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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014

HESPERIANBEACONONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

Happy State Bank provides fundraiser for area athletes

By Kay Ellington
 The Hesperian-Beacon

Happy State Bank has teamed up with the South Plains Fellowship of Christian Athletes to raise funds for scholarships for the Texas Tech FCA four-day sports camp in June.



Courtesy photo
Happy State Bank has teamed up with the South Plains Fellowship of Christian Athletes to raise funds for scholarships for the Texas Tech FCA sports camp in June. Eight framed and laser-signed photographs are on display for Silent Auction bids to be taken through mid-January.

Eight framed and laser-signed photographs or photographic collections are on display for Silent Auction bids to be taken through mid-January.

- Framed photos to be bid on include:
- Peyton Manning/Wes Walker
 - Arnold Palmer/ Jack Nicklaus
 - Legendary Texans
 - So God Made a Farmer by Paul Harvey
 - Nolan Ryan History
 - Johnny Cash & Elvis Presley
 - Cowboys Big Three
 - History of Texas Tech

Photographs can be viewed at Happy State Bank locations in Floydada, Lockney, Silvertown, Plainview and Olton.

According to Terry Kinard, regional director of the FCA, one of the more popular pieces in this part of the country should be, "So God Made a Farmer," by Paul Harvey.

"So God Made a Farmer" was the name given to a speech given by the radio broadcaster Paul Harvey at a 1978 Future Farmers of America convention. This speech was

See FUNDRAISER, Page 8



Barbara Anderson/The Hesperian-Beacon
The 2013 Spirit of Christmas meals being cooked and prepared to be delivered on Christmas morning.



"Spirit of Christmas" tradition continues

By Kay Ellington
 The Hesperian-Beacon

Are you a parent or a grandparent who wants to ensure that your children appreciate the true meaning of the Christmas holidays? Is it important to you that your Christmas morning isn't spent just unwrapping an endless array of gifts

which may or may not be appreciated? Many Floydada families spend their Christmas morning a very different way—by delivering holiday meals to the elderly and needy in Floydada, Lockney, Plainview and area Ronald McDonald houses in the Spirit of Christmas program which dates back more than

See TRADITION, Page 8

WJ MANGOLD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL Recognized by iVantage Health Analytics for Performance Leadership in Patient Satisfaction

Lockney, TX, November 2014 – WJ Mangold Memorial Hospital has announced it has been recognized by iVantage Health Analytics for overall excellence in Patient Satisfaction, reflecting top quartile performance among all acute care hospitals in the nation.

(NRHA) contracted with iVantage Health Analytics to conduct research of all acute care hospitals in the nation. Out of all the hospitals, WJ Mangold Memorial Hospital was ranked in the top quartile for Performance Leadership in Patient Satisfaction!

National Rural Health Association

Attention Floydada and Lockney Basketball Coaches

Email game information to fchblockney@yahoo.com to have scores and player stats included in the newspaper on a regular basis. This is for junior high through high school varsity squads. Deadline each week is Monday at 11:00 a.m. Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated. If you have any questions, contact Charles Keaton at fchblockney@yahoo.com.

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.

LOCKNEY DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS

Lockney Chamber of Commerce and sponsor Hospice Hands of West Texas will host their annual Downtown Christmas on Dec. 4. Business will have door prizes during the day and will remain open from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Santa will arrive at the Dove Room at 6:30 p.m. to visit with all the kids.

ANDREWS' BOOK SIGNING

Danny Andrews will hold a book signing on Thurs., Dec. 4 from 11-12 at Nick Long-State Farm office and then from 1-2 p.m. at the KFLP Radio Station. Read the front page article in this week's Hesperian-Beacon for more info.

MANGOLD MEMORIAL HOLIDAY HEALTH FAIR

W. J. Mangold Memorial Hospital in Lockney will be hosting their annual Holiday Health Fair on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. - noon at the Lockney Elementary cafeteria. For admission bring a new toy or canned good which will be donated to the Lockney Salvation Army Christmas Cheer Program. See the article in this week's Hesperian-Beacon for further details.

SANTA COMES TO FLOYDADA

The Floydada Chamber is bringing Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus to Floydada on Thurs., Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. Santa will arrive downtown in front of First National Bank. Parents are encouraged to bring cameras.

NATIVITY SCENES

Nativity scenes from the collection of Carolyn Cunningham will be on display at the Dove Room at 305 N. Main in Lockney. Hours will be Dec. 12, 3:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m.; Dec. 13, 10:00 a.m. till 7:00 p.m.; and Dec. 14, 1:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted at the door. Sponsored by Hospice Hands Advisory Board.

Correction

If you spot an error of fact, contact the FCHB office 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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 USPS 202-680



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Robbie Hilton

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 Hours: Monday - Friday - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Saturday - By appointment

Join us December 4th for Hometown Christmas Bridal Shower
 Lindsay Collins & Joshua Yieh ~ Dec. 20th

Hearts Desire

Open M-F 10 AM - 6 PM
 2900 Olton Road Plainview (806) 296-2549
 120 S Main Lockney (806) 652-2548

Bridal Shower
 Amy Garbutt & Jess Finley

Payne Pharmacy
 200 S. Main St. Floydada (806) 983-5111 • (800) 345-7961 Denise Payne, R.Ph.

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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

Deaths

Olive Nan Hinton

Olive Nan Hinton 84 years old, went home to be with the Lord Thursday, November 27, 2014 in Crosbyton, Texas.

Funeral services were held at the First United Methodist Church in Floydada, Texas on Saturday, November 29, at 2:00 p.m.

Interment followed at the Dougherty Cemetery. Arrangements were under the care of Moore Rose Funeral Home of Floydada.

Olive was born on April 27, 1930 to Fred and Eula Mae (Lotspeich) Gross on the farm in the Ellen community of eastern Hale County. In 1935, the family moved to Sandhill and Olive began school in the Sandhill School in 1936. She graduated from Floydada High School in 1947 and worked as a dental assistant for Dr. Thacker in Floydada.

On November 11, 1952, Henry and Olive were married at the Gross Family home in Sandhill. They made their home on the farm in the Dougherty community, and worked together as a family to make the farm a success. Olive was active in the Dougherty Community Club and helped with the Dougherty 4-H Club and the Floyd County 4-H Club. Olive has been an active member in the First United Methodist Church of Floydada, serving in many capacities including children's Sunday school teacher and coordinator. Henry and Olive were



OLIVE HINTON

honored as "Family of the Year" by the Floydada First United Methodist Church in 1970. She served as a volunteer and a board member of the Floyd County Museum. Henry and Olive were named Pioneer Couple of the Year by the Floyd County Pioneer Association in 2010. Both volunteered at the Floydada Care Center for many years. Olive was a giving, loving wife and mother and a friend to many. Olive and her husband, Henry, enjoyed special times with their grandchildren. Her presence here on earth will be missed, yet carried on by the legacy of those she influenced.

Olive has enjoyed the recent past as a resident of Shepherd's Meadow in Floydada, and most recently the Crosbyton Nursing Home. The family appreciates the loving, caring environment each one provided.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James "Henry"

of Floydada, Texas, son, Harold Ray Hinton of Monte Vista, Colorado and two brothers, Allen Gross of Petersburg, Texas and Dave Gross of the Sandhill Community.

She leaves behind two sons, James Hinton and his wife, Sharon of Floydada, Texas and Dean Hinton and his wife, Kim of Wichita Falls, Texas. She is survived by five grandsons and three granddaughters, Kyle and Autumnne Hinton of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Ralph and Jordan Hinton of Brighton, Colorado, Brad and Heather Hinton of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Eric and Kiersten Hinton of Monte Vista, Co, Katie Hinton of Abilene, Texas, Carly Hinton of Greeley, Colorado, Matthew Hinton of Socorro, New Mexico, and Nadia Hinton of Nacogdoches, Texas and one great-grandson. She is also survived by one sister, Mary Sue Fowler of Bovina, Texas; her brothers, Jerry and Joanne Gross of Spokane, Washington, Dan and Barbara Gross of Hobbs, New Mexico, Thacker and Joan Gross of Las Cruces, New Mexico and Lonnie Pat and Peggy Gross of Cleveland, Tennessee; two sister-in-laws, Christine Lyles of Hale Center, Texas and Lois Hinton of Richardson, Texas along with many nieces and nephews. Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church or the Floyd County Museum.

Dorothy Margaret Schweitzer

Dorothy Margaret Wason Campbell Schweitzer, 89 years old, departed this life November 28, 2014 in Floydada, Texas.

Services were held at 10 a.m., Monday, December 1, 2014 at the First United Methodist Church.

Burial was held in the Floyd County Memorial Park under the direction of Moore-Rose Funeral Home of Floydada.

Dorothy was born March 27, 1925 in Matador, Texas to William B. and Artie Ruth (Hickson) Wason. She attended primary and secondary school in Matador, Texas and edited the 1942 yearbook, La Arena.

She married David Campbell in Matador July 25, 1946, and together they raised three sons, Gary David, Roger Gale, and William Greg, first in Matador, then Roaring Springs, and later in Floydada.

Dorothy was a devoted mother and farmer's wife as well as a long time civil servant. She worked at the Motley County AAA, Roaring Springs U.S. Post Office, Floyd County Farmers Home Administration, and Floyd County ASCS. She retired

from ASCS in 1981 with 27-1/2 years of combined public service.

Dorothy was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star. In later years she and David were active members of the Wally Byam Caravan Club and the Good Sam's club. They made many enduring friendships in campgrounds across the country, and for years were regulars at the Roaring Springs Ranch Club. In retirement they also spent many happy winters in the Rio Grande Valley, from Donna to Del Rio.

Dorothy and David were married 54 years at the time of his death December 7, 1999.

She married Albert K. Schweitzer on April 7, 2001. Dorothy and Bert had been classmates from grade school through high school in Matador, Texas, and were lifelong friends. They spent seven happy years together remembering the earlier times, enjoying each other's company and getting to know each other's families. Bert died July 3, 2008 in Lubbock.

Throughout her life, family was Dorothy's first priority, from her grandparents,

Mollie Wason, and Lydia and Wesley Hickson, to her mom, dad and younger brothers, to her spouses, in-laws, children, nieces, nephews, grands and greats. She dearly loved them all, Wasons, Campbells, Hunters, Daveys and Schweitzers alike.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Billy Wason, husbands, David Campbell and Bert Schweitzer, and her son, Greg Campbell.

She is survived by her brother, Don Wason of Plainview, Texas; four sons, Gary and Nancy Campbell of Gonzales, Louisiana, Gale and Carolyn Campbell of Floydada, Mike and Sharon Schweitzer of San Antonio, Texas and Mark Schweitzer of Austin Texas; nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

A visitation was held at the funeral home from 12-8 p.m. on Sunday, November 29, 2014, and the family received friends at the funeral home from 3-5 p.m.

Memorials may be made in Mrs. Schweitzer's memory to the Floydada Senior Citizens, or First United Methodist Church Floydada.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I have attended the Floydada basketball games for several years, mainly watching the varsity girls. I haven't watched a boy's game in a long, long time, due the "noise". I have endured the torture of listening to the pre-game "noise", the half time "noise" and the between game "noise" all these years, and I only have one question.....Do these players have this "noise" during practice, or at home? I would venture to say NO! Why must the fans be subjected to this? More fans might attend without it! I wouldn't mind it so much if it was actually music.....or if it was played at about half the volume! I have to get up and go to the concession area to escape the full brunt of it, but it shouldn't be that way.

I miss the "good old days" when a person could actually carry on a conversation before a game, or at half time!! I guess I am old and don't understand this new generation, and as a result, I probably won't be attending very many games, since I don't have any granddaughters playing anymore. I enjoy watching the games, but it just isn't worth the headaches caused by all the "noise".

I watched the girls play Friday night, and was going to watch the boys game, but with 20 minutes of this "noise", I left, went home and took some Aleve!!! I'm not alone in this matter, and it has been mentioned to me that the players could choose the "noise", but the fans should be allowed to choose the VOLUME!!!!!!

Tommy Ogden
Floydada, Texas

Ministerial Alliance of Floydada to host community wide Christmas Celebration

By Tim Franks
Pastor FBC

Christmas is always an exciting time of the year for our community. This year the Ministerial Alliance of our community would like to add to the excitement of the season.

As our community celebrates the birthday of Jesus, the Ministerial Alliance of Floydada will host a special community-wide Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 14, 2014. The celebration will take place in the First Baptist Church sanctuary (401 South Main) at 6 p.m. This will be a great opportunity for our entire community to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ through authentic worship. There will be special music from a community choir, singing of traditional Christmas Carols, and scripture reading that will bring hope and encouragement to our lives.

Also, during the celebration we will also be honoring the wonderful local organization, Spirit of Sharing. Spirit of Sharing is an integral part of our community as it helps many people that find themselves in need. We will hear a little bit about S.O.S. and then we will take a love offering to help them meet the needs of other people.

Please plan to attend this Community Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 14, at 6 p.m. in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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



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NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST

THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA L. FORD

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Cynthia L. Ford, Deceased, were issued on November 25, 2014, in Cause No. 5994 pending in the County Court of Floyd County, Texas, to:

BERNIE V. FORD

The address of such person is:

P.O. Box 922
Lockney, Texas 79241

Persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Law Offices of
BAKER, BROWN & THOMPSON
A Professional Corporation
By Norton Baker
State Bar No. 01602000
Attorneys for the Estate

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CITY OF LOCKNEY TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The City of Lockney will hold a public hearing at 6:45 p.m. on December 11, 2014 at Lockney's City Hall in regards to the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Community Development Fund grant. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TxCDBG funding available, all eligible TxCDBG activities, and the use of past TxCDBG funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TxCDBG application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Laurie Garcia, Lockney's City Clerk, at Lockney's City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact Lockney to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact Lockney at least two days before the meeting, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Para mas informacion en espanol, comuniquese con Laurie al 806-652-2355.

SOCIETY

Floydada Library to host local author for book signing Dec. 11

Author Connie Johnson will be signing and discussing her novel, *The Tales of Hackett County*, at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 at the Floyd County Memorial Library, 111 S. Wall Street.

The author was born and raised on the plains of West Texas. She and her husband,

Nathan, have been married over 40 years and have raised two sons. She is the conference

coordinator for the "Join the Journey" Women's Christian Conference and Bible study

teacher for the Christian Women's Job Corps New Options for Women. She has been a

longtime Sunday school teacher, and now her love of books and writing can be shared

through the everyday characters in a place called Hackett County.

The *Tales of Hackett County* takes place in 1953 in a small town in the foothills of West

Virginia. Hackett County is filled with quaint and interesting citizens that add to the charm of the

community. After graduating from college, Beth Mayfield moved back to Hackett

County to pursue a career as librarian for the Hackett County Public Library. However,

Beth is soon thrown into a mystery that involves the matriarch of this small town, and she

quickly finds out how easy it can be to become entangled and enriched by the people of

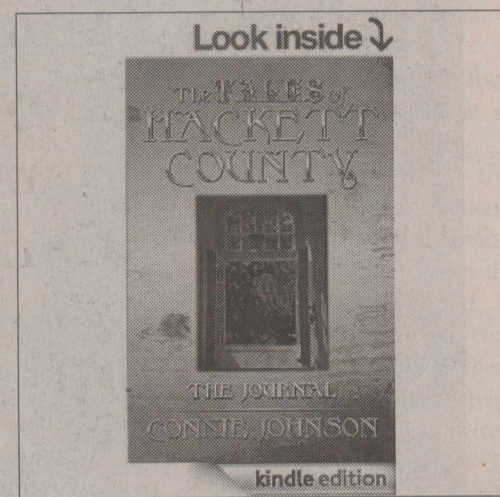
Hackett County. Beth's decision to return is confirmed by the interesting people she

comes into contact with as she makes her home in the place her ancestors had settled



Courtesy photo

Author Connie Johnson will be signing and discussing her novel, *The Tales of Hackett County*, at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 at the Floyd County Memorial Library, 111 S. Wall Street.



centuries before. The mystery begins... the clues surface... and lives are changed.

Santa Claus is coming to Floydada

By Darolyn Snell

Santa Claus is coming to town!! That's right, Thanksgiving is done, so is Black Friday shopping and it's time to get into the Christmas spirit.

Your Floydada Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture is glad to announce that Santa will make his annual appearance here in

Floydada. On Thursday, Dec. 11th at 6 p.m. Santa will arrive downtown in front of the First National Bank. He will be here to hear from the little ones about what they want for Christmas and to take pictures. We invite all parents to bring your cameras and take your pictures at no charge.

Santa will be seated in

front of the beautiful tree and decorations in the First National Bank entry way.

So mark your calendars and get into the Christmas spirit and plan on bringing all the kids and share a wonderful evening with Santa (and maybe Mrs. Claus and an elf)!

See you there....Thursday, Dec. 11th at 6 p.m.

Museum Archives

Floyd County Historical Museum "Memories, 1979"

CLEO ANDREWS COINS

My Grandfather, Dr. R. C. Andrews, married Miss Lucy Kirkpatrick in Jackson County, Tennessee in 1854. To this union was born four children - Sallie, Mollie, Max and Vamey. They moved to Texas in 1869 and Grandfather began practicing medicine.

I have no record as to where he received his medical education and training. My Grandparents settled in Floyd County in 1890 and Grandfather helped establish the town of Floydada. He was affectionately called "Dr. Bob". I believe he donated the land for the school which bears his name, Andrews Ward School, which is still in existence. Grandfather was a Mason and served as District Deputy for many years. He was a charter member of Floydada Lodge #712 and a Past master of that Lodge. He received the degrees in The Royal Arch and Council of Royal and Select Masters and served as High Priest and Thrice Illustrious Master in these lodges. He was a Knight Templar and served as Commander of the Commandry. Grandfather was a Shriner and a charter member of Khiva Shrine in Amarillo. He passed away in 1918, and grandmother passed away in 1922.

Mr. Father, Dr. Varney Andrews, was born in Grayson County, Texas in 1864. In 1884 he moved with his parents to Anson, in Jones County. He graduated from A&M College in 1884 and taught school one year in Fisher County and two years in Anson. He attended Louisville Medical College in Louisville, Kentucky in 1888-1889. He then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Baltimore, Maryland for the 1889-1890 term, and was graduated March 18, 1890. He returned to Texas and located in Floydada in June, 1890, where he practiced medicine until 1895. He married Miss Emma Jo Pickens on November 19, 1890 and to this union was born five children. The first two died in infancy, and Carter C., Cleo, and Maurine all lived to be grown and married. The family moved to Valley View, Cooke County, Texas and Dad practiced until 1907 when the family returned to Floydada so that Dad could take over his father's practice. Here they lived until their deaths- Mama on December 18, 1921 and Dad in September, 1943. Mama and Dad were members of the

First Christian Church, The Eastern Star, and he was a Mason. In 1925 he married Mrs. Fannie Rush, who taught piano and voice in Floydada for many years.

Memories of my childhood are filled with the happy times with our close-knit family, but there are also memories of sad, hard times. Dad made his house calls in the early days by horse and buggy. He would go miles to help the sick, any hour of the day or night. It was not unusual for him to spend a night or two at a patient's home while waiting for a baby to be born or a fever to break. Anyone who ever knew Dr. Varn will remember him going about his business always humming a tuneless song!

I remember the terrible flu epidemic that struck Floydada in 1918. So many died during this period, and the courthouse was turned into a hospital. I remember that mama took a sick baby into our home until the child recuperated. Dad and the other doctors were working night and day, only going home long enough to eat and change clothes.

Dad was a member of the Floydada School Board all during my childhood. I would come home and say something "mean" about my teacher and he would hush me up. I told Mama he would not believe a thing I told him. She said he did, but that he wouldn't let me know!

I started to school in 1907, but school was a little late in starting, as the little old schoolhouse had burned down and a new schoolhouse was being built. The new one also burned down later. Bertha (Snodgrass) Savage, Ruth (Brown) Hall, May (Montague) Garrett, and Pauline (Bishop) Dickey are four of my dearest school chums who are still living, and each year we get together for a reunion in Lubbock in the home of Pauline Dickey.

In 1921 I married Clarence Goins, who was working in the bank here at that time. We had one child, Jo V. Clarence later went to work for Higginbotham-Bartlett Company and we lived in several area towns, eventually returning to Floydada in 1946. Clarence passed away May 9, 1952.

Jo V. met and married Alien Bingham while they were both serving in the U. S. Marine Corps in World War II, and they have a daughter, Sharon. She married Roy Kinard and they have three children-Terri, Eddie and Sherre.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Save a Life
Texas Department of Transportation

FLOYDADA SCHOOL

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

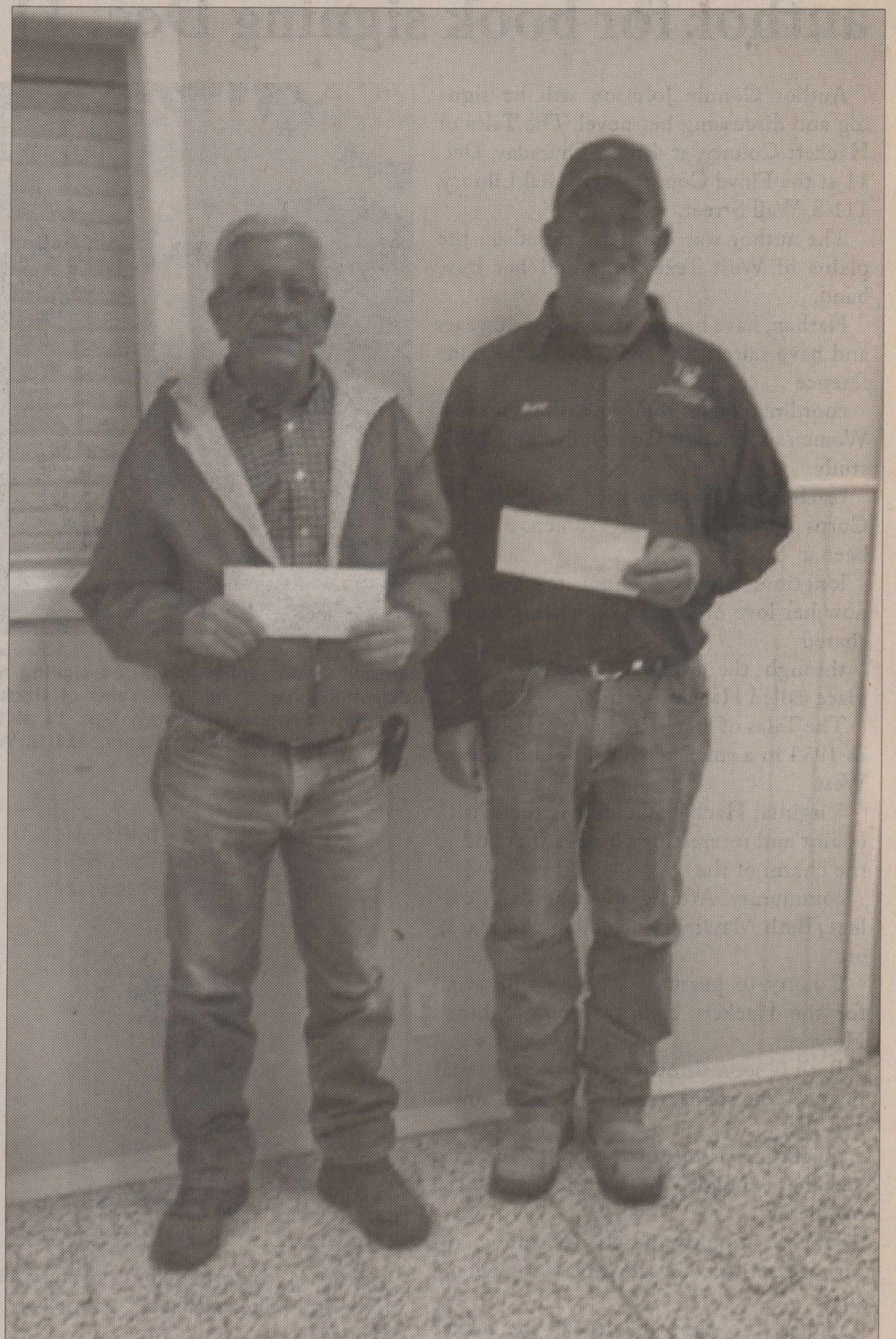
Floydada's Boy Scout Troop #357 will be stopping at homes in Floydada to collect canned or non-perishable food on Saturday, Dec. 6th from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Sacks of food can be left by your front door. All collected food will be donated to Floydada's Spirit of Sharing (SOS). All donations are greatly appreciated.

4-H News



Courtesy Photo
Floyd County 4-H Distinguished Leader was honored at the 2014 District Gold Star Banquet at the Frazier Alumni Pavilion on the Texas Tech University campus. Pictured left to right are: County Judge Penny Golightly, County Extension Agent Amy Kress, Distinguished Leader Jill Graham, and County Extension Agent Cristen Brooks.

Football Contest Winners



Barbara Anderson/The Hesperian-Beacon
The Hesperian-Beacon's Football Contest winners pictured were (l-r) Lanny Barnett (3rd place) and Brent Sanders (1st place). Not pictured was Coy LaBaume (2nd place). We would once again like to say "Thank You" to all the participants and sponsors that make this contest possible.

TxDOT REMINDS TEXANS TO GIVE THE GIFT OF A SOBER RIDE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Dec. 1, 2014 AUSTIN – As holiday festivities get into full swing, the Texas Department of Transportation reminds drivers to stay safe and sober when traveling to and from parties and other celebrations.

"We want drivers to have fun over the holidays, but more importantly, we want them to celebrate responsibly," said TxDOT Executive Director LtGen Joe Weber, USMC (Ret). "Make a sober ride part of your plans and don't let one bad choice ruin the holidays for you and your family."

TxDOT's Sober Ride Sleigh will be visiting more than a dozen cities across Texas to draw attention to the importance of having a sober ride. The "sleigh" is a donated limousine wrapped to look like a holiday gift. It will visit shopping malls, parades and other holiday-related venues, including the Kingsgate Shopping Center (northside), 8201 Quaker Avenue in Lubbock, from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 2, and can be seen driving around town throughout the evening.

During last year's holiday season (Dec. 1, 2013 – Jan. 1, 2014), there were 2,367 DUI-alcohol traffic crashes in

Texas resulting in 763 serious injuries and 92 fatalities. While these figures are staggering, DUI traffic fatalities actually decreased 8.9 percent compared with the same time frame the previous year.

"A decrease in fatalities is always welcome news and I think it speaks to the importance of our aggressive impaired driving campaigns," Weber said. "As Texans, however, we must do better because one life lost to impaired driving is not only tragic, but also preventable."

The TxDOT Sober Ride Sleigh campaign occurs in conjunction with law enforcement's increased holiday efforts to crack down on drunk driving and curb vehicle crashes and fatalities. In many jurisdictions, no-refusal programs will be implemented.

TxDOT also is partnering with the National Safety Council and some of the state's largest employers to help promote the safe and sober message this holiday season. The Texas Hospitality Association and Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission also will be distributing sober ride materials in stores and venues where alcohol is sold. Finally, TxDOT is working with transit authorities in

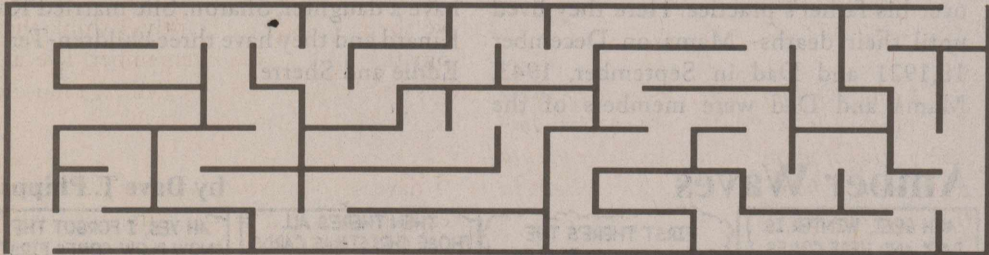
Austin, San Antonio and Corpus Christi to encourage people to use the bus to get sober rides home.

Texans who make a pledge to have a sober ride this holiday season can enter to win donated prizes, including a day at the Richard Petty Racing Experience at Texas Motor Speedway or a SpaFinder gift certificate valued at \$2,000. Three runners-up each will win a \$1,000 American Express gift card. Contest details and ways to enter can be found at holidaysoberride.com.

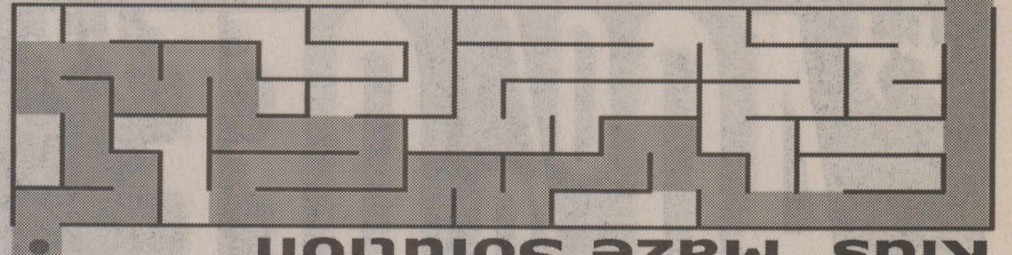
Texans looking for a sober ride can visit soberrides.org for assistance.

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at txdot.gov. "Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Kids' Maze



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Kids' Maze Solution

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LOCKNEY SCHOOL

Lockney Scouting for Food

Lockney Boy Scouts will be picking up food on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. All food collected will be given to the Salvation Army to assist with their Christmas needs.

Holiday Food Safety at a Glance

Delicious food is often a special part of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and other holiday events. Entertaining family and friends is fun, but it's important to keep food safety in mind. Holiday meals and party foods are often served buffet style. This means that food remains on the table as guests come and go. Room temperatures support the growth of bacteria that cause foodborne illness. Here are some tips to keep buffet foods safe:

- Keep hot foods hot. Chafing dishes may or may not keep foods at the necessary temperature — 140°F or above. Never leave hot foods out for more than 2 hours.
- Put small quantities of food on the table. Replace them often from the heat source in the kitchen or from the refrigerator.

- Discard leftovers. Any foods left from the buffet line should be discarded. Items still refrigerated or frozen, but not served, should be used within the recommended times.

TURKEY SAFETY TIPS

PREPARATION

- Allow 1.5 pounds of turkey per person for generous servings and leftovers.
- Wash hands often. Always wash hands before and after handling food.
- Don't cross-contaminate. Keep raw meat, poultry, fish, and their juices away from other food. After cutting raw meats — wash hands, cutting board, knife, and countertops with hot soapy water.
- Sanitize cutting boards by using a solution

- For every four pounds of turkey, allow at least one day of thawing.
- Refrigerator: the refrigerator allows slow, safe thawing. Make sure thawing meat and poultry juices do not drip onto other food.
- Cold Water: for faster thawing, place food in a leak-proof plastic bag. Submerge in cold tap water. Change the water every 30 minutes. Cook immediately after thawing.
- Microwave: cook meat and poultry immediately after thawing.
- Thawing the turkey at room temperature is not recommended as it could promote bacterial growth.

COOKING

- Always use a meat thermometer to determine when the turkey is fully cooked. Temperature should reach 180°F deep in the thigh, but not touching bone, and 165°F in the center of the stuffing.

LEFTOVERS

- Discard any food left out at room temperature for more than 2 hours.
- Place food into shallow containers and immediately put in the refrigerator or freezer for rapid cooling to below 40°F.
- Use cooked leftovers within 4 days.

For more information, contact the Floyd County Extension office at 983-4912.

AREA FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Week 14 Round 3 Playoff Scores
 Crosbyton 42, Quannah 14
 Valley 64, Happy 14
 Abernathy 17, Wellington 14 OT

Week 15 Round 4 Playoff Pairings
 Crosbyton vs Seagraves, 7:00 p.m. Friday, Lubbock at Lowery Field
 Valley vs Crowell, 6:00 p.m. Saturday, Vernon
 Abernathy vs Canadian, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Amarillo at Dick Bivins Stadium

Other Panhandle/South Plains Area Teams
 Canyon Randall vs Aledo, 7:00 p.m. Friday, Snyder
 Shallowater vs Brock, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Abilene Wylie
 Groom vs Loraine, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Littlefield

We will continue to provide this information as long there are teams from either Floydada's or Lockney's district playing or teams from around the area or teams playing at Floydada, Lockney or Plainview or some other close stadium.

Mangold Memorial Hospital to hold its 22nd Health Fair Dec. 6

By Kay Ellington
The Hesperian-Beacon

W.J. Mangold Memorial Hospital will hold its 22nd Annual Health Fair Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. until noon in the Lockney Elementary Cafeteria. Admission to the health fair will be one canned good or a new toy to be donated to the Salvation Army Christmas Cheer Program.

There will be over 30 booths providing glaucoma checks, cholesterol screens and blood sugar and blood pressure checks. There will also be booths where you can consult with professionals regarding dentistry, hospice care, optometry and hearing. The health fair will also provide Children's Photo Identification Cards, which will show a picture and current information about your

child. The Children's Photo Identification Cards are being offered as a free public service to families in the area. The booths at the "Holiday Health Fair" will be manned by various local and area organizations plus children's activities booths. Local and area merchants will provide door prizes and Lockney Band Boosters will provide breakfast for a nominal fee.

Wayland recognized for military testing sites

By Jonathan Petty
Director of Communications
Wayland Baptist University

PLAINVIEW, Texas — Wayland Baptist University has been recognized as having two of the top 25 best performing military test centers in the nation by the College Board. Wayland's sites at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska, and at Lackland AFB in San Antonio both received recognition. Each year the College Board recognizes the top 25 military test centers who administer the most CLEP exams. The College Level Examination Program provides exams in a number of education areas to test basic knowledge. College credit can be earned through the program. According to the College Board website, the CLEP program has been the most widely accepted credit-by-exam program for more than 40 years. Exam scores are accepted by more than 2,900 colleges and universities and there are more than 1,800 test centers nationwide. Wayland's Vice President of External Campuses and Graduate Services Dr. Elena Seebo said Wayland began operating testing centers after being approached by

the United States Air Force. "When the Air Force came to us in 2010 asking if we could help provide testing services in locations where those services either were not available or did not meet the needs of the military, Wayland responded by establishing a series of National Testing Centers," Seebo said. "We are very pleased that two of those centers were included in the Top 25." Wayland operates 13 external campus sites, many of which were established by request of the military. The university seeks to provide an education that meets the needs of military personnel. "For more than four decades, meeting the unique needs of members of our military services has been part of Wayland's mission," Seebo said. "We identify and design degree programs that best meet the needs of our students, offering those degrees at the right time, in the right locations and through a variety of delivery methods." Wayland's commitment to military education began in 1974 at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls. Wayland now operates external campuses in Lubbock, Amarillo, Wichita Falls, and San Antonio, Texas; Altus, Okla.; Clovis and Albuquerque, N.M.; Phoenix and Sierra Vista, Ariz.; Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska;

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

County of Floyd
Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

Floyd County will hold a public hearing at 5:05 p.m. on December 8, 2014 at the county courthouse in regards to the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for a Texas Capital Grant Program. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TxCDBG funding available, all eligible TxCDBG activities, and the use of past TxCDBG funds. The County encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TxCDBG application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to the County Clerk, at the County of Floyd. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact the County Courthouse to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the County of Floyd at least two days before the meeting, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Para mas informacion en espanol, comuniquese con Elena Quintanilla (806) 762-8721.



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top ten

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 4. American Express
 5. Netflix
 6. Walmart
 7. Target
 8. Google Play
 9. eBay
 10. Starbucks
- Source: CardHub

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Birding BITS BY Cindy Brook

Mesh Bird Feeder
Recently I purchased a No-No Bronze Tray Birdfeeder (Amazon.com), and it's terrific. I filled it with a black oil seed mix, and it has become a very popular feeder in my backyard. I'm looking forward to seeing it filled with American goldfinches. That will be so cool.

E-mail: birdingbits@flrr.com
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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.

A lot of the songs start with an image. I was sitting there playing the guitar and I pictured this old, dirty green car, with the window rolled down, in the hot, hot, hot Texas heat, and this beautiful woman I knew when I was a kid sitting behind the wheel, looking out at me. Edie Brickell

I live on a ranch in Texas and do my own thing. And I don't care what anyone has to say about it. My joke is that the only people I'm trying to please are myself and my fans, because they're the ones buying my records. And I have the best, most loyal fan base ever. — Kelly Clarkson

I always had that adolescent notion that I had to get out of Texas. But I'm really glad I grew up there. It's where I learned to look people in the eye, to be straightforward and polite. Sarah Shahi

I grew up in Texas, and people love their American-made muscle cars there. I grew up around people who loved cars and took care of cars and my dad's a big car nut. so

I learned a little bit about cars - how to love them, most importantly. I think that from the time I could remember, I've always envisioned myself in a vintage muscle car. Amber Heard

I have a good friend who's a Texas girl; Texas girls are a whole different breed. John Cusack

Fort Worth is friendly; it's still a Texas town. It's the most Texas city in Texas. Dan Jenkins

As a very young man growing up in Texas, usually I got a shotgun or cowboy boots for Christmas. Robert Wilson

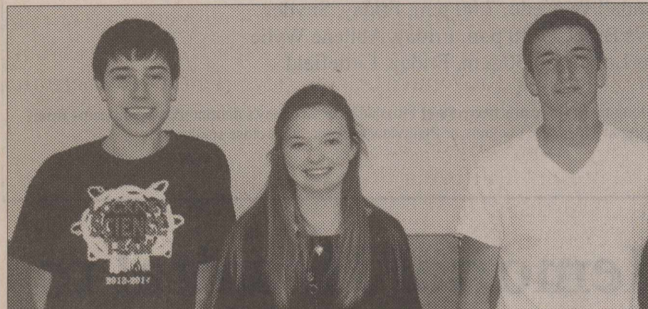
But I'm a citizen of Texas and try to spend most of my time there. Thomas Haden Church

I grew up in Texas in a family that fished and hunted, so I've shot guns as a kid. — Stark Sands

I grew up in San Antonio, Texas, and went to a big high school called Douglas McArthur where there was a lot of track and a lot of football. It was a bit like 'Friday Night Lights.' I used to spend a lot of time at the track. — Norah O'Donnell

Longhorn News

The Big Five: Journalism



A half semester coverage of Lockney's top UIL events

UIL journalism consists of four writing events covering common forms of writing found in a newspaper; news writing, feature writing, editorial writing, and headline writing. This year UIL Journalism has a new coach, English I and yearbook teacher, Ms. Clement. It is Ms. Clement's first year coaching UIL journalism at Lockney High School.

"I'm really excited about the team I have to work with and I can already see potential for many of the competitors I'm working with to go to state," said Clement.

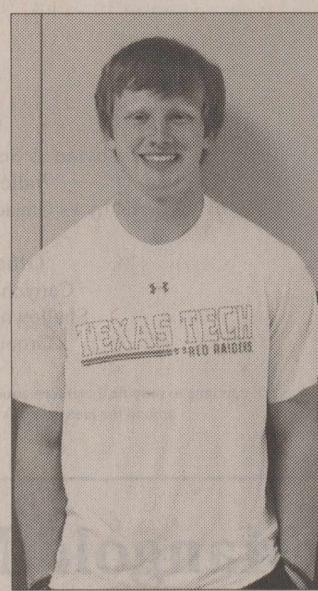
Editorial writing is an event where competitors have 45 minutes to write an opinionated article on a topic given to them. They must either be for or against the matter at hand. So far, this year's editorial team includes senior John Salas.

New writing is an event

where students must create a news story from a given list of quotes. They must develop an informational piece of text that covers topics from most important to least important. So far, this year's news writing team includes senior Sarah Carstensen.

"News writing teaches writers to focus on important details that refer to an important event. You have to provide enough information to inform readers while also engaging them. News writing is a great activity to get in if you're interested in knowing how a news article works," said Carstensen.

Feature writing is used to tell a story. These stories are often over interesting events or people rather than serious news events. Feature writing uses quotes and allows people to visualize what the story is saying. So far, this year's feature writing team includes seniors Nic Sherman.



Headline writing is an event where competitors have 45 minutes to write six headlines for six different articles. All six headlines must be within the given character count. So far, this year's headline team includes Sarah Carstensen and Jace Klein.

Last year the journalism team placed first overall at district where Sarah Carstensen placed first in News Writing, Jace Klein placed second in Headline, John Salas placed second in Editorial Writing and Nic Sherman placed third in Feature Writing. Ashley Roberts placed first in Editorial writing at District and third at regionals. Ashley also went to state for Editorial Writing.

This year, Lockney will host district UIL in March. The journalism team will compete with other towns from the surrounding area in hopes to advance to regionals and state.

LHS Teacher Earns Recognition as "Teacher on the Rise"

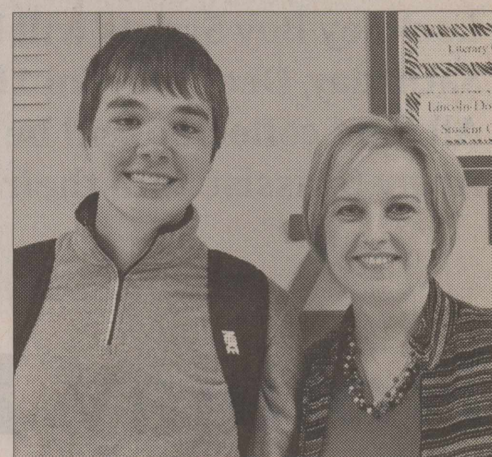
By Lena Luna, Lissa Hernandez, and Lexi Chavez

Mrs. Ragland's, the English III and IV teacher at Lockney High School, recently had all of her junior students write an essay about a teacher who had inspired them. Students then submitted these essays to the "Teachers on the Rise" competition on the Mrs. Bairds website.

In the essay, students explained who their favorite teacher has been and why. If the teacher is selected as a "Teacher on the Rise," they would win a one hundred dollar gift card and the student who nominated them would win a fifty dollar gift card.

Stephen Setliff, a Lockney ISD student, wrote one of the winning essays. Which teacher did he select? Mrs. In his article, he talked about how Mrs. Ragland has already affected him this school year. He went on to explain that although she gives everyone hard work to do, it pays off in the end.

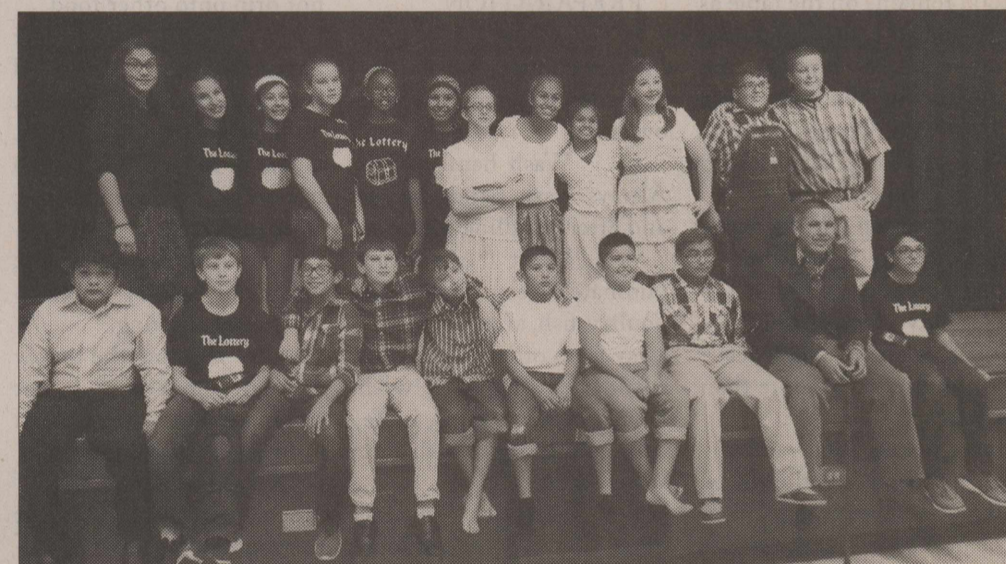
Setliff was quite shocked when, during a pep rally, it was announced that his essay was selected



as one of the winners of the "Teachers on the Rise" contest. Mostly, he was shocked because of the way he started the winning essay, it began "This is the teacher that made my life miserable..."

Stephen was glad to receive his certificate in front of the whole school, but sadly Mrs. Ragland couldn't be at the pep rally to be honored. Her husband, Coach Jay Ragland, happily accepted the prize in her honor.

Lockney Jr. High One Act Play Takes The Lottery to District



Lockney Junior High One Act Play participated in the district UIL competition on November 15th in Hale Center.

This year, the Lockney Jr High performed "The Lottery" by Brainerd Duffield. The play is based off of a short story by Shirley Jackson. Its set in a small town in contemporary America that holds an annual ritual called "the lottery." Households are called upon one by one to see if they draw the black dot. If they receive a black dot, the family must draw again to see who 'wins' the lottery.

"The play starts as people are gathering in the middle of the village for their annual lottery. The people laugh and have fun, despite what the lottery is actually about. The ending is pretty good!" said eighth grader Lyndee Setliff.

Junior High one act play rehearsed every day, except for Sundays, beginning on October 13th. Rehearsal hours varied by day and were completed at the Elementary with a full stage and set pieces.

"I feel like this year is going great. We may not be the best, but I know hard we worked," said Sierra Martinez, an 8th

grader at LJH in One Act Play.

While the play did not place, several cast members did receive recognition. Lyndee Setliff and Fette Jackson both received All-Star Cast and Diego Azua received Honorable Mention.

This year's play was directed by Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Zavala. Mrs. Zavala is a Lockney Jr. High English teacher, and Mrs. Webb is the Lockney Jr. High art teacher. Mrs. Webb has not taught one act before but she enjoys the play because it's something different for her.

One act play, commonly abbreviated as OAP, is a contest where schools put on a play in one act. The play can last anywhere between 18 and 40 minutes. Jr. High plays may not advance to state, but they can compete for the title of district champion. All-star cast awards are given to eight outstanding

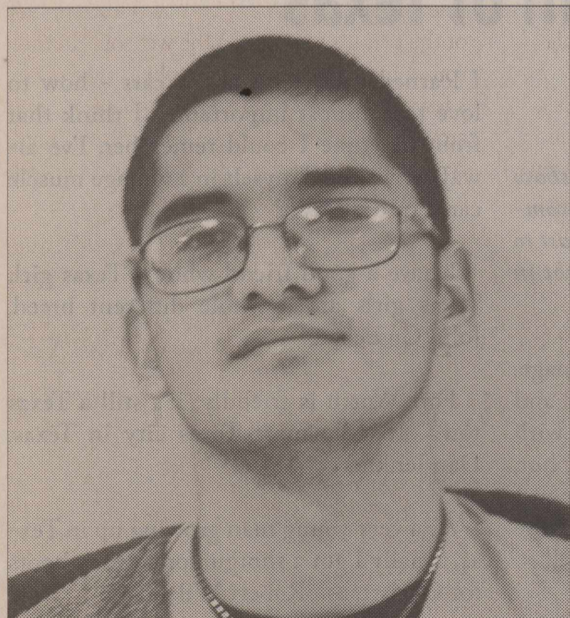
cast members from all competing plays, and honorable mention all-star cast are also given to eight other superior cast members. A best actor and best actress award is also given to the best cast members out of all the schools.

Senior Spotlights: Sarah D. Carstensen & Marcos Junior Bueno



By Alec N. Tambunga

Sarah D'ann Carstensen was born in Abilene, Texas to Ricky and Kristi Carstensen on October 1, 1996 and has one sibling Karis Carstensen, a junior at Lockney High School. Sarah has been at Lockney ISD since 6th grade, and lived in Baird, TX, Big Spring, TX, and Wheeler, TX from Kindergarten to 3rd grade. From there she went to Wellington TX for her 4th to 5th grade years. During her time at LHS, Sarah has participated in FFA where she was the president for 2 years, State cotton judging team for 3 years, and has participated in multiple stock shows. She has also participated in the Plainview symphony debutante 4 years, student council 3 years and national honor society 1 year. Sarah has been in band her entire high school career, achieving consecutive 1's in marching. After graduation, Sarah plans to attend West Texas A&M to earn a degree in early childhood education and teach kindergarten.



Marcos Junior Bueno was born in Kaufman, TX on November 17, 1996 to Pauline Gonzales and Marcos Bueno. He has lived in Lockney for four years. Before moving to Lockney, he lived in Dallas, TX and Kaufman, TX. During his time at Lockney High School, Marcos Bueno has been involved in football both his freshmen and senior year. After graduation, Marcos plans to go to the army where he hopes to see amazing places and people.



Journalism

L A I R O T I D E M	Journalism
F E A T U R E X S G	Editorial
H B A D E L L I T N	Headline
Y E M U C T L R O X	News
B Q A I G A O I R S	Feature
D R T D N E N U T Z	Quote
V R V R L I T O Q N	Article
A W U G P I R O E R	Opinion
G O G O D Y N W W D	Story
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AGRICULTURE

AgriLife Extension sets Dec. 12 High Plains Ag Conference in Lubbock

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon
Steve Byrns, Texas A&M AgriLife

LUBBOCK — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the annual High Plains Ag Conference from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1102 E. Farm-to-Market Road 1294, Lubbock.

"This program will cover a wide spectrum of topics of interest to our region's agricultural producers while offering them the opportunity to earn a hefty handful of Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units," said Robert Scott, AgriLife Extension agent in Lubbock County.

"Topics this year will range from cattle parasites to vineyard management, and, as has become our tradition, we'll also provide a great lunch as part of the preregistration fee."

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

Five continuing education units — one integrated pest management, one laws and regulations and three general — will be offered.

All the scheduled speakers except Dr. Ted McCollum, are AgriLife Extension personnel headquartered at Lubbock. McCollum is the AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist at Amarillo.

Topics and presenters will include:
— Beef Cattle Internal and External Parasite Control, McCollum.

— Grape Vineyard Management, Dr. Ed Hellman, viticulturist.

— New Systems Technology for Weed Resistance, Dr. Mark Kelley, agronomist.

— Exploring the Benefits of a Cover Crop, Dr. Calvin Trostle, agronomist.

— 2015 Program Updates, Scott, Dr. Mark Brown, county agent and Vikram Baliga, county horticulturist.

— Managing Pigweed Resistance, Dr. Peter Dotray, weed specialist.

— Pesticide Laws and Regulations, speaker to be announced.

— Farm Bill Update, Dr. Jackie Smith, economist.

Xcel Energy cautions customers about scams during the holiday season

AMARILLO, Texas — As part of an ongoing scam awareness effort, Xcel Energy officials are cautioning customers to protect themselves from utility scams during the holiday season.

Scammers impersonating Xcel Energy agents target victims during busy hours, most often over the phone, and tell customers to make a payment or have their service turned off.

"During this busy time of year, scammers are ready to take advantage of our customers, and while we cannot stop the scam calls, we can help stop scams from being successful," said David Hudson, president and CEO of Southwestern

Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy company. "We want to warn our customers, especially small businesses, to stay alert for suspicious phone calls demanding immediate payment."

"If you think that you are being targeted by a scammer, simply end the conversation and call us directly to verify your account status."

To check the status of their account or report a scam, business customers should contact Xcel Energy's Business Solutions Center at 1-800-481-4700, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residential customers can call our residential customer service line at 1-800-895-4999. Businesses

may also call that number during evening hours or on weekends.

Scammers have tried various ways to trick Xcel Energy customers into providing payment, usually over the phone. They have been known to:

Tell intended victims their account is past due and threaten to turn off their power if they do not make a payment right away.

Require victims to pay using a pre-paid debit card, such as a Green Dot card.

Manipulate caller ID to display a fake number, which may actually be Xcel Energy's number. This is called "spoofing."

Scammers have targeted all classes of customers, but particularly small businesses such as restaurants. Business customers account for approximately two-thirds of all scams reported to Xcel Energy. In most cases, a scammer calls during busy hours of operation and threatens to disconnect the customer's power unless they make a payment over the phone.

Xcel Energy provides scam prevention information at <http://connect.xcelenergy.com/scams>, including a Scam Alert poster for employers. Among the tips offered are:

Never give out personal information, credit card numbers or wire money as a result of an unexpected or unsolicited call if you cannot validate the caller's authenticity.

Xcel Energy provides many options for payment; be suspicious if the caller is insisting on the use of a pre-paid debit card.

Be aware that Xcel Energy will contact customers first by U.S. mail about past-due bills. You will be sent a disconnection notice in writing before your power is actually turned off.

September 29 deputy Cory Speed investigated a call of sexual assault of a child on Washington in Lockney.

October 1 deputy Marco Martinez investigated a call of theft of a firearm on FM North 378 in Lockney.

September 3 deputy Cory Speed investigated a call of criminal trespass on SW 2nd in Lockney.

October 9 Deputy Matthew Arguello investigated an observed incidence of possession of marijuana, less than or equal to, 2 ounces on Hwy 70 and FM 378 in Lockney.

October 9 Deputy Matthew Arguello investigated a call of burglary of a building on Main Street

in Lockney.

October 10 Deputy Marco Martinez investigated a domestic call of cruelty toward a child on Main Street in Lockney.

October 8 Deputy Cory Speed investigated a report of sexual assault of a child on California Street in Floydada.

October 10 Deputy Cory Speed investigated a report of credit card/debit card abuse on California Street in Floydada.

October 24 Deputy Marco Arguello investigated a call of a criminal traffic violation of 4th Street in Lockney.

October 26 Deputy Marco Martinez investigated a call of burglary of habitation on 8th Street in

Lockney.

October 27 Deputy Marco Martinez investigated a report of larceny on CR 67/70.

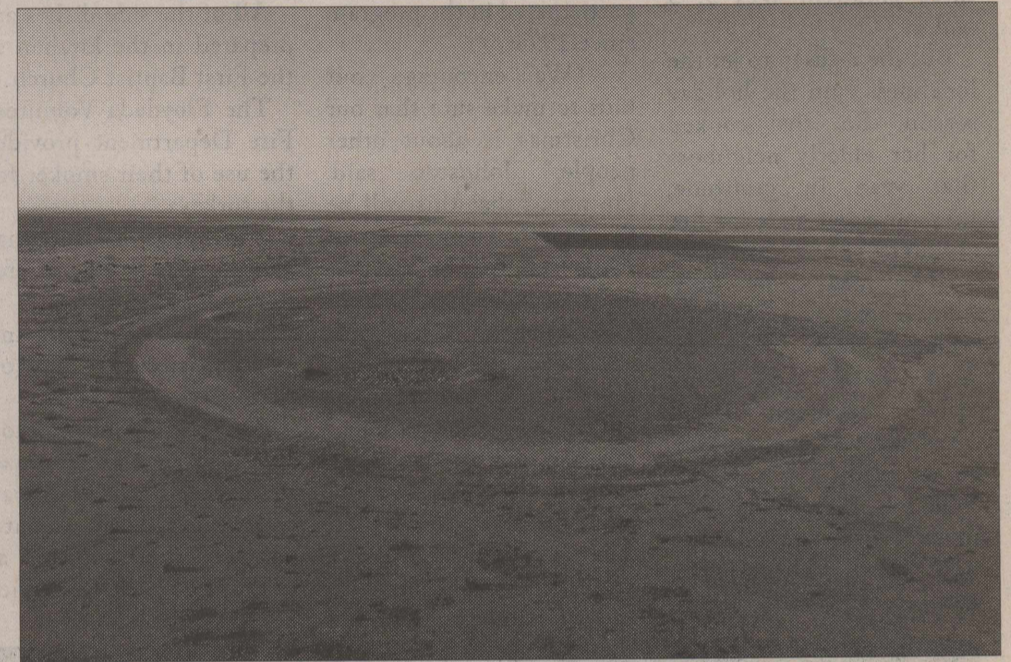
October 28 Deputy Cory Speed investigated a call of criminal trespass on CR 150 in Lockney.

On November 3 Deputy Alexandro Gutierrez investigated a report of criminal mischief on 5th Street in Lockney.

On November 9 Sheriff Paul Raissez investigated an observed incidence of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol on Hwy 70 in Lockney.

On November 21 deputy Marco Martinez investigated a call of bodily injury/family violence on Col lege Street in Lockney.

Assignment: Texas Playa Lakes - Part 1



It's late January in the far north Texas Panhandle, and like the rest of Texas, it's dry. Over the past four years rainfall has been scant and dust wafts from the land with even the slightest puff of wind. The ground is parched, yet Spearman rancher Bob Pearson and I are in search of Panhandle wetlands.

Creeping along in Pearson's truck, we ease past a wagon trail whose deep, grass-covered ruts cut an old road that leads from the Canadian River bottom north across the short-grass plain. Soon we are at the edge of a 60-acre sunken depression. The broad, round spot is



RUSSELL GRAVES

a playa (pronounced PLY-yuh) lake, and it is one of an estimated 19,000 shallow water basins that make up a huge complex of wetlands that cover the northern Panhandle down through the Southern Plains to around Lubbock. Although the lake is dry now, the thick and dormant vegetation hints of a wetter time in the recent past.

Around the ancient lake, I don't see much in the way of traditional agricultural manipulations, like row-cropping or terracing. Pearson, along with his brother and ranching partner, Doc, are past winners of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Lone Star Land Steward award. They both enjoy the fact that their family ranch is largely unchanged by man's

influence.

"This land has been in my family since the 1940s," explains Pearson. "My dad got this ranch from the family who originally homesteaded the place back in the 1880s. Since I can remember, my dad loved the playa lakes on this ranch, and he was careful to never plow around the lakes for fear they would silt." Pearson, now in his 60s, plans to continue managing the ranch in the same way his dad did. "My dad was a conservationist before anyone knew what the word meant. He instilled an ethic in me to take care of this ranch and take care of the lakes." Even now, when the lake is bone dry, Pearson still finds beauty in the wetland. "When the playa is wet, all kinds of waterfowl and birds flock in here," he says. "When it's dry, wildlife still uses the lake. I won't be surprised if we see ..." He pauses and points to the east. In the grass, 50 yards away, I see the unmistakable form of deer antlers sticking up through the dried smartweed. In the taller weeds around the lake's margin, I see a couple of gray bodies slipping through the weeds. "There are always mule deer hanging out in these lake bottoms. They'll bed in the high weeds and feed on some of the plants that grow in the wet soil." In the course of an hour, I see jackrabbits, mule deer, a few whitetails, quail and numerous songbirds around the 60-acre playa. All are animals not typically associated with wetlands, but ones that benefit from the shallow basins nonetheless.

RRC PRODUCTION STATISTICS AND ALLOWABLES FOR DECEMBER 2014

AUSTIN — The Texas average rig count as of November 14, was 901, representing about 48 percent of all active land rigs in the United States according to Baker Hughes Incorporated. The Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) reports that in the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 851 million barrels of oil and 8.0 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

The Commission's estimated final production for September 2014 is 77,633,356 barrels of crude oil and 505,791,909 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary September 2014 production totals of 65,824,450 barrels of crude oil and 444,652,228 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.1794 for crude oil and 1.1375 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage reported to the Commission for October 2014 was 380,853,616 Mcf compared to 451,535,720 Mcf in October 2013. The November 2014 gas storage estimate is 393,999,828

Mcf.

The Commission's Oil and Gas Division set initial December 2014 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 8,199,489 Mcf (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial December 2014 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 December 2014 is reported.

COWPOKES® By Ace Reid



"Whatta you mean carryin' a gun on a huntin' trip...don't you know that you could shoot somebody?"

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Unity Center News

By Elaine LaBaume
Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

The Floyd County Friends Unity Center calendar is filling up quick for December. Have you thought about having a family gathering there? It is a great place with plenty of room. Kids can play while adults visit. A large kitchen with plenty of working space, two refrigerators, a stove

and a large ice machine. All the tables and chairs you will need. Call Jon or Elaine LaBaume. Jon @806-847-7414 or Elaine @ 806-983-9153.

There are already several events booked in 2015.

We thank God each day that he guided us to build the Floyd County Friends Unity Center. It has served thousands of people since its opening in 2000.

FUNDRAISER

From Page 1

recently made famous in a 2013 Super Bowl commercial. The speech, along with photos of farming scenes, has been matted and framed in a photographic collection,

"Bids on any silent auction photo received by December 9 guarantee delivery in time for Christmas," Kinard said.

There are bid sheets to fill out for each photograph. There are minimum bids from \$135-\$145 on each one. They will be collected each week and turned in to FCA, and each week there will be one weekly winner.

"The sports camp normally costs \$350 per student," Kinard said, "but through similar fundraising efforts, last year, we were able to give 103 students \$250 scholarships, so all that they had to pay was \$100 to attend."

The Texas Tech FCA sports camp is sport specific and geared for middle school and high school boys and girls, ages 12 through 18, and offers one-on-one coaching and competition in seven sports for boys and girls, including football, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, cross-country and wrestling.

For more information about the Happy State Bank/FCA fundraiser contact Terry Kinard at 806-239-6383.

TRADITION

From Page 1

three decades.

Thirty-two years ago Sudy Cochran of Floydada was a welfare mother who had no money and no Christmas gifts for her three children, ages 5, 3 and 1.

But she refused to let the loneliness ruin the holiday season. So she cooked for her elderly neighbors that year. In gratitude, they provided gifts for her children.

"The idea came from Sudy Cochran in Floydada and was soon joined by Fred Thayer and many other volunteers from Floydada and surrounding communities," said Corey Johnston of Floydada, sale/music/sports director of KFLP Radio whose entire family including wife

RaNay, and sons, Camden (11) and Cash (4) have participated in the program for years.

Cochran's simple gesture grew into an effort that has united area volunteers for more than three decades across several counties. The Brandon Brownlee family from Plainview has participated in the program since 1998.

"We encourage our kids to make sure that our Christmas is about other people," Johnston said. He noted that this will be the first year the Spirit of Christmas will be without local volunteer Fred Thayer.

"This is a holiday tradition for multiple families and multiple generations," Johnson said, "It's very eye-opening for them to see how other people live when they deliver these holidays meals. It's very humbling, and we feel very fortunate

to get to experience the gift of giving back."

The Spirit of Christmas is supported by the community in a myriad of ways.

Area volunteers start gathering food around December 10, said Johnston, and 90% of the food is ordered locally.

All of the side dishes are prepared in the kitchen at the First Baptist Church.

The Floydada Volunteer Fire Department provides the use of their smoker for the turkeys.

The Spirit of Christmas has sponsors, but they prefer to remain anonymous.

"We would love any and all donations," Johnston said.

For more information about Spirit of Christmas, such as how you can participate or donate, contact Corey Johnston at cell 806-632-7586 or office 806-983-5704.

The Paperboy

Better roads are noticed

I wrote the other day about traveling back from Austin. There is another observation I made during the trip. U.S. 287 was in poor condition from the time we hit the weather east of Wichita Falls until we got west of Chillicothe.

Why? My short answer is the Texas Department of Transportation Childress District begins around there. The remainder of the trip was much faster due to clear roads.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

From Wichita Falls to Chillicothe, we saw 10 vehicles which either wrecked or slid off the road. The rest of the trip was uneventful.

I asked some TxDOT employees why this would be and their answer was that U.S. 287 and U.S. 83 were the priorities for this district where the other districts had larger cities they had to concentrate on.

I remember the Super Bowl a few years ago and workers and equipment from the Childress District were called in to help crews around the DFW area get the roads in good enough shape to have the game. I saw that on the national news.

I live on the highway so I am well aware of the effort involved by Childress District personnel to keep area highways safe. Well before severe weather hits, crews are out spraying and sanding roads. Once it hits, the snow plows come out. It's impressive.

I'm thankful to those men and women

who brave the elements to keep our roads as safe as possible. This district does as good of a job as any in the country.

When I was a kid, I loved looking at the toys in the Sears Catalog. Page after page of the latest and greatest toys!

Today ... wow! If your children or grandchildren watch programming for children or teens, I don't have to tell you how many ads are on TV this time of year for Christmas. And if your children are anything like mine, you're told about something they want every other day.

If it's not the TV, it's the ads on your computer or smartphone. If it's not one of those, it's a game system (which is basically a computer or and TV). And if you lack all of the above, you still have their friends to get word to them about all of the wonderful things out there for children.

In other words, unless you live in a cave, your kids know exactly what's out there.

The other day my youngest son presented about 10 items that he would like for Christmas.

After I was finished speaking to him (once again) about the true meaning of Christmas and how important it was to ask for only a few things, he kept his list at 10 but decided he'd give five of those things to other children. I guess that's progress...

Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of Red River Sun, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, The Knox County News-Courier and The Post Dispatch. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @ WCSBlackburn, although he doesn't tweet much.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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HELP WANTED FOR FULL-TIME position at Caprock Motor Parts and Hardware. Apply in person only. No phone calls. 114 W. California, Floydada, TX. tfn

Misc.
TWO CEMETERY PLOTS in Floyd County Memorial Park. Garden No. 1, block #113, Lot 7-8. \$350 each. Call 817-854-0012 or 214-618-4401. 12-11p

Bake Sale
BAKE SALE FOR RESIDENT'S FUND - Friday, December 12th from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shepherd's Meadow Assisted Living Center, 1230 S. Ralls Highway, Floydada. Cupcakes, cookies, cakes, pies and caramel apples. 12-11c

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OPEN HOUSE - 907 Lavada Drive. Come see this Beautiful Home in Lockney. Refreshments provided. Drawing for a Gift Card. December 7th - 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. 12-4p

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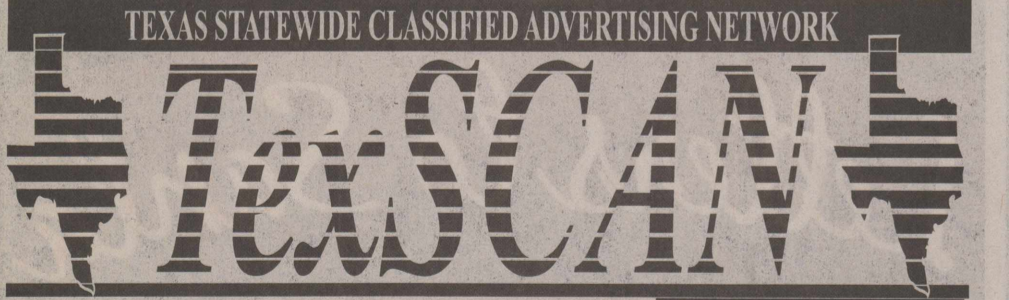
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Floyd County Church Directory

- 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 Evening 7:00 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**
 Matthew Benfield - 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. Ken Peterson, 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 7:00 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 .. 6:00 p.m.

- NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**
 Floydada
 Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges
 (806) 637-0430
 Sunday Singing 10:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m.

- OUT REACH HARVEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**
 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
 Rev. Patrick Maher
 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. Ike Temporaza
 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
 983-2672 or 470-0950
 Sunday Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening 2:00 p.m.

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Floydada Senior Citizens News

By LuAnn Collins

Special for The Hesperian-Beacon

Serving time is 12 noon until 1:00 p.m. Please call Sylvia by 9:30 a.m. if you plan to eat at the Center. We are located at 925 W. Crockett Street (old nursing home).

Thank you to all who donate to the Floydada Senior Citizens Center. Your generous donations keep our doors open. Our mailing address for memorials or donations is P.O. Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235.

We appreciate you remembering the Center when you need to make a memorial or a donation. Our mailing address is PO Box 573, Floydada, TX. 72935

MENU

Dec. 8 – Dec. 12

Monday – Breaded fish on bun, lettuce, tomato, pickle, tartar sauce, cole slaw w/dressing, peach chantilly, low-fat milk

Tuesday – Swedish meatballs, parsley noodles, mixed vegetables, whole wheat roll, margarine, angel food cake w/strawberries, low-fat milk

Wednesday – Roast pork, sweet potatoes, succotash, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, low-fat milk

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

Friday – Baked chicken breast, baked potato w/sour cream, peas, pineapple tidbits, chocolate pudding, low-fat milk

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong

Special for The Hesperian-Beacon

A Cowboy Christmas Benefit Concert featuring Wendell Sollis and the Sidekicks All Star Band including Lockney's own Brady Rasco and Lucy Dean Record will be held on Friday, December 19 at the Granada Theatre in Plainview. Tickets are available at Broadway Brew, 108 7th Street, Plainview, Grumpy's Grill at 705 Broadway, Plainview, or the Chamber of Commerce of Plainview or any select a seat location or www.selectaseatlubbock.com. Tickets are \$15 kids/students and \$35 single or \$60 couple. Doors open at 6 p.m. The show starts at 7 p.m. It is a 2-1/2 hour show. There will be complimentary Christmas cookies with wassail or hot chocolate. All proceeds will go for restoring the Granada Theatre. Please go get your tickets and enjoy and evening of music.

Mark your calendars that we will be closed December

24, 25 and 26 for the Christmas holidays and again there will NOT be a Fish Fry that week as well.

December 12 will be our Holiday Meal here at the Center. Turkey and dressing and all trimmings will be served at the noon meal.

Remember the Friday Night fish fry. Come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship. 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. "Let US do the dishes!"

Remember that Exercise with Dorothy is on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:45- 9:15 a.m. Coffee time is Monday – Saturday - 9:30-10:30 a.m. and

Thursday night Pot Luck is from 5 – 9 p.m. Please bring a dish and enjoy supper and games afterwards

MENU

Dec. 8 – Dec. 11

Monday – Ham

Tuesday – Enchiladas

Wednesday – Fried chicken

Thursday – Salmon

Friday – Holiday Meal

(Menu subject to change without notice)

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The 501



Photo by Hanaba Munn Welch

Nothing beats a grass fire for giving a visitor a memorable send-off, especially if the visitor gets pressed into service to fight the flames with a piece of cardboard.

If it's time for guests to leave, set the yard on fire. It worked for me.

No, I wasn't the one who started the fire. I was the guest.

If you want the conflagration to burn convincingly, be sure there's a breeze. Pine needles help. So does dry grass.

My Arkansas friend Beverly might have wanted me to stay longer, but her mother, Marcie, wanted me to hit the road – either

because she was getting a bit tired of me being around or because she was worried about me driving after dark. Or both.

Marcie is 87. She walks with a cane. She's frail. She's tough. She's stubborn. Not a good combination. Against her daughter's wishes, she rakes up rubbish and burns it outside. Regularly.

I was about to leave for Oklahoma when someone knocked loudly on Beverly's door. He told us Marcie's lawn was on fire. Beverly shot out the door, telling me to call the fire department. I managed to call 9-1-1, describe the situation and furnish the location. Those three unforgettable numbers that have changed the way we report emergencies.

Back in pre-9-1-1 days, my friend Charmaine's father, Abby, caught the house on fire when he was cooking bacon. He'd left the skillet unattended. Abby told Charmaine's mother, Gilda, to call the fire department. Gilda was easily rattled. She ran out into the front yard and stood waving her arms and yelling,

"Fire department! Fire department!"

Charmaine did worse. She grabbed the baby of the family and headed to an interior room. Meanwhile, Abby had removed his underwear to beat out the fire. (It was early in the day; that's all he was wearing.) Her brothers decided to fight the flames with a tablecloth jerked off the top of the refrigerator. (Somehow the objects setting on the refrigerator didn't move; think magic act.)

Charmaine's family and house ended up sooty but essentially unscathed despite all the flustered reactions to the event.

Beverly's mother, on the other hand, didn't get flustered. She filled and refilled her plastic bucket and carried it to the fire. Meanwhile, Beverly, the passer-by and I were beating out the flames with big pieces of cardboard snatched from the garden (where they'd been protecting something from freezing).

By the time we'd extinguished the pervasive blaze, I'd become an expert in wielding cardboard -- don't try this at home -- to extinguish burning grass. Rather than swinging the cardboard down like a wet toesack, just place the cardboard on the flames and walk on it. Fwoomph. Fwoomph. Fwoomph. I perfected my technique at the end, when the real firefighters arrived. Note: If the grass is high and the terrain is rough and all you have is a piece of cardboard, run.

Anyway, when all was said and done and the rest of us were simply staring at the big patch of blackened lawn, Marcy was still carrying buckets of water, as if she were powered by a set of long-lasting batteries.

I think maybe she is.

Dear Santa
I want Christmas

Letters to Santa

Letters will be published in the
Dec. 25 edition

Santa letters due December 5

The Floyd County
HESPERIAN-BEACON

Drop Off: 201 W. California St (Drop box located at front of office)
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RES AMERICAS

Whirlwind Energy Center

To whom it may concern;

This is public notification, from Whirlwind Energy Center, about the possibility of ice buildup on the Blades and Towers of the Wind Turbines in your area.

Please be advised, under certain conditions there may be a risk of ice falling from the towers and blades.

During freezing temperatures with high humidity, ice is likely to accumulate on Wind Turbine Blades and Towers. The potential for ice to fall off blades or from nacelles exists (whether the turbines are operating or not) during icing conditions, as well as while the ice is melting.

Although the public is restricted from area affected by ice fall, it does present a potential hazard to any personnel in the area affected.

Under freezing conditions, and following snow or rain events under freezing temperatures, it would be advised to stay away from the towers.

For a period of time after the freezing temperatures, thawing conditions may also cause ice and snow to fall or be flung from the towers or blades.

These conditions could be dangerous to humans and animals, and it would be recommended to stay at a safe distance.

Brett Marble
Operations Manager

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