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VOLUME 115 NUMBER 25

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2011

8 PAGES - 75¢

Longtime firefighter receives huge honor

By Homer Marquez

For Donald "Cowboy" Wiley, the thrills and adventure associated with the life of a firefighter have always enticed and lured this now legend of West Texas firefighting. Even as a young boy, the sounds of the blaring sirens have always seemed to compel Cowboy as he watched fire trucks race down farm roads in his hometown of Rule, Texas. "I just like it, firefighting" commented Wiley, "I said a long time ago I wanted to do it too, and that's why I like it... I like the excitement. Put the "wet on the red" if it's burning put some water on it, I like that part." replied Cowboy with a smile.

Now with 43 years of dedicated service under his belt, 73 year-old, Cowboy Wiley is now being recognized among the best in Texas, as he has been recently of the Year Award by the Panhandle Firemen's and Fire Marshal Association; and has also been honored as one of the three finalists for the 2011 Firefighter of the Year for the entire state of Texas.

The honors are rightfully

be served after the parade.

drought has forced Floyd

County officials to continue

the prohibition of all fire-

works within the county.

With record-breaking, triple

digit temperatures continu-

ing to dry out grasslands, the

constant threat of wildfires

has put counties all over the

Texas, in a state of precau-

summer's

has spent the past 35 years serving as a volunteer firefighter here in Floydada. In addition, after receiving his Instructor Certification from Texas A&M in the 1970's, "Cowboy", as Donald prefers to be called, has helped instruct at over 120 schools around Texas, including schools in Lubbock, Abilene, Canyon, Floydada, and continues to be a regular instructor at Texas A&M Univer-

Born in 1938, Cowboy was raised on a small farm in Rule, Texas just north of Abilene. Spending his entire childhood growing up on the farm, it was there that Cowboy earned his nickname, "When I was raised and born, I wouldn't stay in the house with my parents, I'd sleep out there in the barn with all the chickens and horses," explained Mr. Wiawarded the 2011 Firefighter ley, "I'd stayed in the barn all nickname...when I was little, my mama and daddy called me "Cowboy", and I've been raising the livestock. When "Cowboy" ever since."

As time pass, Cowboy would learn the value of hard work as he worked on deserved, as Cowboy Wiley the farm pulling cotton and

Floydada would both like to

remind everyone that the cit-

ies both have an ordinance

against fireworks inside the

city limits, and if anyone is

caught, they can be fined up

ment will be on constant pa-

trol during the holiday, so we

are warning citizens inside or outside the city limits that

Police and the fire depart-

Annual bike parade set

for Monday in Lockney

birthday at the annual "Fourth of July" Bike Parade, which will be held on Monday, July 4. Line up will start at 9:45a.m

at the Main Street Church of Christ parking lot in Lockney and the parade will start at 10a.m. All are welcome to dec-

orate their bikes, scooters and wagons etc. to help celebrate

America's birthday. Lemonade and Popcorn refreshments will

Fireworks still prohibited

for 4th of July

excruciating

The persistence of this Lockney and the City of

to \$200.

Lockney youngsters are invited to celebrate America's

Photo by Homer Marquez

the time; that's how I got my Longtime firefighter, Donald "Cowboy" Wiley was recently awarded the Panhandle Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Firefighter of the Year award and was also honored as one of the three finalists at this year's state awards.

> Cowboy, was 18 years of age, he would volunteer to join the Army. After training in South Bend, Indiana, Cowboy would soon head into Vietnam in the early years of the Vietnam War. Cowboy would spend six months and 21 days in Vietnam before being sent home after he was wounded in the knee.

home to Rule, before moving just outside of Floydada in 1958. Working on farms and with livestock while staying in Floydada, it wasn't long before he was reminded of his infatuation of becoming a firefighter. At the first given opportunity, Cowboy would literally jump at the chance of becoming a volunteer firefighter in Floydada, "One Cowboy would briefly return day, I heard the trucks...hol-

lering," explained Cowboy, "then I run over there and jumped on the back of the truck, and I wanted to go with them, and I went with them. After I came back they started handing me some bunker pants, and said "you're on the fire department"...that Monday night, I come down and they voted me on the fire department; and I was really

on the department."

Starting under Fire Chief, Bobby Wilbert, for the next 43 years, Cowboy would dedicate a good part of his life towards the fire department. During the early 70's, he would eventually earn his firefighter certification; and during the late 70's, Cowboy would take it one step further and earned his instructor cer-

See HONOR on page 8

Community-wide meeting held for new band uniforms

By Homer Marquez

On Thursday, June 23, Lockney Band Boosters and concerned citizens gathered at Lockney's elementary school for a community-wide meeting to discuss the deteriorating conditions of the high school band's marching uniforms. The main purpose of the meeting was centered around what the community as a whole could do to help raise money to replace the over 20 year-old uniforms.

During the meeting, a slide show, which was provided by photographer and band parent, Rodney Hunt, depicted the long and grueling process of band students trying to put on the dilapidating band uniforms before a marching competition. Community members watched

in astonishment as pictures showed the improvised efforts of an army of dedicated band parents trying to quickly repair 20 years of wear and tear by using a combination of safety pins, paper clips, and duct tape, to fix blown out seams, busted zippers and broken buttons. From a distance, the hot all-wool uniforms, which were bought back in 1992, looked fairly acceptable, but with a closer look, it was very plain to see that the uniforms where only held together by tons of safety pins and a couple strips of tape. Amazingly, the longtime award winning Lockney Longhorn band was still able to pull off a 2011 UIL Grand Sweepstakes, by consecutively receiving one rating in their yearly marching contests for

the past five years; the Longhorn would also send 26 students to the state competition

getting after it then...I was

this year. Obviously proud of the constant accomplishments of their Band, community members unanimously agreed that something had to be done about getting the band new uniforms. In the last School Board meeting, which was held on June 16, board members had agreed that the band needed new uniforms, and assured public that the district would look into some financial options for covering the almost \$35,000 cost of purchasing a 100 new uniforms. A short time before the community meeting, the board announced that they would match donations that were collected for the purchase of the new uniforms, as well as pay for the remaining cost.

If anyone is interested in donating, donations can be sent to PO Box 1166, Lockney, Texas 79241 or donations can be made to the LHS Band Uniform Fund at Happy State Bank. For more information, you can contact Kay Martin at 652-3386, Michealle Stennett at 652-2571, or Ginger Mathis at 652-2960.

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A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Photo by Rodney Hunt

In a community-wide meeting that was held last Thursday at Lockney's elementary, concerned community members met to address the deteriorating conditions of the 20 year-old band uniforms that the Lockney Longhorn band is currently wearing. (Above) a number of safety pins were used to hold together the busted seams of a pair of marching pants.



Courtesy Photo

DAREWARE OF FLOYDADA was recognized at the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals Awards Banquet in Austin on June 14th. She was selected as Region 17's Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year.

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong

Well here we are again, another week has flown by. I talked to Michelle Stennett and she informed me that Theresa is not doing well at all. They have moved her back to the home in Plainview and all of the children were with her over the weekend. Please keep the Stennett family in your thoughts and prayers.

The Lockney Longhorn
Band is trying to raise
money to purchase new
band uniforms to replace the
19 year-old ones that they
currently. Please contact
Ginger Mathis, Kay Martin,
or Victory Stewart for more
information. A fund has been
set up at the Happy State

Bank if you wish to donate.

Remember Pot Luck on Thursday night at 6 p.m.; exercise with Dorothy will be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. Quilt tickets are still for sale; \$1 for one or 6 for \$5.

The Center will be closed on the Fourth of July; also as of August 1 meals at the Center will be \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members. You all have a great day.

Menu
July 5-8

Monday-Closed
Tuesday-Meat Loaf
Wednesday-Chicken Fried
Steak
Thursday-Salmon
Friday-Pot Roast

THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON

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From The Archives

HISTORY OF THE CAP-ROCK COUNTRY Floyd County Hesperian July 15, 1965

THE HISTORY OF LOCKNEY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Among the many institutions of secondary and higher education that have in a sense passed on, and yet in a deeper sense left tracer that will remain, is that of

Lockney Christian College, 1894-1915.

CHECKERED LIFE

Serving one year as a public school, it had more continuity than did many such small schools, as one man was head of it for the greater part of its life as an educational institution.

OPENED 1894

In October of 1894 Lockney Christian College opened its doors for the first time to students. S. W. and C. W. Smith (not related), the latter the father of Mrs. Alma Holmes, preachers for the Churches of Christ in the area, worked persistently for the foundation of the school. J. D. Burleson was the principal, and Mrs. Sadie Burleson, his wife, served as his assistant. The first day a total of 16 pupils enrolled. The Messrs. Smith furnished much of the money themselves, and induced friends to provide the reminder. The building intended for use by the school was not ready when it opened so a small two-room dwelling was employed for that purpose the first few months.

TWO STORY BUILDING

The building into which the college eventually moved was a two-story structure, 24 feet wide, forty-eight feet long, and 18 feet high. In the spring of 1895 the public school at Old Lockney was abandoned, and some of its pupils entered the Christian school, located at New Lockney. It is evident that much of its work was below the level we would now call collegiate, as was true of practically all the colleges of that time in this area.

ADVERTISING

Considerable aid for the school came in the form of advertising by traveling evangelists, and through the columns of religious publications. One result of this, doubtless abetted by other factors, was a rapid filling-up of the country. New home units moved westward. Quite a number of ex-residents of Mayshaw and Della Plain migrated the few miles west to Lockney.

PUBLICLY OPERATED, 1895

For a time in 1895 the school operated as a public institution in Lockney, but the trustees there hired the same teachers the Christian College was using. This reversion occurred again for 1904, with a temporary name change in 1904-05.

Times Print of Floydada published a flyer for the school after one year of its operation. It advertised the second session, for 1895-96. It advertised, "Lockney Christian College Will Begin On The First Monday in September 1895, Will Continue Ten Months Closing on June 14th 1896."

(And kids of today thought they went to school less time than now!) The front page, by the way, is well decorated as were the buildings of those times. The inside first page states: "This school was opened for work on the first Monday in October 1894, with an enrollment of fifteen pupils, and was placed in charge of Prof. J. D. Burleson and wife. It steadily increased in number from the beginning and has just closed a very satisfactory term of nine months without missing a single day and with an enrollment of forty-six pupils at the close.

OBJECT

"The school was not organized as a money-making institution, but to do good and fill a much needed want among the people of the Plains in preparing our chil-

dren for the practical duties of life. We earnestly opposed foolishness and extravagance. We desire to impress every student with the true idea of life and a deep earnest desire to secure useful knowledge."

LOCATION

Our school is located in the small but thriving town of Lockney, on the Great Staked Plains of Texas, in the midst of one of the finest stock-raising counties of the West. The county is noted for fine gardens and small truck farming, mostly raised from windmill irrigation which is a success. Feed crops are also successful. Health is of the best, sickness almost unknown. Soil is good; grass fine; and as good water as can be found in the state, and we have room for you is you want a home on the Plains."

SOCIETY

"Society is as good as can be found in the state. Our town is entirely free from saloons and their attendant evil influences. Our people are thrifty, social, religious, and of average intelligence."

BUILDING

"Our building is good and substantial, with two rooms 24 x 34, capable of accommodating 180 students. Arrangements have been made so that the free school will connect with the regular term that all children entitled may have the benefit of a free school." (This evidently refers to the arrangements made for the next year for it to be a public school.)

RULES

"These rules must be observed and all patrons are requested to help enforce them:

- 1. No swearing nor obscene language is to be allowed on the play grounds or about the school rooms.
- 2. Students will not be allowed to attend any immoral gathering.
- 3. That all pupils will be prompt in attendance at the opening of school every morning.
- 4. That each pupil study some at night.
- 5. That students do not visit among the school. (This however is but a request to parents.)
- 6. That all students come

directly to school from home and return from school directly home."

FURTHER STATEMENTS

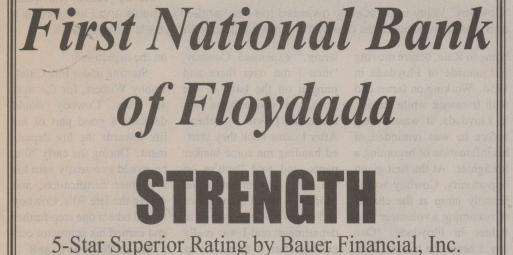
"All children placed in our school will receive special care and we will put them to work in a way that will meet your approval. Tuition will be \$1.50 to \$3.00 per scholar, according to grade. Half in advance or satisfactory arrangements made with trustees. Board can be had in good private families at from \$8.00 to \$10.00 per month."

ALLURING INVITA-TION

Something of the boom spirit of the times, as this era is referred to by Mrs. Alma Holmes (who furnished considerable material) is show in "Our Invitation," which closes the brochure, as we would call it: "You are invited; if you want a home come to the Plains. If you are sick, come to the plains. If you want to find a good permanent school with other advantages, come to Lockney. If you want to raise small fruits and fine gardens, come to Lockney. If you want to raise stock, get a ranch on the Plains and move your family to Lockney, where they can have Church and School privileges. If you want to help a good earnest work, send your contribution to the Lockney Christian College. If you want any information about the Plains, Floyd County or Lockney, write us. J. D. Burleson, Principal. S. W. Smith, C. W. Smith, Directors."

The arrangement to have the school as a public institution continued through the 1897-98 term. By that time the Lockney school district had provided its own facilities, and the school was reconsecrated to its original purpose. During this time G. H. P. Showalter had been chosen president of the school and except for 1904-05, served for ten years. During his incumbency the teachers were: Sam Poynor, W. L. Swinney, Miss Sara Thornton, Miss Naomi Hamblin, and later there were W. O. Hines and Early Arcenenaux. Showalter was building up a school at Bethel, N. Mex., in 1904-05, with N. L. Clark taking his place at Lockney. M. V. Showalter and A. S. Kennamer also did some teaching.

[Article to be continued next week]



STABILITY

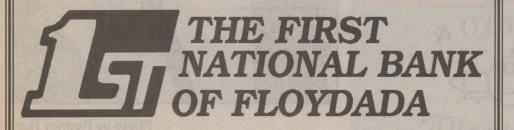
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Spotlighting the best in up and coming bands, KFLP 106.1 is proud to host these artists in their "Live from the Backroom" sessions. Scheduled for this summer's performances are:

Wed. June 29 - Charla Corn Wed. July 6- Granger Smith Wed. July 13 - Bri Bagwell Wed. July 20 - Mark McKinney

Wed. July 27 - Matt Stell & the Crashers

Wed. August 3 - Mike Ryan Wed. August 10 - Chad Johnson Band

Wed. August 17 - Brian Keane

Pray for more rain!

BITUARY



Joe S. Perez

Joe Perez, minister and evangelist passed peacefully into the presence of his Savior on Saturday, June 18, 2011 in Bradenton, Florida, where he had lived since March of 2010.

A celebration of his life was held at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 23, 2011 at the First Baptist Church in Lockney with Pastor Herman Martinez officiating.

Interment followed at Lockney Cemetery under the direction of Moore-Rose

Funeral Home in Lockney. Visitation was held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, 2011 at the First Baptist Church.

Jose "Joe" S. Perez was born on September 30, 1920 in Runge, Texas to Faustino and Juanita (Salazar) Perez. He married Georgia Solis on October 10, 1938 in Karnes County. Joe lived in Lockney most of his life and will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of over 61 years, Georgia; a son, Joe, Jr. and a daughter, Connie.

Joe is survived by his three sons, Ruben Perez and wife, Celia of Ellenton, Florida, Ray Perez and wife, Alice of Dade City, Florida, and Daniel Perez of Colorado; his five daughters, Frances Sosa and husband, Ramiro of Ellenton, Florida, Sylvia Perez of Denton, Josie Talamantez of La Belle, rose.com

Florida, Elvia Rendon and husband, Rev. Manuel Rendon of Lockney and Anita Guerrero of Whitesboro; 40 grandchildren, 113 great-grandchildren and 28 great-great-grandchildren; three brothers, Leon Perez, Alejandro Perez and David Perez and two sisters, Mary Contrerras and Genoveva Mendez.

The family expresses appreciation to Hospice Hands of West Texas, Rosie Rendon, director of home health care, all the staff and physicians of Mangold Health Care and all other friends for their assistance while Joe lived in Lockney.

Memorial gifts may be directed to the Pentecostal Power of Praise Church, c/o Rev. Manuel Rendon, HCR 5100, Lockney, Texas 79241.

Online condolences may be made at www.moore-



Red tape. By any other name it's papierkrieg - German for "paper war."

Germans make good soldiers. Maybe it should be no surprise that the German term makes paperwork an enemy to be conquered. Who wouldn't rather be a soldier in the fight against bureaucratization and all its trappings than a victim tied up in an overabundance of tape, unable even to flail? The word "papierkrieg" holds at least some hope of victory.

Have I lost you?

Well, it's late. And I've been tied up in red tape myself. Or fighting the paperwork war, if you please.

THIS WEEK'S

LOCKNEY CHAMBER **HOSTING KCBD AND CITY-WIDE GARAGE** SALE

The Lockney Chamber of Commerce will be helping host KCBD news cast on July 25th and cooking free burgers for the public. This will be located in front of the Lockney Elementary. They will also be hosting a citywide garage sale on August

Cost is \$10 to get your name on the map. Deadline for this is August 1st. You may contact Kay Martin at J & K Insurance, 652-3386 or Melissa Kunselman at Kaleidoscope, 652-2960.

LIPHAM FAMILY LOVE **FUND**

You may make donations to the Lipham Family Love Fund has been set up at the First National Bank of Floydada, P.O. Box 550 (124 S. Main Street), Floydada, Texas 79235.

CALVERT HOME HEALTH **BLOOD PRESSURE** CLINIC

Calvert Home Health holds their blood pressure clinics on every first and third Thursday of each month between 9 - 11 a.m. at the Community Room of the First National Bank of Floydada.

WEIGHT WATCHERS Weight Watchers will meet Thursday at 5 p.m. at W. J. Mangold Physical Therapy building. Everyone welcome.

Anyway, as long as we are noticing how things get cast differently in different languages, consider the operative French word "bureaucratization" as used above, even if it's not totally French. Or maybe it is.

Yep. Oui. It's a real French word, except you change the "z" to "s," which is probably also necessary for the British English spelling. But do we care? I'm past caring. Red tape affects me that way.

In case you were wondering where we get the expression "red tape," I'll save you some Googling. It's from England, where legal documents traditionally are bound right in the Farm Bureau conin red tape. But when I my- text and, when back home, self think of red tape, I see hearing my grandmother use instead the current Southwest Airlines commercial where a guy is being chased by a big ball of red tape or the one where a hapless family gets wrapped up in tape. Southwest to the rescue. If only it were that easy.

Meanwhile, the word "bureau" holds some intrigue. How did "bureau" get to be part of a verb like "bureaucratize?" When I was a child, a bureau was either a piece of furniture or the name of my daddy's favorite organization, Farm Bureau.

Indeed, we were on a Farm Bureau trip to Washington,

D.C. in July 1948 when I said my first sentence - "J. Z. gone town" – to the Statler Hotel porter who brought a glass of buttermilk to our room for me. Other babies drank formula; I drank buttermilk. At home on the farm we made our own, but at the Statler we were dependent on room service. Mother always remembered how that glass of buttermilk arrived on a silver tray with a small silver shaker of salt. Nice.

Anyway, there I was, an 18-month-old sipping buttermilk and developing verbal skills and no doubt hearing the word "bureau" left and the very same word to refer to the chest of drawers. Con-

Then I majored in French and found out that the most basic meaning of "bureau" in French is simply "desk," which makes the term "bureaucracy" easy to understand. Lots of desks.

The late Capt. Henry Spicer, my one-time boss in New Orleans, once told me "Give a person a desk, and they'll create a job."

There you have it. We don't have a job shortage in this country. We just need more desks.

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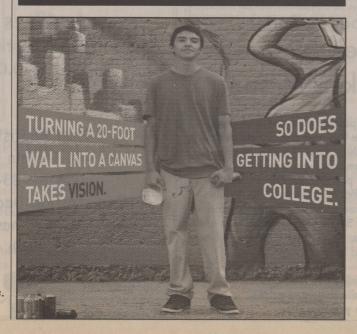
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AIKEN BAPTIST CHURCH Dennis Butler, Pastor Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m..

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 810 S. 3rd, Floydada Darwin Robinson, Pastor 983-5278

Sunday School10:00 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 School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Bible Study6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening7:00 p.m.

CARR'S CHAPEL Service Every Sunday: Morning Worship9:00 a.m. Sunday School10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

West College & Third, Lockney Steve McLean -Minister Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship5:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m.

CITY PARK **CHURCH OF CHRIST** Levi Sisemore, Minister

Floydada Sunday Bible Study..9:30 a.m. Morning Worship .. 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Tim Franks, Pastor

Terry Simmons, Minister of Ed./Music Josh Burgett -Minister of Students Sunday School9:15 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m

Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. **** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,

Lockney John Franklin, 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.

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Rev. Les Hall, Pastor Early Worship8:30 am. Sunday School...... 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ...10.50 a.m. Youth (Sunday).....5:00 p.m. Youth (Wednesday)..7:30 p.m ****

FIRST UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH**

Lockney Rev. Ricky Carstensen Pastor Sunday School9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Evening Service..... 6.00 p.m. Wed. Jr. High5:30 p.m. Wed. High School... 6:30 p.m. ****

> **GRANT CHAPEL CHURCH** OF GOD IN CHRIST Joe Bennett, Pastor

Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ... 11:00 a.m. Evening Service......7:30 p.m. Tuesday.....8:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:30 p.m.

> **MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST** Lockney

Jay Don Poindexter, Minister Bible Study9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.

MT. ZION **BAPTIST CHURCH** Floydada Rev. Ralph Jackson 401 N 12th St (983-5805)

Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday Study ...7:00 p.m. ****

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

Sunday Singing10:30 a.m. Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m. **** **OUT REACH** HARVEST

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 310 E. Mississippi Floydada Rev. David Ramos, Pastor Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible...10:00 a.m. Morning Praise..11:00 a.m. Evening Praise5:00 p.m. Wed. Worship.... 7:00 p.m.

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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 School9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Discipleship5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m.

> PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Floydada Pastor Lupe Rando

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship .. 10:40 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening7:00 p.m.

SAN JOSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lockney Rev. Patrick Maher, Pastor Wed. Communion....8:00 p.m. Sunday Mass......11:30 a.m.

> **SOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH** Joe Weldon, Pastor

Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ... 11:00 a.m Prayer Meeting...... 7:00 p.m

TEMPLO GETSEMANI ASSEMBLY OF GOD

701 W. Missouri Joe Hernandez 983-5286 (church)

983-5156 (parsonage) Sunday School9: 45 a.m. Morning Worship ... 11:00 a.m. EveningService......5:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH Floydada

Phone: 983-5878 Sunday Mass......11:30 a.m. Mon.Wed. Mass......6:30 p.m. Confession Sat......10-11 a.m.

Rev. Angelo Consemino

**** TEMPLO BAUTISTA SALEM

Lockney Rev. Joe Hernandez Sun. Prayer Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School9:45 p.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Meeting7:00 p.m. TEMPLO BETHEL

SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD Washington and 1st St.

Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m.

TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA Rev. Herman Martinez 308 W. Tennessee, Floydada Sunday School10:00 a.m. Evening Worship5:00 p.m. Tuesday.....7:30 p.m. Thursday Service.....7:30 p.m.

Trinity Assembly 500 W. Houston, Floydada Henry Russell, Co-Pastor Vance Mitchell, Co-Pastor Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:40 a.m.

Sunday Evening 5 p.m.

TRINITY **LUTHERAN CHURCH Providence Community** on FM 2301 293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington Minister

Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST Floydada 983-3548 Sunday Worship ...10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening5:00 p.m.

Shepherd's Meadow **Assisted Living** 1230 S. Ralls Hwy Floydada

983-8177

Terrell and Pyle receive degrees from WTA&M University

West Texas A&M University students during University awarded 630 baccalaureate de- degree - Engineering Technology.

Degrees were officially conferred on 773 grees, 142 master's degrees and one Ph.D

Area students receiving degrees were Tori its spring commencement exercises May 14, B. Terrell - Bachelor of Science degree - Bi-2011 at the First United Bank Center. The ology and Jeremy Pyle - Bachelor of Science

Graduates with an overall grade point average of 3.50 or higher were recognized as honor graduates and wore gold honor cords. The three levels of honor recognition are Summa Cum Laude (3.90-4.00), Magna

Cum Laude (3.75-3.89) and Cum Laude (3.50-3.74). The graduating class of 2011 included 39 graduates with Summa Cum Laude honors, 55 students with Magna Cum Laude honors and 93 with Cum Laude honors.



Photo by Homer Marquez

On Saturday, the San Jose De Calasanz Church in Lockney celebrated their annual 2011 Jamaica. Church members and guests filled the church grounds to enjoy live music, food, and games like the pinto bean spitting contest, a dunking booth, washer pitching, and the Jalapeno eating contest. (Above) the musical group, 12 Strings, entertained the crowd with an assortment of praise songs; also performing at the Jamaica were; DJ Dimas Garcia, Cristo y Sus Instrumentos, Grupo Amenaza, and Los Mensajeros De Cristo.



WASHINGTON - Members of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) met with members of Congress today to discuss issues important to cattle raisers and the beef industry. Topping the list of concerns is the Texas wild-

"More than 3 million acres of Texas lands have burned," said Joe Parker Jr., rancher and TSCRA president. "Cattle raisers have lost more than 4,000 miles of fences which equals more than \$40 million dollars in rebuilding costs."

Cattle raisers are urging the Administration to issue a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Texas in order to open up additional assistance for firefighting ser-

"Wildfire season isn't over yet, and we are concerned that so much of the state's reParker said.

TSCRA is also working to waive the requirement all ages will qualify.

disasters to be fully tax de- out of business." ductible in the year the costs are incurred, rather than de- clude U.S. corn-based ethanol ducting the costs over a pe-policies that continue to in-

concerned about overregulation of the Environmental the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard, According to Parker, the EPA data to verify a listing; and the is proposing to regulate agriculture dust at more stringent

sources have been used up," levels and private surface water through a guidance docu-

"Each of these regulations that, in order to be eligible for will place unnecessary and USDA's fence rebuilding cost costly burdens on ranchers share assistance, fences must who simply want to make a be less than 20-years old. TS- living and provide a safe and CRA is working to waive the healthy food source to conrequirement so that in times sumers around the world," of natural disasters, fences of Parker said. "The combination of overregulation on top TSCRA is also working of the taxes they will require to change the federal tax code to implement will undoubtto allow costs of replacing edly be a financial disaster for fences destroyed in natural ranchers, putting many of us

Other issues of concern increase feed costs for livestock Cattle raisers are also producers; the listing of many endangered species, including Protection Agency (EPA). in Texas without sufficient passage of pending free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea.

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 134-year-old trade organization. As the largest and oldest livestock association in Texas, TSCRA represents more than 15,000 beef cattle producers, ranching families and businesses who manage approximately 4 million head of cattle on 75.9 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma. TSCRA provides law enforcement and livestock inspection services, legislative and regulatory advocacy, industry news and information, insurance services and educational opportunities for its members and the industry.



During San Jose's 2011 Jamaica celebrations; kids beat the heat with games and fun on Saturday, as they participated in activities like cake walks and bingo. Kids also had a chance to win great prizes like gift cards and an Xbox and a Kinect gaming system.



Photo by Homer Marquez

On Saturday, during the 2011 Jamaica at the San Jose De Calasanz Church in Lockney, Sheriff Paul Raissez joined the fun by volunteering for the dunking booth.

US 70 rehabilitation project set to begin

The Texas Department of Transportation in each direction during the various phases. (TxDOT) is set to begin work on a project Motorists traveling on US 70 can expect mathat will make major improvements to US 70, through the city of Plainview. The \$9.1 million project will completely rebuild the existing roadway from Westridge Road to Milwee

Major construction work on the project began Monday, June 27. Contractor Reece Albert Construction, of San Angelo, has set barriers from I-27 east to Quincy Street that will reduce traffic to one-lane in each direction, said Mike Craig, P.E., TxDOT Plainview Area engineer.

"We know this is a big deal and it's going to affect a lot of motorists," Craig said. "The scope of the work—rebuilding Plainview's busiest road through town—is a huge task. Our goal is to make sure we get the work done in the safest and most efficient way pos-

Work will be done in four phases along US 70, with traffic being reduced to one-lane

Email us at

fchb.editor@

jor delays and are advised to seek alternate routes around the area.

"Work on the project is set up to be done in phases and half-widths with work beginning on the eastbound lanes of each phase first," Craig said. "Once the eastbound lanes have been completed, traffic will then be switched onto the newly constructed lanes to allow for work on the westbound lanes."

Project phasing is:

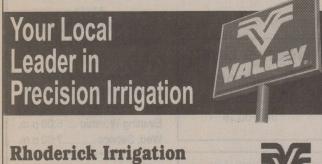
Phase 1 — Westridge to I-27

Phase 2 — I-27 east to Quincy

Phase 3 — Quincy Street to Denver Phase 4 — Denver to Milwee

"Our contractor is scheduled to begin work on Phase 2 next week. In late July, we anticipate them to add a second construction crew to begin work on Phase 1," Craig

The project has a construction schedule of 24 months.



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Join us for the 4th of July parade and stay and shop, on Monday July 4th from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Hair and beauty products on sale include Paul Mitchell, It's a Ten, Kevin Murphy, Matrix shampoo duos, Bed Head and many more! Buy any hair product, and be entered in a drawing for a Babyliss flat iron worth \$150. While there, shop at the trunk show featuring Turquoise and Tangles Boutique by Leigh Smith. There will be tons of cute clothes, jewelry, purses, Yellow Box flip flops, Silver Brand Jeans and so much more!!

> Stop by and enjoy live music, refreshments, goodie bags and prizes. Hope to see you there!!!

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Kids Kamp

July 28 - 31 At Plains Baptist Assembly \$10.00

First Baptist Church 401 S Main Floydada

806-983-3755 Registration Deadline July 8 For kids who have completed

1st - 6th grades





Courtesy Photo

FLOYDADA WINDS SOFTBALL TEAM participated in the District 38 Post-Season Tournament in Post last Wednesday and Thursday. The team opened tournament play against Abernathy and played a 3-1/2 hour game which ended in a loss, 28-25. In their second game they went up against Idalou and lost by a score of 21-10. Their regular season record for the Floydada Winds Softball team was 7-6 and was 0-3 in tournament play. Team members pictured are (back row) Laisha Reyes; (middle row, I-r) Emily Cisneros, Stefanni Chavarria, Kylie Ricketts, Kiarra Collins, Yelena Serrato; (front row, I-r) Bresa Gonzales, Hannah Morales, Allison Orr, Madison Barrientos, and Allison Muniz. This

Cotton Market Weekly

Mill fixations on Thursstrengthened considerably.

considered somewhat disappointing by many observers. the reports to be "dismal" for some time to come as the combination of early new crop sales this past winter/ spring, burgeoning global yarn stocks, and the now left most merchants with lit- in the cotton business." tle or no cotton to sell.

analyst said. of 22,300 bales resulted as have been kept. increases for Pakistan, Itastan, and Morocco.

163,800 bales were down 25 day. Many analysts now bepercent from the previous lieve the first official USDA week and 26 percent from crop estimate in early Authe four-week average. Primary destinations were China, Turkey, and Mexico.

As there is very little available cotton left to sell in the spot cotton market, for the second consecutive week producers in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico sold no cotton online.

day lifted the July contract devoid of fresh news with low number for Texas. on the Intercontinental Ex- weather events around the

in West Texas on Memorial within the next two weeks. Day weekend. This truly is uncertain crop prospects has an odd year for those of us

Meanwhile, sources say "I think as we work crop conditions in West Texthough the summer, about as are getting worse as still the best we should expect to no rain has fallen and another see in USDA's weekly ex- high-pressure ridge is buildport reports is for the cancel- ing above the region going lations to moderate or possi- into next week with tembly disappear altogether," an peratures once again soaring into the 100's. Weather For the week ended June records show that the area is 16, the department reported currently in its driest eightnet export sales reductions month stretch since records

Some now say the enly, and Vietnam were more tire dryland crop likely will than offset by decreases for have to be written off, and China, Morocco, and Mexi- what worries the market is co. Net sales reductions of that the irrigated crop still 33,100 bales for delivery in is suffering without help 2011-12 resulted as increas- from intermittent rain. Hot es for Guatemala, Peru, and temperatures combined with China were offset by cancel- strong winds are taking their lations from Turkey, Paki- toll on irrigated acreage, and the situation is getting more Export shipments of worrisome with every dry

with a strategic focus on Christian University for the student success in four key areas: spiritual formation, The Deans List requires intellectual growth, personal stewardship and leadership development. Degree programs are

tion that promotes unique

offered for both bachelor's degrees and master's degrees. For over 50 years, the school has offered academic excellence in a Christian environment.

For more information versity has over 2000 stuabout Lubbock Christian University visit their website at www.lcu.edu.

The Floyd County Old Settler's Team Roping has been rescheduled for July 9th at 7 p.m. Will be held at Brett Marble's arena, 1-1/2 miles north of South Plains, west side of road

to LCU Dean's list

Kaylie Nutt of Floy-

Kaylie is a sophmore

Lubbock Christian Uni-

Photo by Homer Marquez

In their first game in the Little League District Tournament, Floydada's 12 year old team pulled off an impressive 15-0 victory over O'Donnell last Friday. Floydada was scheduled to play Post that following Tuesday. Winner of that game will play another on Thursday at 5:30 p.m in Floydada. The District Championship will be determined on Saturday; winners of the tournament will be one step closer towards entering the Little League World Series.



Photo by Freddie Gonzales

Subscribe today!

806-983-3737

Last Saturday, Floydada's 7-8 year-old pitching machine league team took on Post, in a double elimination tournament. Floydada would end up the winners by a score of 7-4; this would keep the little Winds alive after a 10-2 loss to O'Donnell that previous Thursday. Floydada was scheduled to play Abernathy the following Monday.

First National Bank of Floydada 983-3717

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The Floydada ISD is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children Regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the sites a

To file a complaint of discrimination, write or call immediately to

USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 800-795-3272 or 202-720-6382 (TT)

LUNCH FOR CHILDREN AGES 1-18 A.B. DUNCAN ELEMENTARY JUNE 2- JUNE 30, 2011

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

MENU MONDAY – Chicken fajitas, pinto beans, tortillas, fruit, milk
TUESDAY – Pizza, corn, pickle spears, fruit, milk
WEDNESDAY – Spaghetti, black-eye peas, bread, fruit, milk
THURSDAY - Corn dog, mustard, potato rounds, fruit, milk
FRIDAY - Cheeseburger, mustard, chips, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fruit, milk

5-26, 6-2, 6-9. 6-16, 6-23, 6-30

The week was mostly gust will show a shockingly

Some Texas cotton prochange (ICE) higher for a world capturing the bulk of ducers received welcome third straight day while new attention. In addition to the rainfall this week as scatcrop months felt pressure oft-reported drought condi- tered showers were reported from outside influences, and tions in West Texas and the in the Coastal Bend and far the July/December spread always sketchy meteorologi- southern regions of Texcal data out of China, reports as. Exceptional to severe The market felt some hold that monsoonal rains drought conditions continue pressure from USDA's ex- have yet to occur in full to plague the areas; howevport sales report which was force in the cotton growing er, the rain brought some reareas of India and Pakistan. lief to the hot, thirsty cotton "Over the years I have crop. The 2011-12 harvest One analyst said he expects found that it is not wise to is just around the corner as a discount the annual arrival cotton observer near Corpus of the monsoons," a trader Christi, Texas, said defosaid. "Then again, up until liation of the crop there will this year, it had always rained be in full-swing in his area

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P0400238 12/04

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF **EDWIN L. NUTT, DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EDWIN L. NUTT, Deceased were issued on the 15th of June, 2011, in Cause No. 5883 pending in the County Court of Floyd County, Texas, to:

BARBARA H. NUTT

All 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 to such Independent Executor in care of the attorney of said Independent Executor:

> Bill LaFont % LaFont, Formby & Hamilton, L.L.P. P.O. Box 1510 Plainview, Texas 79073-1510

> > DATED the 15th of June, 2011

Barbara H. Nutt Independent Executor of the Estate EDWIN L. NUTT, Deceased

6-30c

2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report CITY OF LOCKNEY

Phone Number: 806-652-2355

2010 Annual Drinking

Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

CITY OF LOCKNEY

Phone Number: 806-652-2355

SPECIAL NOTICE

Required language for ALL community public water supplies:

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromise such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with or other immune system disorders can be particulary at risk infections. You should seek advice about drinking water your physician or health care provider. Additional guideline appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: July 14,2011

Time: 12:00 NOON

against the costs of drinking water. EPA continues to research the of arsenic, which is a cancer in humans at high linked to other health

Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Location: City Hall 218 E. Locust St.

Phone Number: 806-652-2355

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water

Source of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the and or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or

from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (20 65 2 - 2 3 5 5 - para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Where do we get our drinking water?

The source of drinking water used by CITY OF LOCKNEY is Purchased Surface Water A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the suceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at http://dww.tceq.state.state.tx.us/DWW/. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

ALL drinking water may contain contaminants

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Secondary Constituents

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Required Additional Health Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water supply is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

- NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units
 MFL million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
 Ci/L picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
 pm parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
 pb- parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
 ppt parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
 ppq parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLGs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or goal or MRDLG:

Maximum residual disinfectant level or disk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing or MRDL: evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Arsenic - While your

arsenic, it does contain

EPAs standard balances

possible health effects removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Brosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards:

and electronics

production wastes

millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of

2010

milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Regulated Contaminants Detected

Disinfectants and	Collection	Highest	Range of	MCLG	MCI.	Units	Violation	Likely Source of
Disinfection By-Products	Date	Single Sample	Levels Detected					Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2010	26.2	0 - 28.2	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)*	2010	27	0 - 27	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
To the last of the	Collection	Wahasa						
Inorganic Contaminants	Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic - While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPAs standard balances the current understanding of arsenics possible health effects	2010	6	6 - 6	0	10	ppb	N	Brosion of natura deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin								
Barium	2010	0.0897	0.0897 - 0.0897	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries Erosion of natur deposits.
Fluoride	2010	3.24	2.82 - 3.24	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natur deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2010	1.37	0.37 - 1.37	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion natural deposits
Selenium	2010	8.5	8.5 - 8.5	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries Erosion of natur deposits; Discharge from mines.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination

Beta/photon emitters	2010	11.5	11.5 -	0	4	mrem/yr	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
	1627 (000 P							Control of Age
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2010	4.1	4.1 - 4.1	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natura deposits.
	Light GET							cheer on the real
	ame de							The original field to

Volatile Organic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected		MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
			BON					AUDYOYONA
Benzene	2010	1.23	0 - 1.23	0	5	ppb		Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills.

OPINION



The Paperboy

The summer of 2011

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

It was midnight (Monday morning) and I stood outside to see what the temperature gauge would read at that hour. A sweltering 96 degrees. Three months ago, that would have been a warm high for the day.

In 1994, when I was young and foolish, I got word that Childress was going to be at an all-time high. After work that day, a buddy and I went to play golf. It was 117 degrees

This past Sunday we hit 117 again, tying the all-time record. Ironically, my good friend played golf Sunday during the heat of the day. He joins the prestigeous club I started in 1994.

I don't have to tell you what the weather is like. It is abundantly clear. It is nearly unbelievable the extremes - both hot and cold - that we can reach in this part of the country.

When you're watching the news, and you get credit for "leading the nation today" for the highest temperature, that is not a good thing. I guess for one second everyone listening or watching will think, "Thank God I'm not there," but that's about all you get winning that category.

I was going through the National Weather Service database and heat waves of this magnitude happen a couple of times a decade. What makes this one so bad is that it comes during a severe drought encompassing nearly all of Texas and half of Oklahoma and Kansas. My farmer friends are telling me it's the worst they've ever seen and more than one older farmer has said it's worse than at any point in their lifetime including the 1950s.

But what can you do? The only option is to wait it out. When I was a child, my grandfather was involved in the Greenbelt Bowl All-Star game in Childress. There was a severe drought and as the story goes, I was sitting in the car at the football stadium and it started to sprinkle. As the water hit the windshield, I asked my grandfather what it was. I think I was 3, which would have made it June of 1971.

The entire incident tickled my grandfather and he passed the story on to a friend of his at *The Dallas Morning News*. Sometime later a blurb appeared on the front page of the DMN referring to a young boy, Chris Blackburn in Childress, Texas, who didn't know what rain was when he saw it.

Again, that's not how you want your town perceived.

We have hired some new people here and three are not from this area. One is from Michigan, one from Denver, and one from Arkansas. I've told them multiple times that this is not normal. I don't know if they believe me or not because I'm pretty sure they think they've moved to the sun.

Back during that heat wave of 1994, my grandfather and his buddies would meet for coffee daily at 3 p.m. I remember one day his friend walked into the paper and said, "Morris, it's 110 outside and I don't know if I can take it."

My grandfather replied, "Buddy, what in the hell did we do before air conditioning?"

That's a valid question. One repeated the other day by my son. He wanted to know how people survived before AC. I told him people they didn't know anything different and they were probably a little tougher than we are today. I also told him that may be the reason no one was smiling in our old family photographs.

I don't know how long the heat wave will last and I don't know how long this dreadful drought is going to last. I honestly don't think anyone does. My heart goes out to the farmers and ranchers trying to cope with the unbearable conditions. It's rough.

Looking at the next week, it looks like the coolest day we have coming up is 106 degrees. I guess that's better than 117...

Copyright Christopher Blackburn 2011

Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

Other Opinions

CBO's Fuzzy Math

By BILL WILSON

On July 22, the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) issued its latest long-term projections on the growth of the national debt. Astonishingly, as bad as the numbers issued by the CBO were, the debt crisis the nation faces is even worse than we are being told.

The CBO analysis does not take into account the full \$14.344 trillion national debt, nor does it reflect the \$430 billion in gross interest payments we are paying every year.

Instead it only considers the \$9.7 trillion 'debt held by the public'. That was cited by the CBO. What was not was the \$4.6 trillion of debt owed to the Medicare and Social Security trust funds. Interest is owed to those programs similarly is not included.

These are real liabilities that the American people are expected to honor, and do honor under CBO's analysis. But because they are not revealed until 2024 and 2036, when the trust funds are fully exhausted, even the dire scenarios that are presented to the American people are actually rosy.

Why would the CBO leave this out of their analysis? Ostensibly, economists would counter that it's just money owed to ourselves, and not a share of debt held publicly. That, those obligations might be repudiated. So they shouldn't be counted until they come due.

In reality, it's just an accounting gimmick that hides that allows the government to understate the dire fiscal condition the Treasury really is in. When the Medicare and Social Security trust funds are exhausted in 2024 and 2036, respectively, the Treasury will be forced to borrow more money publicly anyway to honor the obligations to those programs.

So, it's all going to wind up in the gross debt that's reported at the end of day. That makes public debt and intergovernmental debt a difference without a distinction, but nonetheless a useful sleight of hand for the government to hide the true extent of the problem.

CBO reports that the debt will reach 100 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2021. In reality the national debt will be larger than the entire economy in 2012 if not sooner. At \$14.344 trillion, the national debt already rep-

resents 95.5 percent of the \$15.010 trillion Gross Domestic Product.

Nor are the people warned that total interest payments already exceed the 18 percent of revenue red flag level Moody's has explicitly warned against as being unaffordable. Just as the principal owed to the entitlements are not taken into account, neither are interest payments to those programs. Will Moody's wait until 2024 and 2036 to discover that interest payments have suddenly jumped?

The truth is, we cannot afford to wait 15 to 25 years to be honest about the debt burden we have taken on. The crisis is now.

The projections are bad enough in any event. They point to the need for every member of Congress to take the 'Cut, Cap, and Balance' pledge, which would immediately cut spending by hundreds of billions, cap it at 18 percent of GDP, and send a Balanced Budget Amendment to the states for adoption.

What Congress may not understand, however, is that time is running out to take meaningful action to avert a true crisis.

Chavez And His Dictatorship In Critical Condition

By ADAM BITELYI

From all available reports, Hugo Chavez is in critical condition in a hospital in Cuba. The Venezuelan communist dictator was taken to Cuba several weeks ago for an emergency surgery regarding pelvic swelling, which has led many to speculate that he is dealing with prostate cancer.

In the irony of ironies, Hugo Chavez was faced with the decision to have to leave his own nation, and the health care system that was supposed to be an example for other nations, to receive care from another questionable health care system in Cuba.

Chavez, a believer that the state should control all industry, including medical services, could not receive the adequate treatment for his life threatening condition in his own nation. This could be because he does not trust any of the doctors in Venezuela with his life threatening condition, or, that there are no doctors left in his nation that are capable of undertaking such surgeries with good outcomes.

To receive adequate care, Chavez had to head to fellow communist nation Cuba, where such surgery could be administered. However, even in Cuba, it appears that he is receiving sub-par health care. This should be a "teachable" moment for all those who believe in centralized health care.

In Venezuela, the right to health care is guaranteed in their constitution. All citizens are given access to a "free" health care system, as Venezuelan Analysis reports. However, this system is terribly run, and hospitals are often overcrowded with people not receiving adequate care. In fact, Cuba sends doctors to Venezuela to help with the shortage that was created out of centralizing the medical system. Even more, the Cuban doctors that are sent to Venezuela defect in large numbers — including somewhere in the neighborhood of 4,000 doctors alone in 2006!

With Chavez being out of the public light since June 10, many are beginning to believe that the dictator may be gone for a long period of time as information on his condition remains murky. This has led to his brother, Adan Chavez, to issue a bizarre statement to Venezuelans that violence is not out of the question to preserve the Chavez regime.

Stating on Sunday that the Hugo Chavez followers may have to resort to violence, Adan Chavez said, "As authentic revolutionaries, we cannot forget other forms of fighting." Chavez went on to quote the violent and ruthless communist leader Che Guevara, saying, "It would be inexcusable to limit ourselves to only the electoral and not see other forms of struggle, including the armed struggle." These statements hardly make one believe that Hugo Chavez will pull through in strong health.

Setting threats of violence aside, the single payer health scam is brought to light through this episode.

If you are faced with having to flee Venezuela and go to Cuba for adequate health care, you're health care system is in bad shape. As the Des Moines Register recently wrote of single-payer health systems, "A single-payer system sounds great if you don't have all the facts. Persons from all over the world come here for care they can't get in their countries. Any single-payer health system could discourage really talented people from going into medicine. We wouldn't like mediocre health care."

But in Venezuela, Hugo Chavez would have received mediocre care, and made the gamble that he would be better off in an undisclosed Cuban hospital, where he apparently is still receiving mediocre care. Single payer health systems are bad, and Hugo Chavez is now experiencing this first hand.

Florida governor sued for trying to save pensions

By RICK MANNING

The past six months have seen public employee unions protesting around the nation attempting to resist attempts by elected representatives to rein in the massive overspending of their predecessors.

Scenes from Wisconsin to Indiana to even California have found those who have been hired by taxpayers to do the government's business taking to the streets to keep the power, money and pensions that elected officials who they helped elect granted them.

In Wisconsin, the public employee unions even attempted to influence a judicial election in a brazen attempt to overturn the decisions by duly elected officials.

Now, the teachers union in Florida is suing the state over a change that was made in the law which would require their members to pay 3 percent out of their paychecks toward their retirement fund, instead of having that money provided by the taxpayers.

While I can feel some sympathy toward a public employee who entered this past year with one set of economic assumptions and had those assumptions turned on their head. That is exactly what the rest of America has been feeling for the past three years, largely due to government overspending, keeping these very public employees in the high style that they've become accustomed.

For some reason, public employee unions believe that they should be insulated from the economic hardships that the rest of America has faced, and 2011 has been a cold slap in the face for many across the nation.

Ironically, these very public employees who now are taking to the streets, during their lunch hour, to protest are at the heart of most of the largest budget problems facing our state and local governments.

In a March 3 report entitled, "Just how Big are Public Pension Liabilities" by State Budget Solutions. Author Bryan Leonard takes the pension issue head on when he writes, "One of the most insidious aspects of pension liability is its stealth nature. Pension obligations don't appear on state balance sheets. As such, states with billions in unfunded pension liabilities may technically brag of 'balanced' budgets while being swamped by pension debt."

Newly elected Florida Governor Rick Scott came to office determined to square away the state's balance sheet, finding an unfunded pension liability that is estimated by the American Enterprise Institute to possibly be as large as \$98.5 bil-

Unfunded pension liabilities are simply accounting tricks where government budget writers use monies that have been promised for the retirement of public employees to pay for other priorities. As the failure to put money into the pension fund snowballs, eventually the numbers become astronomical.

Ultimately, the irony of Governor Scott's successful effort to have public employees pay for a part of their own pensions is that it is the first step in saving the retirement security for these very employees.

Let's hope that the short-sighted attempts by the Florida teachers union to convince the Florida courts to unravel what Governor Scott and the elected state legislature have put in place fails.

Unfortunately, rather than praising the Governor for working to save their pensions, the unions are fighting and suing him every step of the way. Makes you wonder who actually represents the worker, doesn't it?

Cruz returns from Baseball Factory Camp

By Homer Marquez

Lockney All-Star pitcher, Renee Cruz was recently able to take his game to the next level, as he participated in this year's Under Armour National Baseball Factory Camp in Omaha, Nebraska.

Sponsored by the well known sports apparel company, Under Armour, the Baseball Factory is a national training camp that gives up and coming athletes a chance to finetune their games by running drills with college coaches and Major League Baseball stars. During the six-day camp, players learned the tips of the trade from the best in baseball, while at the same time competing in a six-team tournament made up of the country's best high school players.

Shortly after, him and his fellow Longhorns, wrapped up the season with a Bi-District Championship; recent Lockney graduate, Renee Cruz, headed to the National Baseball Factory tryouts that were being held at the Wayland Baptist University in Plainview. Competition was stiff, as over 80 high school ball players from the area tried out for a chance to head to Nebraska; but when the dust settled, Renee and two others, Jaekob Blewett of Levelland and Hector Loya of Tulia, were picked for the Baseball Factory camp.

Arriving in Omaha on June 16, Renee jumped off the bus and onto the field for the beginning of workouts. After the team to a 9-3 victory. Af- player was given a chance to

different teams, Renee and his new team, the Patriots, would spend the next six days going over drills and seminars with MLB stars and former Baseball Factory Alumnus like CJ Lee and Dodd Johnson of the Atlanta Braves, and former Kansas City Royal, Ron Thompson. Athletes would also have an opportunity to be coached by several college and professional coaches including Steve Bernhardt, who is a coach with the Colorado Rockies organization. "I learned a lot out of it," explained Renee on his experience at the camp, "Pitching I pulled out the most, because there's still a lot of drills that teach you...on how to get deep, and how to place certain stuff, and where to throw on certain batters."

Once a day, each team would go head to head in the camp's tournament. During their first game, Renee would be called up to pitch against the Cavaliers. "It felt like I was going to the state championship," Renee commented as he described his pre-game nervousness, "just having that feeling that everyone here is elite; they weren't put on the bottom of the line-up because they didn't have anybody else for the spot, ever person played an important role." But after During the quarter finals Rethe first pitch, Renee was back in the groove, "once you get rid of that first pitch it all flies but unfortunately the Patriots away." After four strikeouts, would finish second by a score Renee would eventually lead of 3-2. Nevertheless, each athletes were divided into six ter the win, the Patriots would strengthen their game as the



Courtesy Photo

Former Longhorn pitcher, Renee Cruz, has recently returned from Omaha, Nebraska after participating in the Under Armour National Baseball Factory camp two weeks ago.

get a bye to the quarter finals. nee would pitch a shut out to send the Patriots into the finals; camp went on. Throughout the tournament, coaches and undercover college scouts were better able to evaluate some of the camp's potential key play-

Closing out the camp, every player got a chance to check out a game from the 2011 College World Series that was being held down the street; from the box seats, the Patriots got to see Texas A&M play South Carolina.

After returning from the camp, Renee's stats, bio, and some video will be put on the Baseball Factory website for college recruits to review. Currently, Renee is still planning on heading to the Army, unless he gets picked up.

Renee accredits a lot of success to his family, including his dad, Damian who taught Renee how to pitch as a young

USDA-FSA to Host Four Webinars on Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Process

(COLLEGE STATION, TX) - June 23, 2011-- USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director Juan M. Garcia today announced four webinars (internetbased virtual meeting) to discuss the USDA Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Settlement Claims Process and current FSA loan programs. These webinars are scheduled for June 30th, July 14th, July 28th and August 11th at 7:00 PM.

On February 25, 2011, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General

Tony West announced a process created to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who assert they faced discrimination when seeking USDA farm loans during certain periods between years 1981 and 2000. The optional claims process offers a streamlined alternative to litigation and provides at least \$1.33 billion in compensation, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers.

The interactive webinars will provide an overview of the USDA Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Process as well as FSA farm loan program updates. Farm loan program topics to be discussed include interest rates, terms, and eligibility and security requirements.

"I encourage producers who want more information about the claims process or about FSA farm loan programs to register for one of these webinars," said Garcia. "The webinars are free and open to the first 100 participants who register," he said.

Garcia emphasizes that these webinars are intended as forums to discuss the general

plan for the claims process and FSA webinar hosts will not be able to discuss the details of any individual claim during the course of the webinars.

To view the webinar schedule and register, please go to www.fsa.usda.gov/ Internet/FSA File/tx hwwebinar 2011.pdf.

For more information regarding the USDA Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Process and FSA Lending Program webinars, please contact Eddie Trevino in the Texas State FSA Office at (979) 680-5221 or via email at eddie.trevino@tx.usda.gov.



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tification from Texas A&M. As an instructor, Cowboy Wiley has taught a number of different subjects including the use of breathing apparatuses and basic and advanced firefighting skills.

Cowboy has also spent the past 12 years as a Sergeant in Arms for the Panhandle Firemen's and Fire Marshal Association, and the past 10 years as a State Firemen's Association Sergeant in Arms.

In Floyd County, Cowboy Wiley has received numerous awards including Firefighter of the Year, and the 1999 Volunteer of the Year for the many hours he volunteered helping organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, and the Old Settler's Association.

Deriving a lot of his strength from his family, Cowboy is married to Sandra who works at Floydada ISD and has two children, Chris and Angela; he is also a grandpa to two beautiful grandchildren.

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