Floyd County Histori Museum PO BOX 304 FLOYDADA, TX 79235-0304

Wedding Shower J.W. McPherson & Stephanie Stephenson

Come in and look at our selection of ArtCarved rings.

Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts



Bridal shower Brady Rainwater & Cherise Figueroa Marla Reeves & Josh Tillery Pavne Pharmaev

# The Floyd County

**HESPERIAN-BEACO** 

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(USPS 202-680)

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14 PAGES - 75¢

#### OLUME 116 NUMBER 01

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2012**

**Jury Rules In Favor Of Alpha-Tex** 

#### **By Homer Marquez**

Last Friday, a five month legal battle would come to a close in Canyon as a sixpanel jury unanimously ruled that close to 200 German Shepard, Collies, and Retrievers from Alpha-Tex Kennels were not subjected to cruel treatment under the definition of the state's health and safety provisions.

In less than an hour of jury deliberation, relief and tearful emotions immediately swept the Smith family as 181st District Court Judge John Board read that the jury had decided that no dogs were ever cruelly treated at the kennel near Aiken.

"We want to thank everybody that helped us through this...especially our family

and friends...all the people that helped us," commented an emotional but ecstatic Sandra Smith after the four day trial adjourned on Friday.

"Our lawyers have been phenomenal," added Mrs. Smith as she praised their legal council, attorneys Paul Holloway and Jessica Skinner for their hard work and

commitment since the dogs were originally seized back in late September; "Our life was on the line, "she added.

"We're happy...I like to thank the Smiths for letting me represent them," commented Attorney Paul Holloway.

The final verdict wasn't a surprise for the Attorney Holloway as his confidence

grew as the trial crept towards an end and the jury returned quickly with a decision; "I wasn't surprised; I thought they would come back quick. I thought we were ahead today...I thought we were winning it on the evidence...I thought we finished strong, so I wasn't really surprised when that they came back with a no, no," the

attorney explained.

On the other end the verdict was not expected as state's attorney Donald Feare reacted to the decision; "Well obviously, it didn't come out like we wanted it to," Feare explained, "My position is not theirs, but they are the jury and I respect that; and **ALPHA-TEX** 

continued on page 11

# Big honors for stock show participants



**McCRAE McCORMICK GRAND CHAMPION BARROW BREED CHAMPION CROSS** 



#### **MADOLYN McCORMICK GRAND CHAMPION GILT BREED CHAMPION MAJOR**

**By Homer Marquez** The hard work from Floyd County's FFA and 4-H students finally came to frui-

tion as members prepared for the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Floyd County Livestock Show. "I would say out of the

### Flayd County **NEIGHBORS**

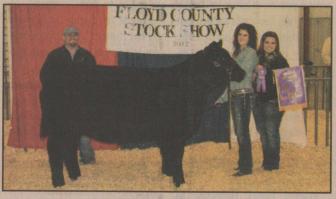


#### **Photo by Kat Wallace**

Meet Melissa Molina. Melissa is employed at Lowe's. She has been a resident of Floyd County now for 30 years where she has raised 4 children, Joshua 14, Nate-19, Timothy-21 and Natalie 24. Melissa has 2 grand children Samara-6 and Tony-4. Melissa graduated from Lockney High School. Some of her hobbies are bike riding and flower arrangements, both silk and live flowers. Nice to meet you Melissa Molina.

## SYANN FOSTER

**GRAND CHAMPION STEER BREED CHAMPION CROSS** 



#### **SYANN FOSTER GRAND CHAMPION HEIFER BREED CHAMPION CONTINENTAL**

thirteen county stock shows show judge, Scott Stedje. I've judged in 2011, I would say that the quality of kids and the quality of livestock Madolyn and McCrae Mcare as tough in Floyd County as anywhere I've been," commented this year's stock pion Gilt and McCrae won

Big winners this year were brother and sister Cormick, as Madolyn Mc-

Cormick won Grand Cham-**STOCK SHOW continued on page 14** 



**KOLBY WILLIAMS** 

JONATHAN SUSTAITA **GRAND CHAMPION LAMB BREED CHAMPION MEDIUM WOOL** 

# **FISD Named Apple Distinguished Program**

### Third straight year for honor

#### **By Anne Carthel Floydada ISD Curriculum Director**

Floydada ISD is pleased

to announce that it has been named an Apple Distinguished Program for its consistent growth, improvement, and leadership in 1:1 school initiatives using the implementation of Apple technology

The Apple Distinguished Program designation is reserved for programs that are recognized centers of educational excellence and leadership. Only 49 schools across the United States receive this distinction for 2011-2012.

"We are very honored to receive this designation for the third year in a row. Our school board, administration, and staff are committed to

providing our students with a quality education through the use of technology. Our Technology Immersion Program is a critical part of our district and

has helped us

prepare our

students for

the 21st Cen-

tury," said

Superinten-

dent Gilbert

Floydada

ISD as an

Apple Distin-

guished Pro-

The se-

of

gram highlights its successes

in enhancing and extending

teaching and learning with

thoughtful and innovative

implementations of technol-

Trevino.

lection

ogy. Much of the success of the districts' technology is attributed to the administrators and teachers' commitment to expand existing technology skills each year and cre-

> ate a seamless level of technology integration that supports every aspect of the instructional process. The use of extensive software and web resources provides a

broad spectrum of data and more prescriptive classroom instruction. The addition of laptops throughout the elementary grades has provided the district with the ability to increase student skills and expertise in such a way that the district's goal of providing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills to students is realized.

To further the technology program, Floydada ISD administrators are currently working with Dr. Billie Mc-Connell at Abilene Christian University, Apple representatives, and other districts across the state to network and build a leadership program and resource base. The goal of the program is to better prepare districts leaders and teachers as they transition to a technology based instructional program, as well as share the resource of teachers who excel in the use of seamless instruction and technology.

feedback to assist teachers in

# Reeves and Tillery to wed Ware and McKee to marry



**MARLA REEVES AND JOSH TILLERY** 

Page 2

Mike and Stacy Reeves and upcoming marriage of Floydada are happy to of their daughter, Marla announce the engagement Reeves to Josh Tillery of

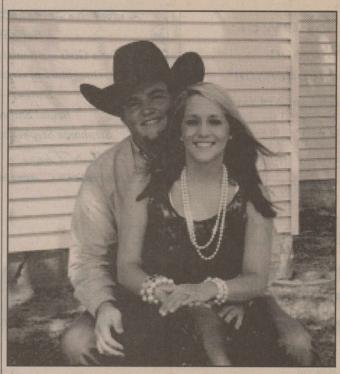
Burnet, Texas. Josh is the son of Mark and Laura Tillery of Burnet, Texas.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate of Floydada High School and a 2010 graduate of the University of Texas in Austin. She graduated with a major in geography and a minor in ancient civilization.

The prospective groom is a 2009 graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in Business Administration and Finance.

Marla is the granddaughter of Jerry and Martha Leatherman of Floydada and Irene Reeves of Slaton and the late Russell Reeves.

The couple will marry April 7, 2012 at the Spirit Ranch in Lubbock.



**CLAY WARE AND CARA MCKEE** 

Clinton and Dara Ware of Floydada along with Shawn and Donna McKee of Paradise, Texas would like to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their children, Clay and Cara.

Clay is the grandson of Peggy Garvin of Silverton and June Hale of Floydada. Cara is the granddaughter of Carol and Carol McKee of Breckenridge, Texas.

The prospective groom is a 2006 graduate of Floydada High School and a 2010 graduate of South Plains College. The brideelect graduated from Paradise High School in 2006 and from Tarrant County College in 2011.

Both Clay and Cara are employed in the Arlington area. A May 12, 2012 wedding has been planned on the Ware Ranch.

### FROM THE ARCHI **OF THE FLOYD COUNTY MUSEUM**

**From the Lockney Beacon** May 7, 1978

'Mrs. Pat' came from a family of doctors

#### **By Felicia Applewhite**

Edith Patterson, "Mrs. Pat," was born in North Texas' oldest town, Pilot Grove, in Grayson County. Her early life was a constant association with relatives in the medical profession.

Her grandfather on her mother's side was a doctor who served during the Civil War. His health was ruined while doing military service, so he came to Texas for health reasons.

Her father was a doctor. The family name was Knox.

The name of the town, Pilot Grove, had a name that went back to stage coach days. In those early days, there was an historic inn located on a hill. As time passed, the place on the hill served as a sort of pilot or guide for the early travelers across the land.

The grandfather on her father's side, was an herb doctor, "when he wasn't hunting gold." Every time he heard of gold in a state, he took his family to that state. In 1898, he and 3 of his sons and 2 of his daughters went to Alaska. One daughter never came back to the states to live. She spent the remainder of her life in Fairbanks. Her son was the first white boy to be born in Fairbanks. She was champion bear-killer woman of Alaska. She was also the first woman to drive a car in Alaska. Her husband had a gold mine north of Fairbanks. At first, they made

"lots of money." A cousin in California inherited the gold mine. The only brother of Edith's mother was a doctor in North Carolina, the original home state of her mother. One of his sons was a dentist.

"My father was a horse-and-buggy doctor. Sometimes, he would be gone over night to see patients. There would be times we wouldn't see him for several days. He would come in after we were in bed and leave before we were up the next day," Mrs Patterson remembers.

His medicines were castor oil, calomel, and a mixture of rock candy and whiskey for a throat gargle. Since there were no capsuled medicines, he rolled dosages in small squares of paper. Edith sometimes helped to roll the medicine in the paper. Her father also owned a drug store.

"My father always owned gentle horses. He had to have a number to assure him of horses for emergencies. His horses became family pets. We even moved our play house things by the use of horses. They were so gentle that we didn't need saddle or bridle. We just loaded one with our play things and moved to a different location.

Mrs. Patterson was the oldest in a family of 7. Sometimes, her mother would take all 7 of them in a fringe-top surrey around the town.

"I learned to swim with my clothes on in water near our house. We called it 'go to the branch to swim' when we went to swim. When we went in with no grown person around, we would get whippings. Father took the boys sometimes and threw them in. They learned to swim that way," she explains.

There was always activity around the home of the Knoxes.

"I climbed every pecan tree on the place. I

also rode papa's horses, sometimes without bridle or saddle," Edith says.

One time she and Nannie Meinicke, now of Plainview, were on a horse saddled with a sidesaddle. Edith was on the side saddle and Nannie was on behind her. They were a "good ways" from Nannie's house. The horse took off for the house. Nannie fell off, and "I" didn't look back because I thought she was killed. Her brother saw the horse coming and ran to open the gate. He was not quite fast enough to get the gate open before I got there. The horse ran right up to the gate and abruptly stopped. I kept on going and landed on the other side of the gate. I was just skinned a bit-no broken bones. That same thing happened to my brother when he was riding with no bridle or saddle," she remembers.

Edith's father delivered all of Mrs. M. C. Cook's uncles and aunts at birth. He operated on her grandmother to remove a breast cancer using the dining table for an operator table. Mrs. Cook is employed at the Lockney General Hospital in

> **FROM THE ARCHIVES** continued on page 13

### **Lockney Senior Citizens Center News**

#### **By Renee Armstrong**

We need a volunteer to do the year book; if you would like to do this please contact

day at 9-9:30 a.m; Coffee time Monday-Saturday 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Please remember all of those that are sick or have re-

# FLOYDADA SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS

#### **By Margaret Jones**

MY! MY! What a terrible wind and dust storm came our way this past Sunday. As dry as it is we may be headed for the Dawdy's and again at the Olive Garden with a group of lady friends. I wish you many more good times of celebration, Betty. The RECIPE OF

Study Club, Betty Baker, Janice Lloyd, Guy Ginn, Connie and Randy Bertrand

In memory of Emagene Haenisch – Eva Parker, 1934

separate biscuits. Squish each biscuit in flour, reforming until increased half again (3") in diameter. 5. Quarter each biscuit, leaving excess flour on each piece. 6. Drop dumplings into soup mixture. 7. Gently submerge dumplings (stirring may cause them to stick), allowing the soup to boil for 2-3 minutes. 8. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer for 15-20 minutes. 9. Add chicken pieces, stir and cook for an additional 10 minutes before serving. (Additional flour may be needed to thicken soup).

the Center as soon as possible. Thank you to all of you who

have made donations and memorials to the Center.

Dorothy Stapp is home now and doing well.

Remember pot luck on Thursday nights at 6 p.m; bring a dish and enjoy games afterwards; Ladies exercise Monday, Wednesday, and Fri-

(C)

cently lost loved ones in your prayers. Menu Monday-Meat Loaf **Tuesday-** Enchiladas Wednesday- Chicken Fried Steak

Thursday- Hungarian Goulash Friday-Fish

### THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON

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> You are cordially invited to a Retirement Reception honoring

Shirley Morton for her 42 years of service.

Friday, February 3, 2012 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

> Lighthouse Electric Cooperative Community Room Highway 70 East Floydada Texas

Find the Hesperian Beacon on Facebook!

more of the same. My mind wanders back to the 1950's when I was growing up and the wind and dust blew relentlessly for days at a time. Our conservation practices are a lot better today than they were then, but the drought in this part of the country increases similar conditions. Anyway.....Regardless of winds, dust, and the threat of range fires, I don't want to live anywhere else. I am thankful every day that I live where I do. Travel a short distance out of our area in any direction and I think you will agree.

Happy (late) Birthday to Betty Baker. She celebrated this special event a couple of times with difference friends. Bett had dinner at Harrigans with

**Come see Stacie** 

at Scott Gin

We are proud to offer

CIRCLE(E)CANDLES

2012 United States Tour

original works and adaptations of the psalms. In addition to appearances at local churches, the 2012 US

Tour includes stops at Princeton University Theological

Seminary, Geneva College, and Lubbock Christian University.

7:00 рм, Friday, February 17 • Free Admission

(806) 983-2570 • office@cityparkcoc.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE WEEK is one of Betty's favorites.

Sandy Forehand's mother, Glenna Rodden, is still in Lockney hospital. Let us remember to pray everyday for strength for Sandy as she sits by her mother's bedside to render whatever comfort and support she can.

Let us continue to remember those who have recently lost loved ones...Euna Bradford, Faye Bertrand and Charles Haenisch.

The Center wishes to thank the following for MEMORI-ALS ....

In memory of Lorene Newberry - Charlene Alldredge, Eva Parker, Joy Finley, Ronald and Betty Bertrand, 1934

983-2220

the Ralls Hwy.

On the corner of

5th & Tennessee Sts.

Two miles south on

Study Club, Betty Baker, Connie and Randy Bertrand

In memory of Floyd Bradford - Eva Parker, Betty Baker In memory of Don Rainer - Judy and Tony Mann, Peggy and Hendell Williams

In memory of Estelle Watson – Wilma Colston

#### **RECIPE OF THE WEEK Betty Baker's**

#### **Chicken & Dumplings**

Ingredients: 4 large chicken breasts; 5 cups chicken broth; 1 can cream of chicken soup; 1-1/2 soup cans milk; 1 stick unsalted butter; yellow food coloring (2-3 drops); flour; 2 large cans Pillsbury biscuits.

Preparation: 1. In a large pot, boil chicken breasts until tender. Chunk up chicken and set aside. 2. In same soup pot, combine chicken broth, cream of chicken soup, milk and butter. 3. Once mixed, add food coloring and bring to a slow boil. 4. Open biscuit cans and

#### "Thought for the Week"

When saving for OLD AGE, be sure to put away a few Pleasant Thoughts.

#### MENU

#### Jan. 30 - Jan. 31

Monday - Glazed meatloaf, red bliss potatoes, mixed vegetables, bread sticks, country apple crisp, low fat milk Tuesday - Oven fried chicken, bow tie pasta, broccoli raisin salad, fruit cocktail,

low fat milk

### Abraham Gallery to host annual Scholastic Art Exhibition

#### **By Richard Porter** Assistant Director of

Communications Wayland Baptist University

PLAINVIEW — Plainview-area residents have an opportunity to see some of the finest student artwork in West Texas as Wayland Baptist University's Abraham Gallery hosts the annual West Texas Scholastic Art Exhibition. The show opens

Monday and will run through Feb. 11 with gallery hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday; and 2-5 p.m. on Saturday. According to curator Dr. Candace Keller, the gallery also is available for out-of-town school groups by appointment. For more infor-

> **ART EXHIBITION** continued on page 13



Thursday, January 26, 2012

#### www.hesperianbeacononline.com

# Obituaries

#### **VONCEIL CASEY**

Center passed away Monday, January 16, 2012. Memorial services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 21, 2012 at the Kornerstone Funeral Directors Chapel with Mr. Bruce Cotton officiating.

Visitation was held Friday, January 20, 2012 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

1929 in Floydada, Texas to standing Unit Award, Good Virgil and Jewel Redd. She was a long life resident of Plainview. She was a member of Blue Eyes Crime Stoppers and local Women's Bowling League where she was a league bowler with professional skills.

Texas; one brother, Bobby Redd of Lubbock, Texas; one sister, Bettye Quisenberry of Plainview, Texas; one niece, Ruth Norsworthy of San Antonio, Texas; one nephew, Ricky Quisenberry of Plainview, Texas; and special friends, Damon & Mitzi Caitlin, and Justin Kelly, all of Plainview, Texas.

Online condolences may be made at www.kornerstonefunerals.com.





military honors will follow at Vonceil Casey, 82, of Hale Crestview Memorial Park.

Richard was born June 10, 1933 in Ralls, Texas to Ernest L. and Nellie Ruth (Keele) Reams. He served our country in the United States Air Force for 23 years. His assignments included Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Tripoli, Vietnam, and Alaska, retiring from Sheppard Air Force Base September 1, 1976 as a M/Sgt. His Vonceil was born April 11, medals include Air Force Out-Conduct Cluster, National Defense, Vietnam, Republic of Vietnam, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship, and Longevity Service Award.

Richard married Nora Phillips Hughes December 1. 1967 in Wichita Falls. He entered into eternal life on She is survived by one son, owned Quality Steam Action Ron Casey of Hale Center, and Carpet Cleaning, and worked for Longhorn Trailer for 33 years. Richard and Nora started Quality Crafts and traveled across Texas and Oklahoma attending craft shows. He created many beautiful wooden pieces he enjoyed. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and brother. He touched many lives and is loved by all who truly knew him.

> Mr. Reams is preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Susan Shortino; granddaughter, Nora Bell; brothers, Clyde and Marvin Reams; and sisters, Juanita Alexander and Mildred Phillips.

Survivors include his loving wife of 44 years, Nora; ten children and spouses, Debbie and Troy Dowdy of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Anita and Weldon Moore of Wichita Falls, Patti O'Neil of Burkburnett, Melody and Lynn Taylor of Wichita Falls, Janice and Wayne Bell of Mesquite, Texas, Robin Hughes of Archer City, Debbi Hughes of Wichita Falls, Wendy Reams and Gary Dotson of Wichita Falls, Bobby Hughes of Wichita Falls, and Huntsville, Texas; brother and sister-in-law, Eldon and Judy Reams of Midland, Texas; sister, Lee Ruth Goochey of Fort Worth, Texas; eighteen grandchildren; and fifteen greatgrandchildren.



**ESTELLE ANDERSON** WATSON

Estelle Anderson Watson January 14, 2012.

Family visitation was held Friday January 20, 2012 at Johnson's Funeral Home from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

A Celebration of her life was held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel, officiated by Dr. Mark Bumpus of First Baptist Church. Burial was held at Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene at 3 p.m. with Rev. Jeff Reid officiating.

She was born to Albert and Agnes Anderson on August 20, 1918 in Floydada, Texas. She attended Wayland College and graduated from Hardin Simmons University with a teaching degree.

Her life revolved around her children and being a Pastor's wife. She loved serving her Lord and made two missionary trips to Russia. She taught Sunday School up until the end.

The love of her life passed away in 1993.

She is survived by her children, Travis Watson and family of Waco, Peggy Beeman and family of Abilene and Larry Watson Kenny and Sheryl Hughes of and family of Waco; seven grandchildren, five great-

# Floyd County Church Directory

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

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

Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship .. 10:50 a.m. Evening Worship .... 6:00 p.m Wednesday.....7:00 p.m \*\*\*\*\*

> CALVARY'S **CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP** Floydada

Armando Morales, Pastor Sunday School .....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m. Bible Study .....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening7:00 p.m.

**CARR'S CHAPEL** Service Every Sunday: Morning Worship ....9:00 a.m. Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.

\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\* **CHURCH OF CHRIST** West College & Third, Lockney

Morning Worship .. 10:30 a.m. Afternoon Worship ..1:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m. \*\*\*\*

**CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST** Levi Sisemore, Minister Ivan Gomez, Minister Floydada Sunday Bible Study..9:30 a.m. Morning Worship .. 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m. \*\*\*\*\* FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Tim Franks, Pastor

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney

Jonathan Sullivan, Pastor Chad Cook, Youth Min.

Phil Cotham, Music Min. Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship .... 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m

FIRST UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH** Floydada

**Rev. Les Hall, Pastor** Early Worship ....8:30 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 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 Jay Don Poindexter, Minister Bible Study ......9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.

> MT. ZION **BAPTIST CHURCH** Floydada

\*\*\*\*\*

**Rev. Ralph Jackson** 401 N 12th St (983-5805) Sunday School .....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Worship .....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Study ... 7:00 p.m. \*\*\*\* **NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST** CHURCH

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

**OUT REACH** HARVEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 310 E. Mississippi

Floydada

Rev. David Ramos, Pastor

**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. Lupe Rando Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship .. 10:40 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening ......7:00 p.m. \*\*\*\*\* SAN JOSE **CATHOLIC CHURCH** Lockney Jim McCartney, Pastor Wed. Communion....8:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass..... 11:30 a.m. \*\*\*\* **SOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH** 

Joe Weldon, Pastor Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ... 11:00 a.m Prayer Meeting...... 7:00 p.m \*\*\*\*\* **TEMPLO GETSEMANI** 

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD** 701 W. Missouri

Joe M.Hernandez 983-5286 (church) Sunday School ... English.... ..... 9.45 a.m Spanish..... .11:00 a.m. Spanish Worship .....9:30 a.m. English Worship ..... 11:00 a.m. EveningService......5:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN **CATHOLIC CHURCH** Floydada

\*\*\*\*\*

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

> \*\*\*\*\* **TEMPLO BAUTISTA**

#### **RICHARD ERVIN** REAMS

Richard Ervin Reams, 78, of Wichita Falls passed away Funeral Home. Sunday, January 22, 2012 at his home.

Services will be held at 1 ita Falls. p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2012 at Hampton Vaughan lences and fond memories Funeral Home Chapel of- with the Reams family at sign the online register ficiated by Chaplain Harvey www.hamptonvaughancrest-McMurry. Interment with view.com.

2012 at Hampton Vaughan Downs, New Mexico and

If desired, memorials may

Please share your condo-

grandchildren; one greatgreat grandchild; three brothers, Louis Anderson of Floydada, Edwin Anderson of Grand Junction, Colorado, and Leon Anderson Visitation was held 6-8 of Tyler; and two sisters, p.m., Wednesday, January 25, Dorothy Nixon of Ruidoso Nita Kastner of Kerrville.

Donations may be made be made to Hospice of Wich- to Baptist Retirement Community Center Volunteer's Department.

> Family and friends may book at www.johnsons-funeralhome.com.

## THIS WEEK'S

#### **SALVATION ARMY** LOCKNEY

Despite current unfortunate circumstances, the Salvation Army Store in Lockney will continue to be open and will still be taking donations.

#### **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.

> THANK YOU FOR READING THE HESPERIAN BEACON!

We are so grateful and thankful to live in Floyd County. The outpouring of love to our family during the illnesses and passing of Emagene Haenisch has been overwhelming.

We want to thank the doctors and all the nursing staff at Mangold Memorial, Hospice Hands of West TX, and Shepherd's Meadow.

Thank you to each of you who comforted us with prayers, kind words, cards, visits, food, memorials, and flowers. We love and thank you all.

> **Charles Haenisch** Bill & Jo Lynn Dean and family Barry & Linda Haenisch and family



Wednesday......6:30 p.m. Wednesday (Youth). .7:15 p.m. \*\*\*\*\*



**Barwise** 

Gin

**Barwise Community** 

983-2737

Clark

Pharmacy

320 N. Main - Lockney

652-3353

**Davis Lumber** 

102 E. Shubet

Lockney

6523385

Goen & Goen

Insurance

102 E. California

983-3524

Hesperian-

Beacon

983-3737

292-9582

Lighthouse

**Electric Coop** 

703 A Matador Hwy

983-2814



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. Lockney Co-op Gin 652-3377 Oden

**Chevrolet Inc.** 221 S. Main, Floydada 983-3787

**Payne Family** Pharmacy 200 S. Main, Floydada

983-5111

### Schacht

Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts 112 W. Poplar, Lockney 652-2385

Shepherd's Meadow **Assisted Living** 1230 S. Ralls Hwy Floydada. 983-8177

Sunshine Pump **Oliver Clark** Box 266, Lockney 983-5087 - 774-4412 (Mobile)

Attend the church of your choice **SALEM** Lockney

Rev. Joe Hernandez

Sun. Prayer Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School .....9:45 p.m. Worship Service .... 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Meeting ......7:00 p.m. \*\*\*\*\*

**TEMPLO BETHEL** SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

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

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

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

If you would like to be a sponsor on the church page, call the **Hesperian-Beacon at** 806-983-3737

Thursday, January 26, 2012

On Friday, the ladies faced

### Longhorns look for first win in district play



**By Coach Strickland** 

The longhorns lost Tuesday night at home against the Hale Center owls 44-63. Ian Dunbar led the horns scoring 14 points; while Laundry Kidd added 11 points. The loss brought our record to 6-16 overall and 0-2 in district.

Friday night game ended with the Longhorns falling short 57-60 to the New Deal Lions. Ian Dunbar had a game high 23 points with Landry Kidd adding 10 and Erik Cortez had 9. The loss puts our record at 6-17 overall and 0-3 in district.

Photos by R.K. Hunt Photography

#### SPC honors students named to Dean's lists

LEVELLAND - South Plains College recently recognized students achieving academic excellence by naming them to the President's and Dean's Honor Lists for the fall 2011 semester.

"Achieving such a high grade point average is a great accomplishment, and it is very rewarding and exciting to see so many students accomplish this honor," said Darrell Grimes, vice president of academic affairs.

Students named to the Dean's Honor List earned at least a 3.25 grade point average with no failing grades while carrying at least 12 credit hours.

They are: Graciela E. Cervera, Floydada, George L. Guzman, Floydada, Evan A. Johnson, Floydada, Diane A. Lerma, Floydada, Haden B. Lipham, Floydada, Avery R. Miller, Floydada, Sarah J. Miller, Floydada, Susie E. Molina, Floydada, Zachary L. Montandon, Lockney, Wendy D. Moralez, Lockney, Laranda B. Motsenbocker, Lockney. Mercedes P. Rios-Rivas, Lockney and Chase W. Thompson, Lockney.



Photo by R.K. Hunt Photography

A 69-35 win against the Hale Lady Horns at the top of their Center Lady Owls kept the district as the win moved the

# Horns power lift in Abernathy

The Lockney Longhorns and Kyle Browne Ladyhorns powerlifting team competed in Abernathy on Saturday. The horns started the meet off slow but then got it going and never looked back. "I was very proud of the way they worked. These kids always give it everything they have and it showed today." Coach

Rayann Race finished the meet with 1st place in her weight class, McKenzie Kemp finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in her weight class, Mary Samman finished 3rd in her weight class, Paula Cuellar finished 4th in her weight class and Katie Jackson finished 11th in her weight class. On

the boys side Marcos Mercado finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in his weight class, Mariano Alanzo finished 4th in his weight class, John Palomin finished 6th in his weight class and Michael Guerrero finished 7<sup>th</sup> in his weight class.

nudged the Lady Lions beside

Lockney at the top of the dis-

trict.

The Horns next meet will be Amarillo Highland Park on Saturday January 28th

### SPC honors students named to **President's Honor List for fall 2011**

LEVELLAND - South Plains College recently recognized students achieving academic excellence by naming them to the President's and Dean's Honor Lists for the fall 2011 semester.

"Achieving such a high President's

grade point average is a great accomplishment, and it is very rewarding and exciting to see so many students accomplish this honor," said Darrell Grimes, vice president of academic affairs. Students named to the

Honor List earned a 4.0 grade point average while being enrolled in at least 12 college credit hours.

They are: Mallory N. Graham, Floydada, Hannah R. Griffin, Floydada, Imelda Resendiz, Floydada and Laura L. Morrison, Lockney,

# Lockney City Council hears yearly police report

#### **By Homer Marquez**

In January's City meeting, there were no agenda items other then the consent agenda which was passed unanimously; the approval of the bills which passed unanimously; and the approval of the minutes, which passed unanimously.

In the Lockney Police Chief's yearly report, Captain Casey Wallace reported that in 2010 the LPD investigated 17 motor vehicle accidents. In 2011 there was a six percent decrease as the LPD only investigated 16 this year. In 2010 the LPD investigated 109 criminal offenses that were either reported to the department or was observed by on-duty officers. This past year saw an eight percent decrease with 101 criminal offenses in 2011.

Incident reports are actions that were either observed by officers, or reported to them. Incidents may have been

criminal law violations or may not have been; however the reporting complainant did not want criminal charges pressed and the information was not passed on to a court for prosecution. Also involved in incident reports are actions taken by the Lockney Police Department is assisting other law enforcements agencies on their investiga-

**CITY COUNCIL...** continued on page 13

The Lockney 8th grade boys basketball team survived a tough battle with the

Crosbyton Chiefs Monday night winning 36-35 to keep

by Ruben Ascencio with 14 points, Daylon Gatica with 11, Josh Cruz with 6, Levi Kasner with 3, and Scott Lass added 2 points. The team will travel to Hale Center next Monday to take on the Owls.

# Lockney Junior high boys win close on in Crosbyton

**By Coach Ragland** 



their unbeaten season going. The team was lead in scoring FLOYD COUNT

# **2012 Floyd County Stock Show**

Page 4



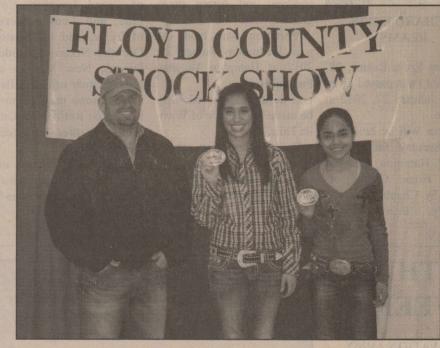
CHRISTOPHER EMERT AND HADEN LIPHAM Junior and Senior Beef Showmanship



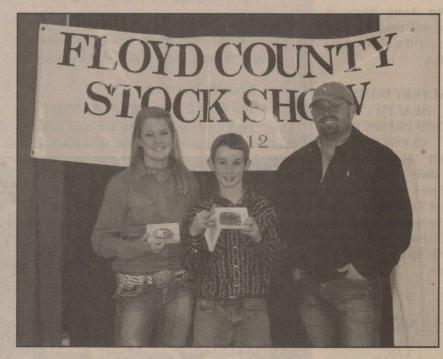
KOLBY WILLIAMS AND TASHA SCHLUETER Senior And Junior Goat Showmanship

**Floydada Power & Light** 806-983-2834 **City of Lockney** 806-652-2355

# **Showmanship Award Winners**



KATALINA ARAUJO AND KARINA TORRES Senior And Junior Lamb Showmanship



MADOLYN MCCORMICK AND KEENAN NIXON Senior And Junior Swine Showmanship

**Proud Sponsors of Floyd County Youth** 

# Lighthouse to Award Scholarship and Trip to Washington, D.C. to Two Area Students

Again in 2012, for the 48th consecutive year, Lighthouse Electric Cooperative will sponsor two area high school students on the all-expense paid Government-in-Action Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. This year's tour is scheduled for June 14 to June 22. The winners will also receive a \$500 Lighthouse Youth Tour Scholarship.

As participants in the Youth Tour, the local students will join other winners from across the state to travel by air to Washington where they will spend seven days touring places of historical interest, visiting members of Congress, and getting a first-hand view of their government in action.

The two winners will be selected

Tour Speech Contest to be held February 21. Participants will be required to appear before an independent panel of judges to present their speech and answer questions relevant to the Youth Tour and electric cooperatives. Winners are chosen based on their knowledge, speaking ability, appearance and poise.

Over the past 47 years, Lighthouse has sponsored 97 area students on the tour. Winners in recent years have been:

2003, Addie Foster of Lockney and Spencer Schacht of Floydada 2004, Kami Keaton and Jana Miller of

Lockney and Kittie Campbell of Matador

from participants in the co-op's Youth 2005, Rebekah Thornton of Plainview

and Daniel Houchin of Petersburg 2006, Krista Rasco of Lockney and Maddie Ramsey of Quitaque 2007, Josh Fowler of Plainview and Britnee Brotherton of Floydada

2008, Leah Ford of Lockney and J.C. Simpson of Floydada

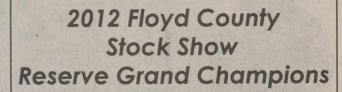
2009, Daryn McCarter of Lockney and Lauren Young of Quitaque 2010, Jonathan Ramirez of Peters-

burg and Luis Trujillo\* of Plainview 2011, Kristen Jenkins of Turkey

\* won scholarship, was unable

to attend trip

For information on entering the contest, contact Larry Ogden at Lighthouse Electric Cooperative, (806) 983-2814, 1-800-657-7192, or e-mail <u>larryo@</u> lighthouse.coop.





AUDREY REXRODE Reserve Grand Champion Barrow

# Duncan Student of the Month | Winds drop to Friona



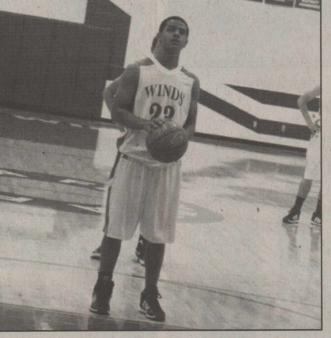
**Courtesy Photo** 

#### By Taylor Orr- Staff Writer

Fourth grader, Kiarra Collins is A.B. Duncan's January student of the month. Kiarra is the daughter of Kristy and Marcus Collins. She has a brother who is in first grade and a sister who is a freshman. Her hobbies include basketball, softball, and kickball. She likes every subject and her favorite teacher is Mrs. Rueda. When she grows up, she wants to become a pediatrician.

# **Duncan Teacher of the Month**





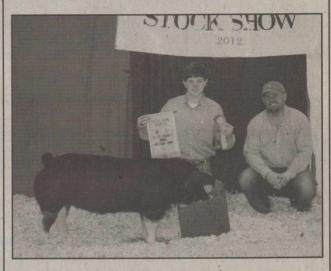
**Photo by Homer Marquez** 

#### **By Coach Renfro**

The Floydada Whirlwinds lost a district contest to the Friona Indians 57-53 this past Tuesday. Haden Lipham had 21 points and 8 rebounds in the contest. Jordan Woody turned in a strong statistical performance with 12 points, 8 steals, 5 assists and 5 rebounds. R.J. Deleon had 9 points and 6 rebounds.

Other scorers for the Winds were Cole Covington with 7, Tyler Renfro with 2 and Venturo Gonzales with 2.

Lady Winds Beat Friona and Dimmitt



MCCRAE MCCORMICK Reserve Grand Champion Gilt Breed Champion Black OPB



#### Page 5

#### **Courtesy Photo**

#### **By Taylor Orr-Staff Writer**

Karol Rainwater has been chosen for FISD's January Teacher of the Month. She has been married to Michael Rainwater for 31 years and she has three children: David and his wife Danon, Denise, and Eric. She also has two granddaughters: Shaeleigh and Emri. Her hobbies include reading, spending time with her children and granddaughters, and traveling. When asked what her most memorable moment at school was, she replied, "Leaving R.C. Andrews and coming to the new elementary school was exciting. I have wonderful memories of all the teachers I have worked with through the years. It has also been a wonderful experience watching my children and other students grow up in Floydada."

**Floydada School Menu** 

#### By Coach Styles The Floydada Lady Winds remain in playoff con-

tention with two wins this past week. The Lady Winds defeated Friona on Tuesday, 69-45. The Lady Winds jumped out early against Friona and

never looked back. The Lady

Winds held quarter leads of 17-8, 35-23, and 50-32. Aided by 6 three pointers and 22 steals Floydada kept the pressure on offensively and defensively.

Scoring: Liz Suarez 18, Avery Miller 14, Sarah Jo LADY WINDS

continued on page 13



**Photo by Homer Marquez** 

#### Monday Breakfast-Scrambled eggs, toast and jelly or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch- Popcorn chicken, broccoli, rice & cheese, garden salad, blushing pears, cornbread, milk Tuesday Breakfast- Honey bun, fruit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch-Sloppy Joes, pickle

spear, corn cobbette, fresh apple, multigrain chips, milk Wednesday Breakfast-Pancake &

sausage on a stick or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk

Lunch-Steak fingers, mashed potatoes/gravy, savory green beans, hot roll, frozen cherry bar, milk Thursday

Breakfast- English muffin with egg, cheese, sausage or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch- Chicken quesadilla, pinto beans,seasoned corn, apricot cobbler, milk Friday Breakfast – Cinnamon roll, fruit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk

January 30 – February 3 Monday Lunch- Pizza choice, garden salad, orange smiles,

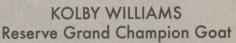
gingerbread, milk

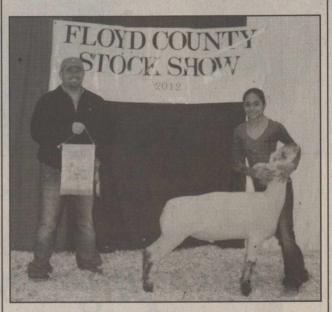
AND ENTER THE DRAWING FOR AN IPad 2. FINAL ENTRY DATE FEBRUARY 13, 2012.

FINAL ENTRY DATE FEBRUARY 13, 2012. THE DRAWING WILL BE FEBRUARY 14, 2012 M-F 7:30am - 6:00pm

(806)983-3370 Home: (806)983-2470

Ron & Jill Graham, Owners 308 S. Main • Floydada, TX 79235





KARINA TORRES Reserve Grand Champion Lamb Breed Champion Fine Wool



KERI DEBUSK Reserve Grand Champion Steer





Thursday, January 26, 2012





HALEY DUNBAR BREED CHAMPION ANGUS



TABETHA BIGHAM BREED CHAMPION BLACK OPB



KELSEY NUTT BREED CHAMPION CHARLOIS

KARIS CARSTENSEN BREED CHAMPION CROSS



CUTTER SMITH BREED CHAMPION HAMPSHIRE

REAGAN HUGHES BREED CHAMPION HEREFORD

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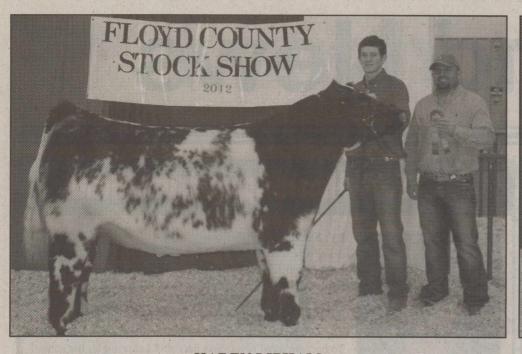
Floydada Cooperatives Floydada 983-2884

Panhandle Plains Federal Land Bank Plainview 296-5579 Windmark Insurance Clar Schact 652-2241

Lockney Cooperatives Lockney 652-3377

> Muncy Elevator Muncy 652-3100

Nielson's Restaurant Floydada 983-3464 Thursday, January 26, 2012



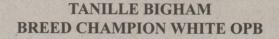
HADEN LIPHAM BREED CHAMPION SHORTHORN



KARINA TORRES BREED CHAMPION SOUTHDOWN









Page 7

MCCRAE MCCORMICK AND SYANN FOSTER DYLAN THOMAS MEMORIAL STOCK SHOW SCHOLARSHIP

SYANN FOSTER SWEEPSTAKES WINNER \$500 SCHOLARSHIP

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**Photos Courtesy of Homer Marquez** 

www.hesperianbeacononline.com

Thursday, January 26, 2012

19

# Whirlwind News

# **FISD Graduate Presents Vital Information to Junior High Parents**

juveniles," Soto explained.

"This is a good opportunity for

me to give back and put out

some information on college

Before the meeting, Soto

"We will be talking about

basic needs and what parents

and students need to be doing

now for the future, especially

with junior high kids. I will in-

form them of what they need

was able to give a few remarks

describing of what his presen-

tation would consist.

readiness."



By: Sarah Jo Miller/Cynthia Smith-Staff Writer/Editor

On January 19, 2012, Floydada Junior High students and their parents were invited to enjoy a free dinner and a unique presentation by Leslie Soto, a Floydada graduate who once' was the coordinator of College Access for Lubbock Independent School District. Soto now is in charge of marketing and outreach for the office of disrepute for Lubbock County.

"We do a lot of work with

to be doing class-wise and what parents need to be doing as far as getting involved with the campuses. We will also be taking a look at future funding of the college years ahead for the kids," he said.

Technology is a major part of the classrooms throughout Floydada ISD. Leslie believes that the use of technology will help better prepare students for college readiness, which is exactly what the new standardized tests are geared toward.

"I remember taking a class my sophomore year, and we didn't have keyboards; we had manual typewriters, which was beneficial at the time when I switched over to technology," said Soto. "In today's world, to compete with the jobs that are out there and the jobs that have not yet been created, students need to have a well-rounded education. They need to be advanced and need to be planning it right now."

# **FISD School Board Appreciation Month**



#### By: Sarah Jo: Staff-writer

For the third week of January, Rachael Castillo, Marty Lucke, and John Woelfel will be spotlighted. Rachael, who is the Vice President, has served on the board for eleven years. She is married to Aurelio Castillo, and they have three children and seven grandchildren. They also have a dog named Oliver and have lived in Floydada since 1953. To her, the most rewarding part about serving on the school board is knowing that she could possibly make a difference in FISD, and she loves to see the accomplishments of both the teachers and students. She also likes getting to work with great administrators and other board members.

**Rachael Castillo** 



The next member who is being recognized has served six years on the board, three of those years as Secretary. Marty Lucke is married to Delinda, a 6th Grade Science teacher at A.B. Duncan. They have two daughters: Ashley is a junior at Floydada High School and Delaney is an eighth grader at junior high. When Marty has free time, he likes to play golf, do woodworking, and cook. To him, the most rewarded thing about being on the School Board is being involved in the direction of the education of children. As he believes, "They are our future and every student, who walks through the door, deserves the opportunity to an education that can put them ahead of the competition."

**Marty Lucke** 

John Woelfel has spent two years on the board. He and his wife, Stacie, have five children: Alyssa, Braedon, Caelon Greyson, and Kenzie. They have one granddaughter, Sophia. His favorite hobby is spending time with his family. The most rewarding part about being on the school board to him is being able to serve the community and being involved with our children's growth, education, and wellbeing.



**John Woelfel** 

### Earn College Scholarship While Digging Big

By: Homero Ramirez-Staff Writer

The Big Dig Scholarship was set to help high school seniors pay for college. Stipulations for this scholarship include planning on entering into your first year of college/university in 2012. Applicants must submit an essay concerning an item that is to be buried and have immense value in the future. The essay must answer the following questions: 'What is the item you are going to bury?,' 'Where could you purchase this item?,' 'How much does this item cost?,' 'What made you choose this item?,' 'Why do you believe that the item will have immense value 200 years from now?.' The essay needs to be between 500-1000 words. For more details regarding this scholarship and others refer to the websites below.

http://www.antiquetrader.tv/studentscholarship.php

# **Junior High Parents Experience a** Day in the Lives of Their Children

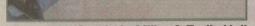


"We want to inform parents that we're all having to make adjustments in instructions and expectations in student performances, and we really want to open up the lines of communications," explained Principal Wayne Morren.

Being able to talk to their children in school may give parents an idea of what happens in class everyday, but it may not be completely comprehendible.

"I think it's a great idea. I am a fairly active parent and stay in tune through my daughter and she communicates very well with me; however, it's interesting seeing it in person and seeing the different teaching styles and what they're expected to learn," said parent

#### Page 8



#### Photos by Sarah Jo Miller & Emily Hall

#### By: Sarah Jo Miller-Staff Writer

On January 10, 2012, Floydada ISD began allowing parents of junior high students to go on walk-throughs of the building in hopes that they will see the classroom setting and better understand what their students will be learning in preparation for the new STARR tests that take place the week of March 26-30.

"It is unique. It's different, for the parents as well as the kids. They're preparing for our future," stated Monica Mathis, a junior high parent.

These walk-throughs are convenient because our schools always strive for good parent-teacher school relationships.

Kay Brotherton.

The parents as well as the teachers are very receptive and are benefiting from these walkthroughs.

"I think they have been receptive because we always encourage better parent-teacher school relationship. Our teachers have been very accepting of walk-throughs and the process we followed because it has the chance to improve what we do," explained Mr. Morren.

Brotherton believes that what the school is doing will in fact reflect her child's success later in life.

"I like what they're doing," she said. "Instead of just learning data or information, they are learning in ways that they can apply it into other areas. I know it will be challenging at first, but in the long run, it will definitely pay off."

http://www.wtamu.edu/student-support/scholarship-guarantees-freshmen.aspx

### **Apple Recognizes FISD** as a Distinguished Program

With only 49 other school districts recognized nationally, Floydada ISD has been selected as an Apple Distinguished Program for the 2011-2012 school year.

"As a district, we continue to lead the nation as one of the 49 schools in the whole nation who carry this distinction and honor,"

By: Emily Hall- Staff Writer Floydada ISD Curriculum Director Anne Carthel said. "We sometimes take that for granted because it has happened before. The reality is that it is an outstanding honor."

> Floydada ISD teachers integrate technology into a variety include keynote presentations,

interactive smart board usage by students, and various computer teachings.

"The commitment of Technology Immersion to using Mac notebooks to inspire student creativity and achievement is commendable," Vice President, Education Stephanie Carullo, said in a letter to Superintendent Gilbert Trevino.

Congratulations to Floydada of teaching styles. Some of these ISD on this outstanding accomplishment.

### **Upcoming Events for Floydada ISD** By: Emily Hall- Staff Writer

## **School Board Honored** with a Special Thank You

By: Sarah Jo Miller-Staff Writer

In celebration of the month in honor of them, the school board was fed delicious prime ribs, which were smoked by Vance Lemons, the high school Ag teacher, at their monthly meeting last Thursday. The Journalism staff teamed up with the high school Video classes to put together a 3-4 minute video, which consisted of separate clips of various ages of students, organizations, and teachers all saying why they appreciate the school board.

"It was beautiful," said board member Charlie Tyer. "We all liked every part of it, especially the kiddos," added President Lyle Miller.

• The school board made a unanimous choice that they thoroughly enjoyed the video.

"I thought it was an excellent idea to include all the children and students at different grade levels. I loved it," included Vice President Rachel Castillo.

At a time when they're supposed to be appreciated, the members were grateful for the video.

"It was great. We appreciate you doing that. You guys did an awesome job. Thank you," said Superintendent Gilbert Trevino.

However, the students wouldn't have been able to even make the video without remembering what all the board does for the school.

"We try to give you the most

advanced technology we can, but we're also planning to give you technology that we don't even know about," replied member Bill Dean when we asked what things could be expected for the upcoming year.

"We try to support everything that the students do. Keep up the good work," added member Freddie Morren.

The board's support for the schools includes trying to better them in any way necessarv

"We just want to continue to improve upon what we do. We feel that we have a great staff and great administration, and we want to keep building on that. We just want to do things right for the kids," stated Mr. Trevino.

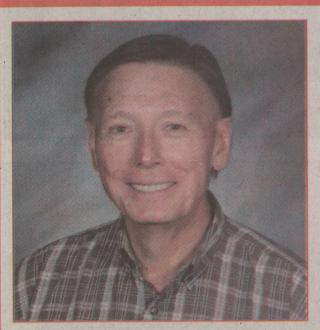
January 27-28:	All Region Band	
January 30:	7/8/9 Girls Basketball VS Littlefield Here, 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm	
	7/8/9 Boys Basketball VS Littlefield There, 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm	
January 31:	JV/Varsity Girls Basketball VS Idalou There, 5:00/6:30 pm	
	JV/Varsity Boys Basketball VS Idalou There, 5:00/8:00 pm	
February 2:	NHS Induction, 7 pm in High School Auditorium	
February 3:	: JV/Varsity Girls Basketball VS Muleshoe Here, 5:00/6:30 pm	
	JV/Varsity Boys Basketball VS Muleshoe Here, 5:00/8:00 pm	
	Senior Recognition Night	
February 4:	Softball Scrimmage TBA	
February 6:	7/8/9 Girls Basketball VS Idalou There, 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm	
	7/8/9 Boys Basketball VS Idalou Here, 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm	
February 7:	ary 7: JV/Varsity Girls Basketball VS Tulia There, 5:00/6:30 pm	
	JV/Varsity Boys Basketball VS Tulia There, 5:00/8:00 pm	
February 8:	High School UIL Cross Examination (CX) Debate	
February 9-26:	San Antonio Stock Show	
February 10:	JV/Varsity Boys Basketball VS Friona There, 5:00/6:30 pm	
February 11:	Softball Scrimmage TBA	



#### Page 9

# Longhorn News

# **Teacher Spotlight**



**Rob Lovett** 

#### **By Jake Ty Bramlet**

Rob Lovett was born in Lubbock. He moved to Petersburg and graduated from Petersburg High School "a long time ago". Ever since the 7th grade, he has known he wanted to be a band director. He has been in education for 40 years in places such as Lubbock, Brownfield, New Mexico, Muleshoe, Shallowater, and eventually came to Lockney in 2001. He loves Lockney because of the friendly people, especially his students and all the people he works with. One of his challenges is helping his students find more time to practice so they can become better players. His most memorable moments of his career are his amazing band trips that he has taken throughout the years. His proudest accomplishments are seeing many of his former students become successful in pursuing a career in music.

# **Lockney Students say** thanks to school board

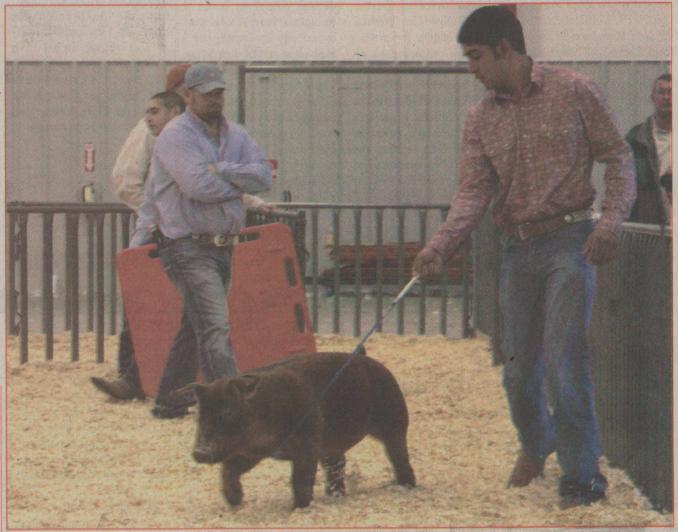
Last week was School Board Appreciation Week, and on behalf of the Lockney High School student body we would like to thank the School Board for all that they do for us. The School Board is responsible for many of the decisions involving our schools and we know that must be a big job. The School Board has a hard job and they do it very well. We are very thankful for them because without them we wouldn't have this new school.

# **One act play prepares for Cinderella Waltz**

One-act play is getting geared up for another season and this year our play is CINDERELLA WALTZ by Don Nigro. It is a "fairy" tale for adults" that combines the classic Cinderella story with the original, darker version of the fairy tale, along with other random bits and pieces of the fairy tale genre. Rosey Snow, played by sophomore Jasmine Pena, is trapped in a fairy tale world that is by turns funny and a little frightening, with her stepsisters--grouchy Goneril needs in her life all along. and ditzy Regan (junior Kelsie Stennet and sophomore Paula Cuellar), her demented stepmother (junior Lindsay Stewart), her ridiculous father(freshman Andrew Palomin), a bewildered Prince (freshman Ignacio Ascencio), a sassy fairy godmother(junior McKenzie Kemp), a put-upon troll (feshman Ellie Naranjo) and a possibly homicidal village idiot (sohphomore Hunter Thompson), who just may turn out to be what Rosey

Our crew is led by sophomore stage manager Nikki Jimenez, junior Taylor Esty is working sound, sophomore Bethany McCulloch is lights. Freshman Emily Reyes and Sophomore Annel Salazar also participate. Before we go to competition we perform and work with critic judges at several festivals. Our first festival is February 13th in Tulia. We also have festivals February 17th, 27th and March 8th. Our first uling is still up in the air.

contest, zone, is Saturday March 24th in Hale Center; if we advance we will perform at district contest the next Saturday, March 31st, also in Hale Center. Continuing advancements will take us to area, region, and the state contest in Austin in May. Additionally, we will perform for the public on March 27th at 7pm in the elementary cafetorium, and we will even have a performance for the high school and jr. high, but that sched-



**Courtesy Photo** During the 2012 Floyd County Stock Show, Lockney

Student Spotlight

We are honored to have the Lockney school board members and are grateful for all of their hard work.

> With gratitude, LHS Student Body

FFA students strutted animal's stuff in the hopes of bringing home the champs title.

## Lady Longhorns!

#### Photo by Connie Barnett

Lockney Little Longhorns: Back, I-r- Bryce Reese, TJ Blackledge, Jerry Franklin, Diego Azua, Yamilette Martinez; Center row, I-r- Senayda Bernal, Brianna Rodriquez, J'Ann Pena, Maria Perez, Niki Cantu, Saylee Diepenhorst; Front, I-r- Lindsey VanVelthoven, Xavier Jimenez, Analys Jones, Aniyah Solis

# **Mister & Miss LHS**

Feb 11th, 6:00 p.m. in Lockney Elementry Cafateria



Angelica Margarita Gonzales

#### **By Kayla Jimenez**

Angelica Margarita Gonzales is a senior at Lockney High School. She was born in Burlington, Colorado and has one sister and two brothers. Her hobbies are painting and loving life. If she were to describe herself she would say she loves to smile, she's adventurous, and very creative. Angelica spent the summer babysitting, going to the movies and hanging out with friends. She also enjoys spending time with her family. She loves to eat anything chocolate and sweet while watching one of her favorite movies, Bridesmaids. Angelica plans to go to South Plains College and major in nursing.

#### Lockney High School calendar

Friday Ja	n. 27 & 28th	All-region Jazz Band at Abilene.
Friday	January 27	Lockney Lady Horns and Longhorns play against Lorenzo: There.
Saturday	January 28	Lockney Power lifting meet; in Abernathy.
Tuesday	January 31	Lockney Lady Horns and Long Horns basketball play against Crosbyton, Here.



Thursday, January 26, 2012

# **Tight cattle market could** push beef prices higher in 2012

(FLOYDADA) Floyd County ranchers have been feeling the pinch in the cattle market. Although cattle prices are high, rising feed costs and a weak economy are putting them in a bind

Page 10

As input costs rise, Texas cattle ranchers are decreasing the size of their herds to remain in business. Cattle numbers in Texas are dropping, which will lead to smaller beef supply in the future.

"It is extremely costly to

maintain a herd of beef cattle," said Tanner Smith, President of Floyd County Farm Bureau. "Dry weather has stunted pasture growth and the supplemental feed that is needed for the cows is very expensive.

The U.S. cattle market has been decreasing from 132 million head in 1975 to only 90 million last year. While beef export demand is building, many ranchers are concerned with meeting current challenges.

Texas ranchers are making

difficult decisions as to how they will provide enough beef to meet consumer demand. With less meat to offer consumers, retail beef prices likely will increase.

"If we maintain our herds, it costs a lot of money and may not make good business sense. Decreasing our herd numbers will mean less meat will show up on grocery store shelves, and then the rule of supply and demand will take over," Smith said.



# Emergency farm loan applications being accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by drought, excessive heat, high winds, and wildfires are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Floydada, Farm Loan Manager Becky Rainer said today.

Crosby County was named as a primary county and Floyd County was named as a contiguous county designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as eligible for loans to cover part of actual production and/or physical losses resulting from the drought, excessive heat, high winds and wildfires.

Rainer said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100% of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from new farming season", Rainer

private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of crop production or suffered any physical loss to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan under this disaster designation", Watson said. Producers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to consider proceeds received by producers as a result of the physical loss will have to be considered in determining their total loss.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until April 24, 2012 but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing, with possible delays into the

said

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U.S. citizenship requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations, or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by individuals holding a majority interest.

The FSA office in Floydada is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Additional Information regarding Disaster Assistance Programs may be found online at

http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov.

#### **Photos by Freddie** Gonzales

High winds ravaged the south plains this past Sunday as wind gusts ranged from 50 to 70 miles per hour. In Floydada a metal was ripped apart in a downtown shopping center, (right); (above) trees and branches littered the street as high winds tore through neighborhoods.



# **Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic to be held February 7-9**

The eighth annual Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic trade show is scheduled for February 7-9, 2012, at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. The indoor agricultural trade show will feature unique commercial agricultural exhibits, industryrelated events, demonstrations, and workshops.

"The purpose of the Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic is to provide producers and land owners opportunities to meet with company reps, see new equipment, and learn more

ganizations and services, water specialists, outdoor building manufacturers, and much more.

To kick off the event, the Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic and Lubbock Chamber of Commerce annual Farm Show Breakfast will present professional photographer Wyman Meinzer on Tuesday, February 7th at 8 a.m. Meinzer will discuss and highlight his renowned farm ranch, and wildlife photography. Seating is limited and those interested terested in pre-registering may do so at (806)775-1680. The National Weather Service will also present the Drought & Fire Workshop on Thursday, February 9th. Schedules for both educational sessions may be found at www.swclassic.com .

The Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic is open to the public from 9 am to 5 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, and 9 am - 4 pm Thursday of the show. Admission and parking are free at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane, Lubbock, Texas, 79401. Additional information regarding exhibiting or attendance may be obtained from the Southwest Farm and Ranch Classic show office at (806) 798-7825, via e-mail at swclassic@suddenlink.net, or by visiting www. swclassic.com.

### **USDA 2012 DCP & ACRE Sign-up Starts January 23**

(Floydada, TX), January 19, or a counter-cyclical payment. 2012 -Floyd County USDA Direct payment rates are es-Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Stephanie Bradley, announced that sign-up for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program starts on January 23, 2012 and continues through June 1, 2012.

tablished by statute regardless of market prices. FSA reminds producers that the 2008 Farm Bill does not authorize advance direct payments. Counter-cyclical payments vary depending on market prices, and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price (which takes into the state and farm level. Farms that are already enrolled in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) for a crop year can elect to switch to ACRE before the end of signup.

Both DCP and ACRE participants must sign annual contracts to be eligible for program benefits. All signatures of producers who will receive a share of DCP and ACRE payments

"I encourage producers to make an appointment with our office to sign-up for program benefits," said Bradley.

Eligible DCP participants receive a direct payment and/

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account the direct payment rate, market price and loan rate).

ACRE protects producers from farm market revenue declines when revenue triggers are met for a commodity at both must be on file by the June 1, 2012 deadline.

For more information about DCP and ACRE, please contact the Floyd County FSA office at 806.983.5747 or visit the web at: www.fsa.usda.gov/ tx.

about the latest developments that can benefit agricultural operations and landowner stewardship," said show executive Monica Hightower. Exhibitors already span national, regional, and local companies, including tractor and equipment manufacturers, irrigation specialists, seed suppliers, agricultural or-

in attending are encouraged to register as soon as possible by calling (806) 761-7000, e-mailing info@lubbockbiz.org, or visiting www.lubbockchamber. com for further information.

The Texas Agrilife Extension Service will present Continuing Education Courses on Wednesday, February 8th.procuders in-



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Tamsower's FURNITURE

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer

March for Life Rally

Today was the annual March for Life rally on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Every year on or close to the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, thousands of people come to our nation's capital to support pro-life policies and stand up for every life, specifically the unborn. I applaud and share their passion for this effort. I will continue to support legislation that protects the unborn from the point of conception and honors the sanctity of life. I thank every March for Life advocate for their participation.

State of the Union Address Tomorrow night, President Obama will address Congress and the nation in the annual State of the Union address. I look forward to hearing the President address our country's problems, and hope that he will focus on solutions, not sound bites. The heart of his speech should focus on creating jobs, expanding energy production in our country, finding ways to strengthen our national security, and addressing the rising costs of health care with

common-sense solutions. Look for my statement on President Obama's State of the Union address tomorrow night on my website, Randy.House.Gov.

Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA)

Last week, I heard from 152 people in the 19th District of Texas regarding the Stop Online Piracy Act, also known as SOPA. My staff wrote down every comment, and I truly appreciate each phone call, email

**RANDY'S ROUNDUP** continued on page 13



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#### **ALPHA-TEX continued from page 1**

it's a system that works well...it just didn't come out the way I felt it should."

The next step for the case will be recovering the dogs from foster families and returning them to the Smiths.

"We would like to thank the foster families for taking care of them for us," commented Mark and Sandra's son, Cory Smith. "I know a lot of them are taking really good care of them," added Mrs. Smith.

"The issue is going to be time," commented attorney Feare as he explained that the two legal councils will have to sit down to come up with a plan so the dogs can be returned to Alpha-Tex Kennels.

"That was one of the problems in the case, that the dogs have been shuffled off everywhere and we don't know even where they are," added attorney Holloway.

Last week's four day jury trial would differ from the one-day Justice of the Peace trial that ruled the dogs were cruelly mistreated and ordered the dogs to be removed from the Smith's care; an appeal bond was set at a little over \$350,000. A few weeks later, the Smiths sought indigent status so the appeal bond could be waived; a short time later, compromises were reached between both legal teams that allowed the Smith a new and final trial in Canyon.

In Canyon, the Smith's defense team came out with a stronger case as attorney Holloway told the jury in his opening statements that "looks can be deceiving" as he referenced pictures and other evidence that was going to be presented by the state; claiming that evidence and pictures were staged or could have been altered to make conditions seem worse. Attorney Holloway also suggested the possibility that the seizure was a conspiracy that was constructed by dog trainer and humane society cruelty investigator, Joe Cantu, who the Smith's council claimed was a rival dog breeder. In attorney Feare's opening statements, he reassured the jury that the evidence that was going to be presented did tell of the overall conditions of the kennel and that the seizure had no hidden motives. Through out the four days of trial, the Feare's case would be similar to the one brought in front Justice of the Peace Tali Jackson back in November, as Feare showed the jury photos of the kennels and witnesses that described poor conditions and the poor health of the dogs in the kennel. Feare's first witness, Joe Cantu, described the conditions of the kennels, stating that kennels were covered in feces, water was covered in algae, and dogs were neglected, sick, underweight, and un-groomed. Cantu contested the allegations that he was Smith competitor saying he had only sold ten dogs last year and that dogs advertised for sale on his Facebooik were from a dog breeders database and weren't his. Floyd County Sheriff Paul Raissez described similar conditions of the kennels in his testimony as he elaborated in his testimony of unsanitary and neglectful conditions. The Sheriff also presented the jury with the affidavit that granted the seizure warrant. In cross examining the two witnesses, attorney Holloway implied to the jury that Cantu and the Humane Society were the real organizers of the seizure something that both Cantu and Raissez denied. Holloway stated that Cantu did not follow animal investigator protocol correctly because he did not give the Smiths a chance to correct the matter before seizing the

dogs and he did not identify himself as an animal cruelty investigator in their first initial visit.

Holloway also stated that more dogs had died under the care of the Humane Society then under Alpha-Tex, telling the jury that the dogs were loaded into unsanitary trailers and the shock of being taken away from home had made them susceptible to illness and behavior problems.

Feare responded that the protocol Holloway was referring to was not a legal mandate and told the jury that the reason the Humane Society was called in for assistance was because the county did not have animal control or a pound big enough to hold that many dogs.

Holloway fired back by showing pictures of dogs found in good health at the seizure and claimed that the pictures shown by the state were only of six dogs and was not a representation of the overall kennel; saying that it only showed three percent of the dog population. Sheriff Raissez told the jury that the pictures were random.

Also in Holloway's cross examination, Holloway stated that the Sheriff violated the issued warrant because he did not seize all the animals during the raid in September. Holloway asked if the Sheriff was acting in the best interest of the animals then why did he leave the Smith's house pets; suggesting that the county only took the breeder dogs to hurt the income of the Smiths. Sheriff Raissez explained that he did not take the pets because the county attorney had advised him not to; and he reiterated that he had no secret motives to hurt the Smith's income.

Calling in veterinarians for testimony, Feare called Lockney Vet, Dr. Glasson to the stand where he too gave an account to the kennels'

Floya

poor conditions. Dr. Glasson explained how unsanitary living conditions and large amounts feces carried parasites and posed other health risks towards dogs. He also explained that some dogs were so bad that they had to be put down and that a horse that was extremely underweight and had a sore the size of a basketball was a reflection to the conditions of the kennels.

In response, the Smith's council told the jury that Dr. Glasson had no authority to put down any dogs because he didn't have enough medical information on the whether the animals were getting treatment or if they could get treatment to improve their conditions. Dr. Glasson said he acted under the authority of the sheriff and he did what he thought was best.

Next Feare called Dr. Shelly Wolfe, who had given treatment to some to the dogs after the seizure. In her testimony, Dr. Wolfe told the jury that she had a little more time caring for the dogs and stated that she had lab work that showed that around 50 percent of the dogs she saw were sick with a number of illnesses. Dr. Wolfe also stated that heartworms take six months to reach adulthood so the dogs could not have contracted worms from the trailers that moved the dogs 18 miles from the kennels to the Unity Center.

In cross examination, the Smith council asked the doctor if there was a possibility that if a dog missed a month of heartworm medication could the dog still contract worms. Dr. Wolfe responded yes, but it was not likely that many dogs would get sick.

Bringing up his first witness, Holloway called Veterinarian Dr. Penny Kelso to the stand; where she gave a testimony that praised the 'enormous' space and innovations of Alpha-Tex like their misting system for the heat, concrete floors, and

upply

County

drainage systems. She added that in her visit to Alpha-Tex, she noticed that the kennels were clean and dogs were in good health.

In Feare's cross examination, Dr. Kelso testified that she had only met the Smiths a week ago and that she had only examined the house pets of the Smiths and not any of the dogs that were seized. Feare also stated that the doctor could not give better medical information then the vets who had actually examined the Alpha-Tex dogs. Also under questioning, after looking at some pictures of the underweight horse, Dr. Kelso stated that the horse's condition was the result of a couple of months of malnourishment and that some of the dogs needed medical attention. Closing his questioning, Feare also brought out to the jury that Dr. Kelso had a disciplinary record with the Veterinarian Board.

Next on the stand for Holloway was Alpha-Tex employee, Efren Montez, who cleaned the kennels on the weekends. In his testimony, Mr. Montez explained that Mr. Smith was 100 percent dedicated to his dogs; and also described that the dogs were strong and healthy.

Mr. Montez gave an account of the day when Joe Cantu and Sheriff Raissez initially visited kennel after receiving a complaint that a puppy was being neglected; Montez said he showed them the puppy and he said it was improving and walking better after a birth defect that made the puppy drag his back legs.

Montez testified that he cleaned the pins and changed the water regularly and the pins full of feces that were shown in pictures were not being used by dogs and he was going to clean them last. He also stated that some of the pictures taken by the Humane Society were of the same things and that the reason there was dog corpses around the kennel was because a burn ban didn't allow them to burn the dead bodies so wild animals were digging up and dragging the bodies.

In cross examination, Montez said he was shocked when Feare told him that two veterinarians had testified that dogs were sick. Feare also asked him how long it took him to clean up after close to 200 dogs, in which Montez responded that there were not that many dogs. He said that he estimated that there were around 60 adults but that close to 140 puppies was not right; Feare rested his questions. Later, Mr. Smith said that Mr. Montez would not count the dogs; that's why he didn't know.

The next witness up for Holloway was Mike Poole who was a retriever breeder. In his testimony, Mr. Poole explained to the jury that the fight against parasites and worms was a constant battle for dogs; and that parasites and parvo could still get a dog sick even though they were vaccinated. Poole, who last visited Alpha-Tex six years ago, also stated that dirty water was common in the summer because dogs often jump and play in it to keep cool; he also added that the American Kennel Club, which the Smiths are apart of, have strict rules on cleanliness.

In cross examination, Feare showed him a pictures of diarrhea found at the kennel, Poole said that he would have taken that dog to the vet because it probably had a parasite.

Another small kennel owner, as well as groomer, Tammy Ballard would also testify. She explained that back in 2011 her and her husband bought a dog from the Smiths and was able to walk through the kennels; Mrs. Ballard explained that it seemed that the Smith's cared for their dogs.

Mrs. Ballard also testified that she had also volunteered

conoco

with Humane Society of West Texas. She stated that she wanted to foster some of the dogs after the seizure but didn't hear back from anyone. She added that later her friend was fostering Alpha-Tex dogs and gave Ballard couple to keep at her kennel; she described them as healthy. Holloway told the jury that the transfer of dogs showed that the Humane Society was not keeping up with the dogs so the dogs were not in the control of the state.

In cross-examination, Feare asked Ballard if even though she had the dogs, did she know the dogs where still under the control of the state? She answered yes. Next he asked if it would concern her if 50 percent of her dogs contracted parvo, parasites, or worms; she said yes.

Holloway's last witness would be Alpha-Tex owner Mark Smith. In his testimony, Smith told about the history of the kennel and how it ran. He stated that the kennel recently only made \$19,000 net in a year, and he spent \$33,000 on special food for the dogs from January to the day of the seizure. He added that overhead for the kennel ran around \$8,000 a month. Holloway showed the jury pictures of the medicine cabinets at Alpha-Tex as Mr. Smith described the different medication and preventatives he gave his animals; he even added that one of the medicines made stool look like diarrhea

Mr. Smith then gave a year timeline account of the events that led up to the seizure, which Holloway dubbed the 'perfect storm'. The account described Mr. Smith's battle with diabetes and his hurt foot which he said was the reason for the recent condition of the kennel. He explained how employees and his family helped him with the kennels while he recovered; he

ALPHA-TEX continues on page 12



# (806) 983-2154 420 S. 2nd Floydada, Texas 79235



# **Danny Huggins**

Thursday, January 26, 2012



self.

I used to picture him as a little bald-headed cartoon figure with a fat fountain pen, a stray drop of ink hanging in the air as if he had slung it there. He wrote a lot of poetry and stuff that was fairly good – just not good enough to make it into our English literature textbooks. You could always understand what Anonymous wrote. That's what set him apart from the weightier writers of verse and prose - the ones who required some interpretation and merited footnotes.

Stuff written by Anonymous was always fitting - by virtue of its length if nothing else. Anonymous got published in things like church bulletins and funeral programs. Yep, if you needed to fill a space, Anonymous could do it.

Now that the Internet makes it so easy to track down sources of prose and verse, Anonymous is no doubt finding it harder to get credit here and there in print. Why ascribe something to Anonymous when a Google

Anonymous always has search might well reveal the been an elusive character. writer's real identity? Why Now he's reinvented him- risk getting sued for not giving credit?

> But don't feel sorry for Anonymous. He's managed to get himself a whole raft of pen names. Or you could say he's got many ghostwriters. Maybe, like me, you're one of them.

Try participating in some sort of online forum without using a made-up user name. If you want to say anything, you've gotta have a fictitious handle. In a way, it's a throwback to CB radio days.

Do those things still work? One came with our used diesel pickup. At least it doesn't have a four-track tape player. I digress.

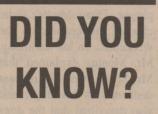
If you've still got your ears on, here's the latest on cared about your reputation, Anonymous. He's everywhere. The Information Age by any other name is the Age of Anonymous. Paradoxically, while video cameras capture footage of us in all sorts of places and paper trails show where we've spent our money and cell phones can be like black boxes in airplanes, we get to hide behind pseudo identities as we express our-

selves to the entire world via the Internet.

I'm not exactly complaining. Anonymity provides a good cloak for hiding from stalkers and others of their ilk. I guess that's why I had to make up a name just to participate in an online dictionary discussion site. Really.

That said, it's often the dark side of human nature that Anonymous reveals, whatever name he's using, when he gets a turn on an Internet soapbox. It's as if he's turned from writing light and innocuous poetry to venting his spleen, using language that puts him at risk of getting his mouth washed out with soap at the hands of his grandmother, if Anonymous has a grandmother. Anonymous seems to have lost his penchant for rhyme and developed one for bad grammar and misspelled words - a trick in itself when computers check both.

Anonymous, if only you I'd tell you it's slipping.



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# The Paperboy

#### **By CHRIS BLACKBURN**

Here's something that should get your attention. If it doesn't, then please continue on as if nothing is happening.

Since October 1, 2008, our federal government has spent \$5.2 trillion more than we have taken in.

Does that register with you? Do you know how much money that is?

Right now, our national debt is \$15.2 trillion. That is the equivalent of 15,251 billion dollars ... or one million dollars multiplied 15.251 million times. And the debt it is growing daily. Wow!

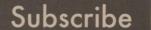
It is hard to imagine that the country who led the world for over a century is so close to the brink of collapse. Even harder to imagine is that there are simple solutions which could actually get this country on track. However, these solutions are only discussed in columns like this or blogs.

For instance, what would you think if our government decided to make it a mandate that after 2015, we will no longer import oil? All oil we consume will come from the United States.

Do you have any idea what that one move would do to the economic climate of this country? And yes - we do have that much oil. Of course, the majority is either on federal land or protected land

to television cameras. What would you think of your government if they decided to impose a tax on Feare asked Mr. Smith when China and other countries he gave heart worm medication, in which Mr. Smith refor selling their goods in the U.S.? Do you have a clue plied five times a year. Feare how much money we'd make then asked when he took dogs if we charged other countries to the vet for blood work to to sell their goods and sermake sure they didn't have vices in this country? They worms; Mr. Smith responded do it to us, so why shouldn't that he only took them to we level the playing field? the vet when they were sick.

What would you do if your government decided to



sell federally owned lands to raise money? The United States government has direct ownership of almost 650 million acres of land. That's almost 30 percent of its total territory. That's much more land than all of Mexico. Surely you didn't think all of the government owned land was National Parks and military bases.

We live in a country where just over half of the workforce pays federal income tax. In this same country, we have more retiring than we do entering the workforce. So, the status quo cannot continue.

If we don't look at our problems and face them head on then this country will suffer the same fate as the Roman Empire. And when it gets bad, what happens when Texans and Oklahomans grow tired of footing the bill

spoke about his meeting with

Cantu; his American Kennel

Club inspection the August

prior to the seizure; he also

spoke of the events before

and during the seizure. Mr.

Smith choked up as he de-

scribed that dogs that he said

were getting treatment were

put down without his permis-

sion and how he didn't know

where a dog he was holding

for a serviceman in Afghani-

stan was located; "It was

very difficult," he said later

In cross examination,

for defunct states like California, Michigan and New Jersey?

I'm not trying to sell you doom and gloom. This is the reality of the country we live in. A country on the brink because of the collective greed of our elected officials and very poor management and leadership.

Unfortunately, there may not be enough people who understand or care to make a difference. Take a look at your children or grandchildren and decide what kind of future you want for them. If that future includes any semblance of the American Dream, then it's time you rise and make a difference. Copyright Christopher Blackburn 2012

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

#### **ALPHA-TEX continues from page 11**

Holloway also said that the doctor couldn't be sure what dogs were from Alpha-Tex and which ones were not because there was no paper works to prove it. Dr. Wolfe said there was paper work but she didn't bring it.

In the closing arguments, Feare reinstituted to the jury the extremely poor conditions of the kennel and stated that the state was acting in the best interest of the dogs. Feare questioned Mr. Smith's testimony and holes in the testimonies of other witnesses. Feare told the jury not to believe the pictured painted by the defense that blamed everyone else but themselves and asked the jury to speak for the dogs' sake.

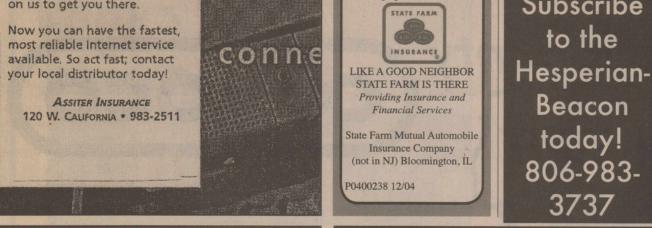
In Holloway's closing arguments, the attorney told the jury that the conditions of the kennel did not fit the cruelty definition set by the provisions of the Texas' Health and Safety code, and added that Sheriff Raissez irresponsibly seized the dogs and exposed them to diseases. He stated over and over again that 'looks can be deceiving' as he said that the state and the media fixed evidence to appear worse then what was actually going on. Holloway said the kennels were not clean at the seizure but Mr. Smith's foot was hurt, and his family and Mr. Montez were working on making it better. Holloway questioned the medical tests of the veterinarians. Holloway told the jury if feces and algae water was cruelty then farmers were open for conviction; he asked the jury not to open the door to Nazi like rules.

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#### **NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS**

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING **FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)** 

#### Dist/Div: Lubbock

Contract 6234-91-001 for FOG SEAL in FLOYD County will received on February 15, 2012 until 1:55 p.m. and opened on February 15, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$103,635.55.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/ or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 38965

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s)

Lubbock District **District Engineer** 135 Slaton Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771 Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of

race, color, sex, or national origin.

1-19, 1-26c

#### **NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

#### Dist/Div: Lubbock

Contract 0905-00-052 for FY 2012 RRPMS AND SPECIALTY MRK. in LUBBOCK County, etc will be opened on February 07, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Contract 0905-00-066 for DISTRICT WIDE STRIPING in LUBBOCK County, etc. will be opened on February 8, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/ or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 39035

#### State Office

Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s)

Lubbock District District Engineer 135 Slaton Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771 Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

1-19, 1-26c

Kennel Club had given the Smith's a days notice before the inspection and that pictures that were shown to the jury of healthy dogs were taken 18 months ago and didn't represent the kennel conditions at the time of the seizure. Feare also stated that the horse and animals were suffering because of his foot.

Feare then stated that a dog

must be already sick before

he could get checked. Feare

also stated that the American

After witness testimonies, Feare called Dr. Wolfe back to the stand for a rebuttal examination. In her testimony the doctor brought back up her medical findings, however in Holloway's cross examination, Holloway told the court that her claims were blown out of proportion to sway the jury, saying that she only cared for a portion of the dogs and that only 50 percent of her dogs were sick and that there was no proof that the other dogs were sick.

After closing statement and a jury deliberation, the jury returned with a unanimous decision that no animals were cruelly treated at the kennel.

#### **NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS** AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LOZELL **KEETER, DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Lozell Keeter, Deceased, were issued on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012, in cause No. 10,306, pending in the 110th District Court of Floyd County, Texas, to: Jim Graham.

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 Administrator in care of the attorney of said Administator:

**Brent Hamilton** LaFONT, FORMBY & HAMILTON, L.L.P. P.O. Box 1510 Plainview, TX 79073-1510

DATED the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

Jim Graham, Administrator of the Estate of Lozell Keeter, Deceased.

1-26c

#### **FROM THE ARCHIVES continued from page 2**

Lockney.

"My father was the doctor for a black community. Often to pay doctor bills, some of the community worked for our family. They cooked, washed and ironed. They were good, old saints. We just loved We called them them. 'Aunt' and 'Uncle,' she says.

Another baby delivered by Edith's father was Bennie Benion, owner of one of the largest gambling casinos in Las Vegas. He also delivered the brothers and sisters of Bennie. Bennie's father raised coon dogs.

As a child Edith heard those coon dogs baying. "We heard those dogs a lot when I was growing up. I could tell by the way whether something had been treed," she recalls.

During this time, Edith was in her first years of school. The school house was a mile from her home. She carried her lunch of biscuits and bacon or biscuits and jelly in a tin bucket. Sometimes, she poked her finger to take a hole in a biscuit for molasses.

I can remember going barefoot to school because there were no sidewalksjust roads. It was necessary to stop to get the grass burs or stickers out of my feet. Then at school, I would get splinters sometimes because the floors were wooden," she says.

Across the road from the school house stood the old stage coach inn. It was called the Clement's Inn. It sat on the hill shrouded in legend and imaginary stories.

The first person buried in Pilot Grove died in Clement's Inn. He was buried there before his resting place was called a cemetery. The story about him was that he was ill on arrivial at the inn. No one knew who he was. No name is on his grave.

I started making my own clothes when I was 12. Mother was sick at the time. ris home. I went in and cut it out. I just kept working at it until I had it fitted. She was shocked to death. From then on, I made all my clothes.

wedding clothes had tatting. I still have a tatted yoke from a silk gown that I wore until I work it out," she says.

Edith grew up to become a school teacher. Her first school was in Stanley, where she taught the third and fourth grades. Roy Patterson was principal at the school. They were married in 1917 in the summer after the first vear

They married the first week after he graduated from officer's training for World War I. He had enlisted before the school was out.

They moved to San Antonio to Camp Travis where he was company commander.

He also taught French to officers who were going over seas to assignment. They were in San Antonio nearly 2 years until the war was over. During this time, he was promoted to rank as major. He wanted to go to the European battle front, but the general kept him at Fort Travis.

When the war was over, they went back to live on a farm between Weatherford and Fort Worth for a few months. Then they went back to where they met. He taught another year before going into the gin business in Krum.

They still had time to teach another year in Cottle County just before reading an article in the Dallas Morning News reporting the need of a cotton gin at Lockney. Since the Pattersons had a partnership gin with a brother in Krum, they decided to move it to Lockney.

They brought the gin to Lockney from Krum in box cars

"We even brought our furniture, cow and chickens all in one box car," she says.

Lockney was a booming town. They came here in a Model T Ford. Housing was scarce, so for 6 weeks they lived in a room in the house on Main Street where Mae Craiger lives now. They had their meals in the Alex Nor-

"I cried for 6 months after

me to carry basketball girls at times to various games over a big area. Our car was handy and few people had cars

"After school during cotton-picking time, I would take a load of kids to pick cotton with them. We did picking-not boll-pulling," she says. She soon became known as "Mrs. Pat."

Eventually, machinery had to be changed in order to gin bolls. We burned burs and coal for power to operate the gin," she remembers.

The first cotton was brought to the gin by horsedrawn wagon. When ginning began in the fall, farmers came as far away as Silverton. They stayed until the wagon was empty. The round trip here and back home sometimes took several days. At times, the farmer stayed in the Brewster House. Most of the time, they brought their bedding along and slept in the wagon.

After a few years, the ginned cotton was pressed into round bales. The round-bale press was owned by Anderson-Clayton Company and was leased to the ginner.

The first few years good money was made on round bales, then there was no salefor them and the ginner lost what he had made.

"Roy and I went to New Orleans to sell the round bales but just had to give them away.

"I made all our clothes, even to my husband's shirts and pajamas. We were kept at home much of the time when the children were small. Baby sitters were unheard of. We either stayed home or took the children with us.

Roy operated the gin until he sold it to George Webster in 1954. It is now owned by the Marble Brothers. Roy operated the elevator until his death in 1907 [sic]. (Correct date is believed to be 1970.)

Mrs. Patterson, in the last few years, has trav-

eled extensively in Euro-

pean countries, Canada, and

Mexico. At the present, she

lives quietly in Lockney where "Mrs. Pat" has many

friends.

# **Floydada falls to Bobcats**

and had 4 steals.

**By Coach Renfro** 

The Floydada Whirlwinds suffered a heartbreaking defeat to the Dimmitt Bobcats last Friday in Dimmitt. Leading 53-50 with just seconds left, the Winds saw their lead vanish on a long last second 3 point shot that sent the contest into overtime. The Bobcats outscored the Winds 21 -14 to take a 74-67 victory

LADY WINDS continued from page 5 Miller 11, Sarah Sanders 10, Nikki Seymour 7, Emily Hall 6, Kristan Sanchez 2, Rebekah Hall 1.

Rebounds: Sarah Jo Miller 7, Rebekah Hall 7, Sarah Sanders 5, Avery Miller 5.

Assists: Avery Miller 6, Sarah Jo Miller 5, Nikki Seymour 4, Liz Suarez 4. Steals: Sarah Jo Miller 8,

Nikki Seymour 5, Sarah Sanders 3 **Deflections: Sarah Sanders** 

7, Rebekah Hall 5 The Floydada Lady Winds

tions, such as recovery of stolen motor vehicles, child welfare cases and mental commitments. In 2011 there were 86 incidents which was a 19 percent increase from 2010's 72 incidents.

During 2010 the LPD ar-

and fax we received. I am

evaluating each detail of this

legislation, and although a vote

on this bill has been postponed,

please know that I will keep

your thoughts in mind if the

bill comes to the House Floor.

We need to protect intellectual

property rights. At the same

time, we need to be very careful

to avoid government censor-

ship and make sure the Internet

defeated the Dimmitt Bobbies 53-41. The Lady Winds opened up a close game after the first quarter by outscoring Dimmit 18-9 in the second quarter to take a 29-19 lead. Floydada took a commanding 44 -29 lead entering the fourth quarter to a 53-41 victory.

Scoring: Sarah Jo Miller 16, Avery Miller 12, Liz Suarez, 11, Rebekah Hall 8, Sarah Sanders 2, Kristan Sanchez 2, Amelia Gonzalez 1, Emily Hall 1.

Rebounds: Rebekah Hall Lady Winds.

**CITY COUNCIL...** continued from page 4 rested four adults and placed them in jail; in 2011 there was a 75 percent increase with seven adults being arrested.

> During 2010 the Lockney Police Department detained four juveniles and placed

**RANDY'S ROUNDUP** continued from page 10

stays open and competitive. Keystone XL Pipeline

I am disappointed to report that on January 18th, President Obama blocked the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, determining that the crucial job-creating project does 'not serve the national interest.' This makes no sense. The Keystone XL Pipeline would have stretched from Canada to

the Gulf of Mexico, and would have created 20,000 jobs (many of those in Texas), generated millions of dollars in economic activity, and enhanced our energy security. At a time when Americans are suffering from high unemployment and high energy prices, this decision is a yet another critical mistake by an out-of-touch Administration

THE ETTER TO

Greetings,

I just wanted to say thank you for providing the Alpha Tex trial coverage.

Today the Floyd County

Hesperian-Beacon is as important to me as the New York Times.

> Thanks, Winn Biesele

10, Emily Hall 8, Sarah Sanders 5, Avery Mller 5. Assists: Sarah Jo Miller 6,

The Whirlwinds were led by Haden Lipham

who had 22 points, including 5 three pointers.

Jordan Woody put in 17 points to go with 6 as-

sists and 3 steals. Tyler Renfro put in 14 points

tinez with 4, Michael Cisneros with 3, Venturo

Gonzales with 3, and Cole Covington with 2.

Other scorers for Floydada were Jose Mar-

Nikki Seymour 4, Liz Suarez 4 ...

ah Jo Miller 3.

Deflections: Sarah Jo Miller 7, Avery Miller 5.

The Lady Winds are now 16-9 on the year and 6-3 in district, tied for 3rd place with Idalou. Tulia leads the district at 8-1 followed by Littlefield at 7-2 one game ahead of the

them in either the PAC cen-

ter, turned them over to the

Juvenile Probation Office, or

ticketed and released them to

parents for other than traf-

fic offenses; 2011 saw a 125

percent increase with nine ju-

venile detentions.

Steals: Avery Miller 3, Sar-

"I learned to crochet and tat early and did so much of it when I was older. All of my

we moved to Lockney. I had never lived where there were no trees, creeks or hills. It just wasn't home to me.

"The first year, Roy taught Spanish in Lockney High School. He often called on

#### **ART EXHIBITION continued from page 2**

mation, call 806-291-3710. Keller explained that the West Texas exhibition is one of many that are held across the country.

The local show represents 18 counties, as well as atlarge and homeschool students across the region.

Keller said originally there were more than 1,000 entries in the juried show, and that was reduced to around 500. Of those, she continued, approximately 175 were chosen to receive Gold Key awards. Those will move on to New York for the national competition

Keller said this year's submissions were excellent and should provide local residents an opportunity to view an exceptional show.

"The West Texas Regional Scholastic Art Exhibition is always a great opportunity to view the exceptional talents and original concepts of young artists across the South Plains. The 2012 exhibition is a visual feast, a collection of artworks reflecting the interests, concerns and passions of young artists. The creativity and technical skill applied in media across the categories is

excellent, and the works from our region will be highly competitive in the national adjudication," she said.

Keller went on to thank the teachers from across the region for encouraging their students to participate, as well as fellow Wayland art faculty member Mark Hilliard, who serves as the co-chair for the exhibit, and Abraham Gallery staff members Dorothy Hilliard and Bula McGowan.

The judges for the competition were Joe Garnett, Trey Shirley and Steve Wood.

## Market Place

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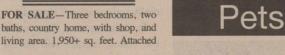
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SCRIPT PRINTING



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#### Miscellaneous

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983-3322.tfn

-FLOYDADA

borhood!

Page 14

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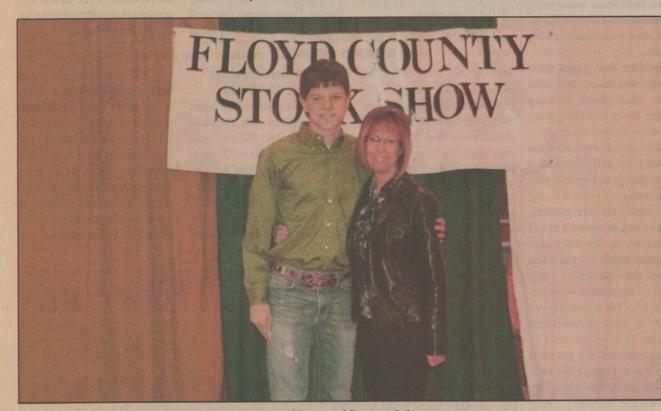
Thursday, January 26, 2012

# Floyd County Stock Show





Mccrae Mccormick, Kattie Miller, Haden Lipham, Katalina Araujo, Meagan Dunn, Syann Foster \$1000 Dusty Burleson Memorial Stock Show Scholarship



**Mccrae Mccormick** The Hermen Graham Memorial Stock Show Scholarship

otton Market Weel

**Ian Dunbar Breed Champion Duroc** 

#### **STOCK SHOW continued from page 1**

reserve grand champion gilt. McCrae would also grab Grand Champion Gilt honors with his breed champion cross gilt.

Winning grand champion in steers would be SyAnn Foster with her cross steer; Ms. Foster would also bring home the Grand Champion Heifer with her Continental heifer.

Kolby Williams brought in Grand Champion and reserve grand champion goats in this year show; while Jonathan Sustaita won Grand Champion lamb with his medium wool lamb.

The following Monday auction brought in \$101,050 with \$84,900 coming from the auction and \$16,150 coming from other add-ons. year's stock show included: Class one winner in goats, Tasha Schlueter; in the Lamb Division, Class one winner and south breed champion, Karina Torres: Class two winner and reserve breed champion, Tasha Schlueter: Class three winner Grip Fortenberry; Class one fine wool cross winner was Ryiann Araufo: Class two winner and reserve champion, breed champion Karina Torres: Class three winner Tristian Schlueter; Medium wool lamb Class one winner Kolby Williams; Class two winner Taylor Orr: Class three winner, breed champion, and grand champion, Jonathan Sustaita; Class four winner and reserve champion, Karina Torres; Class five winner Kolby Williams. Heifer grand champion winner and continental breed champion SyAnn Foster; Steer Angus breed champion, Haley Dunbar; reserve breed champion, Ky Teeter; Hereford breed champion winner, Reagan Hughes; Shorthorn Class one winner and reserve breed champion, Taylor Orr; Class two winner and shorthorn breed champion, Haden Lipham; Charlois Class one winner and breed champion, Kelsey Nutt; Class two winner and reserve breed champion Ky Teeter; Cross Class winner

and reserve grand champion, Keri DeBusk; Class two winner Clay Bigham; Class three winner and grand champion and breed champion SyAnn Foster.

In the Gilt Show; Class one winner in Black OPB was Braden Graves; Class two winner and reserve champion and breed champion McCrae McCormick; Class three winner and reserve breed champion, Braden Graves; Class one winner in White OPB was Kirby Nixon; Class two winner and reserve breed champion, Madolyn Mc-Cormick: Class three winner and breed champion, Heston Graves; Class one Major winner and reserve breed champion, McCrae McCormick; Class two Other placers at this winner and Grand Champion and breed champion, Madolyn McCormick; Class three winner Heston Graves; Class four winner Kirby Nixon; Cross Class one winner Katie Miller; Class two winner and breed champion Karis Carstensen; and reserve breed champion Heston Graves. In the Barrow Show; Class one winner and reserve breed champion in Black OPB was McCrae McCormick; Class two winner Tanille Bigham; Class three winner and breed champion, Tabetha Bigham; White OPB Class one winner and reserve breed champion was Meagan Dunn; Class two winner and breed champion was Tanille Bigham; Duroc Class one winner and reserve breed champion, Karmichael Ramos; Class two winner and breed champion, Ian Dunbar; Hampshire Class one winner and reserve breed champion Madolyn Mc-Cormick; Class two winner Audrey Rexrode; Class three and breed champion, Cutter Smith; Cross Class one winner Madolyn Mc-Cormick; Class two winner Gunnyr Araujo; Class three winner, grand champion, and breed champion, McCrae McCormick; Class four winner, reserve champion and reserve breed champion, Audrey Rexrode; Class five winner Jon Paul Chavarria.

# January 19, 2012

Cotton futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) posted modest gains Thursday in a light trading session. Overall, the cotton market managed to extend its rally this week with some traders attributing the uptick to renewed speculative buying.

An analyst said one week ago he felt a market correction was due, but now thinks a constructive chart picture along with some bullish news out of China and an improving economic outlook brought sidelined speculators back into the fray this week.

"Helping the bullish cause this week were rumors that the worlds two largest cotton producers, China and India, may have smaller crops than what is currently estimated by the

USDA," a trader said. The National Bureau of Statistics has now placed the Chinese crop at just 30.3 million bales which is significantly lower than the USDA's 33.5 million bale estimate.

'This is not the first time we've heard news of a potentially lower crop in China as about a month ago the Ministry of Agriculture pegged the crop at just 29.9 million bales," an analyst explained. "It's difficult to judge whether these lower crop estimates have any merit, but they have introduced an element of uncertainty that makes the shorts uneasy."

The story is similar in India where slow arrival figures are prompting traders to lower their crop expectations with many private estimates now at

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no more than 25.4 million to 26.2 million bales. This would be approximately 800,000 to 1.6 million bales below the current USDA estimate of 27.0 million bales.

"In other words, the market is suddenly confronted with the possibility that global production may have to be scaled back, possibly by some 2.0 million bales or more," an industry observer said. "At the same time, we may see global mill use recover so the seasonal production surplus of 12.85 million bales may shrink in the months ahead. Combine that with the fact that China's Reserve has been aggressively purchasing cotton, and we may actually end up with an artificially tight market," he said.

In the meantime, the eyes of the cotton market will be on Texas acreage and weather this spring as that state's producers face the possibility of another hot, dry planting season spurred on by the possibility of another La Nina weather pattern.

"We're likely going to see the same pattern of planting we saw last year in Texas when we planted 7 million acres into extremely dry conditions," according to an Extension economist at Texas A&M University, noting that dry weather still persists in the region.

"Whatever is planted in Texas won't necessarily translate into bales," he added. "So the market will be facing a lot of production and supply uncertainty, particularly during the first half of the year. Therefore, we probably will be in a weather market situation."

The economist believes overall U.S. cotton acreage is likely to decline in 2012 with Delta and Southeast growers tempted by the economics of corn, and to some extent, peanuts.

In other news, USDA reported net upland sales of U.S. cotton totaled 189,400 bales for the week ended Jan. 12, up noticeably from the previous week and higher than the four-week average. Sales were primarily to China, Mexico, Turkey and South Korea. Net sales of 22,500 bales for delivery in 2012-13 were reported mainly for Guatemala. Export shipments of 234,200 bales were up 48 percent from the previous week and 36 percent from the four-week average. Major destinations included Mexico, China, Turkey, and Vietnam.

Sales on the spot cotton market were slower as Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico producers sold 58,491 bales online in the week ended Jan. 19 compared to 75,696 bales the previous week. Average prices received ranged from 77 to 88 cents per pound.

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