

7/30/09
 Floyd County Historical Museum
 P.O. Box 304
 Floydada TX 79235

Happy New Year

The Floyd County

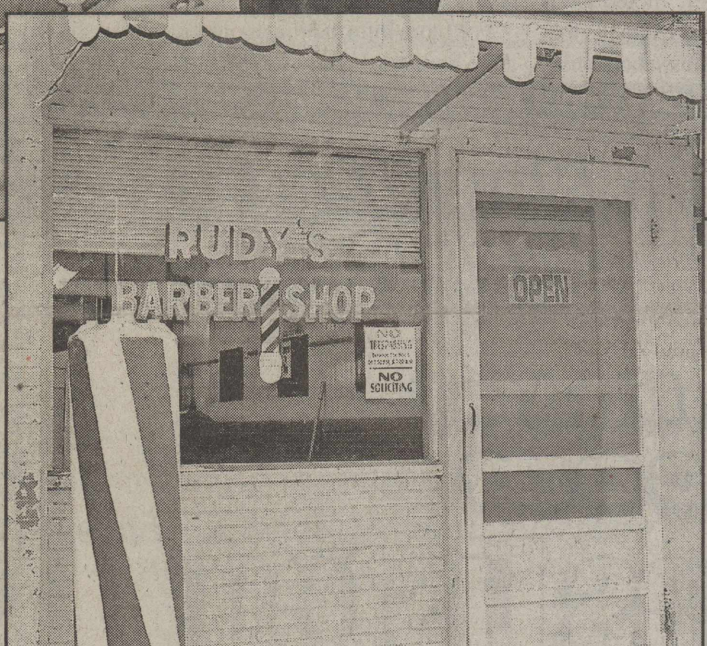
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Hesperian-Beacon

"Celebrating 113 Years of Floyd County News"

www.hesperianbeacon.com

Thursday, January 1, 2009 ©The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon Floydada, Texas 79235 (USPS 202-680) Volume 113 Number 1



Rudy Zachary, above, has owned and operated Rudy's Barber Shop for 50 years. The Lockney businessman recalled closing the shop only once during that time.

Photos by Judy Macha

'Lockney's Barber' calling it a career

■ Rudy Zachary retiring making way for Bobbie's Buzz Cuts

By Judy Macha
 Staff Writer

The longest running business, continuously owned and operated by the same person in downtown Lockney will close and reopen under new ownership January 1, 2009.

"Lockney's Barber," 78 year old Rudy Zachary, is retiring after 52 years of cutting hair. He has owned and operated Rudy's Barber Shop for 50 of those years.

The new name will be Bobbie's Buzz Cuts Styling Shop, owned by Bobbie Bennett. "I'm excited and sad at the same time because I've been working with Rudy for 16 years," said Bennett. "8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. will be my business hours Tuesday through Friday."

Zachary looked up from cutting his customer's hair and chatting away, to find a newspaper reporter taking his picture. He had just finished the line, "I'm too old to fight and too fat to run." He laughed and asked if he and his customer, Cecil Jackson, might have just broken the camera! He is a man who considers himself blessed to do what he loves and get paid for it.

Zachary was born in 1930 to Truman and Nana Zachary in Lubbock County. They are both deceased. He was reared in Brownfield and Plainview. Dec. 29, 1951, Zachary married Wanda Strickland in Floydada. They have two children: Gretta Pierce of Mena, Ark., and Zach Zachary of Lockney, who works in Lubbock for ASCO. Both Zachary children grew up in Lockney and graduated from Lockney High School. They have five grandchildren (one is deceased) and seven great-grandchildren. "And, there is not a barber in the bunch," laughed Zachary.

"In 1956 I went to Barber School in Fort Worth. In 1957 I worked at the Palace Barber Shop in

Floydada for one year. It was owned by George Shur with Warren Hilton and Skeet Thornton also cutting hair. The shoe-shine boy was Rudy Wade Chapman," remembered Zachary. He has quite a knack for remembering facts, names, faces, and dates.

The current shop was purchased from Bill and Leonard Stickland in 1958.

"Lockney was a thriving little town at the time. Every building was full and there were business interests wanting to locate here, but there were no available buildings," Zachary stated. "I've enjoyed everything about this business through the years. All my old timers are gone and now I'm the old timer! The mayor at the time I bought the shop was Jess Cox, and he worked at the Chevrolet House here in Lockney.

"I enjoy the barbering and the visiting. I wouldn't say men gossip, but I'll tell you this, I didn't need to buy a Beacon because I knew what was going on before it came out in the newspaper. Edgar Hayes, who owned the Lockney Beacon at the time, would always try to get me to subscribe. Why should I? I already know the news. He tested me on several things and I knew about every one of them!"

Zachary's shop has been broken into three times fairly recently. "Use to, if I accidentally left the door open, I would not have to worry about anything being stolen. I know, because a few times through the years I have forgotten to lock it," he said.

"I've had at least 10 helpers during all these years, including Bobbie who has been here the longest, 16 years. Otto Simmons shined shoes at the shop for me from 1958 - 1976.

"There was only one time I had to close the shop due to my own illness and that was 16 years ago when a bleeding ulcer put me down, and that's

Continued on Page 2

Community chips in to help out USO

A call went out, through the use of this newspaper, for books to be donated to USO at Dallas Fort Worth Airport. A total of 400 books and \$500 in cash contributions were collected.

"We had a goal of 400 books, and the community answered the call as they always do," said Julianne Cornelius who headed up the project.

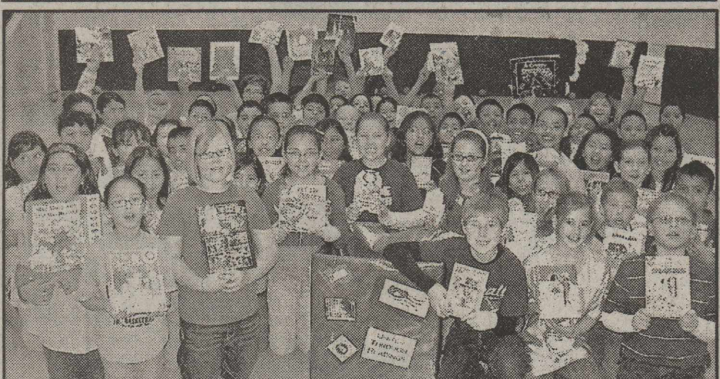
The collection was sought after Cornelius' sister, Brenda Meyers, who donates time to the USO, let Julianne know of the need for books for the USO's "United Through Reading" Program.

These new books will be used by soldiers at the USO at D/FW to read to their children by video while stationed overseas.

"I made a few phone calls to get the ball rolling," Cornelius explained, "and one month later we met our goal."

Cornelius extends a special thanks to the following groups,

businesses and individuals who helped make this goal a reality: Floydada Junior High students, staff and JoAnn Chavaria; Floydada's R.C. Andrews Elementary, Macee Brotherton, Brooke Galvan, Kennedy Coon and Carly Weems; First United Methodist Church and Wacky Wednesday Leader Tracy Campbell, Braden and Kortney; KFLP Radio, Tony Ricketts and Corey Johnston; Caprock and True Value Hardware's J. Royce Bradshaw with his donation of free UPS shipping; the Hesperian-Beacon; Cornelius Conoco; Dollar General; the entire community; the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church of Texarkana, Tex. for their contribution of 200 new books; the Friends of the Library who donated \$400; the 1956 Study Club who donated \$100; and each member of the 1950 Study Club who brought a new book to their December meeting for the USO.



Many individuals, groups and businesses in Floydada pitched in to help provide books for the USO. In the top, right picture are representatives from various groups: pictured standing (l-r) are Jan Willson, VP of Friends of the Library; Joy Smitherman, Representing the 1950 Study Club; Judy Schacht, Secretary of Friends of the Library; (seated l-r) Julianne Cornelius, President of Friends of the Library; Teri Bush, VP of 1956 Study Club; Dana Crossland, Treas. of 1956 Study Club and Shawnda Greer, Treas. of the Friends of the Library. Above are students at Floydada's R.C. Andrews Elementary with books donated to the USO; also Floydada Junior High students are pictured (right) with more books for the USO. Top, left are Jordan and Julianne Cornelius with all of the 400 books donated by the community for the USO's "United Through Reading" Program.

Courtesy Photo

have a happy, healthy 2009!

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New Year's Hours:
 Our offices will close at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31, and will reopen Monday morning, Jan. 5.
 Feel free to call and leave us a message (983-3737) or to drop us an e-mail (floydada@amaonline.COM).

Rudy ...

when Bobbie started. "Then, in 1997 I had heart surgery. I had four bypasses and an aneurysm repaired. I was out six to seven weeks. I asked my doctor how long was I going to be out with this thing and he said, 'I don't guess it'd be long, about all you use is your mouth isn't it?' I called him a crazy doctor.

"One interesting story I was told years ago says there use to be fights take place on Saturday nights in a dug out pit located where the Hesperian-Beacon building is now on Main Street. Now, I don't know for a fact the story is true.

"We are members of First Baptist Church here in Lockney and I remember our first preacher was

Rev. Charles Broadhurst then Rev. Gene Hawkins, and there have been many since."

Zachary said his daughter has been trying to get him to retire for the last 16 years and move to Mena, Ark., where she lives. "My wife kind of hates to move off and leave her friends. She worked at Sterley Gin for 29 years. But, she is glad we will be moving close to our daughter.

"I'll miss all my customers and friends. I enjoyed doing business with them. I do have a few friends that I don't cut their hair. That's okay, I don't have any hard feelings. I plan to do odds and ends work and of course get plenty of hunting and fishing in!

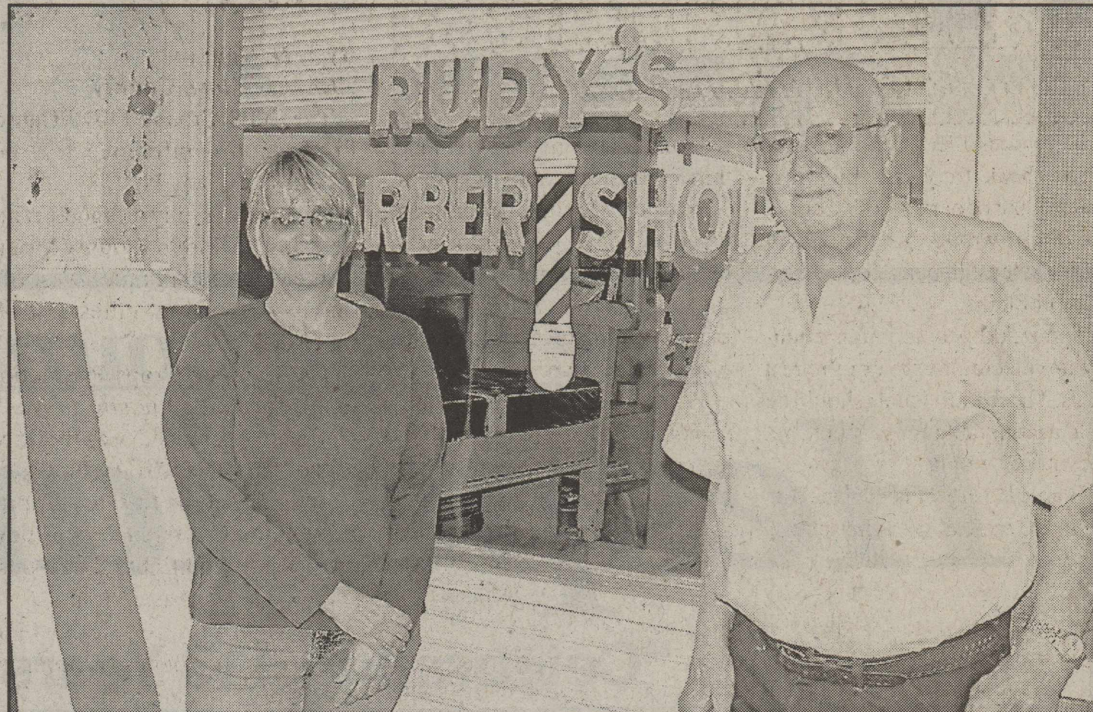
"The only things I am not

Continued from front page

looking forward to in Arkansas are the chiggers and ticks. I remember when I was at Fort Chaffee (now called Camp Chaffee) there was an old boy who flat refused to bathe. He was covered with them and smelled something awful. General Ruffner gave his permission for some of us to give him a G.I. bath with lye soap and a stiff brush. You could stand to sit next to him in the mess hall after that."

According to Zachary, once he retires, there will be no original business owners left in Lockney.

Lockney and the surrounding area will miss Zachary's wit and wisdom, and, of course, his haircuts.



Rudy Zachary, above, has owned and operated Rudy's Barber Shop for 50 years. The Lockney businessman recalled closing the shop only once during that time.

Photo by Judy Macha

Livestock show starts Friday

The 2009 Floyd County Junior Livestock Show will be held January 2-5, 2009.

This year's show will be held at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center.

New for 2009 is an all-new show schedule. All shows will be held on Saturday, Jan. 3.

Also new this year is a Livestock Judging Contest that will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 4. Divisions will include Junior, Senior and Adults. Select your own age division teams. A three or four member team is required or you may enter as an individual. Team and individual sign-up will be held throughout the day on Saturday; the deadline is 4 p.m. See Angela Ragland to sign up.

Also, we would like everyone to support the Floyd County

Junior Livestock Show Scholarship Program. This program supports scholarships to graduating Floyd County Junior exhibitors.

Tickets may be purchased for \$100. Prizes will be awarded throughout the stock show - every 10th ticket drawn wins a prize worth at least \$100 in value.

The grand prize will be an expense paid trip to Las Vegas. See any Stock Show Board member for a ticket.

The show schedule will be as follows:

Friday, Jan. 2

9 a.m. Barns Open
1 - 3 p.m. All animals in place and weigh-in

Saturday, Jan. 3

9 a.m. Goat Show

10 a.m. Lamb Show
11 a.m. Heifer Show followed by Steer Show

1 p.m. Swine Show Gilts followed by Barrow Show

Sunday, Jan. 4

2 p.m. Livestock Judging Contest, Junior, Senior & Adult Division

Monday, Jan. 5

5 p.m. Buyer's Meal
6 p.m. Auction

The stock show is open to everyone at no charge. A concession stand will be available and run by Lockney FFA. Please make plans to attend and support all youth exhibitors at this year's show on Saturday, Jan. 2 and don't forget the buyer's meal and auction beginning at 5 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 5.

Scholarship program offered to high school students

The National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program is offering 550 full scholarships to U.S. high school students to study abroad and learn languages that most students do not have opportunities to learn, but are rapidly becoming critical to know. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Youth Programs Division, NSLI-Y is designed to increase American citizens' capacity to engage foreign governments and peoples through the critical languages of Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hindi, Korean, Russian, and Turkish.

The program is administered by a team of organizations including AFS-USA, American Councils for International Education, Concordia Language Villages, and iEARN-USA. Together, they will award U.S. government funding in the form of full scholarships to 550 U.S. high school and just-graduated students (ages 15-18) to participate in summer (6-8 weeks), one-semester, and full-year language programs in countries where these languages are widely spoken.

"Recent years have demonstrated how important it is that Americans learn languages of countries that will be prominent in the 21st century," noted Lisa Choate, Vice President of the American Councils for International Education. "Students in this scholarship

program will be well-positioned for careers in a wide range of fields."

Programs immerse participants in language acquisition courses throughout their stay in the host country. Students live with a host family, gaining invaluable formal and informal language practice and sparking a lifetime interest in foreign languages and cultures. Students will attend school and interact with international students in person and through online technologies. Students wishing to apply for full scholarships must be U.S. citizens, be 15-18 years of age and enrolled in high school at the time of application, and have at least a 2.5 GPA. Students may participate in the program during high school or during the "gap year" between high school and college. Beginning language students are invited to participate, although all levels of instruction are available. Fluency is not required, but students with oral and written experience in the program languages are especially valued for their experience. Students returning from their NSLI-Y international experience will be able to apply their knowledge in university and professional opportunities.

For more information about the scholarship and to apply online, visit www.NSLIforyouth.org.

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Sale Ends on All Vehicles Listed

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2008 Silverado Crew Cab Short Bed 4x4
 Bright Red, Charcoal Cloth, Duramax Diesel, Allison Auto Trans., STK #7256

MSRP=\$46,910
 Robert Hall Discount -\$3,177
 Rebate -\$10,000
 Sale Price \$33,733

2008 1 Ton Crew Cab Duely 4x4
 LTZ, Duramax Special, Allison Trans., White, Charcoal Leather, STK #7083

MSRP=\$51,230
 Robert Hall Discount -\$2892
 Rebate -\$10,000
 Sale Price \$38,338

2008 Equinox LS
 Navy Blue, Tan Cloth, STK #7083

MSRP=\$23,790
 Robert Hall Discount -\$1127
 Rebate -\$4,000
 Sale Price \$18,663

2008 Colorado Crew Cab 2WD
 Black, Charcoal Cloth, Big Engine, Auto Trans., Tow PKG, STK #6605

MSRP=\$22,985
 Robert Hall Discount -\$1,181
 Rebate -\$4,000
 Sale Price \$17,804

2008 Colorado 2WD Reg. Cab
 White, Grey Cloth, 4 cyl, Auto Trans., CD Player, STK #6878
 MSRP=\$17,690

Robert Hall Discount -\$761
 Rebate -\$2,500
 Sale Price \$14,429

2009 Cobalt 4 Door LS
 Imperial Blue, Grey Cloth, Rear Spoiler, 4 Cyl., Automatic, STK #7136

MSRP=\$16,945
 Robert Hall Discount -\$620
 Value Cust. Rebate -\$500
 Rebate -\$1,500
 Sale Price \$14,325

2009 Malibu LS
 Silver Moss Metallic, Grey Cloth, STK #7205

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 Rebate -\$3,000
 Sale Price \$17,732

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 Own a '99 or newer Tahoe or Suburban -\$1,000
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 Sale Price \$31,065

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 Rebate -\$3,000

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THE PAPERBOY

By Chris Blackburn, Publisher

Why does the federal government think they can buy this country out of hard times? Correct me if I'm wrong, but they are at fault - at least in part - for the current problems.

Some 500 people in this country are elected to govern the rest of us. Those individuals should be held accountable for so much, yet they never will be.

Blame Bush you say? Sure. But, seems to me Congress has plenty of votes to disagree with the president once in while. Instead they march lock-step, throwing good money after bad ... making a bad situation worse.

Today, many companies are opting for a handout instead of using normal means to save themselves. However, I don't blame the corporations seeking billions. I blame the government for opening up this Pandora's Box.

Ask yourself this: If someone said you qualified for \$1 million at nearly zero percent interest, and really didn't consider how you would be able to pay it back, would you take it?

People need to understand that things don't always go up. There is an evolution to business. Simply put, some are destined to die or become something else.

Does the government really expect us to believe GM can fix itself by March? It can't. It's impossible. They've bought themselves time for one of three things: 1. Ask for more money; 2. Get bought; 3. File for bankruptcy on their own terms.

What really boils my blood is that the president, president-elect and all of Congress know there is no way some of these companies

will survive yet they are willing to throw our money into this abyss.

Wonder what the government would do if every citizen decided to stop paying taxes? I imagine they'd just keep printing more money. Who cares about the value of the dollar anyhow.

When I see these jokers on television, it drives me crazy. They are no longer held accountable for any of the terrible decisions they make on a daily basis. The mainstream media, who is supposed to serve us in this one capacity, has lost its way. Maybe it has decided that Congress can do no wrong. More likely, they are in bed with the media and the media likes the privilege.

Contact members of Congress and tell them to turn the money-faucet off. It is only making things worse and it is placing way too large a burden on future generations.

Or, tell them to annex Canada and Mexico and sell it back to Americans and the rest of the world to raise enough money to bail us out of our \$10 trillion national debt.

Really, I'm shorting the debt. The actual national debt as of this week is \$10,611,892,686,306.43. The estimated population of the United States is 305,328,096. That comes to \$34,755.70 for every man, woman and child in this country.

By the way: Congress is getting another raise - over \$4,000 next year.

Raise for what? Running the country into the ground?

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Crosby, Floyd crops production meeting Jan. 21

By J. D. Ragland
CEA-AG Floyd County

The 2009 Crosby/Floyd Caprock Crops Production Conference will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 21.

This year's day-long meeting will be held at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center located six miles west of Floydada on Hwy 70 or four miles east of Lockney on Hwy 70.

The Caprock Crops Production Conference, formerly known as the "Caprock Cotton Conference," was traditionally held at the Plains Baptist Assembly camp. Last year's change in title to "Caprock Crops Production Conference" was developed in an effort to highlight other crops grown in our area as well as cotton.

This bi-county, (Crosby and Floyd), conference is the longest running of its kind with over 20 years of history in providing helpful production information. Additionally over 20 agricultural booth exhibitors will be on hand displaying their latest technologies.

The conference will get underway at 7 a.m. with registration and the first program speaker is set for 8 a.m. A high quality list of speakers and topics have been scheduled

for the day's agenda. The morning portion focuses on industry related topics with the afternoon highlighting technical field related topics. The morning portion will feature the following topics and speakers: 2008 Cotton Production for the High Plains by Roger Haldenby of Plains Cotton Growers Association; New Farm Bill Update by Dr. Joe Outlaw, Texas AgriLife Extension Service State Economist; Texas Alliance for Water Conservation Project by Rick Kellison, Program Director; High Plains Underground Water District Legislative Update by Jim Conkwright, Director; Cotton Market World Prospect by Wallace Darneille, CEO Plains Cotton Cooperative; and Ethanol Market Review by Mike Harder, White Energy Plant Manager.

Lunch will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Following lunch the afternoon technical field topics and speakers will be: Drift Minimization and Equipment Calibration by Roger Gloe and Nate Gerdes with John Deere; 2008 High Plains Cotton Update by Dr. Randy Boman, Texas AgriLife Extension Cotton Specialist; cost of Doing Business - Are There Options? By Jay Yates, Texas AgriLife Risk Management Specialist; Weed Issues in Cotton and

Other Crops by Dr. Peter Dotray, Texas Tech/Texas AgriLife Research; Sorghum Production On The High Plains by Dr. Calvin Trostle, Texas AgriLife Extension Agronomist; TDA Laws and Regulations by Levon Harmon, TDA Field Inspector.

Producers will also be offered a total of seven CEU's in the following categories: 4.5 General, 1 IPM, 1 Laws & Regulations and .5 Drift Minimization. Individuals seeking CCA hours will receive a total of eight credits with 1.5 in Soil & Water Management, 2 in Pest Management, 3 in Crop Management and 1.5 in Professional Development.

Registration is required. Pre-registration is \$25 per participant if registered by Jan. 15, after that a \$10 additional late registration fee will be charged. Registration can be made through the Crosby or Floyd County Texas AgriLife Extension offices. Please make checks payable to the Caprock Crops Production Conference.

For more information please feel free to contact the Crosby County Texas AgriLife Extension Service office at (806) 675-2347 or the Floyd County Texas AgriLife Extension Office at (806) 983-4912.

Exciting employment opportunities! Help make a positive difference in the lives of children and families!

Central Plains Center, in partnership with Hale County and the Llano Estacado Alliance for Families, is seeking energetic, motivated team members to fill key positions for the Rural Children's Initiative - a 6 year federally funded initiative.

The purpose of the project is to improve services and supports for children, youth and their families and to develop and expand effective and enduring "systems of care."

Applicants must: (1) Be innovative and self-directed in learning new knowledge and skills, (2) Able to work as part of a team and with diverse groups in a professional manner, (3) Able to honor the contributions and strength of all cultures, (4) Have excellent interpersonal, organizational and computer skills, and (5) Have experience with community-based behavioral health focused on children, adolescent, and family services.

Education: Bachelors degree and/or 4 years of life experience in related field. Salaries commensurate with level of knowledge, skill, and responsibility involved. Applicants must be willing to travel. Some nights and weekends may be required.

Family Involvement Coordinator: Responsible for oversight, monitoring and administration of family involvement activities and serve as a Key Family Contact for the system of care. Must be parent or primary care giver of a child who is currently, or has in the past, received services from a child serving agency for mental health related issues. **Bilingual preferred.**

Youth Coordinator: Serves as the coordinator of the youth in the systems of care and encourage the youth to be effective self-advocates and support youth in the development of youth groups. Prefer a person who has experience as a consumer in the system. If an applicant does not have experience as a consumer, should have experience in working with and partnering with youth with multi-system involvement. **Bilingual preferred.**

Cultural Competency and Linguistic Coordinator: Responsible for assisting leadership, management, staff, families, youth, contractors, and all other system partners in ensuring cultural and linguistically competent practices in all aspects of the system of care. **Must be bilingual and have excellent verbal and written communications skills in English and Spanish.**

Administrative Assistant: Assist the Project Director and other team members with the effective and efficient operations of the project. Must have two (2) years experience assisting in administrative work and have computer experience. **Advanced secretarial skills and bilingual preferred.**

Must complete application - available online at www.clplains.org. Send application, cover letter and resume to: Michelle White c/o Central Plains Center, 2700 Yonkers, Plainview, Texas 79072. Programmatic questions may be directed to Project Director - Kay Brotherton @ 806.292.7283.

For more information see: www.systemsofcare.samhsa.gov/, www.leaf-systems.org, www.clplains.org.

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Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margarette Word

The Center's mailing address is P.O. Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235.

If you are 60 years or older this Center is for you. We serve very good hot meals starting at 12:00 noon. If you are home bound and 60 years or older, call the Center and talk with Sylvia to see if you are qualified.

Last Sunday evening I got a phone call from Shirley Seay. She and Jimmy live in Mineral Wells. Their son Dan had seen my son Greg in a store and Greg

gave Shirley my phone number. It was so good to hear from her. If any of her friends want her phone number, I have it. She would love to hear from you.

The Center will be closed Thursday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

Thank you for remembering the Center when you need to make a memorial donation.

In memory of **Billy Joe DuBois**-James and Sue Lovell, Gene and Nance Lawson.

In memory of **Paul Lloyd**-Muncy Elevator, Inc.

In memory of **Al Galloway**-Dub Holt.
Thought for the week - Happy New Year!

Menu
December 29 - January 2
Monday-Tacos, salad, beans, cake
Tuesday-Salisbury steak, macaroni and cheese, green beans, roll, cherry salad
Wednesday-BBQ chicken, broccoli and cauliflower, roll, ambrosia salad
Thursday - CLOSED
Friday - CLOSED

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Vera Jo Bybee

It's time to say goodbye to another year. In a few days a new year begins. We may reflect on the old year but that won't help so I hope all of you will be looking forward to 2009 and make plans to take care of yourself so you will be healthy, happy and able to cope with whatever the new year brings. "Happy 2009 New Year."

Christmas brought a lot of visitors to Lockney. As you drive down the streets you see cars and more cars parked at almost every house. At night as you drive around town you may enjoy all the lighted decorations on the houses and in the yards. What a beautiful and glorious time of the year.

The Center would like to

thank Belle Daniels for such a thoughtful donation of all the many cake mixes. Also, the donation in memory of Wilma Brown by John Alvin and Rochelle Dorman.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Dee Copeland who fell in his yard breaking his hip and having to have a complete hip replacement at the age of 100 years old.

Also our prayers are with Melvin Bradley who is recuperating from having a hip replacement.

Wanda Moats is in the Lubbock hospital suffering from a blood infection. Lynda Holley continues taking therapy at The Plaza nursing home in Lubbock.

Our prayers are with the Ad-

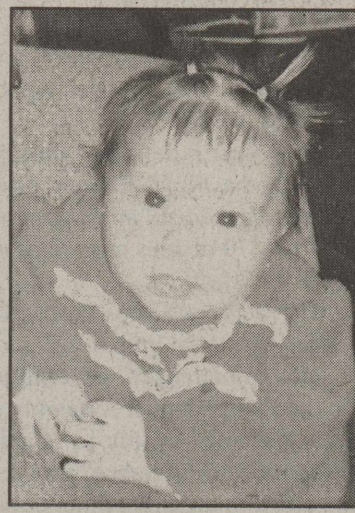
ams children, Dillion and Tarrant, who are in Lubbock Covenant Children's hospital suffering with staff infections. Tarrant's condition is critical.

Junior Brotherton spent the weekend in the Lockney Hospital suffering from food poisoning. Something he ate over the holidays made him really sick.

Please keep Laverne Thompson and her family on your prayer list for the loss of her husband Bill Thompson.

Menu
December 29 - January 2
Monday-Baked potato
Tuesday-Hamburger steak
Wednesday-Meat loaf
Thursday-CLOSED
Friday-CLOSED

Births



MALDONADO
Michaela and Malachi Maldonado are proud to announce the birth of their sister, Madalynn Ann Maldonado. She was born 1:55 p.m. November 11, 2008 at UMC in Lubbock. She weighed 9 pounds 13 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long.

Parents are Guadalupe Maldonado and Kasee Knight of Floydada.

Grandparents are Concepcion Maldonado and Bonifacio Maldonado, both of Floydada, and the late Beverly and Neal Knight.

Great-grandparents are Simona Maldonado of Floydada and Helen Breed of Crosbyton.

EMERY
Clint and Leslie Emery of Lubbock are proud to announce the birth of their son, Slade Pittman Emery. He was born 6:52 p.m. December 3, 2008. He weighed 6 pounds 9 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Grandparents are Randy and Julie Hancock of Lockney, Ted and Debbie Emery of Bentonville, Arkansas, and Blake Hickerson of Dallas.

Great-grandparents are Wayland and Margaret Jones of Floydada, Mack and Gail Hickerson of Dallas, Doyle and June Davis of Hart, and Dorothy Hancock of Plainview.

Batteys celebrate 74th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Battey of Paris, formerly of Floydada, celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary December 22, 2008.

Naomi Lee Hodges and Wayne Alvin Battey were married at Ralls, Texas. They were blessed with two sons, Alvin and his wife J. and Jerry and his wife Pat.

Wayne and Naomi also have 5 grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren and will soon have a great great grandchild.

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Floydada Rehab Birthdays

By Joyce Williams

Santa Clause and Frosty the Snowman decorated the tops of the birthday cakes served at the Floydada Rehab and Care Center birthday party on Thursday, Dec. 18.

In December, Mr. and Mrs. Monte Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Todd Hinsley, and Mr. and Mrs. Q.D. Williams hosted the monthly party, sponsored by the City Park church of Christ.

Eight residents were honored, including Norma Martin (Dec. 6), Doris Snodgrass (Dec. 15),

Wanda Withers (Dec. 20), Pete Trimble (Dec. 20), Evelyn Boreu (Dec. 21), Dulon Sargent (Dec. 22), Frank Cole (Dec. 29) and Garnet Black (Dec. 30).

Honoree Doris Snodgrass presented hand-made birthday cards to each honored resident and also to employee, Lisa Caballero (Dec. 18). Other friends gave cards as well.

Sylvia Luna, Activity Director for the Center, led the group in singing the Birthday Song, then she read aloud the poem "Pleasing God," reflecting on

how people who smile and sing and show love for one another are pleasing God by their care for His children. She then read from Matthew 1, telling the story of the birth of Christ.

Beautiful corsages of red roses were given to all by Cathy's Floral, and all honorees received gift bags from the hosts.

Visitors included the daughters of Mrs. Frances Puckett Shepherd, Mrs. Elenor Black, Mary Alice Davis and Elaine Reid.

Visitors are always welcome.

New Year's Resolutions for drivers

At this time of year, everyone hopes to close the book on bad habits and resolve to do better. Experts agree that many people break their New Year's resolutions because they set unrealistic goals for themselves.

However, there are common driving behaviors that drivers can resolve to improve for this New Year, which are not only attainable but can make it a safer year for everyone.

"Bad driving is often just a habit you get in to," said Ray Palermo, director of public relations for Response Insurance.

"It can take as few as 21 days for people to adopt a new habit. So, drivers can help ensure that 2009 is safe for themselves and others on the road in a relatively short period of time."

He offered a few New Year's Resolutions for drivers.

-Use your turn signal.
Letting other drivers know where you are heading avoids crashes.

-Stay calm.
Don't compound another driver's foolish driving maneuver by making your own. Don't overreact to events that can lead to road rage.

-Know where you are going.
And, if you do make a wrong turn, just keep going.

More often than not, you can return to the correct road pretty quickly and do it without endangering others.

-Maintain your car. Check all fluid levels, change the oil if it's due, clean the car's windshield, windows and headlights, make sure your lights and directionals are working properly, check the tire tread and air pressure.

-Sleep. Rest can be your best defensive driving weapon. Long hours behind the wheel, particularly at night, make you drowsy, less alert to danger and increase your response time.

-Stop multi-tasking. Eating, reading, and talking on a cell phone (even hands-free) while

driving are distracting.

-Never drink and drive. And, be alert for drivers who may not be as safe as you.

-Get an emergency kit. A first aid kit should minimally include bandages, tape, wash & dry cloth and a topical antiseptic.

A car kit should include oil, anti-freeze, transmission

and brake fluids, basic tools, signal flare, flashlight (with fully charged batteries) and duct tape.

Additional information on this and other car and homeowner topics is available at the Response Insurance Safety Information Center: www.response.com/safety.

HAPPY NEW YEAR'S TO YOU AND YOURS!

Floydada Power & Light

City council discusses EDC changes

By Sara Sisemore
Managing Editor

As of October, three seats expired on the Floydada Economic Development board – the seats of EDC president Bob Alldredge, vice president Bill Harbin and board member Kyle Smith. The Floydada City Council discussed in their Tuesday, Dec. 16 meeting whether to reappoint all three board members or to nominate new people for the positions.

Councilmember Sue Ward said, "I think when something has been wrong, then we can't close our eyes to it. We backed down. I still haven't seen a check register...a decent budget...an itemized anything."

Councilman Ruben Barrientoz agreed, saying, "This is one of the city's biggest projects."

After much deliberation, the council voted to appoint council members Jon Nielson and Sue Ward to the EDC board, each for a two-year term. Also, the council reappointed Kyle Smith.

Other board seats expired included two seats on the Housing Authority of Floydada board. Both Fernando Arvizu and Philip Smitherman were reappointed to the board until December of 2010.

Discussion on South Plains Waste, Inc.'s proposal for trash pick up and hauling began when Councilman Nielson made a motion to keep this service with the city of Floydada and not to go with the proposal from South Plains Waste, Inc. Barrientoz seconded the motion, but the final vote was a tie vote, with Nielson, Barrientoz and Councilmember Sylvia Garcia voting against the proposal and council members Sam Green, Sheldon Sue and Ward voting for the proposal. Green said in response to Nielson's motion, "I like the economics of it (South Plains Waste, Inc.'s proposal)." He continued, "In my opinion the positives outweigh the negatives. It creates tax base and a new business."

When there is a tie vote, Mayor Bob Gilliland must vote in order to break the tie.

Gilliland said, "I told Mr. Brown if we didn't lose any jobs and the price was right, I would be for the project."

Gilliland voted down Nielson's motion to forego the proposal from South Plains Waste, Inc.

Another motion was made to accept the proposal and it passed three to two – Barrientoz and Garcia continuing to vote against the proposal. Nielson had to leave the meeting to feed Floydada's basketball players and so was not present to vote on this motion.

Condemnation on four different Floydada properties was also discussed by the city council. One of the properties had back taxes from 2003 and another needed a new roof and paint job.

The council heard from some of Edwardo Navarrete, Junior's family who had come to represent him. They council voted to give the family six months to pay back taxes and begin to make the place, 424 W. Missouri, livable.

Also, the council voted to condemn the houses at 400 W. California, owned by Simon Hernandez, at 629 W. Grover belonging to Mrs. Woodrow Hill, and at 741 W. Price, owned by Bobby Marley.

Other business discussed by the board included how the city is going to handle the issue of the required repairs to ground and overhead storage tanks made by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

"We have to give them something (the city's plan) in writing," city manager Gary Brown explained to the council about their next course of action. "You're looking at \$250,000 to shroud and sandblast it (the overhead storage tank)."

Councilman Nielson moved to approve the hiring of an engineer to come up with estimates for the required work.

The motion passed unanimously. The council believes this course of action will fulfill the initial steps to meet the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's requirements.

The council also discussed the possibility of joining with the city of Lockney to construct a new swimming pool for use by both cities. Gilliland said, "I think we need a place in Floyd County where we can get ourselves physically fit."

According to Gilliland, the proposed location would be somewhere near the Unity Center.

Brown commented, "Unless both city councils are for it, there's no use for me to spend any time on it."

The current pool was built in the 1950s, and when asked how much longer it would last, the question was asked, "How much money do you have?"

The council was generally in favor of looking into the matter to see if it was really plausible. Gilliland wrapped the subject up, saying, "It doesn't hurt to look."

Discussion on a possible ordinance to prohibit the use of truck engine brake use in the city limits had been postponed in the November meeting until Councilman Green could be present to share his opinion.

Green said, "The chances of a police officer being out there... is going to be one in a thousand. I just hate to go into a lengthy ordinance. Can we just put a couple of signs out there?"

Brown told the council he would check with the highway department about the possibility of putting some signs up without having an ordinance. Brown reported to the council the auditors had reviewed the Chamber of Commerce's books for 2007-2008. "Their use of the hotel/motel tax seems to be legitimate," he said.

The council unanimously accepted Martin Garcia's \$850 bid for their 2002 Ford Crown Victoria, Joe Torrez's bid of \$3,000 for their 1981 Mack Dump Truck, Babe Jones' bid of \$850 for their 1997 Chevrolet Lumina and Keith Reeves' \$200 bid for their 1993 Ford Pickup.



Floydada High School Lady Wind Mariah Vargas plays for the junior varsity squad against Lockney Dec. 19.

Photo by Connie Barnett

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Auction Calendar

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www.5starauctioneers.com

Wednesday, January 14, 2009—9:30 a.m.
Collins & Gilreath—Owners
Located: Dimmitt, Texas—Selling: 10 Tractors, Farm, Ranch Cotton Equipment

Thursday, January 15, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Nix Implement—Owner
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: 15 Tractors, Farm & Cotton Equipment

Saturday, January 17, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Panhandle Farmers—Owners
Located: Panhandle, Texas—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Wednesday, January 21, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Lamesa-Key Community Area Farmers—Owners
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: Farm & Cotton Equipment

Thursday, January 22, 2009—Sale Time: 9:30 a.m.
Ricky Schneider—Owner
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: Farm & Cotton Equipment

Tuesday, January 27, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Mefford Farms—Owners
Located: Gould, Oklahoma—Selling: Farm, Ranch, Combine, Cotton Equipment

Thursday, January 29, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Wayne McClaran Estate—Owner
Located: Bovina, Texas—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Saturday, January 31, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Whitey Thompson Estate—Owner
Located: Edmonson, Texas—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Tuesday, February 3, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
David DeBusk Estate—Owner
Located: Idalou, Texas—Selling: Farm & Cotton Equipment

Thursday, February 5, 2009 Sale Time: 9:00 a.m. New Mexico Time
Willmon Farms—Owner
Located: Clovis, New Mexico—Selling: Farm & Ranch Equipment

Saturday, February 7, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Lakeview Area Farmers—Owners
Located: Lakeview, Texas—Selling: Farm, Ranch & Cotton Equipment
Taking Consignments—Call Jim To Consign: (806) 864-3611

Tuesday, February 10, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Butch Renfro Estate—Owner
Located: Matador, Texas—Selling: 10 Tractors, Farm, Ranch & Cotton Equipment

Thursday, February 12, 2009—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Olton Area Farmers—Owners
Located: Olton, Texas—Selling: Tractor, Farm & Cotton Equipment

Jimmy Reeves.....(806) 864-3362
Clerk

Jim Sumners.....(806) 864-3611
(10006)

Donna Noel.....(806) 293-1124
(Secretary)

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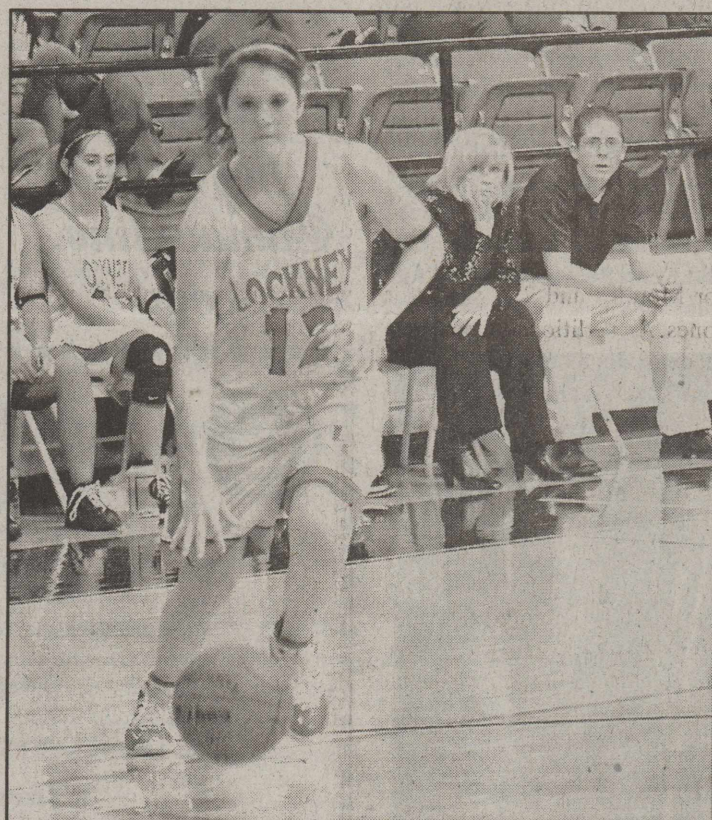


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Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Section 74.17, cotton producers in the Northern High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of all of Hale and Swisher counties and portions of Randall, Armstrong, Briscoe and Floyd counties are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning **January 16, 2009**. All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone. For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at: 1-800-687-1212. 1-8c



(Clockwise from top) The Lockney JV Lady Longhorns look on during their game against Floydada Dec. 19. Syann Foster (12) eyes a pass during the game, while Kat Aruajo (33) and Sunny Williams (5) go for the steal against Floydada's Elizabeth Suarez. Foster dribbles through traffic while Anissa Reyna goes toward the hoop against Sarah Jo Miller and Katie Miller of Floydada.

Photo by Connie Barnett

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Karen Houchin Law Office
Karen, Eddy, Daniel, Erin, Keri, Abbie, and Eli

We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.
- E.L. Pierce

Thanks, Friends, for a wonderful 2008.
Let us make the most of 2009!

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2008 ... in review

Accomplishments and losses
By Sara Sisemore
Managing Editor

As 2008 has drawn to a close, we look back at some of what happened in Floyd County over the past year.

Floyd County encountered several tragedies this year, as well as many accomplishments.

In January, a group of missionaries from Floydada's First United Methodist Church took a trip to Niger, Africa. This group shared stories upon their return of how their trip to some of the most isolated parts of Africa changed them.

Also in January, was the trial against Lockney's former Justice of the Peace Michelle Araugo. Araugo pleaded guilty at her Jan. 15 trial and was sentenced to a 10 year sentence probated for 10 years, along with a \$5,000 fine.

One of the year's first tragedies was when the Greg Carthel family lost their home to a fire on Jan. 16. However, because of this loss, the community was able to show their love and support by pulling together to donate many household items to help the family recover.

One accomplishment Floyd County experienced this past year was a bountiful cotton harvest that was only surpassed by 2004's record crop. According to the Feb. 28, 2008, edition of this newspaper, the total bale count for last year's cotton crop was 259,630.

Downtown Lockney received a facelift beginning in March of 2008. New sidewalks and "antique style" streetlights were installed over the course of the summer.

In late April, Floydada grieved at the loss of two of its young. Tanner Sue and Dylan Thomas were killed when the vehicle they were in flipped and they were thrown from the vehicle. The community surrounded the family at their funerals, with over a thousand friends and family coming to mourn.

Another loss suffered was the car accident that led to the death of Mark Sherman of Lockney. Sherman had survived his pickup being struck in the passenger door, but died from his injuries.

Floyd County's 4-H Livestock Judging Team enjoyed a year of many successes, from placing fourth in the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Col., to placing first in the senior division High Team Overall at the Tri-State Fair Contest, to finally traveling to the North American International 4-H Livestock

Judging Contest in Louisville, Ken. Here the team won 7th place High Team Overall in the nation.

In June, a Floydada woman was robbed in her home, when a man pushed his way in, took her cell phone and pulled her house phone out of the wall. The man was identified as Robert Lopez III of Plainview, arrested and sent before the Grand Jury.

Two and a half weeks after the aforementioned incident, Israel Martinez of Floydada was shot and killed after a disagreement with Daniel Herrera, who as of June 24 had turned himself into the authorities. It had been 24 years since Floydada's last homicide.

In July Floydada's Sarah Sanders underwent a 10 hour, life-changing surgery to correct the curvature of her spine. The surgery was very successful and now, months later, Sanders continues to share her story with those interested in hearing it.

The Floydada Whirlwind basketball team was named Region 1-2A Runner-Up after playing Jim Ned in the Regional Final Playoff Game the first of March.

Also, the Whirlwinds' football team remained Floyd County Champions when they beat the Lockney Longhorns 40 to 16. This made the third straight year for the 'Winds to come out on top in this county rivalry.

Renewable Energy Systems continued to work with Floyd County Commissioners to work out a tax abatement agreement for the 59 additional turbines planned to expand the current wind farm project. RES hopes to have this expansion project up and running by the end of 2010. Floyd County could gain as many as 150 new jobs through the implementation of this expansion.

FISD was honored when Apple named Floydada High School an Apple Distinguished School for its "successful implementation of a 1 to 1 Technology Immersion Program using Apple technology" (March 20 edition).

An outgrowth of being recognized as an Apple Distinguished School was the opportunity for six of Floydada's High School students to travel to Washington, D.C., to speak at the State Educational Technology Directors Association's annual conference. At this conference freshmen Mallory Graham, Kelsea Miller and Imelda Resendiz, along with sophomore Blake Chavarria and seniors Sean Miller and Titus Miller,

shared how being taught in a technology-immersed environment had effected their lives and opened up doors of opportunity for them.

This past year was dry in the beginning, with burn bans being in effect on and off throughout the year, but come September heavy rains flooded the county. Amounts measured around the county varied from one and a half inches in the Sterley Community to twelve inches in Dougherty. Many acres of cotton were ruined from standing under water for weeks and several homes came close to being flooded.

In August, Alice Gilroy, former editor of this newspaper, published her last edition after 23 years of serving Floyd County. In June, Ken Towery - Gilroy's father - sold The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon to the Blackburn Media Group, owned by Chris Blackburn of Childress. Gilroy and her husband Lennie raised their son in Lockney and Lennie served as a county commissioner for over 13 years.

Another loss the county suffered this past year was the death of Staff Sergeant Wesley Hunter who passed away on Sept. 18 while visiting his parents in his childhood hometown. Friends surrounded the family during the military memorial and funeral services, paying honor to him who had served our country and put himself in harm's way to preserve freedoms we all hold dear.

After almost 22 months, a ruling on the contested election between County Commissioner Jon Jones of Precinct 4 and challenger Amado Morales finally was made. In September of this past year, Judge Poff dismissed Jones' motion to dismiss and ordered the November 2006 final election results to be 276 votes for Morales and 275 votes for Jones. An additional appeal was made by Jones following Judge Poff's ruling and the case went before the 7th District Court of Appeals where the five mail-in ballots in question would be reviewed.

The end of September Floydada lost another citizen to a one-vehicle accident. Farmer Louis Paul Lloyd lost his life after he lost control of his pickup on a curve approximately one mile south of Floydada.

This was indeed a tragedy and a great loss for the family, but once again the community pulled together around the family to provide comfort and support. Even two months later almost hundred people vol-

unteered their time, energy and goods to bring in Lloyd's cotton and milo crops for his family.

The city of Floydada received a \$150,000 Downtown Revitalization Grant that will be used to fix the aging sidewalks around the courthouse square. According to City Manager Gary Brown, plans to begin work on the project will begin as soon as the weather is warm enough.

New Floyd County officials were voted in during this year's election contests. Paul Raissez won the Sheriff's race in March against challenger Charles Dunn; Delia Suarez won the Tax Assessor-Collector race over Lori Morales; Mike Anderson beat Cecil Jackson for the County Commissioner's seat for Precinct 1 and Nathan Johnson won over incumbent Bill Quattlebaum to receive Precinct 3's County Commissioner's seat.

This past year some local businesses closed their doors while others got a facelift. Sue's Gifts, owned and operated by Sue Moore, closed after many years of serving the Floydada community. In February, the Bunkhouse Motel in Floydada was opened after undergoing an extensive renovation. Reliable Home Medical on Main Street in Lockney opened in May.

In November, Floydada's EDC hired a new executive director to help bring some life to the city. Justin Jaworski and his wife should join the ranks of Floydada's citizens sometime the first of this year.

As with any year, there have been ups and downs, successes and failures, happy moments and sad. But through it all, the citizens of Floyd County have remained strong and continued to build upon the things they do best: loving one another and being the type of community of which anyone would be proud to be a part.

Palo Duro Basin Oil and Gas Report

by Tom Musser

There was less oil and gas activity in the Palo Duro Basin during the year of 2008.

In the Spring and Summer some of the first leases signed during this current Palo Duro Basin activity (2000-2008) reached the end of the primary term of the oil and gas lease and expired.

The Briscoe County Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc. R.I. Montgomery Lease (196514) Well #1, an old re-entered wellbore, was plugged and abandoned.

The Gunn Oil Company Turner Lease Well #1 of Briscoe County, the Gunn Oil Company Winston Lease Well #1 of Briscoe County, and the Sharp Image Energy Inc. Vinson Farms Lease Well #1 of Motley County were dry holes that were drilled, then plugged and abandoned.

The drilling permits expired for the Briscoe County DBP Exploration Inc. Re-entry Rodgers D Lease Well #1, and the Floyd County Texcel Exploration, Inc. Sherman Lease Well #1. These wellbores were not drilled.

Work-over operations were conducted on four wells, after which these wells were shut-in awaiting further action. Floyd County PetroGlobe Energy USA Ltd Cox Lease Well #1013 had the Wolfcamp formation tested and evaluated, then was listed as temporarily abandoned by the operator. Floyd County PetroGlobe Energy USA Ltd/Tyner Texas Operating Company McIntosh Lease Well #176 was worked on in early 2008, then worked on in September thru November. No information has been released by the operator on this work. Motley County BNK Petroleum, Inc. M. Bursleson Ranch "60" Lease (216247) Well #1 was tested and pumped during late 2007 and early 2008, then shut-in. Motley County BNK Petroleum, Inc. Cogdell "64" Lease Well #1 Horizontal was completed in late 2007, tested in early 2008, then shut-in by the operator.

Work-over operations have been ongoing on the Floyd County Tyner Texas Operat-

ing Company McIntosh Lease Well #1077 since the last week of September. No information has been released by the operator. In September 2008 Tyner Texas Operating Company took over operation of the McIntosh Leases from PetroGlobe energy U.S.A. Ltd.

Three Palo Duro Basin oil wells continued to produce oil during the year of 2008. These producing oil wells are the Briscoe County OGL Holdings, LLC G. Mayfield Lease (04997) Well #1, Silverton (Canyon) Field; the Floyd County Apollo Energy Company W.D. Miller Lease Well #1, Wildcat Field; and the Motley County Tyner Texas Operating Company R.G. Stephens Lease (68972) Well #1, Birnie (Congl.) Field.

Fourteen wellbores remained shut-in throughout the year of 2008. These wellbores include:

Briscoe County: BNK Petroleum, Inc. M.J. Hamilton Lease (197044) Well #1; **Floyd County:** Apollo Energy Operating Ceretha Watson Lease (223132) Well #1; **Floyd County:** BASA Resources, Inc. Maurice Campbell Lease (234802) Well #1; **Floyd County:** BASA Resources, Inc. Foster Lease (69173) Well 31; **Floyd County:** BNK Petroleum, Inc. Jones Lease (69177) Well #1; **Floyd County:** BNK Petroleum, Inc. Misener Lease (69148) Well #1; **Floyd County:** BNK Petroleum, Inc. Stansell Lease Well #1; **Floyd County:** OGL Holdings LLC Fowler Lease (68818) Well #1; **Floyd County:** Tyner Texas Operating Co. Kenneth Broseh Lease (68969) Well #1; **Hale County:** PetroGlobe Energy USA Ramsower Lease Well #1113; **Motley County:** BNK Petroleum, Inc. Echols (2) Lease (216243) Well #1; **Motley County:** BNK Petroleum, Inc. Black 4 Lease Well #1; **Swisher County:** PetroGlobe Energy USA Young Lease Well #1032.

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COTTON MARKET WEEKLY

Trading was thin and choppy with most brokers on the sidelines in advance of the Christmas holiday, but cotton futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) managed to close marginally higher toward the end of the week. Most in the industry do not expect market interest to pick up until after the new year.

"The lack of news expected through the remainder of the week and next week likely will reduce cotton futures action to a slow crawl," a market observer said.

Reports this week that China will increase government stocks and, at the same time, is trying to boost economic activity by lowering interest rates were somewhat friendly for a cotton market in need of increased demand. The rate cut in China was the fifth in recent months.

World demand for textiles and clothing, China's largest source of exports, has plunged as the global economy slid into a recession. After slumping prices threatened to reduce farming incomes and hurt planting intentions for the upcoming year, the world's largest cotton producer now plans to boost government procurement of cotton to more

than half of the country's 2008 crop.

The outlook for the 2009-10 season shows cotton acreage in China could drop by 15 to 20 percent as farmers there complain of rising costs and are very disappointed with the prices they receive for their seed cotton. Food crops seem to be a distinct alternative. Traders hope the additional cotton purchases by the Chinese government could help stabilize global prices, especially after futures on the ICE fell to a six-year low last month.

In other news, the amount of cotton utilized in the United States continues to plunge. According to U.S. Census Bureau data compiled by the National Cotton Council, U.S. textile mills used cotton at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 4.02 million bales in November, compared with a downwardly revised 4.28 million in October.

"As really pathetically poor as this rate is, it is actually a tad better than the 3.84 million bales private surveys had indicated were possible," an analyst said.

Seasonally adjusted daily cotton consumption for the four weeks from Nov. 2-29 totaled 14,828 bales, down from 15,986

in October, the U.S. Census Bureau reported. Consumption also was down from the rate of 17,719 bales in November 2007.

Meanwhile, a major newspaper ran a story this week saying U.S. retailers are facing what may be the worst Christmas sales season in four decades. The International Council of Shopping Centers projects that November-December sales may fall as much as two percent, which compares with a previous projection by the group of a one percent drop. Market watchers say same-store sales currently are on track to experience the largest drop since at least 1969. Heavy snowfall in some areas of the United States this week is expected to exacerbate the situation.

Closer to home, spot cotton sales in the holiday shortened week ended Dec. 24 were slightly lower as producers in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas sold 6,076 bales online compared to 7,123 bales the previous week. Average prices received by producers ranged from 39.08 to 42.90 cents per pound versus 35.82 to 42.58 cents per pound one week earlier.

Nine South Plains Ag Conferences set for 2009

By Steve Byrns,
325-653-4576,
s-byrns@tamu.edu
Contact Galen Chandler,
806-677-5600, gchandler@ag.tamu.edu

South Plains producers can learn the latest in crop production and management techniques while earning Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units at any of nine Texas AgriLife Extension Service conferences spread across the South Plains in early 2009.

Conference dates and locations are:

Jan. 19: West Plains Cotton Conference at South Plains College's Sundown Room in Levelland. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. with three continuing education units offered to participants. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Hockley County at 806-894-3159 for more details.

Jan. 20: Southern Mesa Ag Conference at Movieland, 604 North Austin Ave., Lamesa. Six and a half continuing education units will be given (two and a half general, two integrated pest management, two laws and regulations). Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and the program will start at 8 a.m.

Cost is \$25 by Jan. 14 and \$30 thereafter. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Dawson County at 806-872-3444 to pre-register and for more details.

Jan. 21: Caprock Crop Production Conference at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center located six miles west of Floydada on U.S. Hwy. 70. Registration

starts at 7 a.m., program starts at 8 a.m. and concludes around 4:30 p.m.

Seven continuing education units will be offered (four and a half general, one integrated pest management, one laws and regulations, one half in drift minimization) and certified crop advisor units are pending. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Floyd County at 806-983-4912 or Crosby County at 806-675-2347 for more details.

Jan. 21: Llano Estacado Cotton Conference at the Bailey County Coliseum, 2206 W. American Blvd., Muleshoe. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Bailey County at 806-272-4584 for more details.

Jan. 26: Sandyland Ag Conference at the Gaines County Civic Building in Seminole. Five continuing education units are pending (three general, one integrated pest management, one in laws and regulations). Call the AgriLife Extension office in Gaines County at 432-758-4006 for more details.

Jan. 27-28: AgriLife Extension-sponsored educational seminars will be held in conjunction with the South West Farm Ranch Classic Indoor Farm Show at Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

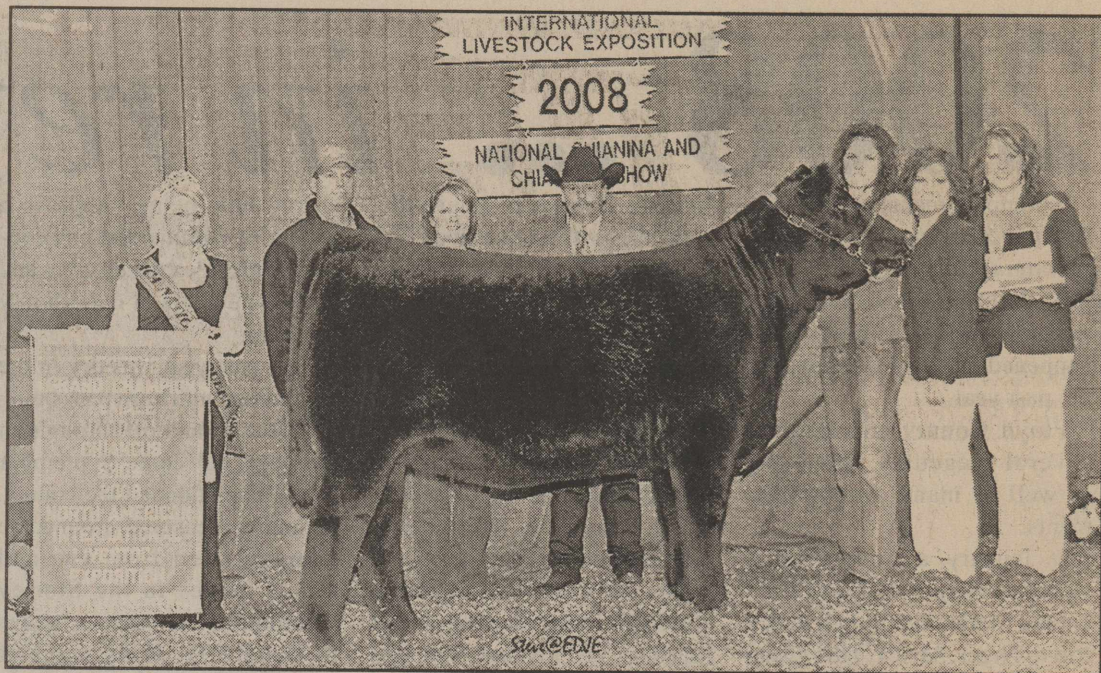
For more information, contact the AgriLife Extension office in Lubbock County at 806-775-1680, or <http://swclass.com>.

Feb. 10: Hale and Swisher County Crops Conference at the Ollie Linder Center in Plainview. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Hale County at 806-291-5267 or Swisher County at 806-995-3726 for more details.

Feb. 11: South Plains Ag Conference and place TBA. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Terry County at 806-637-4060 for more details.

April 1: Lower Rolling Plains Ag Conference at the Scurry County Coliseum. Call the AgriLife Extension office in Scurry County at 325-573-5423 for more details.

Got a news tip?
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SyAnn Foster of Lockney exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion Chiangus Female, FBF True Luck 522T ICA, at the 2008 ACA National Show Nov. 19 in Louisville, Ky. The Sept. 4, 2007 daughter of TC Freedom 104 was also the Chiangus Senior Heifer Calf Champion. The ACA National Show was held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky. Chan Phillips, Maysville, Ky., evaluated 189 head of Chi-influenced cattle in the two-division show. Pictured are ACA National Queen Mallorie Blankenship, Jody & Shawnda Foster, judge Chan Phillips, SyAnn Foster and Senee and Segayle Foster.

TEEA Opportunities Available

By Melissa Long

The mission of the Texas Extension Education Association is to strengthen and enrich families through educational programs, leadership development and community service. TEEA was organized in August of 1926. The core values of TEEA embody the guiding principles of Texas AgriLife Extension, and a commitment to its membership. TEEA and its members value:

Strong families as basic to the well being of Texas.

Educational programs that address critical needs impacting Texas families and communities.

Education, as a life-long learning process.

Volunteers and opportunities for volunteer development.

Leadership development which offers opportunities for personal growth and development.

Cultural and ethnic diversity in

programs and membership.

Global awareness.

Cooperative efforts with the Texas AgriLife Extension to maintain mutual goals.

Through the years, TEEA clubs have provided leadership on county, district and state levels.

Who Can Belong to TEEA?

Women from all stations of life and from all parts of the county belong: students, marrieds, singles, grandmas, widows, aunts, executives, homemakers, mother-in-laws and daughter-in-laws, friends, sisters and mothers.

The membership in Texas numbers approximately 10,000 which is a part of the largest volunteer educational organization in the world.

If you are interested in learning about Texas Extension Education Association contact Melissa Long, County Extension Agent

for Family and Consumer Sciences at the Floyd County Extension Office, 983-4912.

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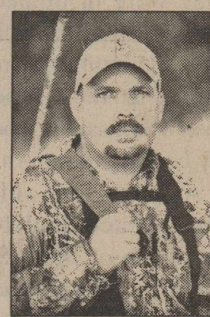
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Russell Graves Outdoors



ARE THESE THE GOOD OL' DAYS? - Part 1
How 60 years of game management has enhanced wildlife populations
By Russell A. Graves

Creeping along Childress County back roads is how I spend many Saturday mornings. For 15 years, I've been traveling the same sandy roads looking for movement in the mixed brushlands of northwest Texas, making note of what I see.

Are there changes?

Yeah, I've noticed changes.

From my own observations, I've seen wildlife numbers, in general, increase. For example, when I moved to Childress from Fannin County in 1993, white-tailed deer were fairly uncommon here except along the Red River. Now, whitetails are everywhere, and the Texas Rolling Plains is arguably one of the hottest places in which to hunt deer in the state. Mule deer numbers have grown as well; it is not unusual for me to see 20 or more deer scattered across a wheat field during my early morning forays. Rio Grande turkeys continue to expand their range and appear in parts of the county where I've never seen them before, and bobwhite quail are still holding strong.

From a hunting standpoint, it seems that we are living in the good ol' days. Never before in the modern history of our state has there existed such an abundance of hunting opportunities. Even in the face of population booms and unprecedented urban growth, Texas game animals seem to be as plentiful as mesquite trees.

Six decades of progress

My thesis is simple: In terms of abundance of game, now is the best time for hunting in the last 100 years. Moreover, the future is bright. I defend my thesis with the help of a book: *Principal Game Birds and Mammals of Texas: Their Distribution and Management*, published in 1945 by TPWD's predecessor agency — the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. The book was the first accurate accounting of Texas game animal population and ranges after the U.S. Bureau of Biological Survey released their findings about Texas wildlife in 1905.

The book has an original price of \$2 listed inside, but the information contained throughout the book offers a priceless glimpse of where we've been and how we came to have outstanding hunting opportunities today.

"Here, for the first time, is presented in full an accurate account of the former and present range of the principal game species of this state, and of more vital interest, the factors controlling their abundance," read the opening lines of the foreword. "It is here for all to read, and as the foundation on which Texas may build a sounder game program. Perhaps it shall aid in leading us out of our present desperate plight of flagrant land abuse, which if continued and accelerated will lead game — and man to their oblivion."

Today, the words sound a bit dire. Considering the times in which the book was published, though, the warning was well founded. Fifty years prior, game animals weren't nearly as abundant and, in fact, many animals like wild turkeys and pronghorns were nearly extirpated from their historic ranges and their population numbers nationwide were dangerously low. In fact, around the turn of the 20th century, white-tailed deer numbers nationwide were only about a half-million.

As the United States trudged through World War I and the Great Depression, interest in wildlife conservation grew steadily. Aldo Leopold had established the nation's first wildlife management program (at the University of Wisconsin) and penned the first book published on wildlife management by 1933. Eight years prior to the publication of *Principal Game Birds and Mammals of Texas: Their Distribution and Management*, the federal government passed landmark legislation in the form of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act. Commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, the law places an 11 percent excise tax on guns, archery equipment and ammunition, which is apportioned to each state based on land area and hunting licenses. This pay-as-you-go, hunter-funded system has proven its value as a positive revenue source in the 70 years since its passage.

Make no mistake, though. Modern success in Texas game management hasn't been the result of a singular entity. Since the publication of the book, private landowners, hunters, conservation groups and TPWD have all worked in concert to provide the incredible game opportunities we enjoy today.

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

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HOUSES FOR SALE

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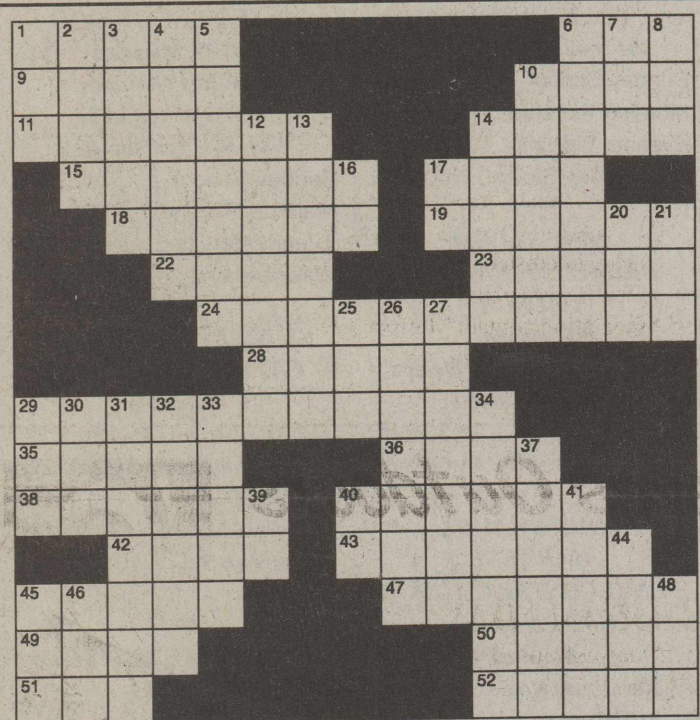
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Athenian philosopher
6. Basics
9. _____d: praise greatly
10. Redirect
11. Angelic
14. Island in the Firth of Clyde
15. Public executioners
17. Cain and _____
18. Mexican shawl
19. Large artillery
22. Gambling town
23. Source of chocolate
24. Trash container
28. Playful harassment

29. About an EMT
35. Seaport in Finland
36. 6th Jewish month
38. In an arched manner
40. The highest points
42. Dressed
43. Overhung
45. Soft and sticky
47. Of an empty sink
49. Float on the water
50. Reap (Spanish)
51. Grey sea eagle
52. Enlighten

CLUES DOWN

1. Public TV
2. Wife of Jacob
3. Assumed name
4. Processes leather
5. Matured beyond
6. Access to pressured air space
7. Women's undergarment
8. Co-tangent (abbr.)
10. Spectacle locations
12. Give forth
13. Removed from power
14. Manila hemp
16. Point midway between N and E
17. Atomic #89
20. No (Scottish)
21. Drunkard

25. A citizen of Thailand
26. Fled from confinement
27. More bead-like
29. Vinyl paint polymer
30. Jack P____: talk show host
31. Nocturnal masked mammal
32. GWTW's Mr. Wilkes
33. S.E. Asian peninsula
34. Mammalian enzyme
37. Counted on
39. 36 inches (abbr.)
40. Blood group
41. Grey faced shrew
44. People who cannot hear
45. Gaborone airport code
46. Relevant to us
48. Not wet

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				6	5			
8				2		7		1
		1		9			5	
		7	6	4		9		
	8			7			2	
9								
				1	2			6
2	3							
9	6	4						

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	8	5	7	3	4	9	6	1
7	4	1	6	9	5	8	3	2
6	9	3	2	1	8	5	4	7
5	7	9	3	8	2	4	1	6
4	2	1	6	7	5	3	8	9
8	3	6	1	4	7	9	2	5
3	5	2	8	6	7	1	9	4
1	6	7	4	2	3	9	5	8
9	4	8	5	1	6	2	7	3

ANSWER:

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A	F	I	D	E		N	R	E
R	V	G	S	E		O	U	B
D	N	I	V	A	D	R	A	O
D	E	N	I	V	A	D	R	A
S	E	C	I	C	E	A	S	A
R	A	D	A	R	A	V	A	V
P	A	R	A	M	E	D	E	P
T	E	A	S	E				
T	E	K	S	A	S	W		
O	V	A	C	A	O	N	E	R
S	O	N	A	C	E	P	A	S
L	A	B	E	N	E	M	G	N
N	A	R	V	A	D	E	N	I
T	A	I	R	A	U	A	V	E
A	B	A	O	L	A	T	O	P



Kay Bailey Hutchison
UNITED STATES SENATOR, TEXAS

In a highly competitive global economy, the skills of the next generation of Americans will be the prime engine for our country's economic growth. Yet compared with children in other nations, U.S. students are underperforming in the vitally important fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). In 2005, the National Academies released an eye-opening report called "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," which identified alarming trends in America's STEM education. Their conclusion was clear: if we want to remain the undisputed leader of the global economy, we need to improve our STEM abilities, and we need to do it urgently.

In response to "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," I charged The Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Science of Texas (TAMEST) with forming a panel to study ways to improve STEM education in Texas. TAMEST is the perfect organization to help lead this mission. In 2004, I co-founded TAMEST with Nobel laureates Dr. Michael Brown and the late Dr. Richard Smalley to bring together the

state's top scientific minds to further position Texas as a national research leader. On Dec. 9, the TAMEST Education Steering Committee released its much-anticipated report, "The Next Frontier: World-Class Science and Math Education in Texas," which includes recommendations that should be read by Texas parents, teachers, principals, and especially policy makers. A link to the report may be found at www.tamest.org/education.

In the words of Education Steering Committee Co-chair Dr. William Brinkley, who is also the Senior Vice President for Graduate Sciences and the Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Science at

Baylor College of Medicine - Houston, "the United States is being left behind... In China today, over 40 percent of college undergraduates earn engineering and science degrees, while in the U.S., only 5 percent of students do, and Texas is in the bottom half among the states - our students consistently score lower than the national average on math and science proficiency tests. This is simply unacceptable."

Even now, American companies have to recruit heavily from overseas to fill job positions in highly technical fields such as computer engineering and medical science. And whenever possible, U.S. companies simply move overseas to find the necessary workers. This "outsourcing" is one of the key reasons China has displaced the U.S. as the world's largest exporter of IT products (while the U.S. has become a net importer of those products).

According to "The Next Frontier," two of the best ways to improve STEM education are to expand Advanced Placement (A.P.) programs and strengthen the quality of teachers in STEM fields.

I supported authorization of the first federal grants for A.P. programs, and since 1998, their funding has grown from \$3 million to \$43.5 million per year. In 2007, I cosponsored and helped pass the America Competes Act, which increases the number of A.P. courses in underprivileged schools

and bolsters the supply of teachers for A.P. math, science, and foreign language courses.

"Great teachers are the foundation upon which we will build world-class science and math education here in Texas," observed Committee member Kurt Swogger, Executive Vice President of Investments at the Planned Innovation Institute. As other organizations have pointed out, the most consistent and powerful predictor of student achievement in STEM is the presence of teachers who are fully certified and have at least a bachelor's degree in the subjects they teach.

That's why I've been a strong advocate for Teachers for a Competitive Tomorrow, a project in

which colleges and universities encourage undergraduate students to gain degrees in their STEM fields of study with teacher certification obtained through required electives. This grant program is modeled after the UTeach program at the University of Texas at Austin.

The "Next Frontier" report cited the innovative UTeach program as a model for improving STEM education. Nationwide, only 50 percent of new teachers are still teaching after three years, while 80 percent of UTeach graduates are still teaching after five years. UTeach is now being replicated as a national standard for science and math teacher preparation by the National Math and Science Initiative.

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Obituaries

ROY HARTMAN
Roy Lynn Hartman, age 69, formerly of South Plains, passed away on December 23, 2008 in Lubbock. A memorial funeral service will be held at a later date at the Lockney Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Moore-Rose Funeral Home of Floydada.

Roy Hartman was born on November 11, 1939 in Lockney to Harry Russell and Mamie Lou Hartman. He was a farmer and a lifelong resident of Floyd County.

The family suggests memorial donations be made to the South Plains Baptist Church, % Nancy Marble.

Floyd County Church Directory

<p>AIKEN BAPTIST CHURCH Dennis Butler, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 810 S. 3rd, Floydada Darwin Robinson, Pastor 983-5278 Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:50 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>CALVARY'S CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP Floydada Armando Morales, Pastor Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Bible Study6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>CARR'S CHAPEL Service Every Sunday: Morning Worship9:00 a.m. Sunday School10:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST West College & Third, Lockney Steve McLean -Minister Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship5:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST Levi Sisemore, Minister Floydada Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Anthony D. Sisemore, Pastor Terry Simmons, Minister of Ed./Music Eric Kaiser - Min. Students Sunday School9:15 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney Carl Moman, Pastor Chad Cook, Youth Min. Phil Cotham, Music Min.. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Wednesday (Youth).....7:15 pm *****</p> <p>FIRST UNITED</p>	<p>METHODIST CHURCH Floydada Rev. Les Hall, Pastor Early Worship8:30 am. Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:50 a.m. Youth (Sunday).....5:00p.m. Youth (Wednesday).....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Lockney Rev. Ricky Castensen Pastor Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship Service10:30 a.m. Evening Service..... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Jr. High5:30 p.m. Wed. High School... 6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>GRANT CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Joe Bennett, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....7:30 p.m. Tuesday8:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST Lockney Jay Don Poindexter, Minister Bible Study9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Floydada Rev. Ralph Jackson 401 N 12th St (983-5805) Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday Study ...7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH Floydada Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges (806) 637-0430 Sunday Singing10:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>OUT REACH HARVEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 310 E. Mississippi Floydada Rev. David Ramos, Pastor Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible ...10:00 a.m. Morning Praise...11:00 a.m. Evening Praise5:00 p.m. Wed. Worship.... 7:00 p.m. *****</p>	<p>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. Wednesday7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Lockney Jesus Caballero, Pastor Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service11:00 a.m. Discipleship5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Floydada Pastor Reverend Raymond Asebedo Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:55 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening6:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>SAN JOSE CATHOLIC CHURCH Lockney Jim McCartney, Pastor Wed. Communion.....8:00 p.m. Sunday Mass 11:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>SOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH Joe Weldon, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship11:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO GETSEMANI ASSEMBLY OF GOD 701 W. Missouri Rev. Ray Gonzales 983-5286 (church) 983-3047 (parsonage) Sunday School9: 45 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....5:00 p.m. Wednesday7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH Floydada Father Jose Relente Phone: 983-5878 Sunday Mass11:30 a.m. Mon.Wed. Mass6:30 p.m. Confession Sat.....10:00-11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO BAUTISTA SALEM Lockney Rev. Joe Hernandez Sun. Prayer Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School9:45 p.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Meeting7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO BETHEL SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD Washington and 1st St. Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Worship ... 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA Rev. Herman Martinez 308 W. Tennessee, Floydada Sunday School10:00 a.m. Evening Worship5:00 p.m. Tuesday7:30 p.m. Thursday Service.....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>TRINITY ASSEMBLY 500 W. Houston Floydada Henry Russell, Co-Pastor Vance Mitchell, Co-Pastor 983-5499 or 983-2887 Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:40 a.m. Sunday Evening6:00 p.m. Wednesday7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Providence Community on FM 2301 293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington Minister Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST Floydada 983-3548 Sunday Worship ...10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening5:00 p.m. *****</p>
<p>American State Bank Member FDIC 217 W. California 983-3725</p> <p>Barwise Gin Barwise Community 983-2737</p> <p>City Auto Buick, Pontiac, GMC 201 E. Missouri Floydada 983-3767</p> <p>Clark Pharmacy 320 N. Main - Lockney 652-3353</p> <p>Davis Lumber 102 E. Shubert Lockney 6523385</p> <p>Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon Floydada - Lockney 983-3737 - 652-3318</p> <p>Lighthouse Electric Coop 703 A Matador Hwy 983-2814</p>	<p>Goen & Goen Insurance 102 E. California 983-3524</p> <p>Lockney Co-op Gin 652-3377</p> <p>Oden Chevrolet Inc. 221 S. Main, Floydada 983-3787</p> <p>Payne Family Pharmacy 200 S. Main, Floydada 983-5111</p> <p>Pay-n-Save 210 N. Main Lockney 652-2293</p> <p>Schacht Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts 112 W. Poplar, Lockney 652-2385</p> <p>Sunshine Pump Oliver Clark Box 266, Lockney 983-5087 - 774-4412 (Mobile)</p>	<p>Sawaya Ins. Agency 120 E. 7th Street Plainview 293-1318</p>