

OPINIONS



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter to the editor is in response to the letter put in the teachers' boxes at school. (Editor's Note: The same letter was brought by the One Act Play Directors to the newspaper and can be found on the front page of this publication.)

We have no doubt that Tennessee Williams had a message to give when he wrote "Summer and Smoke." It is understandable that the play had to be whittled down for the sake of UIL rules about how long the play could be. The entire message, however, could not have been portrayed in the One Act Play due to the editing of the script. We are concerned about "the message" that was sent to the student body at Floydada High School. The "reality of the real world" is definitely right in front of our noses. Parents, students and teachers alike have made it clear to us what they got out of it with comments such as "that play was just all about sex," "porn flick," "spirituality?...yeah, right!"

The play is about a young girl's infatuation with a restless young doctor. This doctor is in pursuit of physical pleasure or "self-satisfaction," by way of pursuing relationships with at least two women simultaneously, use of sleeping pills - obviously to relax a young woman so she can be seduced, "orgies," use of alcohol, gambling, all the while trying to keep this a secret from his father.

This kind of stuff destroys people's lives. Fact is, the more we tolerate it, the more lives are destroyed and families torn apart. As a minister's daughter, she probably was sheltered from the ugliness of the world. Parents through the ages have filtered out things that are not appropriate for their children to see; which is our respon-

sibility. That is how we teach, and given time, our children will make their own choices.

The only spiritual reference in the play that is dominant enough to possibly overshadow the sexual references is where the minister is praying for the eldest doctor and the young doctor says, "What is that mumbo jumbo your father is spouting in there? Tell him to quit. We don't want that worn-out magic." According to UIL rules for drama, Section 1033: One-Act Play Contest, (c) Contest Play Selection and Eligibility, (H) Standards - "Directors shall eliminate profane references to a deity..." People do see this as a disrespectful reference to the Lord.

Other references to the soul are mixed in with conversations about cock-fights, gambling, drinking, Gothic cathedrals, looking at the stars, human anatomy, etc. She (the minister's daughter) tries to convince him that some people love with their heart and soul, while he tries to convince her that the lower part of the human torso is "the sex which is hungry for love because it is sometimes lonesome." In the end, the doctor seems to "come around to her way of thinking," but not before "the girl who said 'no' doesn't exist any more."

We didn't ask for an apology, we asked for change. But since you brought it up: According to UIL rules for drama Section 1033: One-Act Play Contest, (c) Contest Play Selection and Eligibility, (H) Standards - "The administration of the producing school shall assure that the director complies with these requirements and that the play does not offend the moral standards of the community."

We do not agree with you that the play was displayed in a tasteful

manner with concern about how we, the community, would view it. You have offended many people in the community despite the fact that it was your responsibility to make sure it would not. We feel you produced this play with total disregard as to how this community would view it and what its moral standards are.

Back to our original comment about the play not being performed for the public; we believe that if you had been proud of the production, you would have found the time to invite the public to watch it. Flyers have been used in the past, stuck on windows of businesses, word of mouth, parents invited, etc. Maybe even during school hours, while being shown to the students perhaps?

http://www.uil.utexas.edu/academics/drama/pdf/08_09sec1031_34.pdf

Section 1033: One-Act Play Contest

(c) Contest Play Selection and Eligibility

(H) Standards. Directors shall eliminate profane references to a deity and obscene language, actions or scenes from the approved production. Directors shall revise or reject all material within approved plays which in any way fails to meet these requirements. The administration of the producing school shall assure that the director complies with these requirements and that the play does not offend the moral standards of the community. When a script and the staged production are examined and approved by the administration of the producing school, the production is eligible for presentation at any contest site.

~Jerry and Abby Battey
Floydada, Texas

I need to address a few issues concerning elections and advertising. If a written piece, regardless of its basis on fact, has opinion or conjecture regarding a measure or issue concerning a taxing entity, it is a political ad.

Being that there are at least two sides to most issues - this newspaper makes space available for all sides of an issue or election. It is up to the individual or group to either express their side or not. It is against this newspaper's policy to run political ads for free nor can we discount them.

Newspapers can endorse one side of an issue or even an individual candidate. Some newspapers do so frequently, some do not.

In all of my years in journalism, my publications have only endorsed two candidates and that was for statewide office.

Elections are emotional. When you do something for one side, you had best be ready to do the same thing for the other or you're not playing by the rules.

Candidates, those on one side of a contentious issue, etc... you have a choice whether to advertise or not. But rest assured, opposition to your stance has the same right as you.

Producing newspapers is expensive. The cost of newsprint, ink, mail, etc... have climbed steadily over the past two decades.

It is nearly impossible for Mom and Pop to make a decent living at a newspaper in smaller towns which is why you see so many closing.

When you have a situation where you can offer small businesses a terrific rate to advertise their merchandise or services in several area newspapers, you'd be a fool not to. It's a winner for the businesses.

I have marketing consultants which are contacting area businesses so that we can do our best to fulfill your needs and get you traffic. If you have not been contacted, you soon will be. And if you wish to get before 15,000-30,000 readers at a greatly reduced rate, give us a call.

Meantime, please consider that your newspaper is an evolution in progress. I am not happy with it and I won't be until it is exactly how I want it.

Just know that we are working very hard and we'll continue to strive to improve your newspaper.

Pakistan has between 60 and 100 nuclear weapons.

Why should you care? The Taliban may be getting close to taking over that country and with it, it's nuclear arsenal.

Can you imagine the Taliban - and Al Qaeda having nuclear weapons at their fingertips?

According to news sources, U.S. officials are worried militants could take possession of the arms during transport or by infiltrating atomic laboratories or fuel-production plants.

The Taliban has recently occupied Buner, a key region 60 miles from the capital, Islamabad. That news increased global fears as to the whereabouts of all of Pakistan's nuclear sites is unknown.

Something must be done now, even if that means U.S. intervention. I would think the entire world would be interested in getting this situation rectified before it's too late.

Obviously, the Pakistan government is in jeopardy and judging by how porous their border is, their military are either very weak or simply have not been ordered to do much about it.

You have to think Israel, India, Russia ... just about everyone in the region is watching the situation real carefully.

For the record, Pakistan dropped the ball when they insisted on using negotiations when tackling violent extremism within its borders.

Taliban and Al Qaeda fighters already have strongholds along Pakistan's border regions from which to plan attacks on U.S. and NATO forces in neighboring Afghanistan.

Of all of the potential threats to U.S. and world security, this one should now be at the top of the list.

The world cannot afford to let these terrorists get their hands on even one of these weapons. Because if they do, they'll use it on us or Israel and World War III will most assuredly be underway.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.

AUCTION

Personal property of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Turner
901 West California Street, Floydada, Texas
Saturday, May 9, 2009 at 10:00 A. M.
Preview Friday, May 8 from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M.
10 Buyer's Premium

APPLIANCES

Admiral side-by-side refrigerator with ice and water in the door
Crosley 15 cu ft freezer
Maytag electric range
Microwave
Lot small kitchen appliances
Roomba I-Robot vacuum cleaner
Television
Stereo with 5 CD changer

FURNITURE/ACCESSORIES

Queen 5 piece bedroom suite
Dining room suite with 6 chairs and sideboard
Curio cabinet
(3) sleeper sofas
Swivel rockers
Recliners - one lift chair
Deacon's bench
Octagon glass-topped occasional table
Sofa table
Lamp tables
Roll away bed
Floor lamps
Table lamps - Tiffany-style, Gone with the Wind-style
Mirrors
Office chair
Baker's rack
Large lot wrought iron patio furniture
Henry Willis custom-made Grandfather clock
Card tables and chairs
Hall mirror with bench
Rocker with needlepoint seat
Glider
Ottoman

KITCHENWARE

Noritake dinnerware
Cookware
Pressure cookers
Canning pressure cooker
Cut glass
Crystal
Cookbooks

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Snuff jars
Enamel ware
Glassware - milk glass, Depression glass, pressed glass
Large lot Fenton glassware
Antique Gilbert 1807 8-day mantle clock
Anniversary clock
Plates
Art Deco floor lamp
Kerosene lamps
Sad iron
Quilts
Afghans
Old saddles

PAINTINGS/ARTWORK

Winnie Carthel oil paintings
Ted Bell watercolor paintings
Jo Goen oil painting
Ila White oil painting
Leaded glass window hangings
Other original artwork
Statuary

GUNS/AMMUNITION

Remington 12-gauge Model 870
Wingmaster

Remington bolt-action 5 mm magnum with Tasco 3-7x20 scope
Savage Model 24 over/under .22/410
Ruger .22 single 6 pistol
5 mm shells
.22 shells
12-gauge, 20-gauge and 410-gauge shells
Gun cleaning kit

SHOP TOOLS/EQUIPMENT

Maxus portable air compressor with 5.5 hp Honda engine
Generac 7.8 hp 4000-watt gas-powered generator
Old Lincoln 225 welder
Aluminum step and extension ladders
Booster cables
Work lights
Wet/dry Vac
Hand tools
Power tools
Pipe wrenches
Saws
Skil saw
Large lot motor oil
Tractor hydraulic oil
Lot grease cartridges
Tap and die set
Hand-held tachometer

LAWN AND GARDEN

Concrete bench
Concrete and other planters
Wooden bench
Yard swing
Lawn-Boy self-propelled lawnmower

Fertilizer spreader
Yard tools
Poulan gas-powered weed trimmer
Brinkman Pro-Series 2200 propane grill with cover, never used
15-gallon spray tank
Wishing well
Bird bath
Lot garden hoses
Wheelbarrow
Hedge trimmer
Charm-Glo natural gas grill

MISCELLANEOUS

Linens - sheets, towels, kitchen linens, afghans, quilts, tablecloths, placemats, napkins
8 x 11 wool area rug
3-drawer metal filing cabinet
4-drawer metal filing cabinet
Fax machine
Telephones
Games
Silk flowers
Bird cage
Electric fans
Kerosene heater lamps
Pole lamp
Plant stands
Smith-Corona typewriter
Lot sewing machines
Large lot Christmas decorations, including Christmas village
Other holiday decorations

Many Other Items Too
Numerous To Mention!!!!

Terms and Conditions: All purchases must be paid and items removed on day of sale. While descriptions are believed correct, the Auctioneer and Owners make no warranties or guarantees as to the authenticity, genuineness, or defect of any item or lot and will not be held responsible for advertising inaccuracies or discrepancies. All sales are final when awarded to successful bidder. Buyer accepts full responsibility for all purchases made and hold the Auction Company and Owners free of any liability in the event of theft or disappearance of any items or lot purchased. No item will be removed from sale site until full settlement is made. All items sold "as is, where is", with Buyer assuming full responsibility from the time Auctioneer announces the item sold! TERMS: Cash, company check or person with proper ID. Any announcements made sale day supersede all other announcements or advertising. We are commission agents only. Not responsible in case of accident.

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MRS. TREVOR HARRIS
Nee Katy Gooch

Gooch and Harris Wed

Katy Gooch and Trevor Harris were joined in marriage 2 p.m. April 25, 2009 at the Plains Baptist Assembly. Rev. Wendall Horn officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Dennis and Tonya Gooch of Floydada. She is the granddaughter of Tommy Ogden of Floydada, Alice Ogden of Lubbock, Roger Gooch of Possum Kingdom and JoAnn Gooch of Floydada.

The groom is the son of Kathy Lowrie of Crosbyton and David Harris of McAdoo. He is the grandson of K. Don and Melba Spurgin of Lubbock and Dwayne and Lovie Nance of McAdoo.

The bride was escorted down the aisle on the arm of her father. Serving as maid of honor was Breann Gooch of Floydada, sister of the bride. Bridesmaid was Jessie Hill of Lubbock, friend of the bride. Junior bridesmaid was Dakota Whalen of Floydada, cousin of the bride.

Serving as best man was Dustin Spigall of Lubbock, friend of the groom. Groomsman was Chris Bryand of Crosbyton, friend of the groom.

Cora and Caleb Lester of Lubbock, niece and nephew of the groom were flower girl and ring bearer.

A reception was held, also at Plains Baptist Assembly, following the ceremony.

The couple will make their home in Seminole where the bride is employed by First United Bank and the groom is employed by Xcel Energy.

The couple will be honored with a wedding shower in the home of Mary Sanders on May 16.



SCOTT NIXON AND LESLIE McBROOM

Nixon and McBroom

Scott Nixon and Leslie McBroom, along with their parents, are pleased to announce their engagement and upcoming marriage.

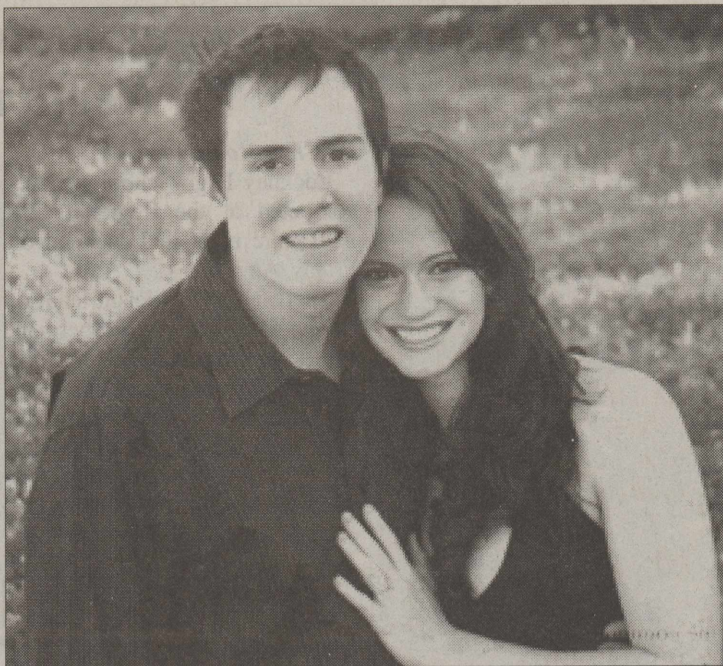
The bride-elect is the daughter of Henry and Linda McBroom of Lubbock. She is a 2000 graduate of Monterey High School and is employed at Grace Clinic in Lubbock. She is the granddaughter of Allen and Betty Roberts of Lubbock and the late Nina Jean Sheets of Graham.

The prospective groom is the son of Danny and Mitzi Nixon of Floydada. He is a 2002 graduate of Floydada High School and a 2007 graduate of South Plains College. He is currently employed with South Plains Electric Co-op in Lubbock. He is the grandson of Richard and Teresa Hale of Borger, Margaret and the late Lloyd Soudelier of Floydada and Jerry and Dorothy Nixon of Ruidosa Downs, New Mexico.

The couple plan an August 15 wedding at the Allen House Bed and Breakfast in Lubbock. They will make their home in Lubbock following the wedding.

Bridal Selections for:

Tori Barton & Tyler Helms
Katie Dorris & Joshua Bradley
Katy Gooch & Trevor Harris
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BUSCH CUMMINGS AND JENNIFER HILL

Hill and Cummings

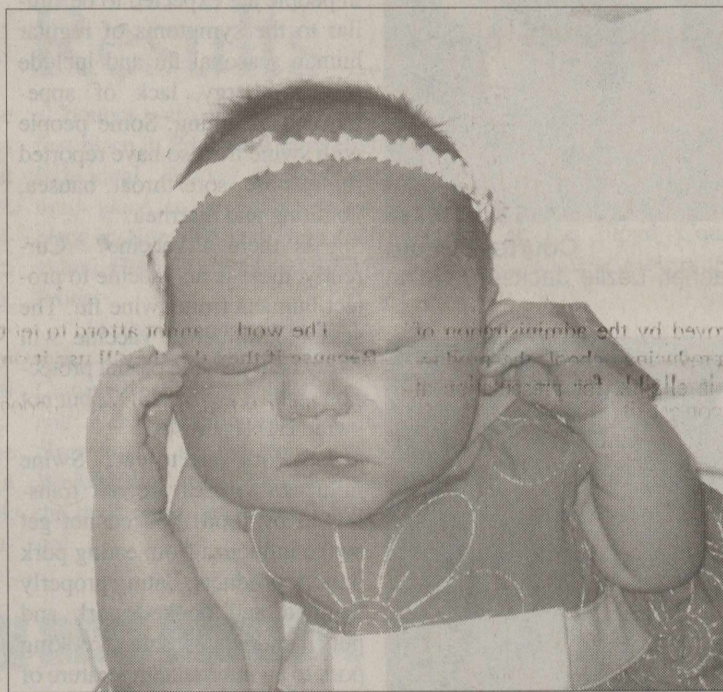
Dr. Michael Hill and Dr. Donna McHargue of Knoxville, Tennessee are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Lauren Hill to Sterling Busch Cummings. Busch is the son of John and Tammy Cummings of Waxahachie, Texas.

The bride-elect is a 2004 graduate of Farragut High School in Knoxville, Tennessee and will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in Kinesiology Sports Medicine and Psychology from Rice University in May 2009. She was a four year varsity swimmer at Rice and is the granddaughter of Jimmye Lorraine Hill of Huntsville, Alabama, Rebecca Henderson of Opelika, Alabama and Don and Audris McHargue of Autaugaville, Alabama.

The prospective groom is a 2003 graduate of Maypearl High School in Maypearl, Texas and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematical Economic Analysis and Financial Computations and Modeling from Rice University in 2007. He is an independent natural gas trader and analyst and is the grandson of Sterling and Gleyenn Earle Cummings of Lockney and Eva Jo Busch of Athens.

The couple will exchange vows June 20, 2009 in Asheville, North Carolina and make their home in Houston.

Birth Announcement



ANDERSON

Maci Anderson is excited to announce the arrival of her little sister, Taytum Ann Anderson.

Taytum was born April 24, 2009 at Providence Hospital in Waco, Texas. She weighed seven pounds, two ounces and was 20" long. Proud parents are Todd and Ashley Anderson of Whitney.

Grandparents are Steve and Donna Anderson of Floydada and Mike and Kim Sharow of Whitney.

Great-grandparents are Louis and Ferne Anderson of Floydada, and Eilene and Charles Overton of Whitney.

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What do pigs call swine flu? People flu?

Snort if you will, but shouldn't we humans think twice before we besmirch the names of other species with diseases? Does any animal deserve that much bad press? Bird flu is another example.

Furthermore, it's not just pigs and fowl that get slandered. Geography suffers too. Consider Asian flu, Hong Kong flu and German measles. I wonder if those illnesses go by other names in those places? I also wonder if an outbreak of American flu might be next. Don't worry. In this country we'll find another name for that strain.

Back to the German measles. I've had them, and they were a disappointment - nothing to compare to the plain old measles. Maybe it took the German measles for me to realize that not everything lives up to its name. For that matter, the German measles aren't even measles. But let's not get technical.

Speaking of diseases, kids miss a lot nowadays, don't they? All my generation missed was diphtheria and smallpox. I'm not complaining. If I wanted to miss a couple of contagious diseases, I'd pick those two.

On second thought, I'd rather skip polio. The vaccine for that terrible malady became available when my age group hit the first grade. It was a grand event - a trip to town in the same lumbering yellow bus that usually just took us home. We stood in line at the new city auditorium to get our shots. A classmate named Harold fainted. I remember his striped

t-shirt and how quickly he hit the hardwood floor, right next to bottles and bottles of Coca-Cola in yellow wooden cases. We each got to drink one. So did Harold when he came to.

Other diseases were like childhood rites of passage. Inevitable.

The timing was especially bad for the measles. We'd all just learned to read, and most families had just gotten their first television sets. But all of us infected with the measles risked going blind, or so we were told, if we strained our eyes. And maybe it was true. So we stayed in rooms with shades pulled and listened to the radio. The announcer took pity and mentioned us by name - even if we did live in the country instead of in town.

Mumps came later. I read the Bobbsey Twins. Chickenpox also came later. I scratched.

Chickens, of course, don't get chickenpox. Maybe it was just their turn to endorse a disease, and maybe we really shouldn't feel sorry either for chickens or swine. When chickenpox got its name, rumors no doubt flew, and some people probably quit eating chicken for a while for fear of catching the disease.

Sure it's hogwash, but the same sort of misunderstanding prevails today regarding swine flu. I've heard Russia, China and Ukraine aren't buying American pork, as if you could get the flu from a pork chop.

Maybe it's time to name some flu strains for those countries.

I'm starting to get the hang of this.

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margarete Word

Bob and Evalene Goodnight are home after spending several months in California.

On April 24, about 26 people enjoyed the day in Lubbock at the Ashmore Inn celebrating their "1949 High School Graduation Class Reunion." At dinnertime they all went to the 50-Yard Line Restaurant and enjoyed eating a good meal and visiting.

William and Faye Bertrand spent a few days recently in San Antonio and Weatherford. They took their granddaughter, Lezlie, and her friend home and then drove to Weatherford to visit Faye's sister, Lorene Newbery and other family members. They said it rained most of the time they were gone.

Norma Feuerbacher celebrated her "Over The Hill 80th Birthday" Wednesday, April 29, at Triple-T Restaurant. There were several of her girlfriends that helped her celebrate her special day.

Our sympathy to the family of Bill Gray.

Our sympathy to Donnell Gowens on the loss of his sister. Thank you for remembering the center when you need to make a memorial donation.

In memory of Bill Gray - Shorty and Louise Turner, Dub Holt, Ronald and Alyne Evans.

In memory of Virginia Cage - Ronald and Alyne Evans, J. D. Morrison.

In memory of Doris Snodgrass - Ronald and Alyne Evans.

In memory of Bob Covington - J. D. Morrison.

- Thought For The Week -
Late for church, I combed out my hair. Threw on my clothes and sped across town, but when I arrived I cried out in despair, my left shoe was black and right shoe was brown.

~ Alice King Greenwood

MENU

May 11 - May 14

Monday - Hamburgers with trimmings, fries, baked beans, brownies

Tuesday - Chicken pot pie, salad, roll, applesauce cake

Wednesday - Beef enchiladas, pinto beans, rice, banana pudding

Thursday - Chicken quesadillas, salad, pinto beans, lemon bars.

Friday - Taco salad, pinto beans, rice, cake

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the Chance...
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Remember Mom on May 10th



Wedding Selections for
♦ Karah Hrbacek & Joshua Krueger
♦ Lindi Miller & Jeremy Stapp

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Courtesy Photo

REGIONAL UIL LITERARY CRITICISM team was (back row, l-r) Coach Leshay Woodard, Alisha Damron, Coach Jessica Jordan, (front row, l-r) Anna Sherman, Emily Prayor, Krista Mangum and Kami Hunt.

Lockney students compete at Regional UIL

By Chris Rodriguez

Lockney High School students competed at the Regional UIL Academic meet in Levelland on Friday, April 24.

The Literary Criticism team of Alisha Damron, Anna Sherman, Emily Prayor, Kami Hunt and Krista Mangum earned first place honors and will advance to the State UIL meet in Austin on May 7-8.

Alisha was the top scorer in that event. The Number Sense team of

Lezlie and Quinn Jackson, Caleb Schumacher and Dylan Afill also competed and earned the first place team honors.

Dylan Afill, a freshman, had the top score, Lezlie finished third and Caleb finished eighth. This is the first time in school history that two teams have advanced to state competition.

Coach for the Number Sense team is Pam Fulton and Lesha Woodard. Jessica Jordan coaches the Literary Criticism team.

Lockney School Menu

May 11 - May 15

Monday

Breakfast-Waffle or cereal, toast, juice, milk

Lunch-steak patty or ham, potatoes, green peas, apple cobbler, roll, milk

Tuesday

Breakfast-Mini corn dogs or cereal, toast, juice, milk

Lunch-Spaghetti or PBJ sandwich, salad, fruited gelatin, bread, milk

Wednesday

Breakfast-Oatmeal or cereal, toast, juice, milk

Lunch-Popcorn chicken or tuna sandwich, green beans, potatoes, pineapple, roll, milk

Thursday

Breakfast-Scrambled eggs or cereal, toast, juice, milk

Lunch-Pizza or burrito, corn, peaches, milk

Friday

Breakfast-Cinnamon roll or cereal, toast, juice, milk

Lunch-Hamburger or grilled cheese, potatoes, salad, pears, milk

A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons



AAOS
CELEBRATING HUMAN HEALING
orthoinfo.org



Courtesy Photo

REGIONAL UIL NUMBER SENSE team was (l-r) Caleb Schumacher, Lezlie Jackson, Quinn Jackson and Dylan Afill.

Swine Flu Identified In Several Countries

Human cases of an influenza A (H1N1) - known as swine flu - have been identified in several states and in other countries. This is a new influenza A virus that has not been identified in people before, and human-to-human transmission of the virus appears to be ongoing. Some facts:

- The World Health Organization has elevated the Pandemic Influenza Alert Phase to 5 to indicate there is now sustained human-to-human transmission of the swine flu.

- The current swine flu outbreak is due to human-to-human transmission, not swine-to-human transmission. There is no current swine health crisis due to this influenza.

- The 2009 Swine Flu is a new virus that is a mix of viruses. This virus does not contain the deadly Highly Pathogenic Avian Flu virus H5N1.

- The symptoms of swine flu in people are expected to be similar to the symptoms of regular human seasonal flu and include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite and coughing. Some people with swine flu also have reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

- Is there a vaccine? Currently, there is no vaccine to protect humans from swine flu. The seasonal influenza vaccine will likely help provide partial protection against swine H3N2, but not swine H1N1 viruses.

- Is Pork safe to eat? Swine influenza viruses are not transmitted by food. You cannot get swine influenza from eating pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork and pork products is safe. Cooking pork to an internal temperature of 160°F kills the swine flu virus as it does other bacteria and viruses. The current outbreak of swine flu raises awareness of biosecurity issues for swine producers and thus the recommendations for producers from pork.org.

As of April 28, 2009, of the confirmed cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection in the United States, only two case-patients have been hospitalized and none have died. This has not been the case in Mexico, where Mexican health officials have reported several hundred suspect cases, including several

deaths associated with confirmed swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection. In Mexico, many patients have experienced rapidly progressive pneumonia, respiratory failure requiring mechanical ventilation and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). To date the U.S. experience has been vastly different from that of Mexico. Gathering information to explain these differences is a high priority in the ongoing investigation.

Can this outbreak be a Pandemic? Yes, novel influenza A virus infections in humans, including swine influenza A (H1N1) virus do represent a pandemic threat. Individuals and communities must recognize and understand the historical precedent for the emergence of a pandemic influenza virus, a virus which could have waves of disease with different morbidity and mortality. That is to say this may not be the only outbreak of this disease and levels of morbidity and mortality can and may change in subsequent waves or outbreaks. The elevation of the Pandemic Alert Phase to 5, by WHO is an indication of the potential for an pandemic.

How to protect yourself and your family? Follow these basic steps of health hygiene:

- Avoid close contact. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- Stay home when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- Clean your hands. Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

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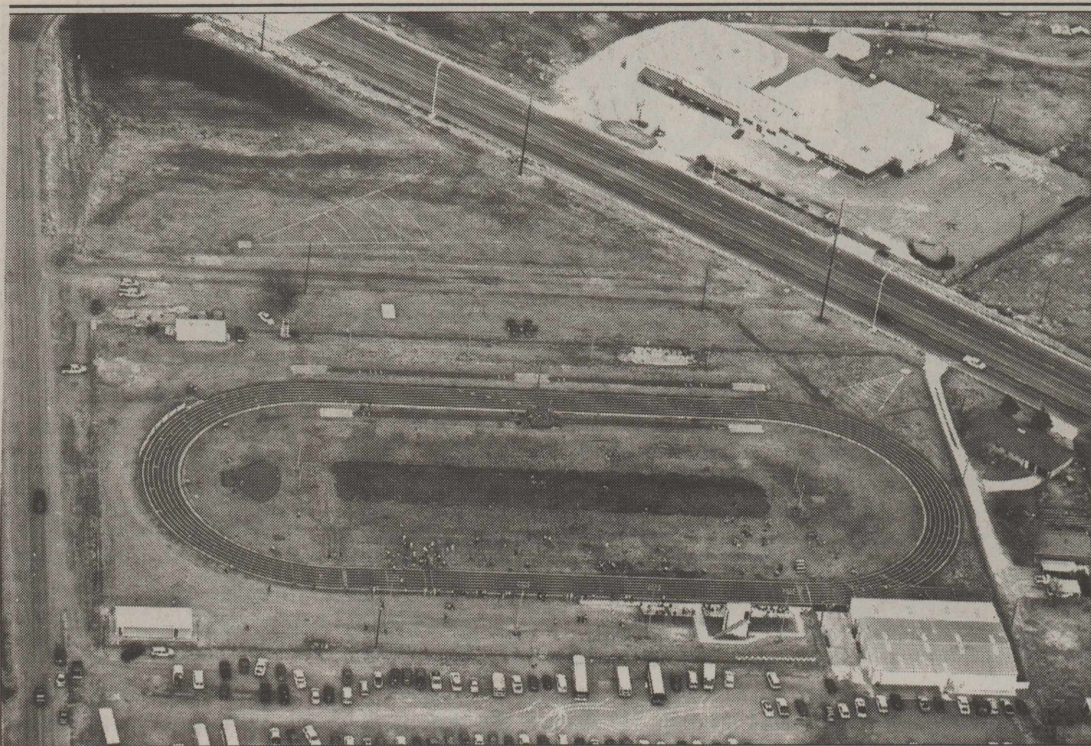
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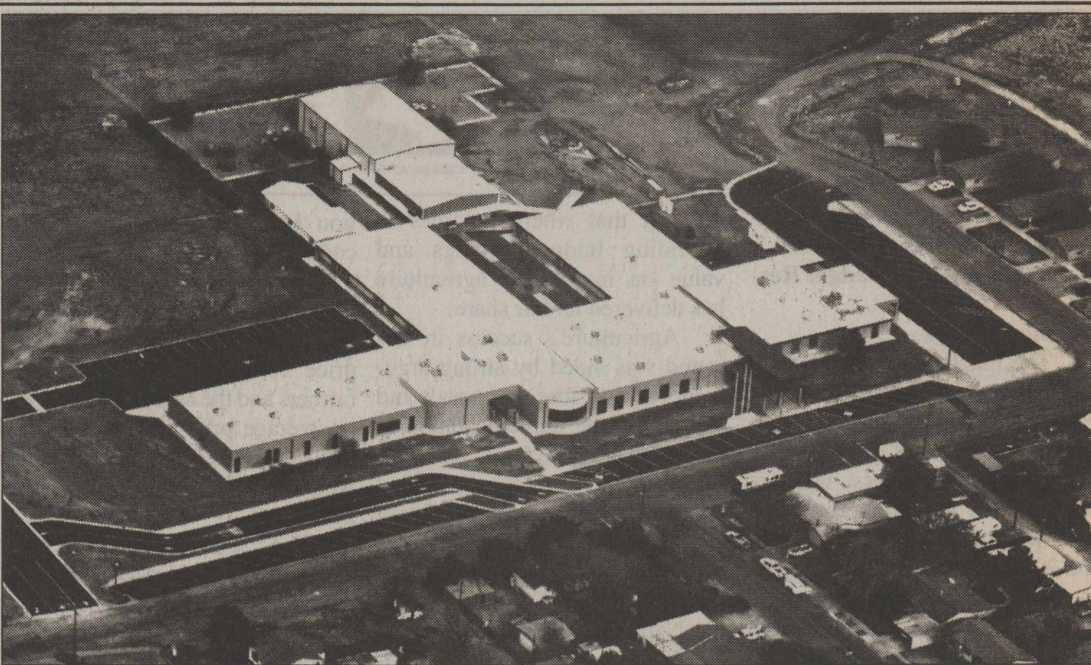
The Lockney High School All-Sports banquet will be held on May 18 at the elementary cafeteria. Athletes will be served from 6:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and all other guests will be served from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The presentation of awards will begin at 7 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$7.50. The Athletic department of LHS invites you to join us as we honor our young people who have represented our school and community so well during the 2008-2009 school year.



Courtesy Photo

PICTURED IS AN AERIAL VIEW of the new, recently completed, Floydada High School Track.



Courtesy Photo

AN AERIAL SHOT OF A.B. DUNCAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL shows the progress to the construction of the remodeled and new portions of the building. The move to the new facility will be made once school dismisses for the summer.

Whirlwinds play River Road in playoff game

The Whirlwind's winning streak came to an end as the Winds faced off against the number one and number two teams in the district to end the last two regular season games. The Winds got in a bind both games by letting the first inning get away from them. Tulia scored 5 runs and Dimmitt scored 6 runs in the first inning of play, making the deficits in both games too large for the Winds to overcome.

The Winds scored 3 runs against Tulia with only 2 hits that found Tulia gaps. Joseph Segura had the game's only RBI and both hits. Only one run was scored against Dimmitt. The only hits of the game were recorded by Colton

Covington, Joseph Segura and Jesse Ibarra, with Ibarra earning the game's only RBI.

The Winds pitched Randy Lerma against Tulia. Lerma faced 18 batters, recorded 1 strikeout and allowed 9 runs. Jose Martinez relieved Lerma and faced 8 batters and allowed 2 runs. Anthony Segura closed the game, pitching the final 3 innings, facing 12 and allowing 1 run.

At Dimmitt, Joseph Segura started at the mound. He faced 10 batters and allowed 6 runs. Jose Martinez was next in the rotation. Martinez had the game's only strikeout. He faced 14 batters and allowed 3 runs. Anthony Segura

finished the game on the mound facing 7 batters and allowing 3 runs.

The Winds will look to get back on the winning track again with a practice game against Ralls on Friday, May 1. The Whirlwinds will compete against River Road, in a one game only, winner-take-all, dual on Friday, May 8, in the District 2-2A playoff game - location still undecided.

Coach Seago commented how proud of the team he was, "Their leadership, dedication and teamwork have really paid off. They set a goal and reached it, but our season's not over. We hope to go far in the playoffs."

District 4-H Rifle Results

By Melissa Long, CEA-FCS
Floyd County

Floyd County Senior 4-H'ers took the top place at the District Rifle Competition held Saturday, April 18 at Levelland and qualified once again for the state competition to be held June 9 and 10 in Rosenberg. Senior 4-H'ers participating on the #1 team included Dillon Chesshir, J. C. Chappell, Bailey Davenport and Alece Annunziato. Participating on the #2 team included Jill Bramlet, Jay Potts and Katie Miller.

Individual recognition by the Senior Team included Dillon Chesshir - first place in Prone, first place in Standing, first place in Kneeling and High Point Individual; J. C. Chappell - third place in Prone, second place in Standing, second place in Kneeling and second High Individual; Alece Annunziato - first place in Prone, and Jill Bramlet - third place in Kneeling. In the Intermediate Division, the team of Jake Bramlet, Braden Graves and Heston Graves took first place Team Overall. Individu-

al honors went to Jake Bramlet, first place in Prone and third High Individual. Braden Graves was third place in Standing, second place in Kneeling and High Individual. Heston Graves was third in Prone.

In the Junior Division, the team of Alex Glass, Brayden Campbell, Destry Faulkenberry and Kaleb Whittle took second place honors for the team. Kaleb Whittle was third in Prone and was the third High Individual. Way to go!

Floydada ISD: Leaders in Technology Integration

By Christine Scroggs
Director of Curriculum,
Instruction and Assessment

Floydada ISD hosted approximately 175 visitors from sixteen school districts on Monday, May 4, 2009. The tremendous success of the Technology 1:1 Immersion Program (TIP) that begun in 2004 at FJSD has repeatedly brought state and national attention to the district. The presentation began in the high school auditorium with Mr. Vaughn, FJSD Superintendent, giving an overview of one-to-one learning and then visitors were allowed to tour the Floydada campus of their choice in order to receive a first-hand glimpse of what the future holds by placing technology in the hands of students and teachers.

Floydada ISD provides students with a learning environment that uses 21st century skills on a daily basis. Students in grades 6-12 are provided an Apple Macbook to enhance their learning experience. Teachers district-wide use this technology as an instructional tool to provide students with real life learning experiences that will be beneficial to their future educational experience.

FJSD has seen phenomenal increases in test scores, the number of college courses completed by students and overall student success. The causes of the increases stem from not only improved teaching by the teachers, but also the resources available to the teachers and students due to the technology they have and the access to

resources they did not have before.

Aimee Teeple, Floydada High School Science Teacher, sums up the benefits of a technology-rich environment by sharing, "When I try to imagine moving to a school that does not have the one-to-one laptop situation or losing the laptops at FHS, it scares me. I could not be as effective and efficient in the classroom without them. Having had the experience teaching with and without technology, I can say with certainty the benefits are numerous. The laptops have become an integral part of my curriculum and my teaching method. Giving up technology in today's global environment would be like giving up blackboards and chalk in the old days."

4-H Archery Competition Held April 20

By Melissa Long, CEA-FCS
Floyd County

Floyd County 4-H'ers took part in an Indoor/Outdoor Archery Contest at the Floyd County

Friends Unity Center on Monday, April 20. In the Junior Division, Kaleb Whittle placed first, Alex Glass placed second and Destry Faulkenberry placed third.

In the Intermediate Division, Jianna Davenport took first place. Also participating in the Junior Division were Tristan Schlueter, Caleb Miller, Brayden Campbell and Kortney Campbell.

Pee Wee participants included Ryder Glass first place, Carson Miller second place and Tasha Schlueter third place.

At the Regional Competition at Brownfield on Saturday, April 25, Floyd County was well represented. In the Senior Division,

Dillon Chesshir placed first in Compound Aided and second in Recurve Unaided. J. C. Chappell placed first in Recurve Unaided and second in Compound Unaided.

In the Intermediate Division, Jianna Davenport placed first in Recurve Unaided and fourth in Recurve Aided.

In the Junior Division, Kaleb Whittle placed first in Recurve Unaided and Alex Glass placed second in Recurve Unaided. Also participating were Caleb Miller, Brayden Campbell, Kortney Campbell and Destry Faulkenberry.

Floyd County garnered Second Place County Overall.

4-H'ers Compete in County and District Photography Contests

By Melissa Long, CEA-FCS
Floyd County

Three Floyd County 4-H'ers competed in the Floyd County Photography Contest and all three advanced on to District Competition.

In the Intermediate Division, Preston Mallory placed second with his Color entries of Animal, Landscape and Plant. He also placed first with his Architectural Elements Color print and his Black and White prints in the Animal

Plant and Architectural divisions. Also in the Intermediate Division, Amy Scott placed first in Color Theme - Volunteers in Action, the Color Plant/Flora, the Color Natural Landscapes and Color Animals.

In the Junior Division, Faithe Hambricht took top honors in Color Architectural Elements, Color Still Life, Color and Black and White Theme - Volunteers in Action, Black and White Architectural Elements, Black and White

Animal, Color Special Effects, Color Animal and Color Plant/Flora.

In district competition, against 4-H'ers from across the South Plains District including 20 counties, Hambricht placed first in Architectural Elements, first in Special Effects, first in Still Life and third in theme in the Junior Division.

In the Intermediate Division, Scott placed second in Architectural Elements.

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Floydada School Menu

Floydada School Menu
May 11 - May 15
Monday

Breakfast-French toast or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Hot dog, oven fried potatoes, apple and orange smiles, sherbet cup, milk

Tuesday

Breakfast-Sausage, toast/jelly or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Enchiladas, pinto beans, tossed salad, cinnamon apples, milk

Wednesday

Breakfast-Waffles with syrup

or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Teriyaki chicken, rice pilaf, English peas, pineapple tidbits, hot roll, milk

Thursday

Breakfast-Breakfast sausage, roll or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Taco salad, seasoned corn, fruited gelatin, brownie, milk

Friday

Breakfast-Scrambled eggs, toast or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Hamburger, lettuce, tomato and pickles, quick baked potatoes, baby carrots w/Ranch,

Classifieds Get Results!

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June or July through November assignment at TMC Floydada, Hereford, Lubbock, Muleshoe, Plainview Centers. Teacher positions require at least an Associate degree in Early Childhood or Child Development or a degree with at least 6 classes in Child Development or Early Childhood Education. Teacher Aides require at least a high school diploma or equivalency. Bilingual ability is not required for the Teacher or Teacher Aide position. Family Services Advocates however must be bilingual in English and Spanish.

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CITY OF FLOYDADA HISTORICAL NEWS: September 1909 - A Special Election was held to incorporate a 1280-acre tract of land with the Couthouse Square being in the center of the town of Floydada. It was estimated that Floydada had more than 500 inhabitants.

Floydada's Centennial Celebration is this October!

Whirlwind Booster Club congratulates the Regional Track Qualifiers





(Back row, l-r) Kelbie Day, Breanne Gooch, Megan Aleman, Elda Lopez, Sarah Sanders, Samantha Rodriguez, Claudia Lopez and Kenya Pesina;
(middle row) Damion Pleasant, Joe Suarez, Eddy Rodriguez, Aarrhon Flores and Fred Williams;
(front row) Luis Foster, Chris Trevino, James Espenioza and Adrian Pleasant.

Cotton News

From Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

Agriculture Programs Spared The Knife As Congress Approves FY2010 Budget Resolution

By Shawn Wade

The FY2010 Budget Resolution that was agreed upon by House and Senate conferees earlier this week, and subsequently approved by Congress, will not require cuts to commodity support programs authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill.

Confirmation that agriculture programs would be excluded from the many budget areas that will be tasked with providing spending reductions under the FY2010 Congressional Budget Resolution was welcome news for growers.

Producer concern about agriculture's potential treatment under the resolution stemmed from knowledge of renewed efforts to undermine commodity program provisions through the budget writing process and the fact that the Obama Administration's first budget blueprint highlighted changes in farm programs.

With this first hurdle cleared it is important to note that this is probably not the only bullet that agriculture will have to dodge before current the legislative cycle or the FY2010 Agriculture Appropriations process is completed. It does however set aside as unworkable several potentially damaging proposals including the Obama Administration's suggestion to eliminate Direct payments to all farms with more than \$500,000 in gross sales and capping DCP and loan benefit payments at \$250,000 per individual.

Fortunately the same Congressional leaders, namely Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad and House Agriculture committee Chairman Collin Peterson, that supported agriculture so strongly during the farm bill debate led the charge to clarify

the fact that when it comes to providing budget savings and value on investment agriculture has delivered its fair share.

Agriculture's success in this round was aided by strong arguments against these proposals and supporting the implementation of the 2008 Farm Bill as approved by Congress before significant changes are considered. These arguments were put forth by a coalition of agriculture groups including Plains Cotton Growers, the National Cotton Council and the Southwest Council of Agribusiness.

Upland Cotton Average Price Received by Growers Through February 2009

March marketings of 764,000 bales kept pace with February's bale count to bring total estimated 2008-crop Upland cotton marketings totals to 6.928 million bales.

While the marketing totals were nice to see, the down side to the report is that the average price received by growers failed to advance above the previous month's price and settled at 41 cents per pound for March. Looking ahead the preliminary price USDA reports for April marketings is higher at 42.8 cents.

With preliminary information on two-thirds of the 2008-marketing year in the books total marketings have narrowed their deficit to the previous year by about 275,000 bales. The gap is now 2.875 million bales below the 9,803 million bales marketed through the same period for the 2007-crop. According to the USDA report, the average selling price reported for the month of February was 41.00 cents per pound.

Based on these figures, the 2008 Upland Cotton Weighted Average Price calculated through March 2009 is 49.41 cents per pound, further solidifying its posi-

tion below the 52-cent Upland cotton Base Loan rate.

A table can be found at www.plainscotton.org/esw/news/cncurrent.html showing the average price received each month by farmers and the associated weighted average price based on prices and cumulative marketings from August 1, 2008 through March 2009.

The 2008 Counter-cyclical payment rate authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill will be based on the 12-month Weighted Average Price Received by growers. For cotton the 12-month Weighted Average Price will reflect price and marketings for the 2008 marketing year. The 2008 cotton marketing year began August 1, 2008 and ends July 31, 2009.

Revised Market Year Average Price Forecasts Included In Latest SURE Calculator Update

New Market Year Average (MYA) prices have been included in an April 29 update of the Texas AgriLife Extension Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) Benefit Estimator.

Growers that have previously downloaded the SURE calculator are encouraged to visit the Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. website (www.plainscotton.org) or the website for the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center at Lubbock (<http://lubbock.tamu.edu>).

This latest version of the estimator (ver. 1.3) does not make any changes to underlying assumptions defining how the calculator operates. USDA is still working on writing rules for the SURE program and so far little new information that would alter current understanding about how the program will eventually operate has been released.



Courtesy Photo

THE FLOYDADA CO-OP GIN had their 37th Annual Stockholders Meeting on April 9 at the Floyd County Unity Center. Pictured above, left to right, are the board of directors: Randy Bertrand, Mark Beedy, Ron Graves, Steve Lloyd, Aaron Hendricks, Kerry Pratt, Greg Bishop and Rob Everett.

Farm Service Agency Reminds Producers that ACRE Program Enrollment is Underway

Floydada, TX, April 30, 2009 – Michael McDonald, County Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Floyd County, Texas, reminds producers that as of April 27, enrollment in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program is underway. ACRE is a provision of the 2008 Farm Bill.

"The Average Crop Revenue Election program is an innovative alternative to the traditional farm safety," McDonald said. "This new option presents an opportunity for producers to review both programs and decide which one will work best for their operation."

Producers have until Aug. 14, 2009, to make their decision for the 2009 crop. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.

Producers who elect the ACRE program for a farm agree to: forgo counter-cyclical pay-

ments; accept a 20-percent reduction of the direct payments; and accept a 30-percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm.

Commodities eligible for ACRE payments are wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, peanuts, soybeans, sunflower seed, canola, flaxseed, safflower, mustard seed, rapeseed, sesame seed, crambe, dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas and large chickpeas.

The ACRE program was created in the 2008 Farm Bill to give producers an option in lieu of traditional counter-cyclical payments. Producers may elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2009 crop year even if they have already accepted advance direct payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

To elect ACRE for a farm,

producers must complete Form CCC-509 ACRE, which irrevocably elects ACRE for the farm through crop year 2012. Form CCC-509, the contract to participate in ACRE, must then be completed each year the producer intends to participate and receive benefits.

According to McDonald, the ACRE decision tool developed by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC) at Texas A&M University is now available to producers online at www.afpc.tamu.edu/models/acre/index.php

"This ACRE Decision Aid will assist producers in analyzing the impact of ACRE participation on their individual operation," said McDonald.

For more information about the ACRE program please visit your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office or visit FSA online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

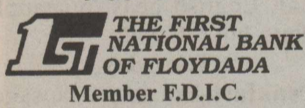
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VJ's News

By Vera Jo Bybee

The Center had its second breakfast Saturday morning and fed 25. That was good because if they don't have at least 20 to eat with them, Wanda said she will not cook breakfast for less than that. So be sure you let her know if you want to eat breakfast with her on the first Saturday of every month.

Last Friday was a good day for the Center. Counting the Rotary, guests and the regulars Wanda fed 73. Yeah! Guests were Norma Ragland, Ethelyn Garnett, Edith Cooper, Violet Cooper, Glenda Ford and Jackie Spencer. Now some of these ladies may be members but don't come very often. We are all glad to have visitors as well as old and new members.

Thank goodness I am all well. I had a wonderful week. However, I am scared to go out in the public and be around people who are coughing. I sure don't want that pneumonia again. I have washed my hands so much they don't even look like my hands.

Sunday afternoon I went out to Becky and Steve's and visited with Matt and Megan and great-

grandson, Payce. He is so much fun now. He is going to have a new baby brother or sister in October. We will find out which in a few weeks. We are all anxious to know. I am having a lot of great-grands this year. Granddaughter Kara and husband Robert of Decatur are having a little girl in a few weeks. They already have a boy, Kitson who is three.

Wanda and C.F. Barber had lunch with Charles "Goober" and Ailene Williams on Tulia Sunday.

Recent guests in the home of Mel and Marjorie Holcomb were her daughter, Charlotte and her family of Canyon. They are Kimmie, Kody, Kendra, Chance, Charla and Cynch.

Recently Theresa Stennett accompanied her son, Dr. Kevin Stennett and wife Michealle, and children Keenan and Kelsie, to Muenster, Tx., for the big Muenster Festivities. They visited with relatives, attended Mass and ate a lot of good German food - Kraut and German sausages. Sounds good, doesn't it?

On May 7, Florine Ratliff celebrates her 90th birthday. Be sure to call her or send her a card wishing her a "Happy Birthday."

Jana Miller has graduated from Oklahoma Christian and is prepar-

ing for mission work in Zambia. Congratulations and "Good Luck," Jana.

Mary Lois Montandon fell recently and fractured her kneecap. She is recuperating nicely at home. I saw her Sunday eating lunch at the D.Q. with her son, Francis. She is walking with a walker. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Rance Schumacher recently had surgery on his knee to replace the ACL. He is also recuperating at home, so please put him on your prayer list.

Nova Jean Cox Ivy is now recuperating in the Arlington Memorial Rehab Center after having her right knee replaced.

Thoughts for the day: When you are feeling down, start listing your blessings. You will be smiling before you know it. Remember you are too blessed to be stressed.

Menu

May 11 - May 15
Monday-Meat and cheese nachos
Tuesday-Salmon patty
Wednesday-Frito pie
Thursday-Scrambled hamburger
Friday-Brisket



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PLAINVIEW DAILY HERALD is looking for a distributor for the Floydada area. Come by 820 Broadway in Plainview to fill out questionnaire or call 806-296-1344.

Blackburn Media Group is looking for a part-time area reporters to cover Post, Floydada and Lockney. Must have reporting experience and access to a computer. Some nighttime work will be required. If interested submit writing samples to jami@thechildress-index.com. (TFN)

Houses for Sale

PRICE REDUCED--3 bedroom, 2 bath, large utility. Lots of storage. Large corner lot. 801 W. Tennessee. Call 806-983-2040.

HOUSE FOR SALE--3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, dining area, large utility, basement, new tile and carpet, sprinkler system. 123 J.B. Avenue. Call 806-983-3608 or 806-559-0185.

HOUSE FOR SALE--818 W. Georgia Street. Approximately 2400 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 2 bath with large storage building and new carport. Corner lot. Call 983-5516 (after 5 pm). Leave message.

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Miscellaneous

HEY J.B.--"BLAH, BLAH, blah, blah, blah." Monte Covington.

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Sizes --- 10'x10' and 10'x15'
115 W. Virginia, Floydada (across from City Hall)
Call 806-853-9075

B.O.F. SERVICES INC.
Now accepting applications for truck drivers. No experience needed. We are willing to train. We offer great benefits
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Applicants please call 806-495-3805 to schedule appointment

House for Sale BY OWNER
819 West Missouri
Floydada, Texas
1680 sq. Feet approx.
3 BR 2 B
2 car garage, central heat and air, nice fireplace, fenced backyard, House sits on 1.5 lots \$75,000
OBO- Owner ready to sell!
Call: 806-296-5228

SUDOKU

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

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!

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!

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

ANSWER:

Property Value Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- *the market or special appraised value placed on your property
- *the unequal appraisal of your property
- *the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- *any exceptions that may apply to you
- *the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- *the taxable status of your property
- *the local governments which should be taxing your property
- *the ownership of property
- *the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- *any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affected you.

Informal Review

Floyd County Appraisal District
104 E. California, P.O. Box 249
Floydada, Texas 79235
806-983-5256

Review by the Appraisal Review Board

If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date, and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening, Saturday or Sunday. Prior to

determination. The CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at.

104 E. California, P.O. Box 249, Floydada, Texas

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 45 days of the date you receive the ARB's order.

Tax Payment

If you appeal and your case is pending, you must pay the lesser of the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at 104 E. California, P.O. Box 249, Floydada, Texas, 806-983-5256. You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB

Usual Deadline

On or before May 31 (30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you

losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is before the 30th day after the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1). The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice as mailed to you.

5-7c

Court Activities

A speeding appeal was filed on April 30, 2009, by Ocie Lee Scott.

The following activities took place on April 28, 2009: A charge of DWI was filed against Gordon Monroe Durham; Deangelo Pina was charged with possession of marijuana; David Rosa was charged with evading arrest or detention; Daniel Zavala, Jr., was charged with DWI.

On April 27, 2009, Bobby Gene Buser was charged with his second DWI and Omar Garza was charged with DWI.

On April 21, 2009, the charge of possession of marijuana was filed against Jason Lloyd Mejia III, Jacob Lee Shultz, Gilbert Garcia Garza, Fernando Maldonado and Francisco Lamas.

Melody Criswell Wells was charged with her second DWI on April 21, 2009.

Pablo Moreno, Jr., was charged with his second DWI on April 21, 2009.

Mark Jeffrey Anderson filed a speeding appeal on Feb. 5, 2009. On April 27, 2009, a motion to dismiss was granted.

On Dec. 29, 2008, Hermino Garza, Jr., was charged with deadly conduct. On April 28, 2009, he pleaded guilty, was found guilty and assessed six month in jail, probated for two years, with a \$700 fine and \$301 in court costs.

On Dec. 29, 2008, Timothy Huddleston was charged with indecent exposure, but the charge was reduced to a Class "C" disorderly conduct charge. On Feb. 24, 2009, a motion for the first continuance was made and granted. On April 30, 2009, Huddleston pleaded guilty. He was found guilty and assessed a \$500 fine and \$276 in court costs.

On Dec. 9, 2008, Gabriel Fierros was charged with his second DWI. On March 23, 2009, a motion for continuance was made and granted. On April 17, 2009, a motion for discovery was made and granted.

**Electrical fire major cause of home fires
NFPA urges awareness to reduce risk**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is kicking off National Electrical Safety Month (May) by reminding the public to be aware of the risks associated with the use of electricity, and providing safety tips to assist individuals in taking steps to reduce the risk of experiencing a home electrical fire.

In recent years, an average of 53,000 home electrical fires have been reported per year. These fires resulted in an average of 500 deaths, 1,400 injuries, and \$1.5 billion in direct property damage per year. One of every seven home fires was an electrical fire. Any type of equipment that uses electricity may be involved in an electrical fire. Some type of electrical distribution equipment such as wiring, light switches, outlets, cords, and plugs or lighting equipment was involved in roughly half of the home electrical fires. There are also many home electrical fires involving air conditioners, fans, clothes dryers and appliances.

"Whether you are actively flipping a switch, inserting a plug, or simply enjoying all the electric-powered appliances in your home, the risk of fire may not be on your mind," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of communications. "Most electrical fires can be easily avoided. The first step in preventing them is to be aware of the danger, the second is to learn the rules of fire safety and then put them into practice."

NFPA offers the following safety tips. To learn more about electrical safety, visit <http://www.nfpa.org/electricalsafetymonth>.

- Replace or repair loose or damaged cords on all electrical devices.

- Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets.

- In homes with small children, unused wall sockets and extension-cord receptacles should have plastic safety covers.

- Consider having additional circuits or outlets added by a qualified electrician so you do not have to use extension cords.

- Follow the manufacturers' instructions for plugging an appliance into a receptacle outlet.

- Avoid overloading outlets. Plug only one high-wattage appliance into each receptacle outlet at a time.

- If outlets or switches feel warm, shut off the circuit and have them checked by an electrician.

- When possible, avoid the use of "cube taps" and other devices that allow the connection of multiple appliances into a single receptacle.

- Place lamps on level surfaces, away from things that can burn and use bulbs that match the lamp's recommended wattage.

Electrical fires tend to happen more frequently in older homes. The Fire Protection Research

Foundation conducted the Residential Electrical System Aging Research Project (2008) to study how aging and installation quality of components in home electrical systems impact fire safety. The project involved harvesting from 30 homes from across the U.S. ranging in age from 30 to 110 years. More information on hidden electrical hazards and a link to the Foundation's report are available at <http://nfpa.org/electricalsafetymonth>.

In addition to serving as a source for public education materials on electrical safety and research findings on fires involving electricity, NFPA has a long history of commitment to electrical safety as developer and publisher of the National Electrical Code® (NEC®) since 1911. The NEC sets the standard for the safe use of electricity and electrical installations. It is the most widely used code for the built-environment in the world.

NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. Visit NFPA's Web site at <http://nfpa.org>

Wild Hogs No Indication of Flu Danger

You may catch the flu from your sick hunting buddy, but there's no evidence that you will catch it from domestic or wild hogs, according to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC). There is no evidence that the new strain of H1N1 influenza is in domestic or wild hogs. This disease is being spread from person to person.

"We are prepared to test hogs, if a human/animal disease link is identified. To date, there has been no indication that swine are involved," said Dr. Bob Hillman, Texas state veterinarian and head of the TAHC, the state's livestock and poultry health regulatory agency. "We are participating on all calls with health and emergency officials, and are consulting with local officials, but so far, there is no indication of animal-to-human disease spread."

"Several hunters have asked about the safety of hunting wild hogs," said Dr. Hillman. "To repeat, there is no evidence that wild hogs are involved in this flu outbreak. Always, however, we advise wild hog hunters to protect themselves against potential exposure to swine brucellosis, a totally different disease that is not related in any way to the flu. We know from test results that about 10 percent of wild hogs carry swine brucellosis, a bacterial disease."

"When processing or butchering a wild hog, hunters should protect themselves against the blood and bodily fluids of wild hogs," he said. "When the wild hog meat is cooked, any swine brucellosis bacteria is destroyed by the heat."

Trappers who catch wild hogs and owners of domestic swine also should practice good biosecurity to prevent spreading the flu to pigs. "Don't get around swine if you become ill, and avoid having visitors near your pigs," said Dr. Hillman. "Have someone else feed the animals if you become ill with flu-like symptoms. Notify your health department or the TAHC so your pigs can be monitored for disease. Also, as a basic biosecurity measure, you should always wash your hands after handling animals."

Dr. Hillman said wild hog trappers and domestic swine owners should call their veterinarian if their swine develop a sudden onset of respiratory illness. The nearest TAHC area office or TAHC headquarters also should be notified so testing can be conducted according to the flu response protocol. The TAHC headquarters may be reached at 800-550-8242.

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deadline
Friday
5 p.m.

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For
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FOR**

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102 E. Houston
Floydada**

BLUE BUNNY ASSORTED PERSONALS 8 OZ.

99¢



ASSORTED POWERADE 32 OZ.

**2 \$2.50
FOR**



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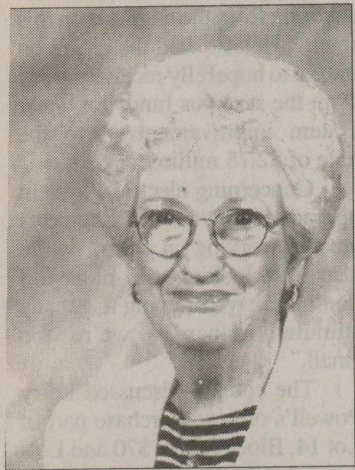
COMBO MEALS

COMBO NO. 1 BACON/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE	COMBO NO. 6 3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.09	\$2.69
COMBO NO. 2 SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE	COMBO NO. 7 2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.09	\$2.59
COMBO NO. 3 BBQ SANDWICH & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	COMBO NO. 8 2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.09	\$2.69
COMBO NO. 4 HOMESTYLE POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	COMBO NO. 9 CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.79	\$2.49
COMBO NO. 5 SPICY POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	COMBO NO. 10 2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.79	\$2.69

MORE SPECIALS

BAR-S FRANKS 12 OZ. PKG.	79¢
KELLOGG'S RICE KRISPIES TREATS REGULAR SIZE	2 FOR \$1.00
TOM'S ONION RINGS REG. \$1.29	99¢
SHURFINE SUGAR 4 LB. BAG	\$1.99
ALLSUP'S SANDWICH BREAD 24 OZ. / 89¢ OR	2 FOR \$1.49
ALLSUP'S WHEAT BREAD 24 OZ. / 99¢ OR	2 FOR \$1.59
KRAFT MIRACLE WHIP 32 CT	\$3.99
SHURFINE COLBY CHEDDAR CHEESE 10 OZ. PKG.	\$3.49
RED DIAMOND TEA ASSORTED FLAVORS GALLON	2 FOR \$5.00
CHARMIN BATH TISSUE 24 ROLL PKG.	\$6.99
BOUNTY BASIC PAPER TOWELS SINGLE ROLL PKG.	99¢

OBITUARIES



DOROTHY REEVES

Dorothy Reeves, 90, of Floydada passed away on May 3, 2009.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at the First Baptist Church in Floydada. Anthony Sisemore and Howell Farnsworth officiated. Burial followed at the Floyd County Memorial Park under the directions of Moore-Rose Funeral Home of Floydada.

Visitation was held from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at the church parlor.

Dorothy Lynn Reeves was born on July 1, 1918 in Cone, Texas to William Smith and Elizabeth (Barnes) Smith. Dorothy married Harry L. Reeves on December 21, 1936 in Floydada. They were blessed with three children, Keith, Alyne and Vicki. Harry preceded her in death in May 1993.

She liked to play games, enjoyed reading, and loved to travel. She was a wonderful grandmother. Dorothy was active in the Hobby Club and was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church in Floydada.

Mrs. Reeves is survived by her son, Keith Reeves and his wife, Sue of Floydada; two daughters, Alyne Evans and husband, Ronald and Vicki Terrell and husband, Merle, all of Floydada; a sister, Lana Chiddix of Plainview; eight grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren and many other relatives and dear friends.

Memorial donations in Dorothy Reeves' name may be made to the First Baptist Church, 401 S. Main Street, Floydada, Texas 79235.



JAMES (JIMMY) L. LITSCH

Former Lockney resident James (Jimmy) L. Litsch, 74, departed this life April 20, 2009.



Courtesy Photo

A CONFIRMATION MASS was held at the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church on May 1, 2009. There were a total of 21 candidates of which 19 were from Floydada and 2 from El Paso. The Mass was conducted by the Rev. Bishop Palacido Rodriguez of the Lubbock Diocese and assisted by Fr. Angelo Consemينو. After Mass everyone enjoyed a meal and fellowship.

Memorial services were April 23, 2009 in Harker Heights, Texas and burial was held in Nazareth.

Jim's parents were Joseph and Helen Litsch of Plainview, where he grew up and went to school. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1952 and served in the Korean War for two years as a UDT Frogman.

He married Elizabeth Handley on July 20, 1957. This union produced two sons, Kelley and Matt. The family lived in Lockney for 10 years, where Jim farmed.

He started college at age 33 and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas Tech with a Bachelor's degree 2-1/2 years later. A year later he earned a Master's degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Jim moved the family to Altus, Oklahoma in 1972, where he started teaching. His psychology classes at Altus High School were very popular for over a decade, and he also taught evening classes at Western Oklahoma State College.

His marriage to Elizabeth ended in 1980, but he continued to reside in the Altus area. On June 29, 1984, he married Dana Wiginton. The couple moved to the Killen area in 1991, where Jim resumed his teaching career. He retired in 1997 and was plagued with many health problems. He enjoyed reading, carpentry and hunting for antiques with Dana in the Texas Hill Country. On December 14, 2008, he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior.

One of the highlights of his life was his three grandchildren.

He leaves behind wife, Dana of Harker Heights, Texas; son Kelley with wife, Lisa of Ransom Canyon; son Matt with wife Ronda, of Altus, Oklahoma; a granddaughter, Katrina and husband, Matt Ballentine of Lubbock; granddaughter, Leanna of Norman, Oklahoma; and grandson, Kurt of Pasadena, California.

EVELYN MARVENE BARROW

Funeral services for Evelyn Marvene Barrow, 88, of Glen Rose, Texas were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at the Moore-Rose Funeral Home in Floydada.

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

She passed away May 2, 2009 in Glen Rose at the age of 88 years, 7 months and 10 days.

Evelyn Marvene (Nall) Barrow was born September 22, 1920 in Turkey, Texas to the late Marvin (Judge) and Dee Nall.

She married Donald Boone Barrow on her birthday in 1940. They were married 59-1/2 years before his death in 2000.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 426, Glen Rose, Texas 76043.

THIS WEEK'S

FLOYDADA LIONS CLUB BROOM SALE

The Floydada Lions Club will be having their annual Broom and Mop Sale on Thursday, May 7, 2009, in the Lowes parking lot at 220 S. 2nd Street, Floydada, starting at 8 a.m.

Classifieds Get Results!

Call 983-3737 or email your classified to floydada@amaonline.com

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\$25 - in county
\$28 - out of county

Ask about our senior citizens discount!

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..... 7:00 p.m.

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST
West College & Third,
Lockney

Steve McLean - Minister
Morning Worship.... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship..... 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday..... 7:30 p.m.

CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST
Levi Sisemore, Minister
Floydada

Sunday Bible Study... 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Anthony D. Sisemore, Pastor
Terry Simmons,
Minister of Ed. Music

Eric Kaiser - 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
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 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Floydada
Rev. Les Hall, Pastor

Early Worship..... 8:30 a.m.
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
Ester Ramos, Praise Leader
Sunday Bible..... 10:00 a.m.
Morning Praise.... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Praise..... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Worship..... 7:00 p.m.

POWER OF PRAISE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor
704 N. Main, Lockney

Sunday Services.... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday..... 7:30 p.m.

PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA
Lockney
Jesus Caballero, Pastor

Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service.... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship..... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service..... 7:00 p.m.

PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA
Floydada
Pastor Reverend Raymond Asebedo

Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship... 10:55 a.m.
Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Evening..... 6:00 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
Andy Rodriguez
983-5286 (church)
983-3047 (parsonage)

Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service..... 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday..... 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Floydada
Rev. Angelo Consemينو
Phone: 983-5878

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

TEMPLO BAUTISTA SALEM
Lockney
Rev. Joe Hernandez

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

TEMPLO BETHEL SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Washington and 1st St.

Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship.... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service..... 7:00 p.m.

TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA
Rev. Herman Martinez
308 W. Tennessee, Floydada

Sunday School..... 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship.... 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday..... 7:30 p.m.
Thursday Service... 7:30 p.m.

TRINITY ASSEMBLY
500 W. Houston
Floydada
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.
Wednesday..... 7:00 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.

American State Bank
Member FDIC
217 W. California
983-3725

Goen & Goen Insurance
102 E. California
983-3524

Barwise Gin
Barwise Community
983-2737

Lockney Co-op Gin
652-3377

Tastee Burger
116 North Main
652-2630

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

Clark Pharmacy
320 N. Main - Lockney
652-3353

Payne Family Pharmacy
200 S. Main, Floydada
983-5111

Davis Lumber
102 E. Shubet
Lockney
6523385

Pay-n-Save
210 N. Main
Lockney
652-2293

Sawaya Ins. Agency
120 E. 7th Street
Plainview
293-1318

Schacht Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts
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The family of John Protsman would like to thank everyone for all the food, cards, phone calls, and especially for the thoughts and prayers we received at this difficult time. It was very much appreciated.

Donna, Devin, Virginia & Kendra Protsman
Wes and Lynn Campbell
Sonya Campbell
Wesley and Tracy Campbell & kids

The Floydada and Lockney Lions Clubs and Rotary Clubs offer a big THANK YOU to the donors who made possible the March 2, 2009 Chili-Cookout Fundraiser for the Lockney teachers. Without the generous donations of the Floydada and Lockney Lowes and Cargill Cattle Feeders, the raising of \$2,305 would not have been possible. Thank you!

Texas Wheat Board funds record-setting research budget

AMARILLO-The Texas Wheat Producers Board recently approved a record-setting budget for research, providing more than \$333,000 in funding for Texas AgriLife Research and Texas AgriLife Extension Service project.

Funding research projects through AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension allows for the development of disease- and insect-resistant wheat varieties that are higher yielding to ensure producer profitability into the future, according to producer-members of the board.

We really appreciate how the Texas Wheat Producers Board interacts with the scientists, said Dr. Jackie Rudd, AgriLife Research wheat breeder in Amarillo. Not only do they provide funding, but they give direction and clarity to our research. The wheat-improvement science that we do is not some academic exercise, but has relevance in wheat production fields.

Dr. John Sweeten, AgriLife Research director in Amarillo, said the statewide small-grains research and extension program involves academia working closely with industry under a strategic plan guided by the Small Grains Advisory Committee.

This is an excellent model that is available to emulate with other crops, Sweeten said. The carefully coordinated approach has fostered reinvestments in research and extension capacity in

terms of personnel and equipment. This involves leveraging state-appropriated dollars with industry, including the Texas Wheat Producers Board grants and royalties from certified seed sales involving Texas Foundation Seed Service at Vernon.

Ben Scholz of Wylie, who serves as the chair of the wheat boards research appropriations committee, said he knows the investment in research promotion is essential to the success of wheat producers such as himself.

As producers, we don't have all the answers, Scholz said. We know a lot about crop production, but there is a lot left to be discovered concerning genetics, disease and insect resistance, and drought tolerance.

Despite current economic hardships, he said, funding research projects provides a needed economic benefit to producers.

The board feels that current research is essential for producers to remain competitive in an ever-changing global market, Scholz said.

And research funded here is not just important to Texas producers, he said.

Research benefits the whole world by ensuring an adequate supply of food and fiber, Scholz said.

Some projects funded this year include:

-- Winter wheat breeding in the High Plains and Rolling

Plains. -- Wheat breeding for hard winter wheat for South Texas and the Blacklands.

-- Analyzing critical inputs to the profitability of soft red winter wheat in Northeast Texas.

-- Investigating viruses vectored by the wheat curl mite.

-- Marker-assisted selection and development of high-value end-use quality wheat cultivars and insect- and pathogen-resistance.

-- Determining milling and baking quality for wheat varietal selections.

-- Evaluating Texas wheat for tortilla production.

-- Evaluating alternative management practices including no-till.

-- Off-station wheat variety trials in multiple locations across the state.

Without this vital research, said David Cleavinger of Wildorado, also a wheat board member, diseases, viruses and pests will plague us with production shortfalls and strain our wheat producers with increased costs per bushel.

Funds for research projects are provided by the wheat check-off program, as established by the Commodity Referendum Law. The Texas Wheat Producers Board is charged with funding research, education and market development from producer check-off funds.

Floydada City Council Grants Variance to Emert

By Sara Sisemore
Managing Editor

When the Floydada City Council met on Monday, April 27, they voted unanimously to agree with the Planning and Zoning Commission's decision to grant Brian Emert's request for a variance. Emert had constructed a 16 by 24 foot building in his backyard, built closer than five feet to the property line - thus not abiding by the city's guidelines.

In a letter written to the P&Z Commission, Emert said, "I did not realize that any rules or regulations were being broken by building this structure...especially since it was added on to a pre-existing building. It has now been brought to my attention that I should have purchased a permit."

The building will only be used for personal business, not commercial use.

Harry and Martha Garza were unanimously approved as Floydada's swimming pool operators for the 2009 season. The Garza's were the only applicants who applied for the position during the final call for bid proposals by the council. They also provided two letters of recommendation, one from Pastor Armando Morales and Sudy Cochran. They have operated the pool during the past three summers and also from 1996 to 1998.

The Garza's set the pool's

hours of operation as Tuesdays through Sundays, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. The admission cost will be \$2 per person and non-swimmers will not be charged to come supervise their children. An optional one-time fee of \$125 per person will be available to those who wish to pay up front in order to swim every day during regular operation hours.

The city council was informed by City Manager Gary Brown on the most recent progress of the city's suit for the condemnation of Leon Bell's property. Brown told the council the court date was set for June 1.

In other news, the council discussed the current standing of the Chamber of Commerce. Councilwoman Sue Ward asked, "Are they looking for a place to go?" No one knew the answer. Councilman Jon Nielson made a motion the council invite the Chamber to attend the next meeting to share their plans for the future. The motion passed unanimously.

The council also voted unanimously to terminate the Microenterprise Loan Program Contract No. 726022 with the Office of Rural Community Affairs per the recommendation of the Floydada Economic Development Corporation.

In discussion on overhead water tower maintenance, Brown said, "I have still not received

anything from the engineer on this setup." He also said the city is on the list to hopefully receive money from the stimulus funds for water system improvements - to the tune of \$2.75 million.

Concerning electrical system upgrades, Brown said, "Engineers are still working on plans...we're also still looking for money. I don't think we're going to get any stimulus money - we're too small."

The council discussed Larry Powell's offer to purchase part of Lot 14, Block 53 for \$70 and Lots 12 and 13, Block 53 for \$500. There was much discussion as to what laws apply in selling the city's property. The council decided the laws state there must be a minimum bid of \$300 or 60 percent of the appraised value, if the total is over \$300. The council unanimously declined Powell's offers.

Discussion on junk vehicles led the council to review their options for having junk vehicles removed from yards. They agreed for now their options are limited since the city does not have a towing service and no business in town provides the service.

The council members voted unanimously to keep the current rates as listed in the 2009 Consumer Price Index to municipal telecommunications right-of-way access.

Xcel Energy passing on more fuel savings to Texas customers

AMARILLO - Xcel Energy customers in Texas will soon see another reduction in bills because of lower fuel costs.

Beginning as early as June 1, an average residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month will see a \$2 decrease in monthly bills if changes to fuel costs are approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT). The company also is proposing a one-time fuel-cost rebate to customers that would amount to about \$22 on an average residential bill of 1,000 kilo-

watt-hours. Customers would see that rebate as a credit on bills in July, August or September, depending on their billing cycles.

The monthly \$2 reduction is a result of a lower fuel cost factor, which is the rate at which the company charges customers for fuel used in regional power generating stations and power purchased to serve its customers. The \$22 credit will rebate customers for amounts collected under the allowed fuel factors in early 2009 that exceeded actual fuel and pur-

chased-power expenses. In March, the company lowered average residential bills in Texas by more than 20 percent after prices for natural gas fell from 2008 highs. Natural gas prices have declined further, leading to the overall reduction in Texas bills.

Along with the fuel-cost filings, Xcel Energy is seeking approval from the PUCT to implement a new formula for figuring fuel costs that will reflect changing market conditions in a timelier manner.

Thanks For Reading The Hesperian Beacon

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