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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

Home of
Laura Turner

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013

HESPERIANBEACONONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

Achievement Smith named recipient of 2013 Cotton Grower Achievement Award

From Cotton Grower Magazine

Eddie Smith, a Floydada cotton producer, has been selected as the 44th recipient of the Cotton Grower Achievement Award.

The Cotton Grower Achievement Award – organized and managed by Cotton Grower magazine and sponsored by Case IH and Deltapine – recognizes and honors growers who are outstanding innovators, sound stewards of the environment, and leaders in their communities as well as the cotton industry.

Smith was recognized by his peers and the cotton industry on Monday at an event held in his honor at the Overton Hotel and Convention Center in Lubbock.

“The cotton industry has a rich tradition of strong leaders who help guide the continued growth and promotion of the industry and who work tirelessly to protect and improve cotton’s interests domestically and around the world,” said Beck Barnes, senior editor of Cotton Grower Magazine. “Eddie has given his time and counsel to individuals and organizations at all levels of the industry for many years. We’re excited to welcome him to the



EDDIE SMITH

prestigious list of recipients of this annual award.”

Following graduation from Texas Tech University in 1973 with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics, Smith began farming full-time. Today, he and his family maintain a cotton, cattle and grain operation near Floydada. Since first serving on the County Committee of Floyd County ASC in 1984, Smith has dedicated himself to bettering his community, his country and his industry and is a respected leader in the cotton industry on the state and national levels.

He served as National Cotton Council chairman in 2010 and vice chairman for 2009, and has been a member of numerous NCC committees, including its Environmental Task Force. He was elected to the board of directors of Plains Cotton

See AWARD, Page 7

Lloyd retires from Post Office after 22 years



Courtesy Photo

Judy Lloyd (left) accepts plaque from Floydada’s Postmaster Altie Nelson (right). Lloyd retired December 3 after 22 years with the United Postal Service.

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

After over 475,000 miles of driving down busy highways, dusty dirt roads and occasionally muddy or icy roads, Judy Lloyd has driven her last miles for the U.S. Postal Service as of December 3.

Lloyd began her career as a substitute driver in 1991 before becoming a full-time regular carrier in December 2000.

“I’ve driven a lot of miles and seen a lot of changes,” Lloyd said. “Some days the traffic was constant and some days I felt like I was the only person out and about.”

Over the years, Lloyd has seen many changes in the postal service. When she first started working, the drivers had to work every piece of mail by hand which would take up to three hours each morning.

Lloyd said, “Now there is a lot of automation. We are seeing a lot more parcels than we use to.”

The changes in the routes are evident from the decline of patrons on the route as fewer people live in the country today. Even though there are fewer people, some things are constant in a rural carrier’s life.

From the farmers working in their fields, the changing of the seasons, all of the wildlife encountered to interacting with customers, Lloyd said each day there were things that kept the job interesting.

“My favorite sightings were of bald eagles around Dougherty and close to the cap,” Lloyd said.

On a rural mail route, the patrons become like family to the carriers. Lloyd said that if there was a change in a patron’s regular pattern of picking up their mail, we worry about them. The patrons also notice when the carrier is not on schedule.

“One of my favorite days was a really icy, snowy day and I was running about two hours behind,” Lloyd said. “I noticed some of the people on the route were out driving on some very icy roads. After the third time I met one of them and they would turn around and head home, I realized they were out looking for me. That gave me a good feeling, to know they noticed I was late and were looking to make sure everything was okay.”

Lloyd said there are a great bunch of people at the Floydada post office. Everyone is willing to pitch in and help each other out when needed. She said they all show up and do what can be a difficult and demanding job and they do it day in and day out.

Floydada Postmaster Altie Nelson said, “In the short time I’ve been here, I have learned to love her a lot and will greatly miss her.”

Lloyd said a simple thank you often does not seem like much, but it really is.

“I want to say thank you to my co-workers and customers for helping make this job one that I have enjoyed doing,” Lloyd said.

Lloyd was honored with a reception and a birthday cake on December 2.

Floydada EDC Gives Year End Report for 2012-2013

By Justin Jaworski
Executive Director
Floydada EDC

The Floydada Economic Development Corporation ended its fiscal year this past September and had a great deal of items we worked to accomplish. I wanted to share a few of them with the community to let each of you know just how much this group is considering on a monthly basis to improve Floydada.

Floyd County finally realized its transmission line development this past year. The long awaited CREZ line that was started in late 2012 has finally been completed, now giving Floyd County a tremendous capacity for wind energy development.

To add to that potential, XCEL Energy constructed a second transmission line that helped turn our county into a transmission crossroads. As a result of this new infrastructure, an influx of wind energy developers made requests for property tax abatement, moving us one step closer to realizing the benefits of this developing industry.

After being asked why the EDC has spent so much time recruiting and promoting the development of this industry, I answered simply, “Because it’s a billion dollar industry for

See EDC Page 7

Floydada Chamber holds Annual Membership Meeting

By Darolyn Snell
Special for the Hesperian-Beacon

The Floydada Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture held their Annual Membership Meeting on November 19th at the Massie Activity Center here in Floydada.

Guests, prospective members and members in attendance at the 7 a.m. meeting enjoyed a breakfast complete with made-fresh pancakes, sausage, coffee and other breakfast beverages. The meeting was called to order by President Charla McHam and she welcomed all 30 or so people in attendance. Amanda Hinsley gave the invocation. The minutes from the

previous annual meeting held November 15, 2012 and presented by Robbie Odom, were presented and approved. Lance McHam then offered up the Financial Report which was also approved. Then it was on the new business.

Several By-Law Amendments, most of which consisted of changes in officers and their duties and term limits, were presented and discussed by all members in attendance. The motion was made and seconded to approve all the by-law changes as they were presented. The membership also discussed having an audit performed of the Chamber’s books. It was decided that a local CPA will be contacted regarding

See CHAMBER Page 7

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.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Floydada’s Boy Scout Troop and Pack #357 had to reschedule their food drive and will be stopping at homes in Floydada to collect canned or non-perishable food on Sat., Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. -12 noon. All collected food will be donated to Floydada’s Spirit of Sharing. The Scouts are asking if at all possible please leave the sacks of food on your front porch.

COMMUNITY-WIDE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Ministerial Alliance of Floydada will host a community-wide Christmas celebration on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. There will be special music from a community choir, singing traditional Christmas Carols and messages that will bring hope to our lives.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Lockney’s Pack 259 and Troop 259 Boy Scouts of Lockney will be gathering canned food for their Scouting for Food drive between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. If you wish to donate please place canned food on the front porch and a scout will pick it up. The food will be taken to the Salvation Army in Lockney.

FLOYDADA MOBILE PANTRY

In partnership with South Plains Food Bank, the Floydada Mobile Pantry will be accepting applications for the 2014 food box distribution on Thurs., Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. - 12 noon at the First Baptist Church in Floydada. Doors open at 10. See ad in this week’s Hesperian-Beacon for further details.

COMMUNITY KLLL BLOOD DRIVE

Floydada Community KLLL Country Blood Drive will be held Tuesday, December 17th. You may donate between the hours of 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall (400 South Wall). For an appointment please contact Kim Perez at the Chamber, 806-983-3434 or log onto bloodhero.com Sponsor code: Klllfloydada. Everyone that donates will receive a t-shirt and be eligible for the daily and grand prize drawings.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact the FCHB office at 806-983-3737 or email: fchb.editor@yahoo.com

News on the go

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

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County Hesperian-Beacon
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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 806-983-3737 Fax 806-983-3141 Email fchb.editor@yahoo.com

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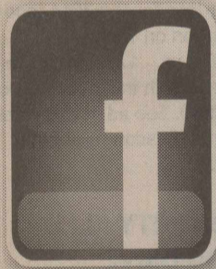
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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our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

DEADLINES
Advertising: Noon Fridays
Editorial: Noon Mondays

SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$30 a year in the county
\$35 a year outside the county



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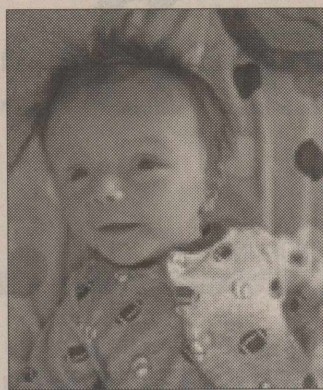
Facebook!

Deaths

Brandt Patrick Ables

Our precious son, Brandt Ables was born August 15, 2013 to Sean and Ashley (Norrell) Ables of Idalou. He passed away into the arms of Jesus Friday, December 6, 2013 in Houston.

Others left to cherish his memory are his sister, Payton Ables; grandparents, Gerry and Vickie Norrell of Floydada and Pat and Donna Ables of Lubbock; aunt, Morgan Norrell of Lubbock; uncle, Paul Ables of Lubbock; great-grandparents, Har-



BRANDT ABLES

old and Charlene Norrell of Floydada, Inette Johnson of Tulia, Sherry Ables of Lubbock and Don and Janet Copeland of Lub-

bock and a great-great-grandmother, Nell Hendricks of Lubbock.

Celebration of Life services will be 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at First Baptist Church in Idalou with Rev. Philip Hilton officiating. Burial will be private.

Services are under the direction of Combest Family Funeral Homes - Idalou.

Please celebrate the life of Brandt by visiting www.combestfamilyfuneral-homes.com.

Save The Date..Community-Wide Christmas Celebration

By Les Hall

Pastor
First United Methodist Church

The Ministerial Alliance of Floydada will host a community-wide Christmas celebration on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

This is an exciting time in our community to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ through authentic worship. There will be special music from a community choir, singing traditional Christmas Carols and messages that will bring hope to our lives.

The theme this year is "Love Came Down" and here is one of the verses:

"He could have called a thousand angels

to surround himself with praise

He could have chosen not to leave His throne on high

He could have pointed to his miracles as evidence of grace but that's not the God He was.

To love us from a distance just wasn't good enough. So He came down."

Jesus loves us so much he came down to show us the way.

During our time together we will also take a love offering for the Spirit of Sharing. The Spirit of Sharing is a very important part of our community that helps people who find themselves in need.

Save the date and see you in a few weeks.

The Paperboy

Some Friendly Holiday Advice

What is it about the holidays that make it seem like time is going in fast forward?

Don't get me wrong, it goes fast regardless. But it seems to accelerate in November and December.

When you're a child, those days leading up to Christmas are excruciatingly slow. How nice would it be for the days to be that long as an adult?



CHRIS
BLACKBURN

One nice thing about living in a small town is that it's easy to identify those in need and just as easy to help them out.

There are local organizations geared to help those in need and the volunteers who oversee these groups and take part should be commended. They make a tremendous difference in the lives of many people.

Years ago there was a man who had moved to Childress who was unfamiliar with Toys for Tots. When he found out about the program, he began buying new bicycles. I can't remember how many

bikes he purchased, but it was a bunch. He was not a wealthy man, but a fellow who did not want to see a child go without anything for Christmas.

He died several years ago, but I think of him each year and the difference he made in the lives of so many children.

Are you someone who airs your laundry out on Facebook or Twitter? If so, stop it.

Parents getting on coaches and teachers, people bickering over local businesses, friends fighting with friends... I've seen it all. And I've seen enough to know there are no winners when it comes to this conduct. It's juvenile.

As someone accustomed to getting my rear chewed, I can tell you it is much better to take it to the source. When you do that, at the very least you'll earn the respect of the individual you have a grievance with.

We live in the age of technology, but that should not mean we lose our civility.

If you have a problem with someone, take it to them and try and resolve it. It's the prudent thing to do and you'll be better for it.

Santa's Coming to The Salvation Army in Lockney

By Denise Doucette

Santa is coming to The Salvation Army of Lockney on Saturday, December 21st and will be once again distributing holiday food sacks and kicking off our Red Kettle Program in an effort to give our neighbors in need a merry holiday season.

Each winter, the Lockney Salvation Army offers special holiday assistance programs in order to meet needs in our community so that people and children from low-income families have a chance to escape everyday trials and enjoy the holidays.

Santa will be at our Store handing out toys to elementary age or younger children who qualify for this holiday assistance program on Saturday, December 21st from 10 a.m. - Noon. Last Christmas season, the Salvation Army of Lockney gave out holiday food sacks to 148 seniors and 35 families and Santa gave out around 250 toys.

Each donation made to The Salvation Army in Lockney, even those made in our local Red Kettle, will go directly to meet the needs of people in our community.

To apply for holiday assistance, please contact Alicia Luna at 806-283-6452 or stop by our store at 108 N. Main Street, Lockney.

You can mail a tax deductible donation to the Lockney Salvation Army, P.O. Box 672, Lockney, TX 79241

All of us at the Lockney Salvation Army, Alicia Luna, Lollie Sanchez, Terry Gonzales and Denise Doucette, want to thank everyone for their support and contributions this past year and for making our dreams come true for a new building on Main Street.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The 501

Let's Get Geophysical

What was I thinking? Me, write an article about geophysics?

What I know about physics is that it's what I didn't take in high school.

Geo is a car. Right?

Yep, I bit off more than I could chew.

It started a couple of years ago at church when I sat on the same row as a guy wearing boots. It was church in the city, where boots aren't de rigeur like they are in the country.

Just so happened I had a pair to give away - nice boots I'd inherited, sort of, from the late ex-husband of a friend who had given them to me thinking they might fit my husband. They didn't.

Anyway, that's how I met Jesse, part-time cowboy preacher and former editor of a national cowboy

magazine. No wonder he was wearing boots.

Now he's editor of an oil and gas magazine, which means he still gets to wear boots. I won't say which magazine. The next issue will contain my article on geophysics, so I'd just as soon keep it secret.

Sometimes editors get a little desperate during holidays. That's when freelancers, me included, have a good chance of getting assignments that normally would go to regular writers - regular people who don't like to work during holidays.

So, if you want to break into freelance journalism, don't count on roasting any turkeys and be sure to get your Christmas shopping, decorating and cookie baking done early. You'll be set.

Then, if you want to prove your tenacity as a newshound, develop your ability to understand a highly technical subject and write about it with clarity and see if you can get people who are in the middle of a boom and too busy to talk to anyone about anything to take time to talk to you about information that can't be released because it's proprietary, dive into petroleum geophysics.

By the time I'd spent a couple of days getting almost nowhere, my editor began to lower his standards. He'd started by saying he wanted a "snapshot" of the industry. After a few days, he was ready to settle for a snapshot. Period.

Interestingly enough, I found myself in the middle of a seismic survey. Pink tape fluttered from barbed-wire fences. Star Wars-esque devices stood everywhere. Big trucks lined up, ready to shake the ground. Reporter's luck. Click. Click. Click. Three snapshots.

A name and phone number finally came my way in a smart phone email from one of the editor's contacts. I called, and a nice man actually talked to me! He was something close to a geophysicist. Close enough for me. Providence.

Then a non-profit organization responded to my request for information with a bit of jargon I couldn't understand. I added it. Icing on the cake.

That's all there is to it.

Just remember to set your standards high enough to lower them, and remind your editor you once gave him a nice pair of boots.

That last part might not work for everybody.



HANABA
MUNN
WELCH

THE FLOYD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT IS TAKING SEALED BIDS FOR

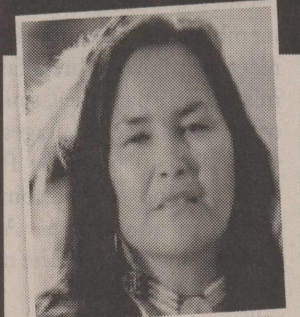
18'x18' Tilt Bed Equipment Trailer
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All bids must be brought to the
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5:00 PM- Room 105 Courthouse

Contact Mike Anderson - Prec. 1 for information
and for viewing - 806-773-2874

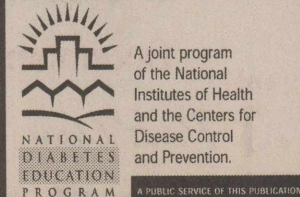
WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY AND ALL BIDS. ALL BIDS WILL BE OPENED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13th, 2014 DURING THE FLOYD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

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For more information, call 1-800-438-5383. Or visit us at <http://ndep.nih.gov>.



SOCIETY

Museum Archives Hillcrest

FLOYD COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM MEMORIES, 1979

On February 2, 1900. The School Land award for Hillcrest District, No. 28 Floyd County, was recorded in School Land Classification.

The first school house was a small one-room structure that was moved from the Crabtree place to a site near the location of the later school grounds donated by T. F. Montague. The school and community were given the name Hillcrest, the name Mr. and Mrs. Montague had given the post office housed in their home a few years preceding the creation of the school district.

The first school term, 1910,1911, was taught by Miss Lucy Smith, who lived in what is now Campbell Community. Her salary for the six months term was \$351.75. The seventeen pupils, some of whom came with Miss Smith, attending that first year were Ruth, Jennie, Minnie, Betty, John and Lawrence Lewis; Flora and Floyd Bransent, Daisy, Tommie and Foster Ambum, Floy and Troy Sudduth, Keith and Hal Bruner, Vashti Smith, and Wayne Howes.

In May, 1913, the boundary lines of Hillcrest District were changed to include 22,336 acres. Individual land owners included Charles Goodnight, T. K. Sparks, Dave Sparks, F. S. Bourland, W. A. Standifer, J. W. Miller, R. H. Brooks, J. M. Jackson, J. P. Drace, W. J. Drace, and L. H. Lewis. The Matador Land and Cattle Company owned many acres in this district, also.

In the 1916-17 school register, the teacher Charles Loyd Rose assessed the value of the school house and grounds at \$60.00. In 1918-19, the enrollment was twenty-two, grades 1-8; the teacher was Miss Ethel Martin, who received \$75.00 per month for an 8-month term.

In July, 1922, a petition to vote bonds in the amount of \$3000.00 to build a new school house was signed by Mrs. W. H. Lwin, Mrs. W. B. Garrison, Mr. and Mrs. L.H., Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Montague, G. B. Bostick, and Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Sweptson. The taxable property was listed at \$206,800.00 with an annual tax rate of 23 cents on \$100.00 valuation with 10 years to pay the \$3000.00 at 5% interest

In 1923 a new one-room building was erected—a much needed and appreciated improvement over the old building which sat on rocks and provided a perfect winter refuge for varmints, especially skunks. Frequently the pupils created an unscheduled holiday by annoying a skunk under the building—and, of course, the school house

had to be evacuated.

Hillcrest was always a one-room , one teacher school, the teacher usually teaching grade 1-8. The pupils brought their drinking water in jugs or fruit jars and their lunched in buckets. The population always being sparse, no church was ever organized in the community and social activities were very limited. Occasionally in the 20's a box supper was held and a few school programs presented. Most of the pupils came to school by wagon, buggy or horseback.

Betty Lewis recalls that she and her sisters and brothers first rode to school in a surrey and always had a least one good runaway a year, then her last years at Hillcrest, she and her sister Minnie rode "ole Orphan", who would buck every real cold day and off she would go—dinner pail first, then her books and she. When they rode in the surrey, Mr. Lewis would heat bricks and wrap them well to keep the children warm on their ride to school.

As the years passed, the enrollment decreased as families grew smaller; much of the acreage in the district was pastureland, and most of the residents were permanent land owners, hence there was very little turnover in residency.

So-1943, Hillcrest School was consolidated with Floydada Independent School, and the school building was sold to Mr. And Mrs. Henry Edwards, who made a farm residence of it on their farm in the northern part of Hillcrest.

Teachers at Hillcrest from 1910-1943 included Miss Lucy Smith, Charles Loyd Rose, Miss Ethel Martin, Mrs. Woolman, Miss Alice Mulkey, Miss Edith Beedy, Miss Stella Vaughn, Mrs. Nina Vincent, Miss Ora Scoggin, Miss Hazel Crouch, Miss Letha Hope Cowand, Miss Lillian King, Miss Mary Pearl Cowand, Miss Margie Norton, Price Scott, Cagle Smith, Miss Hazel Raper, Miss Anne Sweptson, Mrs. B. P. Sandefur, and Miss Elaine Culpepper.

During World War II, Hillcrest Community was a active area, for the Childress Air Force Base, built a pyramid of dirt just on the edge of the Caprock in the community, and the boys in training camped there with their planes for a week or two at a time for bombing practice, dropping the bomb shells on the dirt mound. Those of us living within a few miles were fully aware that a war was going on.

Hillcrest was always one of the smallest schools in the county, having the smallest enrollments and perhaps the smallest building—but it had excellent teachers and the pupils were given personal attention and equipped for more advances education.

Carr's Chapel to hold it's 108th Christmas Eve service

The historic Carr's Chapel, located in the southwest corner of Floyd County on farm to market highway 378, will hold its 108th Christmas Eve service.

Beginning at 6 p.m. on December 24, the program will consist of congregational singing of familiar Christmas hymns, the reading of the Christmas story from Luke, and a seasonal meditation. The children in attendance will be invited to present musical selections, poems, and readings.

An offering will be taken to be do-

minated to the Carr's Chapel cemetery.

Santa Claus will make his usual appearance to the congregation's singing of "Jingle Bells". He will listen to the children's Christmas wishes and help distribute sacks of candy and apples to the congregation. After which, Santa will leave to go on his traditional Christmas Eve rounds around the world.

Everyone in the surrounding communities is invited to attend Carr's Chapel's 108th Christmas Eve observance.

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong
Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

rial donations we really appreciate your kindness.

Hello from the Lockney Senior Citizens. I know you all are thinking that this article is the second one this month, but I am trying to get one in weekly. However there are only so many hours in a day. If you would like to volunteer to do the news for the paper your help would be appreciated.

Please mark your calendars as we will be closed December 25, 26, and 27 for Christmas.

Please keep those that are sick or have recently lost loved ones in your prayers. Hope you all have a great week!!!

MENU December 16-20

- Monday – Chicken and dumplings
- Tuesday – Enchilada casserole
- Wednesday – BBQ chicken
- Thursday – Smoked sausage
- Friday – Hamburger steak

We had 59 here at the Center for family night. Mark your calendar! Our next family night will be December 13th from 5 to 8 pm. Bring your family and enjoy the food, fun and fellowship.

Remember Thursday night is pot luck. Bring a dish and enjoy games afterwards.

Thank you all who have made memo-

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margarette Word
Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

With this bad weather we are having low attendance at the Center. Maybe this next week the weather will be better. I know I've been home more than I want to be. No one wants to fall and break something.

I have been working on the Memory Books that I started years ago. It is a book that has the Center's news articles that are in the Hesperian newspaper and what our Center is doing, and the lists of memorials and donations. Many years to come I hope people will read them and remember those good ole days and the people who made the books interesting and what was taking place in our lifetime.

The 1950 Study Club made a nice donation to the Center this past week. We thank you very much.

We will be having our Christmas party at the Center on Wednesday, December 18th starting at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish. We will have lots of food, fellowship and a program for everyone to enjoy.

Please remember the Center will be closed Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25 for Christmas holidays.

We do appreciate all memorials and the donations help our Center continue to be a service to the senior adults in this com-

munity.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235. Our phone number is 983-2032. Please call Sylvia if you plan on eating with us and if you come everyday and you cannot be at the Center for lunch, please call so Sylvia will prepare the food for those who do show up.

We thank you for buying a raffle ticket at Lowe's grocery store a week or so ago on the wooden toy and picture that were donated to help us raise money for the Center. Roger Poage's name was drawn for the wooden toys (4 trucks and garage) that Charles Tyer made and donated and Jerrold Vinson's name was drawn for the beautiful picture that the family of L. B. and Verna Lynn Stewart donated to the Center.

Thought for the Week - You will find as you look back upon your life, that the moments that stand out are the moments when you have done things for others.

Henry Drumond (1851-1897)

MENU Dec. 16 – Dec. 20

Monday – Oven fried chicken, bow tie pasta, broccoli raisin salad, fruit cocktail, low-fat milk

Tuesday – Creamy mushroom steak, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots, whole wheat roll, margarine, emerald pears, low-fat milk

Wednesday – Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, stewed okra, seasoned corn, pumpkin square, low-fat milk

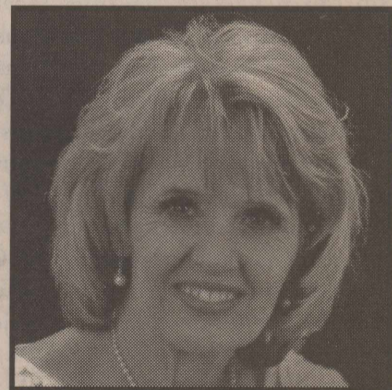
Thursday – Crispy chicken on bun, tomato & lettuce, mayonnaise, potato wedges, carrot & raisin salad, fruit cocktail, low-fat milk

Friday – Rigatoni w/meat sauce, garlic bread, seasoned lima beans, tossed salad w/ dressing, mandarin oranges w/ whipped topping, low-fat milk

Penny Golightly Floyd County Judge

Accomplishments

- Brought Floyd County's fund balance from \$774,336. Audited Sept. 2006 to \$2,012,705. Audited Sept. 2012. Achieved this by cutting contracts and utilities, phone bills, and law library. Also by acquiring grants to help with repairs such as Fema for county roads, roofs and energy efficient lights for our county buildings, vehicles for law enforcement, and some carpet for some rooms.
- Worked with city of Floydada to repair most courthouse sidewalks.
- Worked to upgrade our trees around the courtyard.
- Helped negotiate tax abatements for 4 different Wind Farms, with Wake Wind project starting mid-December.
- Acquired a web-site for Floyd County
- Worked hard to achieve medical health insurance for our employees
- Received a Texas Association of Counties' 2012 Safety award to help reduce the cost of Workers' Comp. premiums.
- Received "Making A Difference" award from Texas Association of Counties for 2012.
- Currently working on a \$400,000 Home Reconstruction Grant - building 5 new homes in Floyd County
- Working with the city of Lockney on a \$350,000 Texas Department of Agriculture Disaster Relief Fund Grant.



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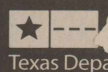
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FLOYDADA SCHOOL

Honored



4-H members and leader were honored at the District Gold Star Banquet at the Frazier Alumni Pavilion on the Texas Tech University campus. Pictured are (left to right) Bill Glass, Distinguished Leader Award, County Judge Penny Golightly, Kirby Nixon, Gold Star Award recipient, County Extension Agent Amy Kress, and Gold Star Award recipient, Jacob Graham.

Floyd County Commissioners Meet to Approve Contracts

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

Floyd County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, Dec. 9, 2013.

Following approval of the consent agenda, the Commissioners discussed the various documents that the Texas Department of Agriculture requires for acceptance and funding of a Community Development Block Grant under the Disaster Relief Grant.

The grant has been awarded to the City of Lockney to drill two new water wells but the Floyd County will be a joint participant.

South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) representative Bryce Simpson explained the required paperwork that included a two-year interlocal agreement between SPAG and Floyd County, a resolution authorizing designated signatories for the grant for Floyd County, appointing a labor standards officer and all civil rights resolutions and policies.

All the action items were passed by the Commissioners.

Dwight Brandt, representing Brandt

Engineering, explained his contract that is required as part of the grant. Commissioners approved the contract with Brandt Engineering.

Amy Kress, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Science, discussed her activities for the months of November and December.

She attended the District 2 Gold Star Banquet where Jacob Graham and Kirby Nixon received their Gold Star Awards and Bill Glass was recognized as the Floyd County Distinguished Leader. She will be in College Station through Friday, Dec. 13 to attend Food Protection Management classes so that she will be able to teach those classes in Floyd County.

In other action, the Commissioners called for bids to sell a tilt bed utility trailer from Precinct 1, approved the Law Enforcement Services Contract with the City of Lockney, amended the budget for the LESC with Lockney to reflect the use of only two deputies and reappointed Commissioner Amado Morales to the Floyd County Appraisal District Board for 2014-2015.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Floydada's Boy Scout Troop and Pack #357 has rescheduled their "Scouting for Food Drive" for Saturday, Dec. 14 because of the bad weather last week. They will be stopping at homes in Floydada to collect canned or non-perishable food from 9 a.m. -12 noon. If you are not going to be home, the food can be put in sacks and left by your front door. All collected food will be donated to Floydada's Spirit of Sharing (SOS). All donations are greatly appreciated.

Floydada School Menu

December 16 - December 20

Monday

Breakfast- Oatmeal, blueberry muffin, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- 2 Pizza dippers w/spaghetti sauce, garden salad, baby carrots, apple slices, milk variety

Tuesday

Breakfast- Chicken-n-biscuit with syrup, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- Baked potato w/ ham & cheese, garden salad, seasoned corn, snowball salad, milk variety

Wednesday

Breakfast- Pancake/sausage on a stick,

oven roasted potatoes, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch-Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, savory green bean, apple-pineapple d'lite, roll, milk variety

Thursday

Breakfast- Sunrise sandwich, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- BBQ on bun, black beans, baby carrots, orange smiles, milk variety

Friday

Breakfast - Breakfast taco, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- Pizza choice, garden salad, fresh veggie cup, mixed fruit, milk variety

**Floydada ISD
Christmas Open House**

*As we celebrate the joyous
Christmas season, please join us
for a Christmas Open House:*

**Thursday, December 19th
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
at FISD Central Office
(226 W. California Street)**

*We look forward to
seeing you there!*



*Please join us in a
Retirement Reception for
PAT FRANKLIN
3-5 p.m.
December 20, 2013
Goen & Goen Crop Insurance
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BE SAFE. DRIVE SMART.

Give Trucks Space.
They're not always in your lane. Whether you're in front, behind or behind a truck, leave plenty of room.

Pass Carefully.
Only pass if it's legal and safe. Don't take unnecessary risks. Do the right thing, never pass when the solid yellow line is on your side of the line.

Drive Now, Text Later.
One in four crashes in Texas involve driver distraction. Give driving your full attention.

Drive to Conditions.
Watch speed in the changing season of weather. Use headlights. Adjust your speed to drive for heavy traffic, bad weather and construction.

Save a Life
Seatbelt Program

LOCKNEY SCHOOL

Lady Longhorn Basketball Report

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

On Friday, Nov. 15, the Lockney Lady Longhorns varsity squad defeated Plainview Christian 61-34.

The Lady Horns were led by Tanae Ramos with 18 points, five rebounds and four assists. Kennedy Hallmark contributed 12 points, four rebounds and two assists. Anna Hernandez had eight points, one rebound and one assist. Alanie Rendon had six points, two rebounds and one assist. Alexis Rodriguez had five points, one rebound and two assists. Whitney Ascensio had four points, three rebounds and one assist. Darby Long had five points, three rebounds and one assist. Heather Fierros had two points, one rebound and one as-

sist.

On Tuesday, Dec. 2, the Lady Horns defeated Kress 59-27. Whitney Ascensio led the way with 13 points, three rebounds and one assist. Kennedy Hallmark had nine points, five rebounds and four assists. Tanae Ramos had eight points, six rebounds and two assists. Anna Hernandez had seven points and one rebound. Darby Long had six points and two rebounds. Alexis Rodriguez had five points and four assists. Brittany Thompson had five points and three rebounds. Alanie Rendon had two points, four rebounds and three assists.

The Lockney freshmen girls defeated Post 22-12 on Monday, Dec. 1. Haley Walker scored 20 points and Brittany Jimenez had two points.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Lockney's Pack 259 and Troop 259 Boy Scouts of Lockney will be gathering canned food for their Scouting for Food between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. If you wish to donate please place canned food on the front porch and a scout will pick it up. The food will be taken to the Salvation Army in Lockney.

Lockney School Menu

December 16 – December 20

Monday
Breakfast- Oatmeal, blueberry muffin, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- 2 Pizza dippers w/spaghetti sauce, garden salad, baby carrots, apple slices, milk variety

Tuesday
Breakfast- Chicken-n-biscuit with syrup, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- Baked potato w/ ham & cheese, garden salad, seasoned corn, snowball salad, milk variety

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Breakfast- Pancake/sausage on a stick,

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Lunch- Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, savory green bean, apple-pineapple d'lite, roll, milk variety

Thursday
Breakfast- Sunrise sandwich, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- BBQ on bun, black beans, baby carrots, orange smiles, milk variety

Friday
Breakfast - Breakfast taco, fruit juice or fresh fruit, milk variety
Lunch- Pizza choice, garden salad, fresh veggie cup, mixed fruit, milk variety

Wit and Wisdom of Texas

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

Wit and Wisdom of Texas looks to show the readers the common sense and uncommon genius of many Texans from the past to the present. I hope you enjoy and delight in these comments.

"Peace and justice are two sides of the same coin." – Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Hospitality in the prairie country is not limited. Even if your enemy passes you way, you must feed him before you shoot him." – O. Henry

"Texans have always been Number One in their own minds. There are no people as proud of their heritage. We've got a lot to brag about, and rightfully so." – Dick DeGuerin

"I done drew the line. Just like at the Alamo. You're either on one side of the line or the other. I don't want to ever leave Texas again." – Bum Phillips

"It's a lot easier to stay interested and motivated when you're winning." – Gordon Wood

"Life is like a layer cake. You just put one layer on top of the other, and whether you frost it or not is up to you." – Ann Richards

"The best fertilizer for a piece of land is the footprints of its owner." – Lyndon Baines Johnson

"You cannot be a leader, and ask other people to follow you, unless you know how to follow, too." – Sam Rayburn

"Life is facing challenges, going through them and getting to the other side." – D. D. Lewis

"Take your lies as they come. Take the bad bounces with the good ones." – Ben Crenshaw

Light the Cross

By Iantha Smith

One of the landmarks of Floyd County is a cross maintained by the Floydada Ministerial Alliance. The cross is located in the canyon sitting on a hill east of the Country Club. This cross has been a guiding light and inspiration to many who drive through the canyon every year!

As we are in the middle of the Christmas season, it is always good to remember what the cross stands for. It is a symbol of the suffering Jesus went through as He took the sins of the world upon His shoulders. He died on the cross so that whoever believes in Him might have eternal life.

Driving through the canyon can now have a new meaning for all who see this magnificent cross on the hill. Many have made donations to keep the cross well lit

and maintained. This month we want to remember little Caysen Barnett. He was the grandson of Larry and Cathy Ferguson. Whenever Larry and Cathy drive past the light of the cross, they remember their five-year old grandson and his young life. As a memorial to their grandson, they recently made a donation that will keep the cross lit.

October Donations:

In memory of Ruth Greer – Louis and Virginia Pyle

In memory of Jean McClintock – Louis and Virginia Pyle, Iantha Smith

In memory of Kelly Chadwick – Louis and Virginia Pyle

In memory of Opal Campbell – Louis and Virginia Pyle

In memory of Carlos Riojas – Louis and Virginia Pyle, Iantha Smith

In honor of Louis and Virginia Pyle – Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hardin

Lockney Salvation Army Report – Neighbor helping Neighbors

By Denise Doucette

This year the Community Thanksgiving Service was not held due to the bad weather. During this Service, an annual report is given by the Lockney Salvation Army. Below is a list of what we have done this year in helping individuals and families in our community with assistance programs for utilities, groceries, gasoline, canned goods and lodging.

2013 Lockney Salvation Army Annual Report of Assistance Programs:

- Utility Assistance Program - 15 Families
- Grocery Assistance - 14 Families
- Gasoline Assistance - 4 Families
- Lodging Assistance - 3 Families
- Clothing/Jackets/Blankets - 20 Families
- Canned Goods - 12 Families
- 2012 Collected - 2,790 Canned Goods
- The Salvation Army Children's Summer Camp - 13 kids

from Lockney (ages 10-12) & 2 sponsors (in Midlothian, Tx.)

To learn more about our Assistance Programs, please come by the Lockney Salvation Army Store at 108 N. Main St., Monday-Friday, 10-Noon and 1-3pm or contact Alicia Luna at 806-283-6452.

The amount of assistance we can provide to individuals and families, in our community, is dependant upon your donations to the Lockney Salvation Army. Please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Lockney Salvation Army, P.O. Box 672, Lockney, TX 792421. Your donation will go directly to meet the needs of the people in our community.

We would appreciate any donations of money, clothing, blankets, jackets, shoes, boots and canned goods.

Please come by our store or drop it off at our Drop Off box in the back of the building.

The Lockney Salvation Army thanks you for your continued support of our mission - Neighbor helping Neighbors.



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Whirlwind News



Floydada Bands Jingle All The Way

By Aaron Chavarria-Staff Writer

Tuesday, December 4, the sixth, seventh and high school bands performed Christmas music for the community of Floydada in the high school auditorium.

With anxiety on the rise, students were looking forward to an awesome performance.

"My expectations going into to this concert was to give our best effort and to play our absolute best for the audience," said junior, Marcos Olivera.

Parents were very pleased with the performance their children and other students of the band put together.

"I thought the band did a great job and showed a massive improvement from the

marching season, which is a huge step for this band," said band parent, Ludustria Prisk.

For many students, this was a new experience for them playing in front of an audience, and they performed well.

"I was extremely impressed with all the bands, in particular the sixth graders for performing this type of music for the first time ever," said mother, Aimee Teeple.

All of the bands showed vast improvement after working very hard to prepare for this concert.

"I think all the bands played better than what they have played in the past and managed to pull together a great performance," said band director, Hailey Kelley.



FJHS and FHS Help Support the Food Drive



By Rebekah Hall—Staff Writer

This year the students and staff at Floydada High School teamed up with the Boy Scouts to collect cans of food for the food drive. All of the donated cans will be given to the Spirit of Sharing to be dispatched to the families in need.

The school helps the general public by

helping out whenever there is a need.

"The school offered an incentive for the students, and it is a great way for them to get involved in the community. This food drive goes for a good cause," said principal, Wayne Morren. "Also we are partnering with the Boy Scouts in our community to help the needy this Christmas Season."

Santa Claus is Coming to Duncan

By Tucker Lowrance – Staff Writer

Santa Claus is taking a break from his toy assembling to make an appearance at Duncan Elementary. Santa will be making his grand appearance on December 16,

2013 from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. to take pictures with the students. If you would like to have your little one take their picture with Santa, please send two dollars to school with your child on the morning of December 16.

Dreaming of College

By McKenna Johnson – Staff Writer

Every student has a dream for his or her life. Dreams can range from experiencing a once in a lifetime opportunity to creating your own magical world. The "I have a Dream Scholarship" will award a \$1,500 scholarship to the best-written and most creative essay expressing the student's hopes for the future or just a bizarre dream they experienced. The essay must be under 250 words and is available to all students thirteen years or older that will be enrolled in college by 2020. To apply you must create a short profile. For any questions regarding this scholarship, please visit the website below.

<http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/our-scholarships/i-have-a-dream-scholarship>

Duncan Students Aim for Success in UIL

By Bethany Morales- Staff Writer

With fierce competition awaiting them, many students battle to be the best. Each of them is working hard to better prepare him/herself. As the students put forth many hours of studying, the coaches are along side them preparing them for the competition.

"For the spelling competition we do quite a few practice tests to get the students ready for the meet," said, spelling coach, Karol Rainwater.

Some competitors have showed their dedication by furthering their studies.

"I study 100 words everyday," said fifth grader, Mercedes Alaniz.

Other students have set higher goals for themselves.

"In number sense, I placed third last year, and I am hoping to get first this year," said fifth grader, Luke Holcombe.

Due to weather, the UIL meet was postponed until Wednesday, December 11, giving the students extra time to prepare for the meet. Results will be available in next week's edition of the Whirlwind News.



Fifth grader, Kendal Hughes practices her poetry piece, "Let's Scream, Let's Shout!" as she prepares for the upcoming competition.

Upcoming Events for Floydada ISD

By: Hunter Schwertner- Assistant Editor

- Dec. 12: Abernathy Basketball Tournament, TBA
- Dec. 13: Abernathy Basketball Tournament, TBA
- Dec. 14: Abernathy Basketball Tournament, TBA ACT
- Dec. 16: Basketball JH/9th Girls VS Roosevelt, There 5pm
Basketball JH/9th Boys VS Roosevelt, Here 5pm
- Dec. 17: Basketball JV/Varsity Girls vs Levelland, There 5pm
Basketball JV/Varsity Boys VS Levelland, There 5pm
- Dec. 20: Basketball JV/Varsity Girls VS Hale Center, There 5pm
Basketball JV/Varsity Boys VS Hale Center, There 5pm
End of Third Six Weeks
- Dec. 25: Christmas
- Dec. 26: Caprock Tournament, TBA
- Dec. 27: Caprock Tournament, TBA
- Dec. 28: Caprock Tournament, TBA
- Dec. 31: Basketball JV/Varsity Girls VS Crosbyton, Here 5pm
Basketball JV/Varsity Boys VS Crosbyton, Here 5pm

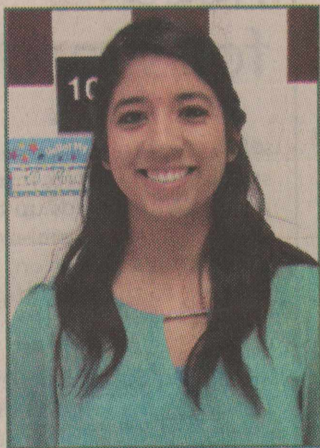
Welcome to FISD

Meet Ms. Pesina

By Mattie Sanders
Staff Writer

The classroom is filled with smiling faces. A teacher stands at the front of the room and reads an enchanting story to the kids who are listening attentively. Although the teacher is completely new this year, the students and staff at the elementary school have come to know her as one of their own.

Keyla Pesina is the new reading teacher for kindergarten. She comes to the elementary school with hopes to instill her love for reading into her pupils.



"I want my students to have a love for reading and to become lifelong learners," said Ms. Pesina.

Ms. Pesina attended West

Texas A&M University and received a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. Keyla graduated with honors, and Magna Cum Laude, both of which she is very proud of.

When she is not at the school, Keyla Pesina enjoys reading, photography, baking, and watching movies. A native to Floydada, Keyla's hardworking parents, Israel and Maria Pesina, still live here along with her three sisters. Her sisters are Tania, an Industrial Engineer, Kenya, a student at WTAMU, and Kyarah, who is a senior currently at FHS. She has one niece named Siann.

Whirlwind Word Search

Varsity Girls Basketball

By Kimberly Pacheco

V K Z K I A T Q Q F B U R F J
 A V A I H L A T S I R C I N K
 I O V Q L J B A R K J S D V J
 P J D W N B E O G C K W N Y D
 A Q H W P J K Q X F U H U C N
 S Y O C U H A U T B A U N C K
 T E U M T D H O P J M C G E B
 A S F P E B J W X G Y G N T W
 A D S J M S E E T T E N N A P
 S N O T X A B T B O A U A S W
 O I R P E E Q R H O C U G B S
 D L E V N P Q D W A I W U X Y
 M L Y B Y L H Q X S N Y C I W
 F X J H I V S V I E J Y M V Z
 D Y C D A K O T A Q C A Y S P

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SALES
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(806) 292-6197 Mobile
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Floydada, Texas 75235
(806) 983-8782 Work

EDC
From Page 1

the county." You read that right, the total value of capital investment from all the transmission lines and planned wind farms exceeds one-billion dollars.

Large industry wasn't the only thing the EDC focused on this past fiscal year. Our organization fielded an ever increasing number of applications for new and expanding businesses seeking financial incentives. The Board has consistently placed a high priority on helping local business. Though it is not always possible for the

EDC to provide financial assistance to those that apply, we can help in other ways.

If you're a small business looking to expand or if you're considering the start of a small business, take time to visit our offices for a consultation. The visit is free and can help provide guidance and information to make your idea a successful reality.

To help improve our services, a great deal of time has been invested to provide quality online resources via our web site. Visitors can find information regarding our community, property tax calculators, commercial real estate, download an application for assistance,

local economic news and find links to other resources. Go to our web site at www.floydadaedc.com.

I would like to take this time to thank those that have served on the Board during this last fiscal year. These volunteers include Kyle Smith (Board President), Louis Bearden (Vice-President), Wes Anderson (Secretary/Treasurer), Sam Green, Randall Griffin, Roger Hughes and Gabriel De La Fuente. The input and leadership of each of these individuals has been invaluable and helped position the organization in such a way that will allow us to be even more effective in the future.

CHAMBER
From Page 1

the matter. The next order of business was for the members to approve all the people nominated for membership. A list of eight new members was presented and all were approved. New chamber members are Mona Anderson, Malin Lloyd, Teddy Summers, Jake Galvan, Adam Soto, Pam Ricketts, Melody Campbell, and joining back up for another term Amanda Hinsley. New officers will be elected at our next regular meeting on November 21, 2013. With that, the Annual Meeting was adjourned.

On November 21st, the Chamber met for our next regular meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Charla McHam at 6:04 p.m. Members present were Charla, Chamber manager Kim Perez, Amanda Hin-

sley, Curtis Emert, Darolyn Snell, Kalli Ferguson, and new members, Malin Lloyd, Melody Campbell and Mona Anderson. As president Charla conducted the first items of business on the agenda including approval of minutes and financial report from annual meeting, setting of term limits for all chamber board members, and election of officers for the new year.

The officers for the Floydada Chamber for 2014 are President Amanda Hinsley, Vice President Darolyn Snell, 2nd Vice President Curtis Emert and Secretary/Treasurer Melody Campbell. As new president Amanda Hinsley took over running the business meeting at this point. Several items of new business were discussed. Some were approved such as a new meeting time, which will be the second Tuesday of each month at the Chamber office at noon. Others items were discussed and

members were assigned tasks involved with getting each matter handled. Chamber manager Kim Perez gave her monthly report, which included new business coming into Floydada and statistics on the Chamber website, which continues to grow in the number of hits all the time. The meeting was then adjourned.

On behalf of the officers and board members of the Floydada Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, we want you to know that we will be working hard to promote and better our community. We welcome your ideas, suggestions and comments so feel free to contact us at the Chamber office at (806) 983-3434, by email at FLOYDADACHAMBER@YAHOO.COM, on the web at www.floydada-chamber.com, or visit us at Facebook.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!!

Home Country

By Slim Randles

There is a secret selfish longing we all share this time of year. It is traditional to give gifts at Christmas, of course, but there's always the chance that those who adore us for our sterling qualities won't give us what we really want or unquestioningly deserve. Therefore ... we are allowed to have Christmas present dreams.

Just take Doc. He knows he'll be getting neckties from the grandkids and socks and underwear from Mrs. Doc. His daughters? Well, they're the wild cards. They work hard each year to get Doc something different and special. But for Doc, when he sits quietly and dreams, there's just that nine-foot Sage fly rod. Oh yes. With that, he'll be able to feel the fish breathe down in Lewis Creek.

Anita Campbell knows Dud will give her clothes that look really good to him but are either the wrong size or the wrong color, or they are a style she wouldn't wear to the grand opening of a septic tank. But she always wears them for one day, anyway, and it's a day when

Dud is home and she knows she doesn't have to go anywhere.

Her secret Christmas dream has a lot to do with warm, sandy beaches, a tall, fruity adult beverage with an umbrella in it, and surfing lessons. She's willing to compromise, of course, because of the expense. It doesn't have to have an umbrella.

Steve, like many cowboys, has been gratifying his secret Christmas dreams in the well-worn pages of catalogs. His compadres in the bunkhouse will shower him with snooze, of course, as that is his drug of choice, but for himself, there's that pair of Tony Lama boots. Oh yes, the ones with the filigree-looking tops. He knows he'll just naturally ride Ol' Snort better if he's wearing them.

You know, every bride has this registry thingie she uses so Aunt Mims won't get her a butter dish that doesn't match the sugar bowl, so why doesn't someone come up with a Christmas dream registry? You're welcome. No charge.

Grandma thought he said "you're the crest," 'til she took her free hearing test. Beltone. 1-866-867-8700.

AWARD
From Page 1

Cooperative Association in 1984 and has served as PCCA Chairman since 2004. He is also a director of Floydada Cooperative Gin.

In addition, Smith is a past chairman and long-time director of Cotton Incorporated, and has served as that organization's treasurer, secretary

and vice chairman. He also was a member of the Blue Ribbon Farm Bill Committee of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and served as vice chairman of its Trade Working Group. He was also a director of the Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council.


"Eddie is a very deserving recipient of this award," PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett said. "He's not only an

excellent farmer, industry leader and family man, but also a tremendous friend to PCG and to me personally. He is innovative and always looking for ways to do his part in advancing, improving or promoting cotton."

To learn more about Smith's story and the Cotton Grower Achievement Award, see the January 2014 issue of Cotton Grower Magazine or visit www.cotton247.com.

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When approaching emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and TxDOT vehicles stopped with flashing lights, change lanes or slow to 20 mph below posted speed limit.



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- Western Family Paper Towels**
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quart **\$1.69**
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Business of the Month



Courtesy Photo

The Floydada Chamber of Commerce has selected Texas Farm Bureau Floyd County as their "Business of the Month" for December. Pictured are David True and Charla McHam.

Wisdom of Nelson Mandela

By Charles Keaton

Nelson Mandela, anti-apartheid activist and South Africa's first black president, passed away, Thursday, Dec. 5 at the age of 95. Mandela spent 27 years in South African prisons because of his activism. Four years after his release from prison, he was elected president of South Africa. Below are some of the more famous quotes.

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

"Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another."

"There is no passion to be found playing small – in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living."

"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

"Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb."

"In my country we go to prison first and then become president."

"Know your enemy – and learn about his favorite sport."

"It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another."

"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

"There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find the ways in which you yourself have altered."

Museum News

By Dorothy Turner

The year of 2013 is almost over at the Museum and it has been very busy. We have had 2918 visitors to date from many countries and many states. Lots of the visitors come by to see the Coronado Exhibit and look at the Flint Books. We have several musicians who have made the headlines, that their original home is Floyd County and you would be surprised how many music followers we

have to come by and check on this.

The Genealogy Department is always on go with the families visiting here who are interested in tracing their roots. We also have people who contact us on the computer asking for information. This County has history compiled since 1890 that is very interesting. We also have most of the funeral and cemetery records from that time to present.

Carolyn Cunningham has graciously bought some of her 700 nativity sets

to exhibit again this year. They are very interesting. Also Wendell and Pat Graham have brought some of his Santa Claus down that his sister Mildred Smith made for him. They represent several countries. Please come by the museum to see these exhibits and to see the museum decoration.

Improvements have been made to the windows in the Barrow Building with more yet to come.

Our gift department has the 2013

Keep Texas Beautiful Ornaments by Nelda Laney. We also have the Cotton on The Plains Book and the West Texas Cattle Kingdom Book. In addition to these we have the Wildflower Book by Willa Finley and some greeting cards with the wild flowers on them.

This is your Museum and is here for everyone to visit and use our history records. We are open each afternoon, Monday through Friday, from 1 to 5. Come by and visit.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010170001

APPLICATION. City of Floydada, 114 West Virginia Street, Floydada, Texas 79235, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP) No. WQ0010170001 to authorize the disposal of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 500,000 gallons per day via irrigation on 128 acres of non-public access agricultural land. The domestic wastewater treatment facility and disposal area are located 0.5 mile south of U.S. Highway 70 and approximately 1.5 miles east of Farm-to-Market Road 1958 in Floyd County, Texas 79235. TCEQ received this application on September 30, 2013. The permit application is available for viewing and copying at the City of Floydada City Hall, 114 West Virginia Street, Floydada, Texas. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application.

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=33.973611&lng=-101.307222&zoom=13&type=r>

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.**

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for**

requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." **If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.**

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission will only grant a contested case hearing on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised in timely filed comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. All written public comments and requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information about TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.texas.gov.

Further information may also be obtained from the City of Floydada at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Jack Alaniz at (806) 983-2834.

Issuance Date: November 14, 2013

AGRICULTURE

USDA Farm Storage Loans Available Through FSA

(COLLEGE STATION, TX) - Dec. 3, 2013 — USDA Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director, Judith A. Canales, reminds farmers and ranchers that Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL) are available through FSA.

The Farm Service Agency offers low-interest loans to grain producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to:

New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage.

Perforated floors, safety equipment, quality improvement equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility.

Remodeling existing storage facilities to increase storage capacity.

Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The new maximum principal loan amount is \$500,000. Par-

ticipants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment.

Additional security is required for poured-cement open-bunker silos, renewable biomass facilities, cold storage facilities, hay barns and for all loans exceeding \$50,000. New loan terms of seven, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Contact your local FSA Office for more information on Farm Storage Facility Loans or visit the web at www.fsa.usda.gov/tx.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Program applications due March 15

By Kathleen Phillips

COLLEGE STATION — Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Program is seeking applicants for its new class, which will begin in July.

TALL is a two-year leadership development program managed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Applications for the newest class, Class XIV, are due March 15. Application forms are online at <http://tall.tamu.edu>.

"Texas agriculture has a need for individuals who can

lead our industry as it faces new and unique challenges. These individuals will provide the leadership, insight and direction to ensure agricultural viability for the future," said Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, AgriLife Extension leadership program director.

The program invests 455 hours of intensive training per person in seminars, speakers and domestic and international study trips over two years, Mazurkiewicz added.

It is equivalent to the time spent obtaining a master's degree in agriculture.

The typical class size is about 25, and tuition is \$3,000.

"The goal of the program is to create a strong network within Texas agriculture by having representation from all agricultural industries and geographic regions," Mazurkiewicz said.

Participants include traditional crop producers, ranchers, bankers and attorneys, as well as those who work in lumber, food processing, agricultural corporations and horticultural industries, he said.

AgriLife Extension's High Plains Ag Conference set Dec. 13 in Lubbock

By Steve Byrns

LUBBOCK — The High Plains Ag Conference conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is set for 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1102 E. Farm-to-Market 1294, Lubbock.

"This program will contain a little of just about every topic regional crop producers have indicated they're interested in on the Southern Rolling Plains," said Robert Scott, AgriLife Extension agent in Lubbock County.

"Speakers will address everything from cotton varieties to aquaponics, and we'll have a great lunch and continuing education units available, so it should be a day well spent for a number of reasons."

Individual preregistration, which includes lunch, is \$35 by Dec. 10 and \$45 at the door with no lunch guarantee, Scott said. For more information contact Scott at 806-775-1680 or rj-scott@tamu.edu.

Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units, three general, one laws and regulations, and one integrated pest management, will be available for those with a valid private applicators license.

Topics and presenters, all headquartered at Lubbock, will include:

— Cotton Varieties, Dr. Mark Kelley, AgriLife Extension agronomist.

— A Look at Alternative Crops, Guar and Sesame, Dr. Calvin Trostle, AgriLife Extension agronomist.

— Pigweed Weed Resistance, Dr. Peter Dotray, AgriLife Extension weed specialist.

— 2014 AgriLife Extension Program Updates, Scott and Mark Brown, AgriLife Extension county agents.

— Pesticide Laws and Regulations, Steve Boston, Texas Department of Agriculture.

— Chemigation, Irrigation Efficiency and Update on the High Plains Water District regulations, Dr. Dana Porter, AgriLife Extension agricultural engineering specialist.

— Growing Crops Using Aquaponic Technology, Dr. Russ Wallace, AgriLife Extension vegetable specialist.

Assignment: Texas Bosque Del Apache



Way out in the central New Mexican desert lies a magical place. Bounded by mountain ranges on the east and west, the Rio Grande River flows through the desert scrubland and brings live-giving water to the desert.

Socorro, New Mexico is much like any other small town in the United States. There's a quaint little downtown area, a Wal Mart, and a smattering of hotels and restaurants. What sets the town apart from most small burghs is what lies a few miles south of town - the Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge.

From its size, you know that this refuge is special. At just over 57,000 acres, this refuge is a big one. However, just a tiny fraction of the refuge is what attracts the attention of most. In the refuge's interior, just next to the visitors center, lies a couple of thousand acres of managed wetlands that, each fall, attracts waterfowl by the tens of thousands.

For the most part, the refuge is a wildlife haven year around. However, when the weather turns cold, the refuge is home to one of the most amazing wildlife spectacles in North America as thousands of ducks, snow geese, and sandhill cranes filter into the refuge to feed and winter in the desert along the Rio Grande.

When I was there the numbers of birds were comparatively light but still impressive nonetheless. In the refuge's main lake, cranes and geese roost overnight. Standing in just a few inches of water, the birds begin to stir at twilight and a near constant buzz overtakes the wetland as the snow geese prepare to leave the marsh to feed in the nearby farm fields. Each morning, just before sunrise and for reasons I cannot articulate, the snow geese on the marsh take flight all at the

same time. That's right - they blast off in unison for no apparent reason.

Imagine 50,000 snow geese taking flight all at once. The cacophony of geese honking is deafening and the sight of all of those birds in air at the same time is truly amazing. Then there are the cranes.

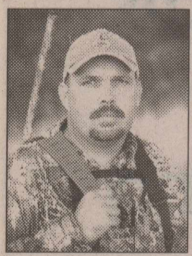
Tall and graceful, the sandhill cranes cruise from the farm fields to the ponds and back in graceful flight. Since so many people visit the refuge, the birds (and all the wildlife) are oblivious to humans and you can watch them do their thing from just a few feet away. The sight is so incredible, I find it hard to adequately explain in words.

Besides the wildlife, the area is full of other attractions like the Very Large Array (VLA) radio telescope just a few miles west of Socorro or the Trinity Site just southeast. For military buffs you may remember the Trinity Site as the location where the world's first nuclear bomb was detonated and movie buffs may recall the VLA in the Jody Foster flick, Contact.

On my way out of the refuge at lunch on Saturday, I found one more place to stop. In San Antonio, New Mexico is the Buckhorn Tavern. The Buckhorn proudly proclaims itself as having the #7 hamburger in America. Therefore, we stepped in and ordered the burger that Bobby Flay challenged on an episode of Food Network's Throwdown - the Green Chile Cheeseburger.

I think the Buckhorn is being modest in their claim of being #7. After all, the burger defeated Bobby Flay's in the head to head challenge. Leaving full, we head back out to the refuge for one last evening of exploration. At last light I see a coyote heading towards our truck and I quickly snap a few pictures. For a coyote, he came unusually close to us and I took advantage of his curiosity by snapping plenty of images. Maybe he could still smell that green chili cheeseburger.

Any questions or comments? Contact Russell at russell@russellgraves.com or visit his website at www.russellgraves.com



RUSSELL GRAVES

Xcel warning customers to beware of scams

Xcel Energy is reminding customers to be wary of scammers who impersonate Xcel Energy employees and threaten disconnection of service if immediate payment is not made.

Several area customers have reported that impersonators are seeking to obtain payment either over the phone or in person.

Xcel Energy reminds customers only to use authorized methods to pay their bills. Credit card numbers and any personal information should not be provided to suspicious callers. Affected customers should call Xcel Energy customer service at 1-800-895-4999 and report

any scamming incident to their local police departments.

If customers have given credit card information over the phone to some-

one posing as an Xcel Energy employee, customers should call their credit card company and follow the credit card company's recommendations.

COWPOKES® By Ace Reid

http://www.cowpokes.com

"Awright we got you fer stuffin' ballot boxes, registerin' dead people but I admire your interest in politics!"

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West Texas Physicians serving West Texas Families

Mangold Memorial Hospital Holds 21st Annual Health Fair



Photos by Shedia Benton

Mangold Memorial Hospital and Cogdell Clinic hosted their 21st annual Health Fair the past Saturday at the Lockney Elementary Cafetorium. Despite the extremely cold weather, the crowds browsed through the exhibits that included health screenings such as blood sugar, blood pressure and hearing exams. Visitors could obtain information regarding healthy lifestyles, hospice services, home health services and various other health related services available in the surrounding area.



Keep Texas Beautiful Admires Texas Landscape and Environment with Annual Holiday Ornament

AUSTIN, TEXAS – Keep Texas Beautiful encourages Texans to take pride in the beauty and prosperity of our state, and play a vital role in improving their community environment. To raise awareness and funds to support statewide programs that enhance the environment, Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) introduces its 10th edition commemorative holiday ornament, showcasing elements of the Texas landscape and environment.

The 24-karat gold-plated ornament features quintessential Texas symbols of a windmill and pumpjack to illustrate the thriving industrial and agriculture climate of our state. In addition, the ornament also highlights Texas wildlife with a longhorn, jack-rabbit and armadillo.

Texas is home to many impressive symbols of life and growth; when you purchase a Keep Texas Beautiful holiday ornament, you are showcasing your pride in the Lone Star State and the evolution of its splendor. Ornament sales



help fund numerous local and statewide programs focusing on litter prevention, beautification, and waste reduction, and also reinforce KTB's mission to educate and engage Texans to take responsibility for improving their community environment. All ten editions in the ornament collection can be purchased for \$19

(+ tax) each; with bulk orders of 25 or more, each ornament is just \$15 (+tax). Ornaments may be purchased online at www.ktb.org, or by calling 1-800-CLEAN-TX.

Keep Texas Beautiful is a statewide grassroots environmental nonprofit that strives to educate and engage Texans to take responsibility for improving their community environment. KTB has an affiliate network of more than 360 communities across the state, and reaches upwards of 19 million Texans with its message of waste reduction, litter prevention and community beautification. Working in tandem with community leaders, civic organizations, government entities and local businesses, KTB strives to make Texas the cleanest, most beautiful state in the nation.

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