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VOLUME 113 NUMBER 49 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009 8 PAGES - 75¢



Courtesy Photo

CANCER CHRISTMAS BRUNCH--Plans are under way for this year's annual Christmas Brunch benefiting the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge. This year's brunch will be held December 12th in the home of Gerry and Vickie Norrell from 9:30 - 11:00 am. Tickets are \$10 and are available at First National Bank and at the door. Shown are (left to right) Brienne Glasscock, Vickie Norrell and Amanda Hinsley.

Scouting for Food to be Held

The Floydada Boy Scout Pack and Troop 357 will be holding the "Scouting for Food" drive on Saturday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. They will be gathering donations of non-perishable food items. Items can be left on your front porch. All food items collected will be donated to the local Spirit of Sharing in Floydada.

Lockney Woman Thankful For Help Following Back Surgery

Martha Reyes Ochoa has been battling back problems for three decades. Although the fight is not over, the Lockney woman is thankful for all the help she has received following her latest surgery. This is her inspiring story in her own words.



MARTHA REYES OCHOA

THIS WEEK'S

100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Opal Oma Poole of Floydada will be celebrating her 100th birthday on December 19, 2009 at the City Park Church of Christ (509 S. 5th, Floydada) from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come by and wish Opal happy birthday!

Letters to Santa need to be turned in to your Lockney and Floydada offices by December 11.

By Martha Reyes Ochoa

I moved to Lockney with my family at the age of seven. I was diagnosed with scoliosis, curvature of the spine, at the age of ten and wore a neck brace for four years before having a Harrington rod surgically placed up against my spine to keep it from curving any more than it already was.

I wore that rod for 28 years and in January of this year began having excruciating back pain, so bad that getting out of bed in the morning was a painful challenge. I was referred to a doctor in Lubbock who then referred me to a spine specialist in Amarillo. The

rod that had kept my spine from curving had now been the culprit for my pain.

In July, I went in to have extensive back surgery. They had to take out the rod that I had, fuse two rods in my pelvic bone and then fuse all four of the rods together. I have a total of 15 screws surrounding the spine, and I will never be able to clear security at the airport again.

After eight hours of surgery the doctor felt the need to stop due to complications with the trauma my body had already endured. I was in ICU for a week instead of just overnight as the doctor had predicted. I was then transferred to another floor where I spent another week of intense physical therapy. I remember being told that it was up to me as to how long I would be there. I worked so hard to get through those hours of therapy. As much as it hurt, I wasn't going to give up. I had made it this far and I was happy that my fear of being paralyzed was no longer on my mind.

I was released from the hospital after a week of therapy and began this venture of learning to be dependent on others. For over a month I was limited to sitting up only to eat my meals and go to the bathroom. I have always considered myself to be independent and here I was relying on everyone to do everything for me. I felt humiliated, discouraged, angry and frustrated. At the same time, I saw all of these amazing people with joyful hearts who not once com-

Lockney Fire Department Raising Funds for New Ambulance

The Lockney Fire Department is currently raising money for a new ambulance. The ambulance that is currently in service will be 20 years old soon and has become out dated.

The main problems with the ambulance is the passenger compartment air conditioner, the air recirculation in the passenger compartment, the lack of an environment control box for the medicines carried on board both parked and in transit, and the uncovered "wooden" areas inside the patient compartment. These are all areas in which the Texas Department of State Health Services monitors when renewing the provider license every two years.

"We currently have just over \$58,000 to put towards a new ambulance with a shotgun raffle in progress at this time" says Darrell Rasco, Treasurer for the department. "Other fund raisers are being planned along with applying for grants" Rasco adds. A new ambulance will cost between \$125-130,000.

"There have been times in the summer when the air conditioning in the passenger compartment has malfunctioned, making for a very uncomfortable ride" says fire department member Preston Belt. "The lack of proper air recirculation in the patient compartment is a hazard to both the patient and the medical attendants on board," adds Belt.

Rodney Hunt, who serves as the director of EMS services for the department says "we have passed the licensing process just by the skin of our teeth. We "grandfather" into these deficient areas due to the fact we have kept our license current." The next licensing cycle is fall of 2010.

The department plans on having a new ambulance on order in April of next year with a delivery date of late July or early August, just in time for the new licensing cycle. If you would like to donate to the fund, see any fire department member or drop donations off at City Hall. Make checks payable to Lockney Fire Department and memo "ambulance fund."

Six Poaching Investigations in Floyd County

The 2009 hunting season has been an eventful one for game warden Mark Collins. Especially since October. Collins, Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Warden for Floyd and Hale Counties, is investigating at least six reports of poaching in Floyd County relating to types of deer hunting.

"There has definitely been more instances (of poaching) this year than most," he said. "Usually we have two or three. "I'm overwhelmed right now, and we're not getting a lot of help."

The kind of help Collins is referring to is from the public in the form of leads and tips. More than likely someone out there knows who has committed poaching crimes, Collins said.

"If someone wants to help and has information you can call the Floyd County Sheriff's Department or Texas Parks and Wildlife," he said. "(Game wardens) rely heavily on outside help.

"We are asking people to be alert and aware (of illegal hunting going on in their communities)."

Texas Parks and Wildlife has a program called Operation Game Thief, and that phone number is 1-800-792-GAME.

The Floyd County instances of poaching have occurred in every part of the county ranging from Dougherty to South Plains to up near the Caprock.

"It's all over the county and that makes it difficult," he said.

Collins added the types of poaching and outlaw hunting vary in detail ranging from the killing of doe mule deer to bucks being killed and left to rot. Some instances include bucks being shot and their heads chopped off.

"There really isn't any rhyme or reason to it," he said. "You name it ... I'm dealing with it. "It really angers you."

Collins said the guilty parties are likely hunting late a night or early in the morning and some are shooting from roadways.

Collins said game wardens on neighboring counties like Briscoe and Motley are experiencing poaching crimes as well.

plained about helping me.

There are so many people to thank, and I am so blessed to live in this amazing community that I will always call home. My wonderful daughter, Robbie, who despite her education, extracurricular activities and her teenage life did her part in making my days and nights as comfortable as she could. She would set her alarm every three and a half hours so she could help me reposition in bed, readjust my pillows and have my meds ready reducing the time that I had to spend in pain waiting for them to kick in.

My mom, who took off two weeks from her job without pay to be at the hospital with me even though the first week in ICU she was only able to see me for 15 minutes every two hours. She stayed in the waiting room with my two older children and wouldn't leave so that the nurses would be able to find her if they needed her.

My sister, Eva, who spent the entire surgery at the hospital even though she felt ill. She waited for me to come out of the surgery and then had to be rushed to the hospital for an emergency appendectomy. I didn't find out about it for an entire week because she didn't want me to worry about her.

Silvia and Diane, who saw to it that I and my children were taken care of and that my Joe-David would have a birthday cake for his special day.

Joe, David, and Robert for their prayers, help and calls.

To sweet Malory Johnson for telling me that she would be praying for me and revealing a lesson on faith.

Pam Fulton and the cheerleaders for letting me make the spirit sticks, and the second grade team from Thunderbird for giving me something to do so I wouldn't lose my mind.

Some of you would hold the door open for me at the post office when I began taking my walks. Some of you would ask if I needed a ride and some would simply wave as you drove by, telling me later that you would have offered me a ride but you knew that I was on a mission to get my strength back. Martha Torres and Denise Smith actually did give me a ride when I thought I was strong enough to walk to the elementary and realized I wasn't quite ready for that long a walk

Primera Iglesia Bautista and Rueben and Paula Pesina, First Baptist Church and Katie Cook, Methodist Church along with Mr. Long, Mr. Brock, Mr. and Mrs. Jodie Foster, Stan and Lana Branam, Derek DeLeon, Susie Moya, Dr. Stennett, Mike Montanez, Dr. Moore, Sam Moore, Beverly James, Dana Marchman, Angel Clawson, Jimmie Sadler, Ms. Sannman, Jean Ann Williams, Lockney Elementary Staff, Joshua Silve3, Robbie's friends, Andrew's friends, Gina Gonzales, Denise and Aubrie Vasquez, Esther Muniz, she is truly a woman of God. She will bend over backwards to help with anything that I need and when my spirits are down she is right there to pick me up

Corina Gonzales and the Dairy Queen staff, even though they really don't need me, they have come over to answer the phone just to get me out of the house. Mr. and Mrs. Beakley, Chad Schlueter, Boyd Lee, Heath Rexrode, and Terry Ellison saw to it that my boys were able to go to R.A. camp so that I could prepare for the surgery. Chad and Katie Cook have been such wonderful support for Robbie, they are always there for her. Thanks to all my nieces and nephews.

To God, for giving me this mountain to climb and not leaving me to climb it alone. For walking in front of me to lead me, for

OCHOA continued on Page 7

OPINIONS

How Cheney Uses Media For Protection

By Linda Milazzo

On January 29, 2001, just nine days after taking office, Dick Cheney created The National Energy Policy Development Group, commonly known as the Cheney Energy Task Force. The task force was charged with the critically important task of designing America's national energy policy. Although the group's efforts would directly impact the entire nation, the new Vice President refused to divulge the names of its members or their specific activities, claiming the Executive Branch's right to confidentiality.

To challenge Cheney's claims of privacy and acquire the names and activities of the task force members, the Sierra Club and Judicial Watch filed Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits, but the courts denied their initial requests and subsequent appeals. On July 18, 2007, the Washington Post revealed the names of members of the task force, which included executives of major conglomerates Enron, Exxon, ConocoPhillips, Chevron, the National Mining Association, and more.

Cheney's refusal to divulge the identities of the members of his task force was the earliest indication of the absolute power America's 46th Vice President presumed. His refusal demonstrated the covert nature of his Vice Presidency and his belief that transparency was not a requirement of the Executive Branch. The policies and practices predicated upon Cheney's presumption of confidentiality remained constant for the full eight years of his Vice Presidency. They ushered in the era of the Bush/Cheney Imperial Presidency that exercised sweeping authority, bypassed established law, and caused widespread concern amongst scholars and average citizens for the future of our democracy.

On August 27, 2004, future Nobel Prize winning economist Paul Krugman wrote the following criticism of Mr. Cheney's pursuit of privacy and power:

"Mr. Cheney's determination to keep his secrets probably

reflects more than an effort to avoid bad publicity. It's also a matter of principle, based on the administration's deep belief that it has the right to act as it pleases, and that the public has no right to know what it's doing.

As Linda Greenhouse recently pointed out in The New York Times, the legal arguments the administration is making for the secrecy of the energy task force are "strikingly similar" to those it makes for its right to detain, without trial, anyone it deems an enemy combatant. In both cases, as Ms. Greenhouse puts it, the administration has put forward "a vision of presidential power . . . as far-reaching as any the court has seen."

From January of 2001 right through today, Dick Cheney has committed unconstrained, and as yet unprosecuted offenses, that include circumventing the Constitution, sanctioning unlawful torture, contributing to the outing of a CIA agent, concealing information from Congress, and lying the nation into war. The tragedy of Cheney's unrestrained lawlessness is further compounded by his unprecedented authority to preside over economic and foreign policies so calamitous that they drove this nation financially, militarily and morally into the ground. Despite his constant international and domestic catastrophes, for his first six years in office Cheney's crimes were supported by an ideological Republican legislative majority and a weak Democratic minority, both of whom succumbed to Bush and Cheney's Unitary Executive.

After the 2006 election, when Democrats took control of both Houses, Speaker Nancy Pelosi refused to abide by her Constitutional duty to investigate Bush and Cheney's crimes. Irrespective of public clamor for backbone and accountability, the Democratic majority rolled over for Bush and Cheney. They financed their plunder and allowed America to decay from within. Structural chasms in bridges, roadways, pipelines, and schools were matched by ideological chasms over religion,

economics, politics and war. As Americans battled each other, Bush and Cheney bombed and tortured on, comforted by knowing there would be no repercussion. For a full eight years, they wreaked havoc on America and the world, and today, post administration, both men remain free.

Bush and Cheney understand that they're vulnerable to prosecution. Bush, for the most part, has stayed out of the limelight, though he's recently become more visible, perhaps inspired by Cheney's success at using THE BIG TOOL - the media - for protection. Since the beginning of the Obama presidency, Cheney has used the media full on. He's commandeered its major outlets, newspapers, cable and network TV, and the most caustic outlet of all, talk radio, to attack the very sources he knows could bring him down - the President and Attorney General. Cheney's best defense is his mass media offense and he knows exactly how to use it.

Dick Cheney has used the complicit American media, his most powerful anti-prosecution tool, to near Machiavellian perfection. He understands implicitly that American media employs no ethical standards that would prevent it from promoting him despite the atrocities he has caused. Regardless of his catastrophic failures, the shameless complicit media freely provides Cheney the platform to attack the President and Attorney General and advance his standing as their fiercest political critic. Because of this granted visibility to pummel Obama and Holder, Cheney is more able to establish himself as a victim of partisanship should Obama and Holder try to charge him for his crimes. Through widely broadcast speeches, like the one below of Cheney bashing Obama on Afghanistan, the complicit media is helping to immunize Cheney - and it's doing so knowingly.

Cheney's transparent media offensive places him squarely, frequently and loudly in the public eye attacking Obama and Holder, and setting the stage for an adversarial relationship from which he can claim that he's their target. He's banking on the theory of American exceptionalism to keep his contrived "adversaries" from taking him down. American exceptionalism implies that America as a nation is superior to the rest of the world. In lesser nations, political rivals are

THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON

Published weekly each Thursday at
111 E. Missouri St., Floydada, Texas 79235.
Periodical postage paid at Floydada, Texas 79235.
Postmaster: Send change of address to: The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, 111 E. Missouri Street, Floydada, TX 79235
(806) 983-3737 • www.hesperianbeacononline.com

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters should be no more than 200 words and can be mailed to the Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, 111 E Missouri St., Floydada, Texas 79235. Please include your street mailing address (no P.O. boxes), daytime phone number and full name and signature. Our e-mail address is floydada@amaonline.com.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As we enter the holiday season, millions of families across the country will gather around the table and celebrate what they are thankful for as they share a meal together.

As they enjoy a serving of turkey, vegetables and even a slice of pie, I hope they consider who made that meal possible: **The American Farmer.**

The American Farmer is who we can thank today for the safe,

abundant and nutritious food supply we enjoy here in the United States and elsewhere in the world. And it will be the American farmer that we will ask to deliver more food, feed, fuel and fiber tomorrow to meet the demands of the projected nine billion people that will call earth home by 2050.

So as we gather together in the coming days and weeks with friends and family, I hope people across our community take time

to thank the farmer for what they provided us today and what we will ask them to provide for tomorrow.

In fact, if people are interested, you may log onto www.AmericasFarmers.com to posts a message of thanks.

Sincerely,
Jack Randolph
Monsanto Company



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

TOPICLESS

Column writing can be a tricky endeavor. If I don't have a particular topic, should I go ahead and write one?

I could write about politics. But really, most of you have probably had it with political opinions. Don't get me wrong, I rather enjoy politics. It's my favorite non-contact sport. However, most of you know where I stand on the issues before this nation. Guess I'm not in the mood to beat a dead horse.

You are aware of what my family has been through this Fall. There's not much change there.

I could write again on the economy, but what good would that do when those in charge of it probably don't even balance their own check book. Incidentally, I did some research on Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and if she's ever worked in the private sector, I could not find it. In seventy years of her life she's never had a real job. I find that amazing that she is in the position to make major decisions for our businesses. Then again, our president really hasn't either, but he's still young.

I could write about sports, but with the hot topic being Tiger Woods I don't want to speculate so I don't have an opinion on the matter. Deep down I hope he has been faithful to his wife and the rumors aren't true.

With Christmas coming up our children are inundated with toy commercials. It's good to remember that on the very first Christmas no one was worried about getting to a store by five a.m.. My wife always does a good job of reminding our children of what we are celebrating.

This weekend we discussed whether or not to put lights up on the outside of our house and what color. I'm still up in the air about doing it. Let me rephrase that, I won't be doing it our roof is much too steep.

We did get our inside Christmas decorations up. I really enjoy this time of year and the change in decor. It took us a little longer this year to get our decorations up. Three days in fact. I blame my wife and her inability to stand up for long periods of time. Perhaps it was a lack of trust in her husband's taste.

The highlight of my Thanksgiving weekend was the quiet time spent with our boys and watching them build forts out of card tables and blankets. I liked doing that myself when I was a child and still think it is pretty neat.

So there it is, a column with no real topic, just some random thoughts. Perhaps next week my passion for politics, the economy and other things will reemerge.

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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/>.

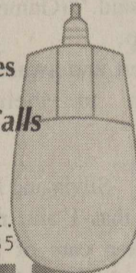
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Cheney..
(continued on Page 7)

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Americans are people of faith when it comes to food. In expiration dates we trust.

My husband, Hugh, is more devout than I. He goes through the pantry, reads dates on cans and throws them out accordingly. Me, I leave cans alone unless they've started to bulge with Botulism.

Both of us take serious note of dates on refrigerated items. I exempt buttermilk and plain yogurt from the "good until" rule. Hugh exempts buttermilk and plain yogurt from what's fit for human consumption. His loss.

Regarding milk, Hugh and I are both more likely to go by smell and taste than the printed expiration date. We both know the word "blinky" - a folk adjective for milk that's about to go bad. My computer dictionary doesn't have the word, but I found it on the Internet. In my search, I ran across this question posted by someone concerned about milk spoilage:

I am interested in knowing about how to scientifically detect spoilage of milk in a non-laboratory setting. Specifically, what bacteria causes

Pasteurized, packaged milk to spoil (the type you buy from a grocery store) and what are fast ways to detect them?

Believe it or not, someone gave that poor soul several paragraphs of information before offering advice that's as obvious as the nose on your face:

Smell it. Really! How could anyone not know that the quickest way to tell if milk is blinky or beyond is to take a sniff? Or better yet, a

taste? I always do both. If that makes me a pioneer woman, so be it. The holidays always put me in that spirit anyway.

That brings us to pecans. Talk about faith. Buying pecans puts mine to the test. For someone who doesn't always check dates, I get really uptight about the freshness of packaged pecans. Can I really trust the package date? I worry they'll taste old.

OK. Go ahead and compare me to that person concerned about milk spoilage detection. I deserve it. I'm that way about pecans. I even like to know the tree.

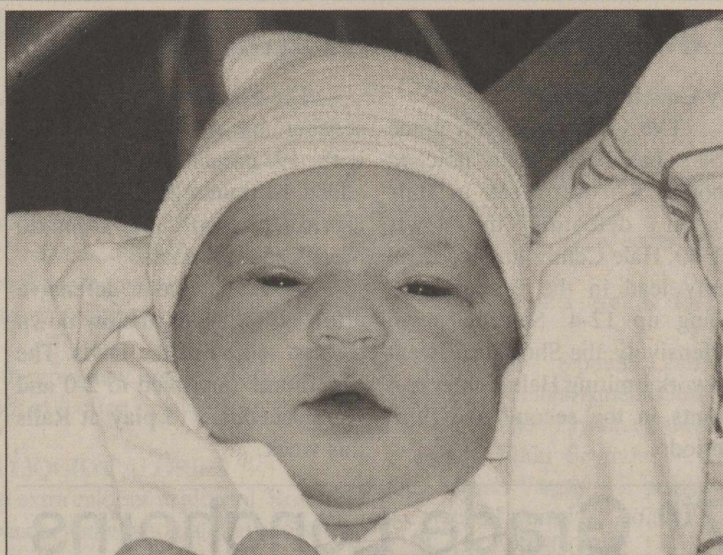
This week, after a time squeeze forced me to buy grocery store pecans for a Christmas fruit-cake, I welcomed a chance to gather some homegrown pecans from our back yard for a pie. Grandson Cutter, age 3, helped. It was my chance to indoctrinate him into my pecan beliefs.

Cutter liked the cracker - a substantial device with a lever that allowed him to crack the shells. He quickly learned that some pecans were good and some were bad - really bad. We ate a few of the good ones. We really got to know those pecans. It was a lofty shared experience, at least for me.

Then I baked the pie. I burned it. At our Thanksgiving meal I told Cutter that most pecan pies are good, but - just like pecans - sometimes they can be bad. I showed him the ruined pie.

"Next year we'll make a good one," he said.

Hope has no expiration date. I'm glad.



LOOK WHO'S NEW

Dana McCarty and James Gurley of Lockney are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Harley Danae Gurley.

Harley was born at 2:29 a.m. Sunday, November 22, 2009 in the Mangold Memorial Hospital in Lockney. She weighed 7 pounds 4-1/2 ounces and was 21-1/2 inches long.

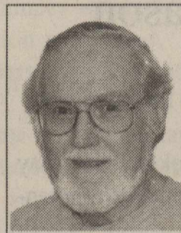
Harley has three sisters, Shelby Vick of Smyer, Tabitha Knowles of Amarillo, and Brittany Knowles of Rio Grande City, Texas. She also has two nieces, McKenzie Morin of Rio Grande City and Ariaah Salazar of Amarillo.

Maternal grandparents are Richard and Debra McCarty of Lockney.

Paternal grandparents are Edward and Frankie Gurley of Memphis, Texas.

Great-grandparents are W. L. and Elizabeth Carthel of Lockney.

The Rescue of Princess Andromeda



Paul Derrick Stargazer

It's the time of year for Hero Perseus' annual rescue of Princess Andromeda, the damsel in the sort of distress only the ancients could have dreamed up.

It all started with Andromeda's brash mother, Queen Cassiopeia, who lacked the good graces - and good sense - to keep her bragging under control. Always raving about her daughter's beauty, she once went too far, claiming that Andromeda was more beautiful than the sea nymphs.

Big mistake. Neptune, the powerful god of seas swore revenge. He kidnapped Andromeda, chained her to a small island, and left her to be devoured by Cetus the Sea Monster.

Enter Perseus the Hero. Hearing of Andromeda's plight, he appealed for help from another of the gods, and was told to go to the cave of Medusa and cut off her head. Medusa, who had snakes rather than hair growing from her head, was so hideously and frightfully ugly that anyone who looked upon her was petrified with terror and turned into stone. All Perseus had to do was take Medusa's head out to sea, show it to Cetus who would be turned to stone, and then rescue Andromeda.

Simple enough, yet there were a couple of problems. How could he cut off Medusa's head if he dared not look at her, and how could he quickly get to the island where Andromeda was soon to become a sea monster's snack.

More help from the gods. They gave him a shiny shield with which he could dimly, but not clearly, see Medusa enough to sever her head and put it in a sack. Then upon accomplishing that feat, from Medusa's headless body emerged Pegasus, a flying

horse. So, as adeptly as my childhood cowboy hero Gene Autry mounted Champion every Saturday afternoon, our hero mounted Pegasus. With Medusa's head stashed in the sack, he took to the skies and headed to sea, hoping he wasn't too late to make his rescue.

He arrived just in time to find Cetus licking his chops as he approached the poor hapless Andromeda. Perseus uncovered Medusa's hideous head -- without looking at it, of course -- and showed it to Cetus who shrieked in terror, turned to stone, and sank to the bottom of the sea. After tossing the head into the sea, Perseus steered Pegasus down to the island whereupon he freed the grateful Andromeda, and returned her to her home.

Perseus was so taken with Andromeda's charm and beauty -- all princesses are beautiful, right? -- and she was so overcome by his bravery and good looks -- all heroes are handsome, right? -- that they married and lived happily ever after.

This Greek myth is played out each evening in the fall sky. See my Web site version of this column for a sky map showing the constellations of these characters.

Sky Calendar.

* Dec. 2 Wed.: The full Moon is called the Moon Before Yule and the Long Night Moon

* 8 Tue.: The Moon is at 3rd quarter.

* 10 Thu. morning: Saturn is to the upper left of the crescent Moon in the southeast.

* 11 Fri. morning: The star Spica is to the lower left of the crescent Moon low in the southeast.

* 13/14 Sun./ Mon. all night: The Geminid meteor shower peaks with no Moon interference.

* 16 Wed.: The Moon is new.

* Naked-eye Planets. (The Sun, Moon, and planets rise in the east and set in the west due

Perseus... (continued on Page 4)

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margaret Soudelier

The Center is located at 301 E. Georgia Street and is open Monday through Friday. If you are 60 or older, come eat lunch with your friends and neighbors. If you need any more information about the Center, call Sylvia at 983-2032.

I received a phone call on November 19 informing me that I had a new great-grandson. He weighed in at 8 pounds and 2 ounces and was 21 inches long. Mother, baby and Daddy are all doing well.

Tommy Rowen returned home Sunday, November 22 from a trip to Buda, Texas where she attended her grandson's wedding. She went down there with her son, Johnny Rowen and his two daughters, Katie and Jordan, all of Canyon, Texas.

Sue Lovell's sister, Lee Artz of Santa Monica, California, passed away on November 24th. Everyone at the Center extends our deepest sympathy to the Lovell family.

I enjoyed Thanksgiving with my family at my son, Dan Nixon's home. Our meal did not consist of turkey and dressing. We had a Cajun meal instead. There were 14 of us around the table enjoying the food, visiting and above all, being thankful. The 14 present were Dan, Mitzi,

Laci and myself, from Floydada, Scott and Leslie Nixon of Lubbock, Denise Nixon and Melessa Mowl of McKinney, Teresa and Richard Hale of Borger and Melessa, Steve, Jacqueline and Jared Trengrove of Lubbock.

If you feel a need to make a memorial donation to the Center, you can mail it to Floydada Senior Citizens, PO Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235 or bring it to the Center at 301 E. Georgia Street in Floydada.

In memory of Jane McCulley, Nora Cisneros, Estelle Carthel and Randy Graham by Dale and Carolyn Smith.

Thought for the Week - Children are the most expensive form of entertainment.

MENU

DECEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 11

Monday - Chef salad, pimento cheese, pudding

Tuesday - Pizza pie, salad, corn, garlic bread, fruit

Wednesday - Meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, peas, roll, brownies

Thursday - BBQ chicken, potato salad, pinto beans, roll, cake

Friday - Chicken guesadillas, pinto beans, rice, jello

Floydada Rehab and Care Center Birthday Party

By Joyce Williams

The color purple was used in table and party decorations for the November birthday party. The celebration of resident, Louise Perryman (November 22) was held on Friday in order that other residents, family and friends could enjoy Thanksgiving dinner on the usual birthday party date, the third Thursday of each month.

The City Park Church of Christ hosted the Rehab and Care Center birthday party with the help of Elaine and Jon LaBaume.

The honoree, Louise Perryman requested that her favorite color, purple, be used and it was. A purple table cover was centered with purple and gold plumes, napkins and plates. Activity Director, Sylvia Luna, led the group of residents and visitors in the Main Center room as they sang Happy Birthday. She read aloud a poem, "By the Sea" describing how peace and serenity can be restored to our lives by quiet time in thought and prayer.

A corsage of golden mums was given the honoree by Cathy's Floral. Refreshments of deep dish pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream were served with iced grape punch.

Mrs. Dixie Harris was a guest of Mrs. Gail Hemphill, who has moved into the care center from Petersburg. Visitors are always welcome to the monthly birthday parties held the third Thursday afternoon of each month.

LOCKNEY SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

December 7-11

Monday: pork chops

Tuesday: baked ham

Wednesday: beef nachos

Thursday: fried chicken

Friday: tacos

VJ's News will return next week.

Our Readers Are Very Important to Us and We Appreciate Every One of You!

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983-2220

Come see Stacie at Scott Gin

Two miles south on the Ralls Hwy.

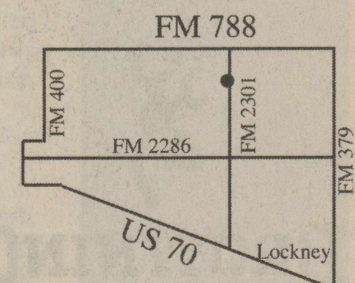
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Accessories Etc. Will be open Every Saturday till Christmas For your shopping convenience 416 Main Silvertown, TX West of the Court House On the Square 10-4 Mon.-Fri. 9-6 Cowgirls Treasures, Home Decor, Custom Jewelry, Montana Silversmith Dealer Something for everyone on Santa's List Men, Women and Children Item's Rovella Rhoderick 983-7468

Pheasant Hunter's Sunrise Breakfast Trinity Lutheran Church (Providence Community) December 5, 2009 5:30 a.m. - ??? Suggested Donation: \$5 MENU: Scrambled Eggs, Ham or Sausage Biscuits & Gravy or Texas Toast Orange Juice & Coffee



Lady Horns defeated by Abernathy

By Coach Reynolds
The Lockney Lady Horns traveled to Abernathy to play one last game before the Thanksgiving holidays. They were defeated 65-52. Scoring for the Lady Horns were Malory Johnson - 23, Bethany Wilson - 18, Kortney Williams - 4, Lezlie Jackson - 2, Danni Morales - 2, Quinn Jackson - 2, and Syann Foster - 1. The Lady Horn JV squeaked out a win with a last second free throw to put the Lady Horns ahead 24-23. The Lady Horns will play Tulia, December 1 and will also be traveling to Nazareth for the varsity tournament. They will play Claude the first round of the tournament at 12 noon.

Longhorn 7th Grade Gets First Win Of The Season

By Coach Browne
The Lockney 7th grade boy's basketball team earned its first win of the season last Monday night in comeback fashion against Hale Center by a score of 27-23. The Longhorns played hard and fast and were very aggressive in the win. Ignacio Tapia had 13 points, Jon Salas added 6, Darin Deleon added 5, and Nick Sherman had 3. The Longhorns defense held the Hale Center Owls to zero point in the 4th quarter to complete the comeback. The Longhorns next game will be Monday November 30 in Ralls with tip off at 5 pm.

Lockney School Menu December 7-11

- MONDAY**
Breakfast: pancakes or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: steak fingers or chicken patty, potatoes, green beans, apple-sauce, roll, milk
- TUESDAY**
Breakfast: breakfast pizza or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: chicken fajitas or corn dog, salad, refried beans, pears, flour tortilla, milk
- WEDNESDAY**
Breakfast: rice or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: spaghetti or ham, salad, peaches, bread stick, milk
- THURSDAY**
Breakfast: breakfast burrito or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: pizza or burrito, corn, salad, pineapple, milk
- FRIDAY**
Breakfast: cinnamon roll or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: hamburger or tuna sandwich, potatoes, salad, orange smile, milk

Lockney Eighth Grade Boys Win

By Coach Ragland
The Lockney eighth grade boy's basketball team notched another win last week in Hale Center, defeating the Owls 41-30. Hale Center jumped to an early lead in the first quarter, going up 12-4. Settling down defensively, the Shorthorns went to work limiting Hale Center to 4 points in the second and third periods. The Shorthorns were led in scoring by Nathan Caballero with 19 points. Collin Fulton added 10 points, and Ky Teeter, David Johnson, and Demario Means added 4 each. It was a great defensive effort by the team to slow down the fast tempo of the Owls. The Shorthorns improved to 2-0 and were scheduled to play at Ralls this week.

7th Grade Longhorns Lose To Crosbyton

By Coach Browne
The Lockney Longhorn 7th grade basketball team started its season on Monday night with a 17-12 loss to the Crosbyton Chiefs. The Longhorns were down early but fought back to tie the game up at 10 a piece in the 4th quarter. The Chiefs put the game away with 45 seconds left in the game. The Longhorns played really hard and they never gave up. Darin Deleon had 4 points, Ignacio Tapia had 4 points, John Salas had 2 points, Javier Guerrero had 1 point, and John Palomine had 1 point. The 7th grade Longhorns' next game will be Monday, November 23 in Hale Center with tip off coming at 5:00 pm.

Lockney 8th Grade Shorthorns Extend Winning Streak

By Coach Ragland
The Lockney 8th grade boys basketball team traveled to Ralls Monday night to play the Jackrabbits. Even a slow start could not keep the team from extending its record to 3-0 with the final score of 31-19. The Shorthorns were led in scoring by Nathan Caballero who had 16, followed by Ky Teeter with 13 points and Collin Fulton added 2 points. The team continues to improve each week and get better and better. The slow start can probably be attributed to the long Thanksgiving break. The Shorthorns will now host Anton next Monday to try and extend their record to 4-0.

7th Grade Longhorns Fall To Ralls, 17-11

By Coach Browne
The Lockney 7th grade boy's basketball team fell short Monday night to Ralls 17-11. The team played really hard and fought until the very end. Ignacio Tapia hit a 3 pointer with a minute left in the game to pull the Longhorns within 6, but they couldn't get any closer. Overall it was a very good game and the Longhorns played with a lot of heart. Ignacio Tapia led the team with 6 points, Darin Deleon added 3, and Will Prayer had 2. There is a possibility that the 7th grade will not have a game next week due to Anton only having one team, so the next 7th grade game will be on December 14th at New Deal with tip off coming at 5 pm.

Pheasant surveys are promising for some areas discouraging for others heading into hunting season

By Todd Montandon, Regulatory Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Pheasant season is here again! Beginning this weekend, Saturday December 5th hunters across the panhandle will set out for a potentially rewarding outing. TPWD's roadside pheasant surveys are conducted in the last two weeks of October and the first two weeks of November. Established twenty-mile routes are driven shortly after daylight and the numbers of pheasants are recorded. Counties typically have two or three different lines. Surveys revealed promising pheasant numbers for many counties in the northern panhandle, while southern counties may not fare as well. Proper timing of spring and summer rains, along with favorable crop selection led to a good hatch for counties like Ochiltree, Hansford, Dallam, and Sherman counties. All of these counties showed considerably higher survey numbers as compared to 2008. Counties further south such as Deaf Smith, Swisher, Parmer, Floyd and Castro counties had more localized rainfall leading to variable nesting conditions. Overall, southern counties did not survey as well as in some years past; however, there are still portions of these counties with hunt-able numbers of pheasant. Nesting conditions were poor to average to slightly above average throughout the Panhandle for ground-nesting birds. Rainfall is important to provide both cover for rearing broods and insect production for growing chicks. Playa lakes, particularly those adjacent to grain fields, typically hold the most birds. However, Conservation Reserve Program Fields (CRP) and grain stubble should also provide good hunting opportunities. TPWD leased lands throughout the Panhandle typically exhibit these type conditions, so check ahead to see where the nearest public lease may be to you. This year's pheasant season runs from December 5, 2009 to January 3, 2010. The daily bag limit is 3 cock pheasants (possession limit 6 cocks). Please obey all game laws and hunt only on lands where you have permission to tread. Remember that the Annual Public Hunting Permit (APH) will allow hunters access to TPWD leased lands. The APH is available wherever licenses are sold.

AgriLife Extension offers many continuing education opportunities in 2010

By J. W. Wagner, CEA-AG, Floyd County
AgriLife Extension office in Hockley County, 806-894-3159.
- Drip Irrigation Workshop, Jan. 19, Brownfield. Contact the AgriLife Extension office in Terry County, 806-637-4060.
- Southern Mesa Ag Conference, Jan. 19, Lamesa. Contact the AgriLife Extension office in Dawson County, 806-872-3444.
- Caprock Crop Production Conference, Jan. 20, Floyd County Friends Unity Center, Floydada. Contact the AgriLife Extension Service office in Floyd County, 806-983-4912.
- Llanos y Estacado Cotton Conference, Jan. 21, Muleshoe. Contact the AgriLife Extension office in Bailey County, 806-272-4584.
- Alternative Crops Workshop, Jan. 26, Seminole. Contact the AgriLife Extension office in Gaines County, 432-758-4006.
LUBBOCK- Need Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units? The Texas AgriLife Extension Service is offering a plethora of educational opportunities across their South Plains district during January and February that will provide an ample supply of the required credits. The credits are for private pesticide applicator license-holders, who are required to receive 15 hours of continuing education units prior to license recertification, which occurs every five years. Continuing education opportunity locations include the following. Call the contact numbers for specifics or further information:
- West Plains Ag Conference, Jan. 18, South Plains College, Sundown Room. Contact the

Perseus... (continued from Page 3)

to Earth's west-to-east rotation on its axis.) Evening: Jupiter is the brightest object in the southwest; by mid-month Mercury emerges low in the west southwest at dusk. Morning: Saturn is mid way up in the southeast with Mars high in the south southwest; Venus rises at dawn 45 minutes before the Sun.
• Astro Milestones. Dec. 14 is the 463rd birthday of Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe (1546-1601) whose meticulous observations and records of Mars' movement over several years enabled Johannes Kepler to discover elliptical orbits. Stargazer appears every other week. Paul Derrick is an amateur astronomer who lives in Waco. Contact him at 918 N. 30th, Waco, 76707, (254) 753-6920 or paulderrickwaco@aol.com. See the Stargazer Web site at stargazerpaul.com.

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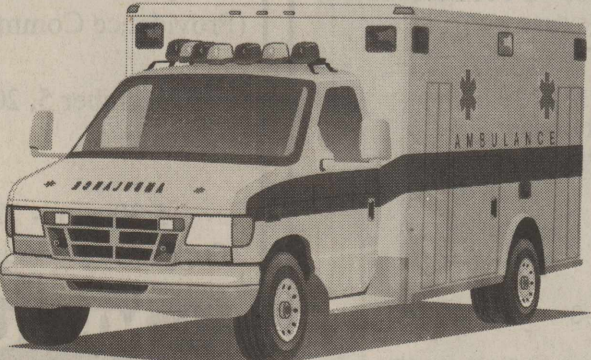
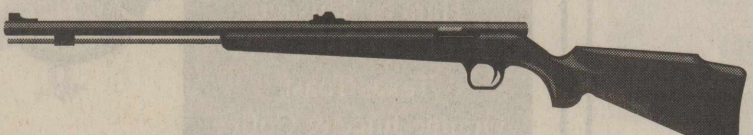
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(806) 823-2234

James Race, LUTCF Agency Manager
David True, LUTCF Agent
Tammy Brannon Agent
Chris Fulton Agent

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LOCKNEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SHOTGUN RAFFLE


Proceeds go toward the purchase of a new Ambulance
For tickets see any Volunteer Fireman or call 983-1848
Drawing to be held December 18, 2009
Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25

BROWNING 12 ga. CITORI

W.J. MANGOLD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
320 N. Main Lockney, TX 806-652-3373

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH November 2009 Vicky Zavala



Vicky has been working for the hospital since 2003. She is an RN who works as a charge nurse for the weekend night shift. Her job duties include OB nursing, geriatrics, general med-surg, and emergency room care. Vicky does a terrific job. She likes working with the staff, helping the patients and she loves the fact that her job is in her hometown. Some of her hobbies are reading, working crosswords, spending time with her family and road trips to see her children.

We appreciate Vicky and congratulate her for being selected this honor by her coworkers!

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Services

GARAGE DOOR SERVICE—New sales or repair. Call Scott Taylor, 983-4701. 1-14c

E & J TREE SERVICE—Tree trimming, cut downs. Lawns and bushes. Call 806-292-9378 or 983-6201. 12-17c

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CEMENT WORK—Need a new driveway, sidewalk, patio or flowerbed curb? Call Gary Bennett at 983-5120 (home) or 778-8549 (cell). tfn

COVINGTON CONSTRUCTION—Home repairs and remodels. Call me, Monte Covington, 548-3357. tfn

ERNIE'S LAWN SERVICE—Includes tree trimming and leaf clean-up. Call Ernie Torrez, Sr. - 806-685-4539 or 806-983-3365. tfn

Pets

BORDER COLLIE PUPS for sale. Poco Bueno Stock Dogs. Call Tim at 983-3322 or email: tim@pocosd.com tfn

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Houses for Rent

**** FOR RENT**—Section 8 welcome. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$450 month. 738 W. Grover. tfn

**** 3 BEDROOM**, 1 bath. \$595 month. 721 W. Grover. Call Dustin, 806-535-4278. tfn

Houses for Sale

HOUSE FOR SALE—3 bedroom, 2 bath, large utility. Lots of storage. Large corner lot. \$77,000 REDUCED \$65,000. 801 W. Tennessee. Call 806-983-2040. tfn

REDUCED AGAIN! 3/2, central heat. Needs work. Now \$ 22,900. 406 W. Mississippi, Floydada. Call 806-685-0194. tfn

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 806-543-3932 or 806-634-0658. tfn

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** Office building downtown with 5 internal offices - fax, phone, internet ready. Call Dedra at 543-7540 for more details or appointment. tfn

Miscellaneous

TEXAS PLAINS FEDERAL
206 W. California, Floydada
Remember us for all your personal financial needs - CD's, loans, checking and savings accounts. Call Laura at 983-3922 or visit our website at: www.texasplains-federal.org 1-30-10p

Garage Sales

740 W. MISSISSIPPI—Garage sale Saturday, December 12th. Time: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Lots of miscellaneous. 12-10p

HOUSE FOR SALE

1222 Ralls Highway
3 BR, 1 1/2 bath
1-car garage, brick
305 W. Georgia
2 BR, 1-car garage
\$17,500. Make offer
Call Bill Strickland at
Roberts & Wilkins Realtors
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FOR LEASE
The City of Floydada is accepting sealed bids for the grazing rights to 138 acres of native grass. A copy of the lease may be obtained at Floydada City Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Bids will be received until 5 p.m. Friday, December 11th and acted on at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, December 15th. The outside of the envelope should be marked "GRASS LEASE". 12-3c

This ad is just a small sample of the properties that we currently have for sale. Please check our website and give us a call!!!
We need your listings both large and small, all types of ag properties (**ESPECIALLY CRP**).
FLOYD CO., TX. - 320 acres with home, 120 acres native pasture, 200 acres CRP.
www.scotlandcompany.com
Ben G. Scott- Broker 800-933-9698
Gerald M. Smith-Agent 806-292-0197

NOTICE TO BID
The City of Floydada will receive sealed bis until 5 p.m. Friday, December 11, 2009 on the following:
2001 Freightliner Truck with 29 cubic yard Pak Mor with Emco-style pickup attachment
The truck has 78,126 miles with 2,475 hours. The truck may be seen at 230 N. Main in Floydada, Texas (behind the City Barn just north of the Fire Hall).
Sealed bids should be mailed or delivered to the City Secretary, 114 W. Virginia Street, Floydada, TX. 79235. The envelope should be marked "Trash Truck Bid".
The bids will be opened at 10 a.m. Monday, December 14, 2009 and acted upon at the Floydada City Council meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.
All questions should be directed to Julian Alaniz at 806-983-2834. 12-3c

PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID
The W. J. Mangold Memorial Hospital will receive competitive sealed proposals for the following project:
W. J. Mangold Memorial Hospital Clinic Addition
The proposals will be received until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, in the Board Room located within the hospital. 320 N. Main Street, Lockney, TX. Proposals will then be opened and read aloud.
A pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the hospital Board Room.
Bid documents and plans may be obtained upon request from The Reproduction Company at 2102 Avenue Q, Lubbock, TX. 79411. A refundable \$150 deposit will be required to obtain plans.
Please contact the Architect at 806-748-6190 with any questions. 12-3, 12-10, 12-17c

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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

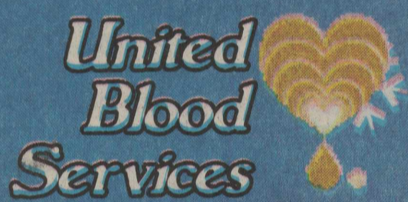
ANSWER:

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!

It's Time For Our Great Holiday Health Fair

Saturday, December 5
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Lockney Elementary
310 S.W. 8th Street



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Cheer Program

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Be sure to bring
your doll or stuffed
animal to the Doll
Clinic

Area Community Hospice	Bone Density Screening	Star Medical Equipment	Uniting Parents
Hale County 4-H	Lockney Health and Rehab Center	Prints for Kids (fingerprint booth)	Cogdell RHC Lockney, TX
Webb & Webb Optometry	Social Services	Accolade Home Health	Freedom 2 Go
Floydada WIC Program	Hospice Hands of West Texas	Legal Aid of Northwest Texas	Free Cholesterol Check
Children's Photo I.D.	LegMan Vein.com	Children's Crafts	Double T Health Service Corps
Mangold Home Health	Kids Safety	Texas Star and Texas Health Steps	King Hearing Center
Juice+	Injured Doll Clinic	First Care Health Plans	Floyd County Child Welfare
Grace Medical Center	Mangold Nutrition Services	Crisis Center of the Plains	The Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center (mammograms) will be at Cogdell Clinic Lockney, Texas December 30
Mangold Physical Therapy	Blood Sugar Checks	Christmas Crafts for Children	

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