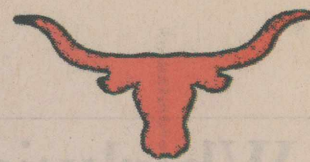
- Feb. 8: JV/Varsity Boys Basketball VS Childress, Here 5:00/6:30 pm
- Feb. 9: JV/Varsity Softball VS Tahoka, There 5:00/6:30 pm  
JV/Varsity Baseball VS Muleshoe, There 12:00 pm  
UIL Practice Meet @ Post
- Feb. 11: JV/Varsity Softball VS Denver City, There 5:00/6:30 pm  
JV/Varsity Baseball VS Trinity, There 5:00
- Feb. 12: JV/Varsity Boys Basketball VS Roosevelt, There 5:00/6:30 pm
- Feb. 14-16: Varsity Softball Littlefield Tournament
- Feb. 14: National Honor Society Inductions 6 pm
- Feb. 15: JV/Varsity Baseball VS Ralls, Here 5:00 pm  
End of 4th Six Weeks
- Feb. 18: Varsity Baseball VS Trinity, Here 5:00 pm
- Feb. 19: Varsity Softball VS Idalou, Here 5:00
- Feb. 20: Theater Festival at Post
- Feb. 22-23: JV Baseball Abernathy Tournament, Time TBA

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# Longhorn News

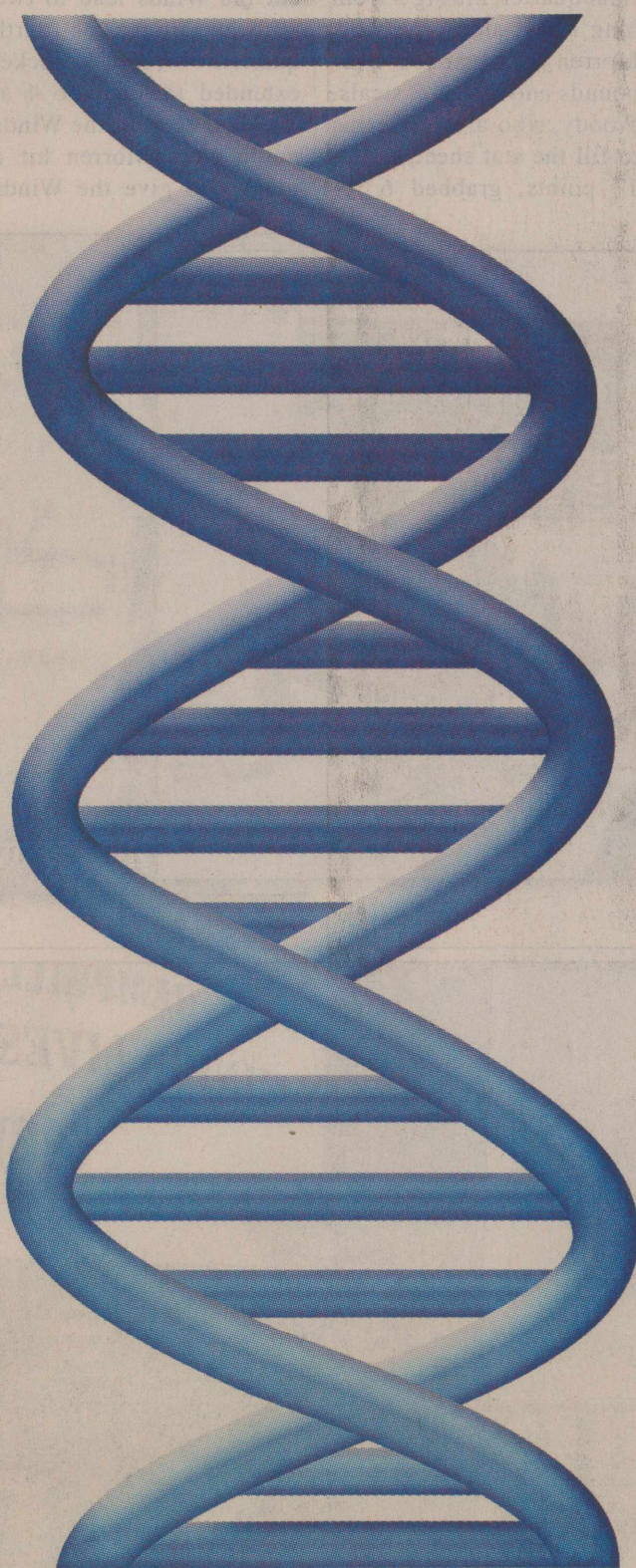


## Genetics Conference

Fifteen Lockney High School students attended the Genetics Update Conference held at Canyon Randall High School on Monday, January 28th. The presenter, Sam Rhine, is a genetics educator worldwide, but lectures in the summers at Indiana University. Students were reminded of basic genetic principles and were introduced to some newer complex genetic studies. Most students leave the conference with great questions to research on their own.

For more information on the conference, please visit the website: <http://www.samrhine.com>

Students were accompanied by the teachers of the Lockney High School science department, D'lyn Morris and Racheal Kasner. The science teachers would like to thank the administrators for supporting this event each year and Shana Hallmark for her time spent transporting the students and teachers. The following students attended the Genetics Update Conference at Canyon Randall High School on Monday, Jan. 28: Mary Sammann, McKenzie Kemp, Taylor Rose, Taylor Esty, Ashley Roberts, Ian Dunbar, Luke Sherman, Jose Guerrero, Jake Moore, Marcus Bueno, Hunter Thompson, Jake Bramlet, Jace Klein, Levi Kasner, and Erik Cortez.



**Class A Girls  
Bi-District Game  
Lockney Lady  
Horns vs. Quanah**

**Monday, Feb. 11, 2013**

**Canyon HS @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Admission:**

**\$4 for Adults**

**\$2 for Students**

## Kelsie Stennett



Kelsie Stennett grew up in Lockney Texas. She has been in Lockney for 17 years which is her whole life! Kelsie has one older brother, named Keenan, who also attended Lockney High School. Some of Kelsie's hobbies and interests include, playing the piano, writing songs, watching movies and

hanging out with her friends. Kelsie is involved in extracurricular activities like band and theatre. She loves being involved in both of these activities and can't decide which one is her favorite. Kelsie loves attending LHS because everyone knows one another and it's really different from other

schools. Her most memorable moments of Lockney High School are getting inducted into NHS and getting her letterman jacket. Outside of school Kelsie enjoys hanging out with friends. Kelsie's future plans include attending WT to study Criminal Justice or A&M to study marine Biology.

## Clarisa Camacho



Clarisa Camacho is a senior at Lockney High School and will be graduating this May. She has lived in Lockney all of her life. Clarisa has many siblings who all attended school here in Lockney. Some of her hobbies are hanging out with friends,

drawing and watching movies. She is also in art club here at LHS and loves the trips she gets to go on with this club. One of the things Clarisa likes about LHS is all of her great friends. Outside of school Clarisa loves hanging out with friends and family.

When she has nothing to do she drives around town or writes music or sing songs. Ten years from now she sees herself having a good job, providing for her family, and still having the same friends. "All I have to say is to be yourself!"

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# FLOYDADA SCHOOL

## Whirlwinds pick up big district wins over Post and Slaton

By Coach Renfro

Landry Morren and DeAndre McCann each picked a great time to hit their season high in scoring as the Floydada Whirlwinds picked up two key victories in the District 3-2A playoff race.

On Tuesday night, the Winds got a 70-54 road win over the Post Ante-

lopes as McCann had his biggest offensive output of the year with 24 points. He also added 7 rebounds to his stat line. Jordan Woody scored 5 of his 14 points in the first period as the Winds raced out to a 23-4 lead in the opening frame. Woody also dished out 7 assists and had 8 steals. Morren and Tyler

Renfro each chipped in 9 points, with Morren grabbing 3 steals while Renfro had 4 steals, 5 assists, and 11 rebounds. Tucker Lowrance added in 6 points, while B.J. Perez and Ventura Gonzales had 4 each. Gonzales also grabbed 9 rebounds.

The Winds got their second win of the week

over Slaton, which tied Floydada and Slaton for third in the district playoff race. Morren put in 23 points, including 6 in the final quarter, hitting 3 from long range along the way. Morren also grabbed 6 rebounds and tallied 3 steals. Woody, who always seems to fill the stat sheet, put in 17 points, grabbed 6 re-

bounds, had 6 assists, and managed 3 steals. One of his buckets may have been the biggest of the game, coming as the Tigers had cut the Winds lead to two midway through the fourth quarter. Woody's bucket extended the lead to 4 at 52-48, then after the Winds got a stop, Morren hit a jumper to give the Winds

a 6 point lead. Floydada did not let the Tigers get closer than 6 the rest of the game.

Renfro also hit double digits in scoring with 10 while grabbing 11 rebounds and dishing out 8 assists. McCann had 8 points and an impressive 15 rebounds, while Gonzales had 4 points and 5 rebounds.



Photos by Mita Chavarria



Photo by Jennifer Harbin

A.B. Duncan rewarded first grader Cristin Kemp and Marty Riojas (Pre-K) for their perfect attendance with bicycles donated by the Floydada Rotary Club. Cristin is the daughter of Cory Kemp and Marty is the son of Frances and Martin Riojas.



Courtesy Photo

Kelton Hill, son of Wallace and Rhealene Hill of Canadian and the grandson of Gary and Charlene Brown of Floydada, is shown receiving a belt buckle for winning the Goat Jr. Showmanship at the recently held Hemphill County Jr. Livestock show held January 26, 2013.

### SPC Scholarship Office announces application deadline by March 1

LEVELLAND — High school seniors seeking scholarships at South Plains College for the 2013-2014 academic year need to submit their application materials by March 1.

Application information is available online at SPC's website, www.southplainscollege.edu, as well as from the SPC Scholarship Office, according

to Stephen John, vice president for institutional advancement.

"We are planning to award more than \$600,000 in scholarships next fall and we want future SPC students to know that these funds are available to help support their enrollment," John said.

"We have made information available to high school counselors in our service area,

as well. So students also can contact their counselor for applications and assistance," he added.

This year, more than 650 SPC students are receiving scholarships from the college, which are made possible through the South Plains College Foundation.

"The primary reason students don't receive scholarships is not because they are not qualified to receive them. It's because they don't take the time to apply for them," John said.

For more information, contact the SPC Scholarship Office at (806) 716-2219.

### FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU

Feb. 11 - Feb. 15

#### Monday

**Breakfast**-French toast, or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk  
**Lunch**- Cheese enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, garden salad, cinnamon apples, milk

#### Tuesday

**Breakfast**- Sausage, toast/jelly, or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk  
**Lunch**- Hot dog w/chili, potato tots, fresh veggie cup, fresh fruit, chocolate chip cookies, milk

#### Wednesday

**Breakfast**- Waffles with syrup or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk  
**Lunch**-Grilled cheese sandwiches, vegetable soup, baby carrots, fruit cup, milk

#### Thursday

**Breakfast**- Breakfast sausage, roll or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk  
**Lunch**-Chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, garden salad, savory green beans, apple slices, crispy cereal treat, milk

#### Friday

**Breakfast**-Scrambled eggs, toast or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk  
**Lunch**-Hamburger, lettuce, tomato & pickles, corn cobbettes, baby carrots, sliced peaches, milk

### Healthy Recipe of the Week

Provided by Pure Balance Nutrition

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#### Cheesy Canadian Bacon Pizza

Author/Source: Katie @ Onceamonthmom.com

#### Ingredients:

- 4 English muffins, halved
- 4 ounces pizza sauce
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 6 ounces Canadian bacon
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

#### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350. In a small bowl, combine pizza sauce and italian seasoning. Cover each English muffin half with a thin layer of pizza sauce. Then, layer Canadian bacon and cheese on top of the pizza sauce. Cook for 7-9 minutes or until the cheese is bubbly.

#### Freezing Directions:

Follow directions above to bake pizza. Remove from oven and allow to cool. Once cool, wrap each muffin half with plastic wrap. Place in freezer bag, label, and freeze. To serve: reheat in microwave for 1 minute. For crispier crust, reheat in oven at 300 for 5-7 minutes.

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# Lockney School

## Class A Girls Bi-District Game

Lockney Lady Horns vs Quanah

Monday, Feb. 11, 2013

Canyon HS @ 6:30 p.m.

Admission -

\$4 for Adults \$2 for Students

## Longhorns get huge district win over Ralls Jackrabbits, 61-44

By Coach Strickland

The Lockney Longhorns improved their record to 8-17 and 3-2 in district Tuesday night with a 61-44 win over Ralls. The win puts the Horns into 2nd place and in the hunt for a playoff spot.

Lockney scored 19 in the first

quarter and led by 10 at half-time. Ian Dunbar had a game high 22 points and 13 rebounds. Landry Kidd also scored 15 points and 11 rebounds. Andrew Hooten was huge in the first quarter hitting three 3-pointers and finishing the game with 11 points, 3 steals, and

a charge. Ky Teeter put in 7 points, 7 assists, and 2 blocks and Erik Cortez added 2 points, 4 assists, and 2 steal. Nathan Caballero had 3 points.

Lockney's next game is senior night at home vs Hale Center Friday night 8 p.m.



Photo by Jennifer Harbin

Little Longhorns: (back row) Brianna Rodriguez, Jadrien Ascencio, JD Faz, Jerry Franklin, David Amaya, Justus Abbott, Jennifer Sanchez; (middle row) Nathan Hernandez, Brinley Lefevre, Lindsey van Velthoven, Tony Hernandez, Cynthia Naranjo; (front row) Madison Marmolejo, Kylan Webb, Azailey Bustillos.

## Lockney School Menu February 11-15

- Monday:** Toasted ham and cheese sandwich, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange smiles, baked potato chips, milk
- Tuesday:** Crispy tacos, garden salad, charro beans, salsa, cinnamon apple-sauce, milk
- Wednesday:** Chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes and gravy, carrot coins, strawberries and bananas, roll, milk
- Thursday:** Spaghetti with meat balls, garden salad, savory green beans, sliced peaches, milk
- Friday:** Turkey and cheese wrap, sweet potato rounds, cucumber dippers, fresh seasonal fruit, milk



Photo by Gracie Cervantes

Members of the Lockney PIP performed Friday night before the Harlem Globetrotter game. Middle row left to right: Hunter Lefevre, Kaimee Webb, Townlei Hernandez, Lyndi Setliff, Korleigh Webb, Josh Jimenez, Brett Moore, Clay Moore, Gabby Cervantes. Back row coaches left to right: Michael Hernandez, Billy Lefevre, Leigha Pate, Cynthia Schlueter, Fred Cervantes, Nicole Rodriguez. Also pictured are the Harlem Globetrotters.

**GOOD LUCK IN BI-DISTRICT  
LADY HORNS!  
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## Lockney Lady Horns District Game Results

By Coach Schumacher

### Lockney vs Crosbyton

Lockney  
9 17 15 15 F56  
Crosbyton  
8 12 17 13 F50

Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Tanae Ramos 15, Kennedy Hallmark 10

### Lockney vs Ralls

Lockney  
6 12 13 13 F44  
Ralls  
13 5 6 13 F37  
Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Tanae Ramos 14, Alanie Rendon 12

### Lockney vs Hale Center

Lockney  
13 21 11 12 F44  
Hale Center  
17 14 8 10 F51  
Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Alexis Rodriguez 13

### Lockney vs New Deal

Lockney  
4 2 10 10 F26  
New Deal  
26 13 13 5 F57  
Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Alanie Rendon 8, Tanae Ramos 8

### 2nd Round Lockney vs Crosbyton

Lockney  
10 13 18 9 F50  
Crosbyton  
7 12 9 11 F39  
Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Mary Sammann 12, Tanae Ramos 10

### Non District Lockney vs LCHS

Lockney  
2 13 14 10 F39  
LCHS  
16 15 12 9 F50  
Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Alanie Rendon 12, Tanae Ramos 11

### 2nd Round of District

### Lockney vs Ralls

Lockney  
11 17 13 16 F57  
Ralls  
2 5 13 15 F35  
Leading scorers for Lockney  
Alanie Rendon 12, Tanae Ramos 12

### Lockney vs Hale Center

Lockney  
10 10 3 19 OT3  
F45  
11 9 9 13 OT11  
F53  
Leading Scorers for Lockney  
Tanae Ramos 14, Kennedy Hallmark 13

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# AGRICULTURE

## Randy's Roundup

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer

### A Tragedy for America

This weekend, America lost a hero and I lost a friend. Chris Kyle, a decorated Navy SEAL sniper, was shot and killed Saturday afternoon at a gun range near Stephenville, Texas. It is devastating that after four tours at war in Iraq and Afghanistan, Chris came home and was killed trying to help a friend and fellow veteran. Dana and I had the opportunity to get to know Chris in recent years. He was a kind and humble man, and America has truly lost one of our best. My thoughts and prayers are with Chris' family and friends.

### More Progress for MF Global Customers

On Thursday, a bankruptcy judge approved a settlement that will give MF Global's former customers 93% of their original investment. Before this settlement, customers were only likely to get 80% of their money back. Additionally, the trustee charged with returning customer funds has laid out a plan that—if approved—could return 100% of funds by distributing some of MF Global's general estate.

This is good news for customers who were devastated by MF Global's bankruptcy in October of 2011. Unfortunately, it's taken more than a year to get to this place and that's just unacceptable for the customers. When MF Global collapsed, \$1.6 billion in customer

funds went missing. What was most troubling was that those customer funds were supposed to be segregated from the firm's other activities. Farmers, ranchers, and small businesses trusted MF Global to manage their accounts properly, and that trust was violated. Someone needs to be held accountable.

That's why in my role as the Chairman of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, I conducted an in-depth investigation into what went wrong at MF Global. Last year, I released a report that analyzed how and why customers lost their money, what regulators did wrong, and how we can prevent losses like this in the future. I'll keep working to ensure that our regulators don't spend so much time expanding their authority that they neglect basics like protecting customer funds and preventing financial fraud.

### DOD and Veterans Affairs Improve Online Access to Benefits Information

West Texas has a long military tradition, and is home to a number of veterans. After proudly serving our country, America's veterans should be able to easily access the benefits provided for them. So I'm pleased that Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense have improved the functionality of eBenefits, a website that provides veter-

ans with online information and access to military and veterans' benefits resources. Now veterans can check their eligibility for certain benefits, search for local offices that assist with military and veteran cases, and access records like Post-9/11 GI Bill status, VA payment history, and DOD Tricare health insurance status.

This service has been provided since 2009 and has helped over 2 million American heroes. Now, it's easier than ever to use. If you are a veteran or active military, I encourage you to learn more about this service specifically designed for you. To learn more about eBenefits go to [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov), and to find information about VA benefits, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov>. I also want to encourage you to contact my office if you need any assistance with veterans and military benefits. Please click here to learn more.

### Action Item of the Week - National Prayer Breakfast

Thursday morning, I will attend the 61st National Prayer Breakfast hosted by Members of Congress. Held on the first Thursday of every February, it is a time for prayer and reflection on our work, our relationships and our country. I look forward to the fellowship with other Christians who come together to pray for the future of our country and its citizens.

## Cattle Raisers Convention Offers Contests, Education and Scholarships for Young Ranchers

Fort Worth, Texas – Young cattle raisers can compete in 4 different contests for the chance to win scholarship prizes during the Cattle Raiser Expo at the Cattle Raisers Convention, March 22 -24 in Fort Worth.

Young cattle raisers can show off their creative talents by entering either the TSCRA Youth Art, Essay or Photography contests. Each contest has categories for kids ages 5 to 17. Scholarships will be awarded to top winners in each category of each contest. TSCRA will also host a range & pasture plant identification contest for contestants ages 12 to 17.

Additionally, the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Foundation will

host Cow Camp, a full day of fun and education for young cattle raisers during the convention. Cow Camp is Saturday, March 23, at the Cattle Raisers Museum.

All contestants should pre-register for contests and Cow Camp by March 11. Registration forms and guidelines can be found on the convention website at [www.tscra.org/convention/youth](http://www.tscra.org/convention/youth).

The 136th annual Cattle Raisers Convention is March 22 - 24 at the Fort Worth Convention Center. Highlights of the convention include the popular School for Successful Ranching, the Cattle Raisers Expo, and general sessions and committee breakout session covering a wide

range of economic, ranching and wildlife topics.

A complete schedule can be found on the TSCRA convention website. TSCRA will continue to update the schedule with additional events.

TSCRA is a 136 year-old trade association and is the largest and oldest livestock organization based in Texas. TSCRA has more than 16,000 beef cattle operations, ranching families and businesses as members. These members represent approximately 50,000 individuals directly involved in ranching and beef production who manage 4 million head of cattle on 76 million acres of range and pasture land primarily in Texas and Oklahoma, but throughout the Southwest.

## RRC Production statistics and allowables for February 2013

AUSTIN — The Texas average rig count as of Jan. 2013 was 812, representing about 48 percent of all active land rigs in the United States. In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 520 million barrels of oil and 7.2 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

The Commission's estimated final production for November 2012 is 48,196,450 barrels of crude oil and 479,371,978 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by

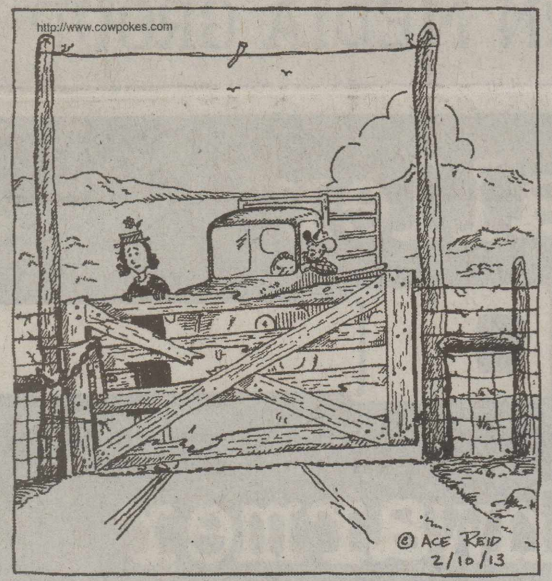
multiplying the preliminary November 2012 production totals of 41,154,854 barrels of crude oil and 416,229,902 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.1711 for crude oil and 1.1517 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage reported to the Commission for December 2012 was 430,095,162 Mcf compared to 417,212,973 Mcf in December 2011. The January 2013 gas storage estimate is 394,540,977 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Com-

mission's Oil and Gas Division set initial February 2013 natural gas production allowables for prorate fields in the state to meet market demand of 9,044,555 Mcf (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial February 2013 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for February 2013 is reported.

**COWPOKES®** By Ace Reid  
<http://www.cowpokes.com>



"Maw, don't be so dumb about openin' the gate..jist take it off the hinges!"

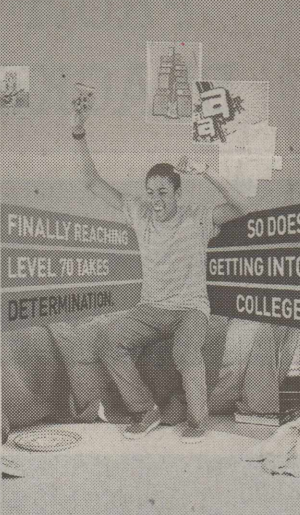
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## Workforce Solutions South Plains in Plainview Offers Agriculture Employers a Free Forum to Learn How to Maximize Business Growth

Plainview— Agriculture employers across the South Plains are being invited to attend a free forum and lunch Feb. 14 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Plainview Civic Center/Country Club at 2902 W. 4th St. in Plainview. Workforce Solutions South Plains is presenting the event which will benefit employers involved in all aspects of agriculture, including, farming, ranching, cotton ginning, warehousing or dairy.

A few of the topics include:

- Protecting Your Unemployment Insurance Account
- Hiring and Firing Issues

• Immigration, I-9 and Compliance from the U.S. Department of Justice

• Farm Labor Housing from the U.S. Department of Labor

• How to Beat the Heat! "Protecting Employers and Farmworkers from Heat-Related Illness"

• What's New In Agriculture from the Texas Department of Agriculture

The Keynote speaker, Dr. Seshadri "Ram" Ramkumar, is an associate professor with Texas Tech University's Institute of Environmental and Human Health, Nonwovens and Advanced Materials Laboratory. The three-time patent holder will be speaking about advancements in

industrial cotton fabrics. Seshadri's research focuses on developing value-added materials using nonwoven and nanotechnology.

Don Hill, Center Manager Workforce Solutions South Plains, Plainview says, "Compliance, safety and health issues are some of the greatest obstacles facing the agriculture community today. The seminar is a concise and solution-oriented forum to help each attendee meet these challenges."

For more information, or to register, contact, Don Hill, at (806) 293-8566; by fax at (806) 296-7572; or email, [don.hill@spworkforce.org](mailto:don.hill@spworkforce.org). Registration is free, space is limited.

**SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE**

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Producers Coop Elevator is offering exceptional deals for the month of February!

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# Texas cow number fall 22 percent past three years

COLLEGE STATION — U.S. cattle numbers continue to shrink and Texas is no exception as the Lone Star State has experienced a 22 percent decline over the past three years, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service livestock specialist.

“Continued drought in 2012 took another year’s toll on the nation’s cowherd, according to the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture inventory report,” said Dr. David Anderson. “USDA reported that the U.S. had the smallest cattle herd since 1952. The 89.3 million cattle in the U.S. on Jan. 1 was 1.4 million fewer than last year.”

Drought caused the Texas herd to shrink again, Anderson said, as the state has the fewest cattle since the 1950s.

“Just over 4 million beef cows were reported in Texas on Jan. 1,” he said. “Texas has lost over 1 million beef cows in the last three years, representing a 22 percent decline in cow numbers. Ranchers across the U.S. and Texas reported that they held more young females, or heifers, to begin to replace the cows lost. Nationwide, 2 percent

more heifers were kept compared to the year before.”

In Texas, heifer retention was up approximately 9 percent, he said. Calf prices have been at levels to encourage keeping more heifers, yet those expansion efforts have been difficult due to dry or drought conditions both nationally and in Texas, Anderson said.

*Drought caused the Texas herd to shrink again, Anderson said, as the Lone Star State now has the fewest beef cows since the 1950s. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo by Blair Fannin)*

“But, even though more heifers were kept, they were not enough to offset the number of cows lost,” Anderson said. “Most of Texas continues to be in drought and the current drought stretches from South Texas to North Dakota. When we start thinking about rebuilding we have to have our pastures and range in recovery.”

Overall, it’s the smallest cattle herd in the U.S. in 60 years, Anderson said.

“Where are we headed in 2013? I think again we will contend with tighter

supplies of cattle, high feed costs, but hopefully, drought recovery to go with it.”

Anderson said to expect tight supplies of calves and for prices to remain high for 2013.

“I think that will be due to tighter supplies of cattle and the potential is there for a possible record high corn crop if we get the rain in the Midwest.”

Meanwhile, consumer demand for beef will be an area of interest, Anderson said. Per capita beef consumption is declining, mostly due to declining beef production and strong beef exports. But even though consumers are eating less beef, on average, they have been paying record high retail beef prices.

As a consequence, demand has the potential to grow slowly as a result of high beef prices and overall slow growth with regards to the general economy.

“We’ll see slow demand growth as we slowly grow incomes,” he said. “In the meantime, beef will face tough competition from pork and poultry supplies.”

## Award-Winning Author Pamela Fagan Hutchins Signs Copies of Romantic Thriller, *Saving Grace* at Hastings – Lubbock on February 16

Lubbock, TX — Award-winning author Pamela Fagan Hutchins will sign copies of her romantic thriller, *Saving Grace* (ISBN 978-0988234802), a fast-paced adventure tale of a Texas attorney who attempts to escape her corporate life on the tropical island of San Marcos, at Hastings Books on Saturday, February 16, 2013, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Hastings is located at 3249 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Lubbock, TX 79413. *Saving Grace* was the Romance category winner in the 2010 Writers’ League of Texas Manuscript Competition and was voted Top Ghost Story in 2012 by the Houston Writers Guild.

In *Saving Grace*, Texas attorney Katie Connell escapes professional humiliation, a broken heart, and her Bloody Mary-habit when she visits the island of St. Marcos to investigate the suspicious deaths of her parents. But she trades one set of problems for another when she is bewitched by the voodoo spirit and falls in love with an abandoned, and reportedly haunted, rainforest house that she decides to purchase and renovate. After a botched case at home defending a professional basketball player, Katie declares an end to her professional career and returns to San Marcos, only to find herself reluctantly donning her lawyer clothes again to defend her new friend, Ava, who is accused of murdering a married senator.

A legal thriller packed with mystery, romance, and a touch of magical realism, *Saving*

*Grace* provides readers with an experience that is zany, tropical, intense, and eerie, all at once. The book combines an exotic setting with vivid characterization, authentic-sounding dialogue, and real emotion, all balanced with page-turning doses of action and suspense. Hutchins captures the spirit of the Caribbean islands with a captivating and imaginative story that readers will find fun, witty, exciting, and difficult to put down.

“I spent many years on the island of St. Croix and have always wanted to write a novel that captures the exotic atmosphere that exists in the tropics,” said Hutchins. “I developed *Saving Grace* after coming up with the main character, Katie, a single attorney in love with an investigator who does not share her feelings. Once Katie attempts to escape her broken heart, she becomes embroiled in a number of mysteries, killings, and court cases that test her mettle and lead to her discover what truly matters in a lovely (and haunted) home in the rainforest.”

Hutchins writes award-winning mysterious women’s fiction and relationship humor nonfiction. A former human resources executive and employment attorney, she has authored six books, including *Saving Grace*, *Hot Flashes and Half Ironmans*, *How To Screw Up Your Kids*, *Love Gone Viral*, *Puppalicious and Beyond*, and *The Clark Kent Chronicles*. She is also a contributing author to *Easy*



to *Love But Hard to Raise* and the upcoming *Easy to Love But Hard to Teach* (DRT Press), *Ghosts!* (Aakenbaaken & Kent), and *Prevent Workplace Harassment* (Prentice Hall). Hutchins is the winner of the Romance category in the 2010 Writers’ League of Texas Manuscript Competition for *Saving Grace* and both mainstream fiction (2010, 2011, and 2012) and narrative non-fiction (2012) awards in the Houston Writers’ Guild’s Manuscript Competition. She also was awarded Top Ghost Story in 2012 by the Houston Writers Guild. Hutchins lives with her husband and two teenagers, plus 200 pounds of pets, in Houston, but their hearts remain in St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, along with those of their three oldest offspring.

For more information on the author or *Saving Grace*, please visit [www.pamelahutchins.com](http://www.pamelahutchins.com) or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). For further information, please contact: Paula Margulies Communications 8145 Borzoi Way San Diego, CA 92129 T: 858-538-2047 paulamar@san.rr.com www.paulamargulies.com

## SPC will host Senior Sneak Preview for high school seniors

LEVELLAND — More than 700 area high school seniors will get a preview of college life during the annual South Plains College Senior Sneak Preview set for Feb. 15 (Friday) on the Levelland campus.

The day-long event begins with registration at 9 a.m. at the Texan Dome. SPC cheerleaders and student leaders will host the opening assembly at 9:30 a.m.

High School seniors will have the chance to talk with SPC faculty and current stu-

dents about career choices, programs and student life during the Program Showcase at 10 a.m.

Parents will be included in the festivities with their own special session in the Physical Education Complex. They will receive information about financial aid, scholarships, testing, career planning, housing and admission.

Campus tours will begin at 11 a.m. followed by an Open House at 11:30 a.m. at the PE Complex. Rep-

resentatives from Student Services as well as members of clubs and organizations will be on hand to answer students and parents questions. Housing tours will be conducted during the Open House. Lunch also will be served.

For more information, contact Kathryn Perez, coordinator of New Student Programs, at (806) 716-2115 or Christy Wright, administrative assistant for New Student Relations, (806) 716-2213.

### PESTICIDE continued from page 1

Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. We will seek to accommodate all persons with disabilities for all meetings. We request that you contact the Floyd County Extension Office as soon as possible to advise us of any auxiliary and/or services needed.

### HONORS continued from page 1

Houchin played an integral role in creating and implementing a dedicated call center for Student Business Services at Texas Tech. According to the nomination form submitted by Martin, Daniel made it his priority to ensure that the team met the goal of “going live” prior to the first class day... and he coordinated all of the meetings and made sure the team was well-informed in order to make good decisions along the way.

“The impact of Daniel’s hard work is seen institution wide, on a daily basis. He is seemingly always on call to provide trouble shooting support and suggestions for making the operation run smoother. We are grateful he is a member of the TTU community,” reported Martin.

Daniel Houchin is the son of Eddy and Karen Houchin of Floydada.

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CAUSE NO. 5939

IN THE MATTER OF	§	IN THE COUNTY COURT
THE ESTATE OF	§	OF
EVA M. PARKER DECEASED	§	FLOYD, TEXAS

PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EVA M. PARKER BEING ONE AND SAME PERSON AS EVA MAE TEASLEY PARKER, Deceased, were issued on January 28, 2013 in Docket Number 5939, pending in the COUNTY COURT OF FLOYD, TEXAS to PATSY PARKER, Independent Executor.

The address of record for PATSY PARKER is 108 KIABAB DRIVE, RUIDOSO, LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO 88345.

All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013.

*Patsy Parker*  
PATSY PARKER, Independent Executor

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**GRANT MANAGEMENT SERVICES**  
**HOME CONTRACT NO. 1001754 RSP #2011-0113**

The City of Floydada has recently received a grant contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Owner Occupied Housing Assistance through the HOME Investment Partnership Program. Accordingly, the Contract Administrator (City of Floydada) is seeking to contract with a qualified professional management consultant to implement and administer the HOME contract activities, including grant administration and housing provider services.

Please submit your proposal of services and statement of qualifications for these proposed services, per the proposal format available at City Hall, 114 W. Virginia, Floydada, Texas 79235, addressed to the Mayor, City of Floydada, 114 W. Virginia, Floydada, Texas 79235.

The Contract Administrator must receive proposals no later than Friday, February 22, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. to be considered. The Contract Administrator reserves the right to negotiate with any and all firms that submit proposals, per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-102.

The Contract Administrator is an Affirmative Marketing/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages Historically Underutilized Businesses to submit proposals.

## Houses for Sale

**LARRY JONES REAL ESTATE—LARRYS.JONES, BROKER—FLOYDADA**

- Great 3 bed-2 bath home with 2-car garage with workshop/office.
- Excellent 3 bed-1 bath home with 1 car garage in great neighborhood.
- Corner home with 2 bed-1 bath and 2 living areas with 1 car carport.
- Cozy 3 bed-1 bath home with carport in country with 3.6 acres.
- Call Dedra at 543-7540 for more details or appointment.

tfn

**HOUSE FOR SALE—111 J.B. Avenue, Floydada.**  
3-2-1 with sunroom, keyless entry, storm cellar, fireplace, RV pad, ceiling fans. Assiter and Associates #011550. Call 806-777-5577.

**FOR SALE BY OWNER:**

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Large 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home with 2 car garage and 3 car carport, sprinkler system, and fireplace. **MOTIVATED SELLER!!!** 806-543-7540 tfn

**HOUSE FOR SALE—** Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in Lockney. New central heat & air conditioning, single garage, basement, greenhouse and patio. \$75,000. No owner financing. Call 806-652-2185. 2-7p

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** — 3 bedrooms plus, large garage/workshop. 300 E. Kentucky, Floydada. MAKE OFFER. Call Kim -806-292-9944. 2-28p

**FOR SALE —** Brick house 3/2, with c&h, double garage with storage, plus barn. Sitting on 74 acres. Call 806-786-1680 for appointment. 2-7p

**Pets**

**BORDER COLLIE PUPS** for sale. Poco Bueno Stock Dogs. Call Tim at 806-983-3322 or email: tim@pocosd.com Tfn

**Services**

LARRY OGDEN AUCTIONEERING — FLOYDADA - Estates, Farm,

Ranch, Business, Liquidations, State Licensed and Bonded. 806-983-5808. TX #9240. tfn

**CEMENT WORK-** Need new driveway, sidewalk, patio or flowerbed curb? Call Gary Bennett at 806-983-5120 (home) or 806-778-8549 (cell). tfn

**DOUBLE T GARAGE DOOR SERVICE—**Sales, service, installation. Call Scott at 806-983-4701

**Help Wanted**

**THE LOCKNEY HEALTH AND REHABILITATION CENTER** in Lockney is accepting applications for a CNA position full time and PRN positions, all shifts available. For additional information please contact Cindy DuBois, 806-652-3375. tfn

**QUALIFIED WELDERS NEEDED.** Must have experience with standard shop machinery. Welding construction and heliarc welding a plus. Must pass welding test. Applications may be picked up at Don Hardy Engines, 202 W. Missouri, Floydada, Texas. 7-14c

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**Website:**  
[www.texasplainsfederal.org](http://www.texasplainsfederal.org)



## Floyd County Clerk Announces Public Hearing For Archival, Restoration and/or Preservation of Handwritten Deed Books

By Ginger Morgan  
Floyd County Clerk

Floyd County will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 11, 2013 at 9 a.m., at the County Courthouse during the County Commissioners' meeting, regarding the restoration and/or preservation of 10 of the handwritten deed books dating back to 1883.

Much of the handwriting has faded and the pages show dirt from 100 years of use. In preserving the books, nothing can be done about the faded damage, but what is there can be saved from further fading, and the pages will be cleaned and de-acidified.

Our books have been taken care of as much as possible, but with the oil & gas researchers, now and 5 years ago, they are getting more use, and with use, comes more damage. I do not want the books reproduced, and the old ones put away in storage. The original books need to be used and restoring and preserving them will make for another 100 or 150 years of use.

## City offers access to medical helicopter services for \$5 a month

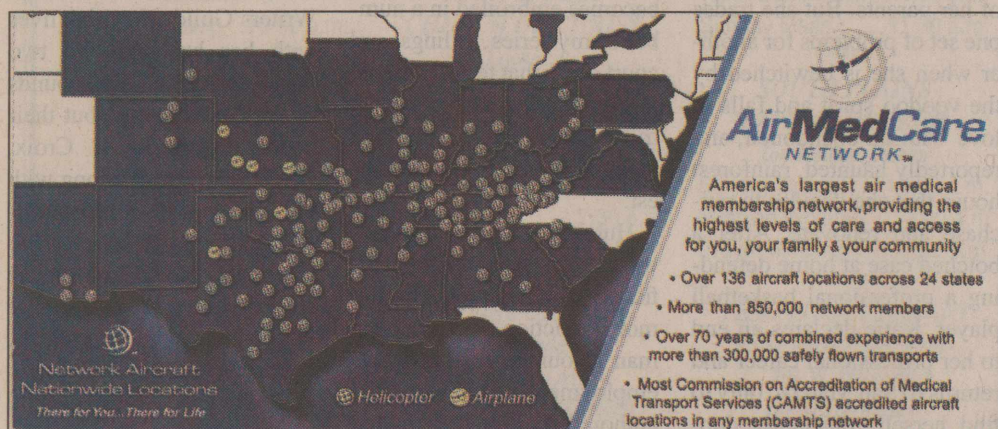
The City of Floydada, in cooperation with AirMedCare Network, is offering its customers access to membership to America's largest air medical membership network.

If helicopter services are needed during an emergency,

or transfer to another facility, this service would cover your entire family. For an extra \$5 added to your City bill, all expenses incurred from helicopter transportation would be covered after your insurance or Medicare is filed on.

Anywhere that AirMedCare operates (see map) your family is protected. Twenty-four states participate in the network and there are over 136 aircraft locations.

If interested in signing up for this program, fill out an application at City Hall.



### FLOYDADA POLICE REPORT January 2013

Jan. 1, 12 a.m., there was a party at 408 W. Jackson when a fight broke out, and an individual was stabbed. It has been investigated and information turned over to the District Attorney for prosecution.

Jan. 7, 7:51 a.m., police were called to 402 N. 2nd Street where Melissa Garcia, a Floydada resident, reported that someone had damaged her tires.

Jan. 7, 8:30 a.m., Eric Cornelius reported to police that during the evening/morning hours someone had broken into the carwash and done significant damage and coins and tools were stolen.

Jan. 10, police officers

arrested Greg Rosa for outstanding warrants.

Jan. 13, Corey Rosa was arrested for a terroristic threat against family members.

Jan. 13, Joe Suarez reported that someone had broken into his residence at 806 S. 3rd Street and taken some electronics and a bed sheet.

Jan. 15, Michelle Ibarra, at 812 S. Wall Street, reported to police that some had broken into her house and stolen tools and a weed eater.

Jan. 27, 4 a.m., police were called to 220 W. Jackson by Ashley Martinez stating that she had been

assaulted by her husband Roberio Garcia. Officers took her to place of safety. A search for Garcia continues. The case is being investigated and will be turned over to the District Attorney.

Jan. 28, 1 a.m., police were called to 329 W. Missouri Street in reference to a domestic. Melissa Gaylean reported that she had been assaulted by a male subject. The case is currently under investigation.

Jan. 28, 10:37 p.m., police were called to 215 W. Mississippi to take a report of stolen speakers from a vehicle by Sanjuana Dalas.

## LOCKNEY SENIOR CENTER NEWS

By Renee Armstrong

Well February is here. Another month down and 2013 is moving along fastly.

The Board of Directors will meet on the February 12 at 12:30 p.m. and will elect officers. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

On Sunday, February 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. Gladys Bobbitt's 85 will be celebrated at the Center. In lieu of gifts, donations to the

Center in Gladys' name will be appreciated.

Twelve members were at the Center to enjoy the pot luck meal on Thursday night. Everyone enjoyed a good meal and games afterwards.

Remember that coffee time is Monday through Saturday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and exercise with Dorothy takes place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 9:30 a.m.

Please remember to call the Center by 9:30 a.m. if you would like to join us for lunch.

### MENU February 11-15

- Monday:** Stew and cornbread
- Tuesday:** Meatloaf
- Wednesday:** Chicken fried steak
- Thursday:** Mexican casserole
- Friday:** Ham



Photo by Jennifer Harbin

Pictured are Jene Brotherton, Sherry McDonald and Gladys Bobbitt from Happy State Bank in Lockney shares a custom-made cake from the bank to the Lockney Senior Center in appreciation of their business.

## Lockney School Board approves audit report

By Jennifer Harbin

The LISD School Board met on January 17 and Kacey Gast, of Bolinger, Gilbert, and Moss, presented the audit report.

Audit reports are presented once a year to show the school exactly how they came out financially.

"The main thing you find out is if you came in over or under budget, and we came in over \$273,527," said LISD Superintendent Phil Cotham. "That money had to come out of our fund balance."

According to Cotham, probably the last time money wasn't put into the fund balance after an audit was 2007. And before that was 1995.

A motion was made by

Mike Lass to approve the payment of bills, tax report and investments of \$3,326,109.12. The motion was seconded by Jimmy Kemp and carried.

In honor of School Board Recognition Month, Cotham passed out cards on behalf of district staff and students letting the Board know how much the members are appreciated.

A motion was made to appoint John Quebe as a representative to the Floyd County Tax Appraisal District by acclamation.

A bid from Danny Huggins for a 1990 International Bus for \$350 was accepted by the Board.

Cotham's contract was renewed and extended for

one year by the Board.

During Public Forum, the brother of student Karina Torres spoke to the Board about the school's handling of an incident at school. No action was taken.

LISD Board members present were John Quebe, Jimmy Kemp, Mike Lass, Rene Guerrero and Aaron Wilson.

Others present were Malcolm Moerbe, Jean Anne Williams, Todd Hallmark, Craig Setliff, Jennifer Harbin, Kacey Gast, Miguel Guerrero, Angie Guerrero, Michelle Araujo, Domingo Hernandez, Ofelia Guerrero, Raymon Torres, Roberto Guerrero, Mary Guerrero, Amelia Guerrero and Connie Gonzales.

## Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margaret Jones

Staying up-beat in an ever-changing world of uncertainty is one of life's greatest challenges. Becoming aware of news updates concerning the sudden lay-offs at a facility not far from here, comments concerning the attitudes of those involved, the headline in the Amarillo Globe News caught my attention. "Something Good Is Going To Happen," reinforces what we have always heard. It doesn't matter what happens to us, it depends on our attitude toward it. Life often throws us a curve and staying positive is by far the better way to cope. To quote a personal comment made by a 14 year employee..."I just believe that when something like this happens, one

door closes, and God's going to open another door." Let us remember that in learning how to lie, we are daily faced with the unknown, and to keep ever looking upward and beyond ourselves for answers.

A great big THANK YOU to the Floydada Lion's Club for coming to the Center for lunch this past Thursday. Your attendance along with the warmth of laughter and fellowship that filled the room was a blessing indeed.

### RECIPE OF THE WEEK

#### HUMDINGER

- 1 lb. hamburger or ground turkey
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 Tbsp. chili powder

- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped celery (or green pepper or combination of both)
- 2 cans canned tomatoes

Brown hamburger in large skillet. Add salt, chili powder, onion, celery, green peppers and tomatoes. Cook slowly about 30 minutes or until thick. Serve over rice, noodles, spaghetti or macaroni. Also good over toasted buns.

I use 3 lbs. hamburger, 3 cans tomatoes and cook 6 servings of rice to feed 14-16 people.

### Thought for the Week -

When we do not find peace of mind in ourselves, it is useless to seek it elsewhere.  
La Rochefoucauld

## Home Country

By Slim Randles

The bonafide members of the Mule Barn truck stop's philosophy counter and world dilemma think tank adjourned early Saturday to reconvene at the top of Geezer Hill. That wasn't its real name, of course. It didn't have a real name. It wasn't much of a hill, either. More like a twenty-foot elevation. The youngsters called it Geezer Hill because several members of the think tank, being in possession of gray hair and semi-wisdom, had smoothed out a sled run that featured style rather than speed.

Each winter since, when the moon was right, nothing good was on television, and the joints didn't ache more than usual, the aforementioned geezers slid down the hill.

Herb and Doc and Marvin stood at the top and got the toboggan ready, while Steve just watched. He was younger, quite a bit younger, than the other three, but this cold weather got his hurt parts riled up and he was sitting this one out.

"I keep looking around for

someone young enough to make the first run and kinda top it off for us," Doc said, "and we don't have anyone."

"I'd go first," Herb said, "if I hadn't promised my wife I wouldn't."

"Can't be that hard to do, I mean, just to go first," Marvin said. "Where's your pioneering spirit?"

"So you're going first, Marvin?"

"Not today. Today is ... something ... can't remember what. But if it was tomorrow, I'd go first."

"Tomorrow that run will be all smooth and packed down and old ladies could go down it," Herb said. "Tomorrow, we'll have been over it dozens of times."

"Got any old ladies around?" Doc asked.

Steve did a couple of squats, and swung his arms around. He took the toboggan rope from Doc's hand, sat down, put both boots over the front curl of it, and pushed off.

"Yeehaw!" he yelled as the toboggan slid in slow-motion

along its gentle path to the bottom. Both he and the toboggan arrived at the bottom together, and the three oldsters applauded as Steve walked back up.

Doc grabbed the toboggan's rope. "I'll go next."

And as he sat down in it, he grinned up at the tall cowboy with the walrus moustache. "Steve, I believe that's the first time I ever saw anyone spur a sled to the bottom of a hill."

"Doc," he said, "I can ride anything with hair. Or ... wood."

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