

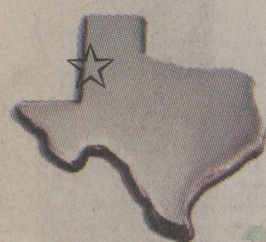
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The Floyd County

HESPERIAN-BEACON

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VOLUME 114 NUMBER 28 THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2010 8 PAGES - 75¢

Floyd County sends road damage estimates to FEMA



Courtesy Photos

FLOOD DAMAGE---County Road 121 (from FM 37 going south for 5-½ miles to FM 54) in Precinct One has sustained excessive flood and rain damage. Estimated cost of repairs of the county (dirt) roads in Floyd County have been submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) for consideration of assistance.

The Floyd County Commissioners' Court met in their regular business meeting on Monday, July 12, 2010. One of the special guests that spoke at the meeting was Colleen O'Neal, Regional Liaison Officer with the Texas Division of Emergency Management. She provided the commissioners with a basic formula to get a conservative estimate of road damage in the

four precincts. The estimated damage total is \$2,860,960. The worksheets with all replacement cost will be sent to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) for consideration of assistance. There are approximately 800 miles of county (dirt) roads in Floyd County. As a result of excessive rain and flood damages that

occurred on July 3 - July 4, Floyd County Judge Penny Golightly has submitted a letter and proclamation dated July 6, 2010 to Governor Rick Perry declaring a state of disaster for the County of Floyd. Floyd County is facing tremendous economic losses due to damages to county roads and bridges. The county loss has and will create a severe production, revenue

and hardship to Floyd County. In her letter to Governor Perry, Judge Golightly stated, "It is my belief the damage to county roads and bridges due to the rain constitutes a public health and safety hazard. I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond Floyd County's capability to recover without

supplementary state and/or federal assistance." Judge Golightly also commented, "Additionally, I certify that Floyd County does not have local funding available to make the needed repairs and to provide these citizens effective relief." J. W. Wagner, County Extension Agent, Agriculture, of the Texas AgriLife Extension office reported

that the West Texas Mesonet station has measured a total of 27-inches of rain in Floydada since the first of January. Of that total, 25-inches of rain has been received since April. The West Texas Mesonet station is located at the Floydada Airport, north of Floydada. *The proclamation submitted to Governor Rick Perry can be seen on page 8.*

Rural State Agency presents \$250,000 check to Floydada

The Texas Department of Rural Affairs (TDRA) presented the city of Floydada with an oversized, ceremonial check to recognize the community for its hard work in securing a grant from the agency's Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) program. Agency staff presented the check on June 2 in Lubbock, Texas. "We are very pleased to present this ceremonial check to the community," said Charles S. (Charlie) Stone, executive director of TDRA. "Community development

grants such as this help Texans in rural communities improve their quality of life significantly." Floydada will use the \$250,000 grant to replace a water pump station and bring the city's water system up to state standards. The agency awarded \$4,258,295 to 15 communities in the South Plains Association of Governments region, including Anton, Earth, Floydada, Lorenzo, New Deal, O'Donnell, Olton, Post, Ralls, Ransom Canyon, Slaton, Sudan, Bailey

County, Dickens County, and Lubbock County. TDRA awarded more than \$88 million to rural communities in Texas for the 2009 funding cycle. "Texas CDBG is a competitive grant program, so the community is to be commended for their hard work and diligence in pursuing this grant," said Mark Wyatt, director of TDRA's community development division. The grant comes from the Texas Community **Continued on page 8**

USDA Program Brings New Housing Options

By Justin Jaworski
Executive Director
Floydada EDC
 On Thursday, July 22, at 6 p.m. in the Floyd County Library Conference room, citizens of Floydada and Floyd County will have the opportunity to learn about a great housing program offered by the United States Department of Agriculture. The program is called, "Single Family Housing Direct Loan Program." Its purpose is aimed at providing financing for homeowners that would not otherwise qualify for traditional lending. The program is referred

to by USDA as the ultimate mortgage for eligible low and very-low income applicants with acceptable credit to purchase a home in rural areas without a down payment. Though this may sound difficult or even impossible for some families that would like to purchase or even build a home, the USDA is committed to working with individual applicants to work out ways of establishing credit, even when no credit history exists or is less than what traditional lenders would approve. This program is a great **Continued on page 8**

Senior Estate Planning to be featured at Hackberry Town Hall Meeting

Senior Estate Planning will be the featured topic of a Town Hall Meeting to be held at Hackberry Creek Care Center Thursday, July 22 at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Some very important tips will be discussed regarding this subject. Don Allen of Senior Planning Services and a Medicaid specialist for the Law Firm of W. Tim Ladyman, PC, will be the featured speaker. One of the greatest fears of seniors who must go to a nursing home is that in order to qualify for Medicaid help, they must spend down all their assets and give up their home. Mr. Allen says this **Continued on page 8**

Services

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Hackberry Creek Care Center, Inc., in Matador was custom designed to meet the diverse and changing needs of today's senior adults. Each resident is treated with dignity and respect in order to make a difference in the lives of the elderly that have been entrusted to our care.

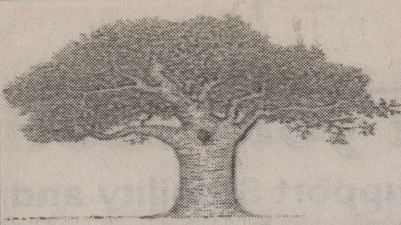
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THE CITY OF FLOYDADA HAS SCHEDULED AERIAL SPRAYING FOR EITHER THURSDAY LATE EVENING OR EARLY FRIDAY MORNING!



HACKBERRY HAPPENINGS

BY CARLA MEADOR, MARKETING DIRECTOR

OUTPATIENT THERAPY SERVICES AVAILABLE SOON!

Hackberry is proud to announce that we are now state registered as a physical and occupational therapy facility and certified to offer outpatient services. We are very proud of this accomplishment and hope this will benefit the residents of Motley County and this area.

Of course, with any new service, it will take a little time to get things up and operating, but we have tentatively set August 1st as the start-up date.

Therapy services are dedicated to the needs of persons affected by stroke, arthritis, hip fracture, amputation, cardiac disease, pulmonary disease, hip or knee joint replacements, complicated courses of recovery from surgery or illness and general debilitation.

Physical therapy includes joint mobilization, therapeutic exercise, orthopedic rehab, home evaluations, transfer and mobility. Rehabilitation services will include head, neck and spine, shoulder, elbow and wrist, knee,

balance, sports performance and injury, ankle and foot rehab, hip, women's health and wound care.

Occupational Therapy includes safety education, home evaluations, home living skills, hand rehab, activity of daily living, cognitive perceptual retraining, transfer and mobility retraining, utilization of adaptive equipment and upper extremity therapeutic exercise.

To be able to take advantage of these services, those with the need for outpatient therapy must have a physician's orders, insurance information and identification. For more information please call John Vunk, Administrator, or Buffy Boger, Rehab Director, at 806-347-2942.

"We are proud to be able to offer these services to this area, and hope it will be a great benefit to the residents," said Mr. Vunk. "We are one of the few Care Center's to offer these outpatient services," he continued.

We would also like to remind area residents of our outpatient lab services. Blood lab services are available on Thursday mornings. Call

Cindy Dubois, DON, or Amy Cruz, ADON, 347-2942, for more information.

SENIOR HEALTH TIPS SLEEP TIPS FOR THE ELDERLY (continued from last week's column)

Last week we talked about how essential good sleep is to your physical health and well-being and presented several tips on how to improve sleep quality. We will continue this week with a few more tips for a good night's sleep.

To nap or not to nap - what is the answer?

If you don't feel fully alert during the day, a nap may be just what you need. For many people, taking a brief nap can provide the needed energy to perform fully for the rest of the day. Experiment with napping to see if it helps you.

Some tips for good napping:

- Short - Make sure your nap is only 15-30 minutes. You may feel groggy and unable to concentrate after a longer nap.

- Early - Nap early in the afternoon. Napping too late in the day may disrupt your

nighttime sleep.

- Comfortable - Try to nap in a comfortable environment preferably with limited light and noise.

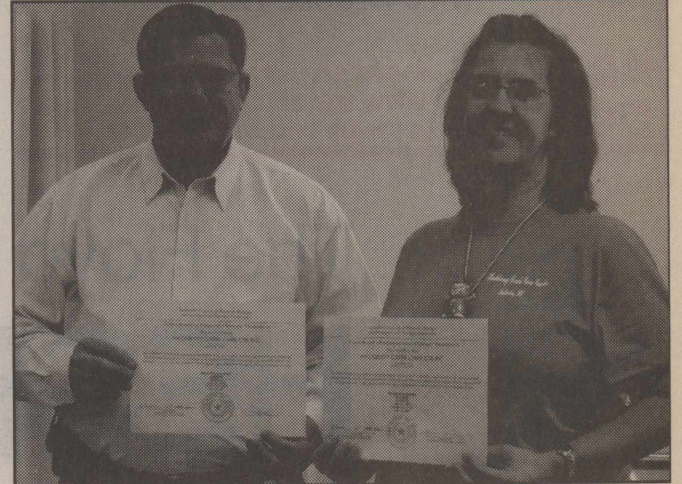
How can the foods you eat close to bedtime disturb your sleep?

To promote good sleep, pay particular attention to your pre-bedtime diet.

- Limit caffeine late in the day
- Avoid alcohol before bedtime
- Satisfy your hunger prior to bed
- Avoid big meals or spicy foods just before bedtime
- Minimize liquid intake before sleep

Can lack of exercise affect your sleep?

A life without exercise can make you feel sleepy all of the time, or not tired at all. Exercise releases chemicals in your body that promote more restful sleep. Even something as simple as a daily walk can do wonders for your sleep regularity. Be sure to exercise early in the day. Exercise too late in the day can be stimulating, so plan to be active at least six hours before retiring.



Courtesy Photo

HACKBERRY TO OFFER OUTPATIENT THERAPY - Hackberry Creek Care Center Administrator, John Vunk is pictured here with Rehab Director, Buffy Boger, displaying the state certificates for outpatient therapy. Physical and Occupational therapy will be available at the Center on an outpatient basis beginning August 1.

Adding exercise to your life does not necessarily mean signing up for a gym membership. There are countless activities you can do to increase strength, burn calories and prepare yourself for a good night's sleep at the end of the day.

- Swim
- Dance
- Take up lawn bowling
- Golf
- Garden

•Cycle or run

If you have mobility issues, you can exercise from one position, either standing, sitting or lying down.

Stress and anxiety can also easily get in the way of a good night's sleep. Everyone has worries and lists of things to do, but it is important to teach yourself to let go of these thoughts when it's time to sleep.

VJ's News

By Vera Jo Bybee

Today over 100 guests attended a catered BBQ lunch celebrating the 100th birthday of Aiken's First Baptist Church. On June 10, 1910, 23 members withdrew their membership from the Lockney Baptist Church and organized Meteor's Baptist Church with J. A. Weathers as its pastor. Bro. Weathers served as their pastor for 15 years.

In 1949 a deed was signed for the present location and the name was changed to

Aiken's First Baptist Church with 24 members and the pastor being J.W. Welch. Mrs. Jo Webb was honored for being the oldest member and for having attended the church's services the longest.

On Wednesday, July 7, four members of the class of 1948 ate lunch at the Lockney Senior Citizen Center. Enjoying the delicious meal and visiting were Bobbye Casey Bean of Silverton, Elna Sanderson Bloys of Sandhill, Gleyann Earle Norman Cummings, and me, Vera Jo Rogers Bybee.

Tuesday, July 6 Becky took me to Lubbock see Dr. Simfukwe for my kidney reports. He was happy to tell me my reports were good. I still don't have my strength back so I have to go to rehab and workout with Chrystal. She says I am better, but I still don't feel as good as I would like to. Maybe someday I will be better.

Thursday, July 8 my daughter Becky celebrated her birthday. I'm not saying which one.

I hate to report that Violet Cooper is in the Mangold Memorial Hospital after having suffered from a stroke. Also Joyce Mason

is in the hospital with pneumonia. Kenneth is home after having his pacemaker surgery last Thursday

Please keep all the ill ones in your prayers.

LOCKNEY SENIOR CITIZENS MENU July 19-23

Monday: pork chops

Tuesday: chicken strips

Wednesday: chicken fried steak

Thursday: braised beef tips

Friday: brisket

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Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margarette Word

The Center is open Monday through Friday. If you are 60 years or older, come and eat lunch for a reasonable price and visit your friends.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 573. We are located at 301 E. Georgia.

On June 25th Margaret Soudelier, her son, Dan Nixon and family and grandson, Scott Nixon and family traveled to McKinney to spend the weekend with Denise Nixon. Friday night they all went to see the Texas Rangers and Houston Astros play. After the game there was a beautiful fireworks display. On Saturday, they went to Lake Ray Hubbard for a day of boating and playing in the water. On Sunday before returning home, they visited several antique stores in downtown McKinney. A lot of fun was had by all.

Sandra Forehand recently had two groups of family members visiting her. One group included three uncles, two cousins, and two aunts. They were from

Fredericksburg, San Angelo, Muleshoe, Petersburg and Plainview.

The second group came a few days later and spent a few days. They included Sandra's son and his family plus a friend and a mother-in-law of Ferris, Texas. The son and family and friend were from Oregon.

Bob and Charlene Allredge had seventeen members in their home July 4th celebrating several family members birthdays. They had a very good meal and visit.

The reason there was not a news article in the paper last week was because my granddaughter Bethany Bond, a student at Texas Tech, drove me to Granbury. We had a big family get-together over a four-day visit. The weather was great, no rain.

Evelyn Goodnight is home after spending several days at Mangold Memorial Hospital. We hope she keeps on getting stronger and can come to the Center soon.

Gordan Hambright is back

at the Center after having surgery several weeks ago.

Our sympathy to the family of Dulan Sargent.

Our sympathy to the family of Vonceil Colston.

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

In memory of Thurman Beatty - Gene and Nancy Lawson, Bill Ferguson, Marie Warren.

In memory of Evelyn Pollan - Gene and Nancy Lawson.

In memory of Wilson Edward - Herman and Bonnie Graham.

"Thought for the Week" - No one can make you feel inferior without your permission.

Eleanor Roosevelt

MENU

June 19 - June 23

Monday - Baked ham w/ pineapple, blackeyed peas, carrots, roll, fruit

Tuesday - Meat loaf, okra & tomatoes, scalloped potatoes, roll, jello

Wednesday - Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, cobbler

Thursday - Chef salad, pimento cheese, carrots, chocolate bars.

Friday - Mushroom chicken, oriental blend, peas, roll, blueberry muffins

Bridal Selections For:

Brooke and Kirk Wilson
(nee Brooke Day)

Clark's Pharmacy
309 North Main Street
Lockney, TX 79241
(806) 652-3353

Wedding shower selections for:

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Obituaries

Templo Getsemani, Assemblies of God



VONCEIL COLSTON

Notie Vonceil Colston, age 87, passed away July 5, 2010 at the home of her niece, Juanice Shearer Paulsen, where Vonceil was making her home in Custer, South Dakota.

Visitation was held Sunday, July 11, 2010 from 5 to 6 p.m. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, July 12, 2010 at the Moore-Rose Funeral Home Chapel in Floydada. Interment followed at the Floydada Cemetery under the direction of Moore-Rose Funeral Home in Floydada.

Vonceil was born October 17, 1922 to Luther and Zora (Towry) Woolsey in Floydada. She received her education in Floydada and on August 14, 1941 was united in marriage to Raymond Colston. They moved to Dallas for 2 years and returned to Floydada to farm in 1943. They farmed until Raymond's health caused him to have to retire in 1979.

In 1986, they moved into Floydada where Vonceil worked as a caregiver for the next 20 years. Vonceil was a very patient, kind, loving, caring, hard-working lady. She was always willing to help anyone who called her. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

In addition to her husband, Raymond, Vonceil was preceded in death by her two sisters, Abbie Lee and Elizabeth and their parents.

Vonceil is survived by cousins, sister-in-laws and several nieces and nephews.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials be made in Vonceil Colston's name to the Floydada EMS, PO Box 373, Floydada, TX 79235 or the First United Methodist Church, 203 W. Kentucky, Floydada, TX 79235.

Online condolences may be made at www.moore-rose.com.

By Joe Hernandez

Pastor
Make plans to bring the family and just enjoy life! Come join the fun Saturday, July 24th from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Templo Getsemani A/G located at 701 West Missouri in Floydada, Texas. Church telephone number 806-983-5286.

The community of Floydada is invited to be the recipients of God's love and His divine favor along with a smiling face and a handshake. Just decide to show up

and have fun. There will be water balloon games, dunking booth, prize wheel, snow cones, hotdogs, watermelons, and even pony rides for children.

And everything on this special day will be FREE! We're just thinking about you!

"For God so loved the world, that he gave..." (John 3:16) -KJV

"For God so loves "you" that he gives through his people.

"The best things in life are not things...."

KIDS KAMP 2010

First Baptist Church Floydada is sponsoring Kid's Kamp 2010. It is just around the corner on July 29th - August 1st.

This is a camp for any child that has finished 1st grade through 6th grade. Kid's Kamp is 3 1/2 days of fun filled activities such as swimming, music, hiking, hay rides, recreation, crafts, Bible study, worship and a lot of fellowship with each other.

We meet at the FBC on July 29th and load kids and luggage on buses and head for the Plains Baptist Assembly. Each grade level will have their own cabin with adult sponsors. If you

have been before, make plans now on coming again and inviting friends to come along and join in the fun. If you have never been, don't miss out on the time of your life. We have a great band coming this year and a very special speaker that you will not want to miss.

The deadline for sign-ups is July 15th and you can pick up a form at the church office. The cost is only \$10. This is a great time for kids and by then maybe even a needed vacation for parents.

If you have any questions regarding camp please stop by the First Baptist Church or call, 806-983-3755.

View obits online at [hesperian beacon online.com](http://hesperianbeacononline.com)

Got News? Call 983-3737 or 652-3318

Save this date!!!
Saturday October 2nd 2010
"Join in the Journey"
Women's Christian Conference
Unity Center
Located in Muncy, Texas
Between Floydada & Lockney on Hwy 70
9:00am-4:00pm
Tickets \$20.00 (Lunch included)
Contact: Connie Johnson 806-983-3603 HM
806-983-3441 WK
Join us for a day God created just for you!

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 School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship ..10:50 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday7:00 p.m.

- CALVARY'S CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP**
Floydada
Armando Morales, Pastor
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.
Bible Study6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

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

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

- CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Levi Sisemore, Minister
Floydada
Sunday Bible Study..9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study7:00 p.m.

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**
Tim Franks, Pastor
Terry Simmons,
Minister of Ed./Music
Beau Stringer, Minister of Students
Sunday School9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study6:30 p.m.

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney**
John Franklin, Pastor
Chad Cook, Youth Min.
Phil Cotham, Music Min..
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday6:30 p.m.

- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Floydada
Rev. Les Hall, Pastor
Early Worship8:30 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 School9:30 a.m.
Worship Service10:30 a.m.
Evening Service..... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Jr. High5:30 p.m.
Wed. High School... 6:30 p.m.

- GRANT CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**
Joe Bennett, Pastor
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....7:30 p.m.
Tuesday8:00 p.m.
Wed. Service7:30 p.m.

- MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Lockney
Jay Don Poindexter, Minister
Bible Study9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday7:30 p.m.

- MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**
Floydada
Rev. Ralph Jackson
401 N 12th St (983-5805)
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Study ...7:00 p.m.

- NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**
Floydada
Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges
(806) 637-0430
Sunday Singing10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.

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

- POWER OF PRAISE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH**
Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor
704 N. Main, Lockney
Sunday Services....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday7:30 p.m.

- PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA**
Lockney
Jesus Caballero, Pastor
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Worship Service11:00 a.m.
Discipleship5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service7:00 p.m.

- PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA**
Floydada
Pastor Reverend Raymond Asebedo
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ..10:55 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Evening6:00 p.m.

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

- TEMPLO GETSEMANI ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
701 W. Missouri
Joe Hernandez
983-5286 (church)
983-5156 (parsonage)
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....5:00 p.m.
Wednesday7:00 p.m.

- ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Floydada
Rev. Angelo Consemينو
Phone: 983-5878
Sunday Mass.....11:30 a.m.
Mon.Wed. Mass6:30 p.m.
Confession Sat.....10-11 a.m.

- TEMPLO BAUTISTA SALEM**
Lockney
Rev. Joe Hernandez
Sun. Prayer Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School9:45 p.m.
Worship Service11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Meeting7:00 p.m.

- TEMPLO BETHEL SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Washington and 1st St.
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service7:00 p.m.

- TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA**
Rev. Herman Martinez
308 W. Tennessee, Floydada
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship5:00 p.m.
Tuesday7:30 p.m.
Thursday Service...7:30 p.m.

- Trinity Assembly**
500 W. Houston, Floydada
Henry Russell, Co-Pastor
Vance Mitchell, Co-Pastor
Children's Church 10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:40 a.m.
Sunday Evening 5 p.m.

- TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Providence Community
on FM 2301 293-3009
Rev. Peter W. Harrington
Minister
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Worship Service11:00 a.m.

- WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Floydada 983-3548
Sunday Worship ...10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening5:00 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
Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon 983-3737	Schacht Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts 112 W. Poplar, Lockney 652-2385
Lighthouse Electric Coop 703 A Matador Hwy 983-2814	Sunshine Pump Oliver Clark Box 266, Lockney 983-5087 - 774-4412 (Mobile)
Shepherd's Meadow Assisted Living 1230 S. Ralls Hwy Floydada 983-8177	

You're invited to Vacation Bible School!
Where: Main St. Church of Christ in Lockney
When: ONE DAY ONLY!!!
Saturday, July 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Who: Ages 4 years - 6th grade
(Breakfast and Lunch served)

FLOYD COUNTY HISTORY FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE FLOYD COUNTY MUSEUM

From The Floyd County Hesperian May 24, 1945 recalls the storm that hit Della Plain in 1889

(This article is being reprinted exactly the way it appeared in the Hesperian on May 24, 1945.)

Remarking in a recent letter to his nephew J. T. McLain of Sand Hill, about the sandstorms and winds that beset West Texas, R. E. L. McLain, now of Fort Worth, onetime Floyd county newspaper man, tells an interesting story of the incident of one storm that struck this county in 1889, when Della Plain was an aspiring community just established on the broad prairies.

I vividly remember the many spring winds and attending sand storms that beset, not only Floyd county, but all West Texas during the months of March and April. Many times we have had to eat our bacon and beans filled with dirt of doubtful composition; a mixture of buffalo grass, both digested and undigested, sand and other substances which were not able to separate in our haste to consume, before it became too thick to swallow without coffee or water to wash it down.

Big Storm at Della Plain

That reminds me of the big storm that struck Della Plain in 1889 when it blew down my windmill and destroyed Mr. Vanderslice's home and slammed me up against the little real estate office just across the street. I saw the black cloud coming from the west and hastened to get home before it would strike but I was too slow. I had just passed the Vanderslice home when I observed Mr. V. and the little girl come out of the door onto the stoop and the next thing I saw was Mrs. Vanderslice and the little girl being flat on the ground about

10 or 12 feet north of where they were standing at first and the house was completely gone and I was hanging for dear life to the battens on the wall of the office building my hat gone and me scared almost to death but unhurt. My hat was found several days later down under the caprock in Motley county.

Mrs. Vanderslice and daughter were unhurt but scared stiff; their home leveled to the sod foundation and the furniture scattered for some distance and the lumber and iron sheeting strewn for miles to the east.

Dug outs and Boxed Houses

You remember that we all lived either in dugouts builded of sod or flimsy box houses, erected on sod foundations. We would take a sixteen inch rod plow and turn the tough buffalo grass and sod cut it into one-foot strips and then build our dugout around an excavation which had been dug about three feet deep to a height of four or more feet and then erect a ridge pole and place china poles, rafter shape, on which we put straw and then lay sod over the roof and filled the cracks with dirt; then plaster the inside with a mortar made from gypsum dirt we found in the shallow draw about a mile west of Della Plain. It made a warm and comfortable abode for the time being.

Dugout Caved In On Us

While wife and I were visiting down at Seymour, the range cattle came and horned the sod wall on our abode, and then that fall, when the rains came, softened up the sod and it caved in on us one night and it was only the ridge pole that kept us from being buried alive in our dugout and we were forced to move into our little two-room

box house in front, and which was saved from the storm, narrated above. By the windmill, which I had erected just to the north of the house and so close that the storm took its revenge out on the windmill.

That storm also demolished the warehouse of Ewing and McLain, besides doing considerable damage to other property around town.

Yes, we used to enjoy some freak weather on the plans in those days, where hardy men and women braved the visitudes of frontier life, and made it possible to establish society, law and order, and good government, preparing for the beauty and prosperity of Floyd and Hale counties of the present day. If it had not been for the sturdy and Godfearing people who risked their lives, their health and their fortunes in those early days, there would not have been much to look back on in the most beautiful country in the world. Wife and I have done considerable traveling since 1881-91 in Floyd county but we often wonder just why we left and wish that we were back there enjoying the fresh breezes and pure water and the beautiful views for miles around. But we have no regrets to hinder our happiness and fruitful lives.

Vanderslice first dug a basement, three feet deep and then build a four-foot sod wall and built his house on top, which made him a fine large home and it became a meeting place for all the people of Della Plain for public gatherings until the storm which wrecked the home and Vanderslice moved to Oklahoma where he died around the turn of the century

Palo Duro Basin Oil and Gas Update

On Tuesday, June 29 PetroGlobe, Inc. and ArPetrol, Inc. announced they were amalgamating to form Amalco, with operations continuing under the name ArPetrol, Inc.

The amalgamation agreement article 3.3g states that Amalco shall continue to be liable for all of the obligations of each PetroGlobe, Inc. and ArPetrol, Inc.

PetroGlobe, Inc. operates its Palo Duro Basin leases through its subsidiary

PetroGlobe Energy USA Ltd.

Currently PetroGlobe Energy USA Ltd. is listed by the Railroad Commission of Texas as a delinquent operator for failure to file an annual Form P-5 (organizational report) which was due on April 1, 2010.

Currently PetroGlobe Energy USA Ltd. has three shut-in wells in the Palo Duro Basin: the Cox Lease Well #1013 located in Section 13, Block D-5, Floyd

County, 5.8 miles northwest of Lockney, which has been shut-in since June 20, 2008; the Ramsower Lease Well #1113 located in Section 113, Block D-2, Hale County, 5.4 miles northeast of Plainview, which has been shut-in since April 20, 2007; and the Young Lease Well #1032, located in Section 32, Block M-14, Swisher County, 4 miles southwest of Claytonville, which has been shut-in since February 22, 2007.



Once in a lifetime everyone should go to one of those Japanese restaurants where charismatic chefs with circus-level skills perform magnificent food tricks right before your eyes, tossing eggs over their shoulders, catching them in their chef's hats, slicing things in mid-air, building volcanoes out of chopped onions and never missing a cleaver toss. That's how I remember it. I could be wrong. I'd like to see it all again. So would grandson Cutter, age 3.

The Fuji chef experience was a life-changer for him. No, my husband and I didn't take Cutter. His parents have only themselves to blame.

Speaking of blame, if you name a child Cutter, don't be surprised if he shows a natural affinity for knives.

Right now it's a toss-up as to whether Cutter fancies himself to be Iron Man or Iron Chef. Both fit his multiple personality syndrome.

Last night Cutter joined me in the kitchen to help prepare what was supposed to be a simple meal

of spaghetti and salad. Amazingly no one got hurt. He tipped over his stepstool and crashed to the floor at least twice. I lost count. But none of his fingertips and none of mine ended up in the salad. I helped him grate a carrot and cut up a tomato and part of a green pepper. Together we watched the bubbles form on the bottom of the pot as the spaghetti water began to boil.

It's a whole new world when you're 3. And sometimes when you're 63.

After the meal he reverted to chef mode. It was Grandad's idea that upside-down swim trucks could be his Fuji chef's hat. I myself found the legs a bit disconcerting. Not Cutter. He manned the barbecue grill and served us some impressive chunky mesquite-flavored steaks on the patio. How do I know they tasted like mesquite? They were mesquite.

That's the good thing about playing with a 3-year-old. You don't really have to eat imaginary food. Pretending suffices.

It's good for grandpar-

ents to spend time imagining and pretending with grandchildren. When the next stop is old age, a working imagination comes in handy. It's a tough go without one.

Imagine yourself in the rest home. It's a day-in, day-out existence that can be tediously dull. No wonder some residents depend on delusions to spice things up. They imagine someone is stealing their clothes or that they're just there for the night and they'll be leaving the next day. Works for me.

I'm wondering if Cutter will visit me when he's 33 and I'm 93, widowed and living in a place stuffed with Baby Boomers. I may be the only one not hallucinating. After all, I didn't even inhale in the '60s.

But I am counting on a few delusions.

My main concern is whether there'll be half-and-half for my morning coffee. Maybe it'll be time for me to grow up, embrace reality and drink it black. Or maybe not. I really can't think of a worse time to grow up.

AG defends National Day of Prayer

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, leading a multi-state coalition of 29 attorneys general, today took legal action to defend the annual National Day of Prayer. An amicus brief authored by Attorney General Abbott urges the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit to overturn a lower court ruling, which held that the National Day of Prayer is unconstitutional. The National Day of Prayer statute was established by Congress in 1952. Since then, presidents have issued proclamations that designate a single day each year as the National Day of Prayer. In 2008, the Freedom From Religion Foundation, a Wisconsin-based group of atheists and agnostics, filed a lawsuit claiming that the National Day of Prayer is unconstitutional. On April 15, 2010, U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb issued a decision ruling that the National Day of Prayer violates the First Amendment's Establishment Clause, which provides: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

In the amicus brief filed today, the states argue that public acknowledgments of God at official functions have been customary since the nation's founding: "Invocations have opened presidential administrations, legislative sessions, and judicial proceedings throughout our Nation's history." The states' brief also argues that the U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that governmental institutions' public acknowledgments of God are constitutional. In a 1983 case styled Marsh v. Chambers, for example, the high court upheld the constitutionality of state and federal governments opening every legislative session with a clergy-led prayer. The states explain that the district court's decision not only strikes down the National Day of Prayer, but also threatens Memorial Day. The federal law establishing Memorial Day re-

quests that the president issue a proclamation "calling on the people of the United States to observe Memorial Day by praying, according to their individual religious faith, for permanent peace." The states explain that "if the district court is correct, and Congress may not enact laws that require the president to issue a proclamation inviting those who wish to pray to do so, then the statute providing for the observance of Memorial Day would presumably be unconstitutional as well."

Finally, the states argue that the ruling of the federal district

court in Wisconsin also threatens the states' own traditions of issuing prayer proclamations. For example, the brief notes that Gulf coast state officials designated Sunday, June 27, a day of prayer due to the recent oil spill. The states argue that if the National Day of Prayer is unconstitutional, "the actions of the governors of all fifty States will likewise be called into doubt, for doing nothing more than acknowledging our Nation's religious heritage, consistent with our Nation's customs and traditions."

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Bramlet receives West Texas Friends of NRA scholarship

By Jack Cannon
West Texas NRA Field Representative

For the first time, West Texas Friends of NRA handed out scholarships to deserving youth involved with the shooting sports. Miss Jill Bramlet is one of the elite few who stood to accept the honor and the funds.

The accolades for Bramlet flowed in regularly, proving that she was a worthy candidate for West Texas Friends of NRA's new scholarship awards. According to Bramlet's high school counselor, Mrs. Hallmark "Jill has a strong sense of responsibility and excellent work ethic. She is extremely personable, mature, bright and full of life." The County Extension Agent, Melissa Long, remarks that, "Jill exemplifies the very best of what the 4-H organization has to offer. She has been an exceptional leader on the county level, always willing to assist with projects, workshops and tours. She has continued to be an example for younger members by her actions and efforts."

Bramlet is a ten year member of the Floyd County 4-H. For the past seven years, she has competed at district 4-H rifle contests and for the past four years has been on the Floyd County 4-H State Rifle Team. In addition to her work on the range, she is involved with her high school band, the A/B Honor Roll, National Honor Society and 4-H Photography.

Bramlet is a gifted individual who regularly steps into leadership roles, including Class President, Class Treasurer, Vice President of her National Honor Society chapter, Club/County and District 4-H President, and State 4-H Council member. She has represented her district as a delegate at Texas 4-H Congress and National 4-H Congress, and she also served as a member of the Floyd County Advisory Board for four years.

Bramlet is a role model for young shooters across the nation to strive for their best in all aspects of their lives. West Texas Friends of NRA is proud to count Bramlet among their scholarship recipients.



Courtesy photo

Jill Bramlet honored for her expertise in shooting sports.

Kids urged to use bicycle safety

By Melissa Long
CEA-FCS,
Floyd County

Bicycle riding is fun, healthy, and a great way to be independent.

But it is important to remember that a bicycle is not a toy; it's a vehicle!

Be cool-follow some basic safety tips when you ride.

Safe Riding Tips

Before using your bicycle, make sure it is ready to ride. You should always inspect your bike to make sure all parts are secure and working properly.

Remember to:

Wear a Properly Fitted Bicycle Helmet.

Protect your brain, save your life. For more information see the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration publication *Easy Steps to Properly Fit a Bicycle Helmet*.

Adjust your Bicycle to Fit.

Stand over your bicycle. There should be 1 to 2 inches between you and the top tube (bar) if using a road bike to 3 to 4 inches if a mountain bicycle. The seat should be level front to back. The seat height should be adjusted to allow a slight bend at the knee when the leg is fully extended. The handlebar height should be at the same level with the seat.

Check Your Equipment.

Before riding, inflate tires properly and check that your brakes work.

See and Be Seen.

Whether daytime, dawn, dusk, foul weather, or at night, you need to be seen by others. Wearing white has not been shown to make you more visible. Rather, always wear neon, fluorescent, or other bright colors when riding day or night. Also wear something that reflects light, such as reflective tape or markings, or flashing lights.

Remember, just because you can see a driver doesn't mean the driver can see you.

Control Your Bicycle.

Always ride with at least one hand on the handlebars. Carry books and other items in a bicycle carrier or backpack.

Watch for and Avoid Road Hazards.

Be on the lookout for hazards such as potholes, broken glass, gravel, puddles, leaves and dogs. All these hazards can cause a crash. If you are riding with friends and you are in the lead, yell out and point to the hazard to alert the riders behind you.

Avoid Riding at Night.

It is far more dangerous to ride at night than during the day because you are harder for others to see. If you have to ride at night, wear something that makes you more easily seen by others. Make sure you have reflectors on the front and rear of your bicycle (white lights on the front and red rear reflectors are required by law in many states), in addition to reflectors on your tires, so others can see you.

Many bicycle-related crashes resulting in injury or death are associated with the bicyclist's behavior, including such things as not wearing a bicycle helmet, riding into a street without stopping, turning left or swerving into traffic that is coming from behind, running a stop sign, and riding the wrong way in traffic. To maximize your safety, always wear a helmet AND follow the rules of the road.

Rules of the Road - Bicycling on the Road

Bicycles in many States are considered vehicles, and cyclists have the same rights and the same responsibilities to follow the rules of the road as motorists. When riding, always:

Go With the Traffic Flow.

Ride on the right in the same direction as other vehicles. Go with the flow - not against it.

Obey All Traffic Laws.

A bicycle is a vehicle and you're a driver. When you ride in the street, obey all traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.

Yield to Traffic When Appropriate.

Almost always, drivers on a smaller road must yield (wait) for traffic on a major or larger road. If there is no stop sign or traffic signal and you are coming from a smaller roadway (out of a driveway, from a sidewalk, a bike path, etc.), you must slow down and look to see if the way is clear before proceeding. This also means yielding to pedestrians who have already entered a crosswalk.

Be Predictable.

Ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars. Signal your moves to others.

Stay Alert at All Times.

Use your eyes AND ears. Watch out for potholes, cracks, wet leaves, storm grates, railroad tracks, or anything that could make you lose control of your bike. You need your ears to hear traffic and avoid dangerous situations; don't wear a headset when you ride.

Look Before Turning.

When turning left or right, always look behind you for a break in traffic, then signal before making the turn. Watch for left-or right-turning traffic.

Watch for Parked Cars.

Ride far enough out from the curb to avoid the unexpected from parked cars (like doors opening, or cars pulling out).

Sidewalk versus Street Riding

The safest place for bicycle riding is on the street,

where bicycles are expected to follow the same rules of the road as motorists and ride in the same direction.

Children less than 10 years old, however, are not mature enough to make the decisions necessary to safely ride in the street.

Children less than 10 years old are better off riding on the sidewalk.

For anyone riding on a sidewalk:

Check the law in your state or jurisdiction to make sure sidewalk riding is allowed.

Watch for vehicles coming out of or turning into driveways.

Stop at corners of sidewalks and streets to look for cars and to make sure the drivers see you before crossing. Enter a street at a corner and not between parked cars. Alert pedestrians that you are near by saying, "Excuse me;" or "Passing on your left;" or use a bell or horn.

For more information on bicycle safety, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) web site at www.nhtsa.dot.gov

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Three Rivers Foundation making a difference



Photo by Hanaba Welch
Dr. Fred Koch (center) discusses the future of Texas towns.

Editor's note:
Three Rivers Foundation for the Arts and Sciences (3RF) is a private foundation that's making a difference in two small West Texas towns -- Crowell and Quanah.

In this issue, an interview with 3RF founder Fred Koch is the first of a Blackburn Media Group series of installments about the foundation and its exemplary impact on the two communities.

In Quanah, home to 3RF Arts and home to Koch,

several 3RF-owned buildings in the downtown historic district are in various stages of rehabilitation for various uses in the realm of the arts.

In Crowell, headquarters for 3RF Science, astronomy is at the heart of 3RF activities. Comanche Springs Astronomy Campus lies amid rugged ranch land west of town, where the dome of the observatory gives a surreal touch to the landscape.

The story of 3RF demonstrates how a private foundation with solid resources and support and a vision can enhance life in small town America.

By Shane Melton

Dr. Fred Koch, pronounced CAW, is a retired medical doctor and businessman. He has a grand vision not just for Quanah, but the entire area. Koch dreams of a region

where communities can thrive, not one where communities can disappear just by having a highway built around them; the case in so many of Texas' small towns.

Koch believes that creating new businesses locally is the catalyst for that dream.

"Most of the food that we eat in Quanah comes, on average, from 1,500 miles away," says Koch. "We can teach people to eat healthy, and grow more food in the region."

One thing that interests Dr. Koch is the growing of grapes and olives, due to the rocky soil in the area, which is ideal for the growing of grapes. Koch is using his business knowledge and vision to entice more businesses to the area.

"Small towns' competitive disadvantage is that they're in the boondocks," says Koch. "but their competitive advantage is ... that they're in the boondocks. If we have entertainment and education going on, and places to stay and eat, then we could get people to come. Maybe not for a vacation, but we would like them to come for a long weekend."

"It is absolutely crucial,"

Koch says, "that we think of ourselves in regional terms."

One of the big draws for the area is Koch's Three Rivers Foundation (3RF) Comanche Springs Astronomy campus.

"We have a billion dollar sky," says Koch. "If Dallas wanted our sky, how much would it cost?"

Comanche Springs, which will be the subject of an article in this series, hosts star parties and other events throughout the year. It is part of 3RF's goal to expand the sciences and educate young people.

"In grade school you grow beans in a jar to see the roots. In junior high it's mostly reading and in high school, hormones take over and they're just not interested," says Koch. "Our goal is to get more people interested in sciences and education in general. But, it's not enough to just get people interested in education, we want to foster a spirit of entrepreneurship. A true incubator isn't an office and a water fountain."

Koch's vision is to find those people who have talents and can start businesses locally by offering a community network to foster their talents. His Comanche Springs Astronomy camp is

still very driven by volunteers. If a volunteer comes in with a specialized talent, the camp uses that talent to its advantage.

One of Koch's other plans is to build community ovens, a practice still used in many European villages.

"Students would run the ovens and donate bread," says Koch. "It's very easy, and would improve the quality of life in our town."

Koch, himself, comes from a background of entrepreneurship.

His grandfather came to America from the Netherlands, ending up in Michigan. From Michigan, he moved to Galveston and in 1890-the year the railroad reached Quanah- moved to Quanah and immediately saw a need. He started a newspaper that would stay in Koch's family until 1978, when the *Quanah Tribune-Chief* was sold to a paper in Vernon.

"The community involvement in the newspaper got me interested in starting 3RF," says Koch.

3RF started out helping the state park with their "Star Walk" events, and eventually evolved into what it is today. However, Koch says, the Foundation is more about education, and "astronomy is really just the vehicle."

Comanche Springs Astronomy Campus sits on about 700 acres outside of Crowell. Fifty of those acres are fenced off and the campus is starting to take shape. 3RF plans to add more buildings as the camp starts to branch out to other sciences.

"[The land] is not good for wheat, marginal for cattle, but it's fantastic for boy scouts," says Koch.

In today's age of technological progression, it is surprisingly easy for the amateur astronomer to get started. CCD telescopes are revolutionizing astronomy, and the telescopes available to amateurs are very advanced. Koch says that 3RF is not trying to compete with professional astronomers, but that for amateurs they have some impressive instruments. The showpiece of the camp will be a large refractor telescope. During the summer, when stargazers are looking towards the center of our galaxy, the location of Comanche Springs can lead to some magnificent stargazing.

"Most people don't realize the diversity of space," says Koch. "All these stars are different."

3RF also operates a campus in Australia, where Koch spends about half of his year. The Foundation uses the camp to further the training of their personnel and give them a "southern sky experience."

Koch hopes that one day the campus at Comanche Springs will offer not only teacher workshops, but student workshops as well. Koch would also like to open a campus in Latin America.

"That's way down the road, but that's the sort of thing that we'd like to do," says Koch. "In our inner cities we have potential Einsteins, Beethovens and Shakespeares."

3RF recently funded a Quanah sixth grade class to go see the King Tut exhibit in Dallas. Koch says that some of the children were more impressed by the Dallas skyline, or eating at the Japanese steakhouse they were taken to.

"Hopefully," says Koch, "some of these kids had the experience of a lifetime."

3RF's goal is to partner up with different places in the area, such as the wildlife refuges, to expand children's awareness of science.

"I'm old enough to remember Sputnik," says Koch, "and the national panic and what came from that."

Four years ago, Koch attended the International Association of Planetariums biennial meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

"It convinced me of the importance of esthetics in invoking the emotions in sciences to get people interested," Koch says. "I really believe there is a strong overlap."

This led Koch and 3RF to start buying historic buildings in downtown Quanah, restoring them and turning them into places useful for education. The Moses 5 and 10 has now become the 3RF Ballroom. The important thing is that all of the buildings be used for some educational purpose. The Foundation has been able to procure five buildings on one block of downtown Quanah, all in an effort to lure more business to small Quanah.

"Lots of people would probably love to move here," says Koch, "but how do they make a living?"

Koch attributes the success of 3RF to the fact that his management style "consists of staying 10,000 miles away."

"I get to be the dreamer," says Koch.

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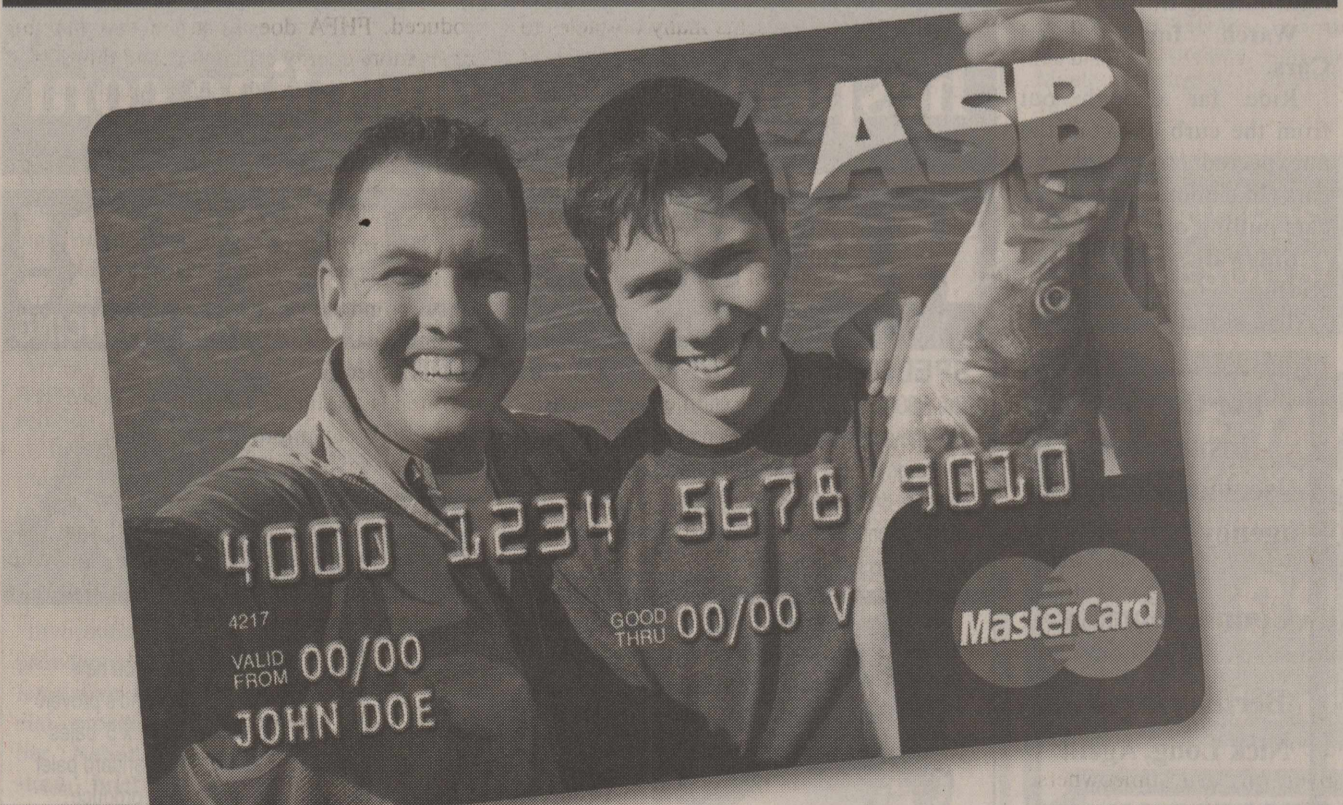
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OPINION



The Paperboy

Score one for Dad!

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

In the battle of wits between a father and two young sons, I sometimes come up with some decent and effective methods.

Most of you know what it feels like to reach critical mass with your children. Regardless of how we may individually handle a given situation, I think we can all agree that when we reach our boiling point, when we've just HAD IT, rational thought sometimes escape us.

I remember clearly not reading the warning signs and pushing my parents to the brink. I generally paid the price by receiving an abundance of rather swift love pats on my behind via belt, wooden spoon, hand ... whatever was handy. I remember getting spanked with a slingshot on one occasion.

Do I think I was abused as a child? Not at all. My parents were very patient with me and their punishment generally fit the crime and varied depending on the offense I committed.

As a Dad, I was in a situation not long ago where Jackson, 7, and Sutton Hawk, 4, had been instructed to carry out some relatively easy chores involving their playroom.

I checked in on them on occasion, and the results were pitiful. I administered thunderous warnings of their impending doom, but the only action I received was lip service.

Jack is a natural pleaser and has leadership potential. He

loves for Mom and Dad to be proud of him, and it absolutely breaks his heart if he hears, "Son, I'm disappointed in you." That statement pierces his heart, and he rarely hears it as he's a good boy.

Sutton is not as eager to please. He starts to daydream and the next thing you know, he's playing with his imagination running wild. Let's just say the temptation of Star Wars characters and Legos sometimes outweigh Daddy's direct orders. However, Sutton does follow the lead of his older brother.

Back to the situation: As the two continued to piddle around, I could feel my temperature begin to boil. I was reaching critical mass quickly when something occurred to me. I decided to give diplomacy a shot and use psychological warfare on my troops.

I called Jackson in and took him in the bed room. He immediately thought, "Oh man, I'm going to get it!" I could see the look of fear in his big blue eyes.

I dropped down to one knee to I could look at him eye-to-eye. I said, "Jackson, I'm exhausted and I'm sore and I really need your help. I need you to help me get Sutton motivated to get the job done. I need you to be a leader and a coach and prove to me you have what it takes to do this. It's important."

Jackson looked directly at me and said, "Yes sir! You can count on me Dad!" He then ran off to do as I had asked.

Sutton bought into Jackson's plan as his approach was very mature and brotherly. Less than 20 minutes later, the

job was done. They'd been working on it for the previous two hours.

I must admit, I was extremely proud of them. I was also fired up that the technique of talking to Jackson man-to-man and the results it garnered spared an eruption.

I now resort to the same technique more often. Not all of the time, but then again, I don't have to because Jackson knows it pleases me and he's all about that.

Parenting is a tough job. Communicating can be tough as well. I know this first-hand as I occasionally enter my wife's doghouse because there are times when my communication skills mysteriously disappear.

I encourage all of you parents and grandparents to study what makes your kids tick and use those gifts for the betterment of your relationship and family.

If your child is a leader, let them lead. If your child loves praise, help them earn it. If your child gets distracted by fun, make a game out of chores. I'm no expert on parenting, but I know enough to seek the easiest solution to a problem.

The good Lord knows the thankless hours we put in performing our most precious job. He's put us in situations to make a difference for the next generation. Might as well use every tool in the toolbox to accomplish the goal.

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

\$40,000 isn't enough for Scott Nicholson

By ADAM BITELY

A July 6th article in the New York Times should have been an eye opener for those that read it. This article tells the story of Scott Nicholson, a young college graduate from the suburbs of Boston who is unable to land his dream job. If the intent of the article was to make one feel sorry for Scott, or for the millennial generation (18-29 year olds) that is struggling as a whole in the Great Recession, the point was lost on this millennial generation reader.

Scott Nicholson is the epitome of a silver spoon fed child. Unable to find a job he "likes", he relies on his parents' goodwill for survival. While admitting he does the occasional odd job such as fence installation and lawn mowing, he hustles his parents to pay half his monthly rent (a sum of \$1,000) along with his cell phone bill aside from whatever other costs he incurs. His parents pay for this while Scott turns down a job that would have paid \$40,000. Had he been my son, I would have denied his next money request.

A graduate of Colgate College, Scott should have the common sense to get by without having to rely on others footing the bill. But alas, Scott has never known what it

is like to be independent. From his college, to his apartment, it has always been others that have funded Scott's lifestyle.

The millennial generation has been hit especially hard by the recession. Currently, 37 percent are unemployed or are not even seeking work, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. While the economy is bad, and finding a job is even worse, stories such as Scott's only damage the reputation of the millennial generation.

It is the millennial generation that is being relied upon for many important things in society. Many soon-to-be Americans will rely on this generation to fund Social Security. If they are not working, no one is paying in, and thus, no one will receive any payments out.

Also, it is the millennial generation for the most part that is fighting America's wars abroad. The millennial generation is an important part of society, and one that is often overlooked.

I, for one, know the value of independence and hard work. For instance, when I had trouble making ends meet, the last thing I sought was charity from family. I understood that taking a job I didn't like would allow me to make ends meet. And doing so was eventually rewarded richly. The last thing one should do

is turn down jobs that will pay the bills and allow you to save money; specifically you do not turn down a \$40,000 a year job.

Stories such as Scott's are fairly uncommon. No one that I associate with has acted with such unprofessionalism and immaturity. Every person has the power to determine their course in life. Scott has determined that as long as he is being handed everything, he should hold out for the next best offer.

The Scott Nicholson's of society should be looked down upon. These folks exist in all generations. But they are the exception and not the rule. The New York Times would have done better to dedicate its reporter to reporting on the many good things this generation does, not the rotten eggs that seem to become the poster figures of the group.

When jobs are hard to find, the core values of Americans shine through. I know of many folks that are doing jobs that they would consider themselves to be overqualified for. But we are in the middle of a recession and they understand that they are lucky to have employment at all.

After all, we are currently dealing with millions of people that are flocking to this nation to take jobs that pay far less than the one that Scott Nicholson turned down. Clearly

there are plenty of people that believe America is the best place to start a life and find a job, Scott just needs to be mature enough to realize that he will not become the CEO of a major corporation overnight. That dream job he is after only comes after much hard work, if at all.

The key to the American Dream is having a dream and pursuing it. This requires sacrifice, hard work, and a willingness to get your hands dirty.

The entitlement society that gives kids the expectation of a free education that leads to an un-earned "cushy" job without providing hard work along the way is a false hope perpetuated by a society that has taken the understanding that there are winners and losers away from America's youth.

Hard work pays off, even in jobs that are not considered to be "dream jobs". Through that hard work and determination, people end up where they want to. And most of the people in the millennial generation understand that.

Clearly Scott Nicholson believes he is above that, and he has been rewarded exactly as he should — as an unemployed beggar to his parents.

Distorting the Market Never Bodes Well for America

By REBEKAH RAST

The government must have a short-term memory.

In the late 1970s America was in the midst of an oil crisis. It wasn't out of the question for cars to be lined up at service stations for hours waiting to fill up their tanks. In response to this crisis, President Jimmy Carter pushed the government to spend billions of dollars on alternative fuel means like oil shale. As big oil companies began moving out to the northwest in states like Colorado to pursue creating alternative fuel, the market grew. New towns and houses started building up at rapid rates as the job market increased.

What President Carter and the rest of the government didn't expect was for the oil prices to go back down. Oil companies picked up and left these small towns as quickly as they had arrived. Houses were left vacated and towns made into ghost towns overnight. The housing market, job market and economy all took a huge hit.

Oh how history repeats itself.

As America's economy and housing market is still reeling from the financial crisis of 2007, the Obama Administration is throwing money and incentives at companies and individuals to invest in green energy and do it in a hurry.

One such program backed by the White House is PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy). This program encourages homeowners to upgrade their homes with more energy-efficient extras — like solar panels.

This program is backed by the Obama Administration, yet mortgage giants Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, which are run by the federal government, oppose it. It should be clear that this program is flawed when two different parts of the same federal government don't agree. Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, along with its regulator, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), say the program is too risky and could cause trouble for all involved.

Because of the way PACE is financed, it

has garnered a lot of support from local governments, green businesses and homeowners. PACE is funded through local counties selling municipal bonds. Loans are then given to homeowners with the repayment tacked on as a property tax, which can then be paid off over the course of 15 to 20 years. This is very beneficial for homeowners who want a solar system for their home, but can't afford the \$30,000 price tag to have one.

"This market distortion caused by the federal government encourages homeowners to take on more debt, which greatly increases the chance of them defaulting on their loan," says Bill Wilson, president for Americans for Limited Government (ALG). "At a time where we are facing an unprecedented housing crisis, this is an absolute wrong solution to the problem."

Gary Gerber, president and CEO of Sun Light & Power and President of CALSEIA (California Solar Energy Industries Association) disagrees. "This is fantastic for customers who can finance over 20 years. It can be a direct swap of payment from your utility bill to your loan."

The problem with this program that mortgage bankers and the FHFA have is the type of loan that is given to these homeowners. Because the loan is added as a property tax it qualifies as a lien loan, which takes precedence over any existing loans you have on your home. If a homeowner were to default on this loan and be forced into foreclosure, the first loan to be paid off would be the lien loan from PACE, then the rest of the mortgage. This creates problems for banks, Realtors and Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae.

"Because this results in a lien against property then that's a legitimate concern," says Lucien Salvant, managing director of public affairs at the National Association of Realtors (NAR). "If there is an attached lien that would result in the slow sale of a home and lenders wouldn't even go near it."

The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA)

agrees. "While MBA supports energy efficiency in homes and financing for energy efficient improvements, we have concerns with the PACE loan program. We believe the program in its current form presents many obstacles to responsible lending including an absence of proper underwriting and approval processes that could cause borrowers to take out too much debt. In addition, when it is comes to selling the property with an outstanding PACE loan balance on the tax assessment, it will likely prove more difficult to find a buyer who is willing to take on that additional cost," says an MBA spokesperson.

Unlike a sidewalk or street assessment a home might receive, the type of property assessment given by local counties for PACE is voluntary and costly. Mortgage holders like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac want to make sure that homeowners that are electing to use this program will benefit from it, or at least break even to prevent another crisis.

"This program alters how the private sector does business," says Alfred Pollard, general counsel at FHFA. "Many counties do not have underwriting standards that protect both the banks and homeowners. Some counties don't even ask if the person wanting the loan is employed."

Other counties, like Sonoma County in California, do check homeowners to make sure they are paying utilities bills and other loans properly, says Gerber.

The FHFA is working to create underwriting and consumer protection standards for programs like PACE to let homeowners and lenders know of the rewards and risks involved before they invest in any home energy-efficient incentive program.

"We don't have good national energy retrofit standards," Pollard says. "How do we know what the return will be? We don't have those metrics or standards that allow people to see if putting solar panels on their homes will pay off. We need to develop background tests and data first that the consumers and lenders can

have to make sound decisions."

Garber doesn't think research is needed. He's seen solar systems going up on houses for the past 10 years and knows the savings that are produced. FHFA doesn't argue that making homes more energy efficient is bad thing. Nor do Realtors. Homes that have upgrades like solar panels can push up property values.

The problem lies in the unpredictability of energy costs and homeowners finding themselves upside down in their mortgages.

"The government tends to push faster than the market goes," says Edward Pinto, who is currently an independent consultant involved in housing finance, and formerly was the chief credit officer of Fannie Mae. "The government tends to run on autopilot. If something works they say more, if something doesn't work, they say more."

ALG's Wilson agrees and adds, "The government needs to stop picking winners and losers. If this Administration continues to throw money at green energy programs it will hurt businesses, the job market and the economy." Because of the market we are in, it is not wise for homeowners to take out additional loans on their homes. Many lost their homes in the financial crisis and some homeowners are still upside down and paying more for their mortgage payment than what their house is worth. America cannot afford another crisis. History proves that when the government intervenes in the free market it will backfire. There have been enough examples of this in the past. There is no longer an excuse for ignorance for the Obama Administration.

Author's Note: These states have passed legislation approving of the PACE program: California, Oregon, Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New York, Vermont and New Hampshire. Only certain counties in each state have launched the program.

USDA Program

solution for a number of housing options. If you want to purchase a home, build a new home or replace an existing home with a new structure, this program can help qualified applicants up to \$100,000. Approved applicants can obtain 100 percent financing to purchase an existing home or newly constructed home in our area. This means if you can prove an ability to make a payment, then you could be eligible for this program.

will be hosted by a representative of USDA and will be able to answer specific questions regarding your situation. All interested individuals are encouraged to attend as the program is very flexible and can make or replace a housing solution for rural residents. For links to the USDA program and contact information, please go the Floydada EDC web site at www.floydadaedc.com.

(This article first appeared on the Floydada EDC web site on July 24, 2010.)

The program presentation

Rural State Agency

Development Block Grant program, the largest CDBG program in the nation. Rural cities with populations less than 50,000 and counties that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 and are not eligible for direct funding from HUD may apply for the agency's TxCDBG program. This program serves approximately 1,017 eligible rural communities, 245 rural counties, and provides services to over \$375,000 low-to-moderate income beneficiaries each year.

Texas Department of Rural Affairs makes the broad resources of state

government more accessible to rural communities. The agency is a provider of rural-focused state and federal resources for community development, economic development, housing and rural health. TDRA is the federally designated State Office of Rural Health and the governor's lead agency for oversight of disaster recovery funding, and administers the non-housing portion of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) disaster recovery funds. For more information, visit TDRA online at www.tdra.state.tx.us

Senior Planning Services

this does not have to be the case.

"You really have two options, only one of which involves spending down assets," Mr. Allen says. "The second and greatly preferred option is to be able to protect a substantial amount of your life savings and still qualify for Medicaid benefits."

For 20 years, Senior Planning Services has helped hundreds of families plan for the second option. Specifically, they do this planning for people who want to plan ahead, people currently in nursing facilities or those who are about to enter one, in order to protect the maximum amount of their estate from nursing home spend-down. Senior Planning Services is recognized by many as the leading authority in Texas for this type of preservation planning.

When one spouse must go into a nursing facility leaving the other spouse at home, there is great concern over losing the home. When a resident applies for Medicaid, the home is considered a non-countable resource. Upon their death, the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program is activated and Medicaid will come after that one remaining asset!

However, "In most spousal cases, the Medicaid guidelines will allow the couple to protect up to

100 percent of their assets, protect all of the stay-at-home spouse's income and sometimes protect all of the income of the spouse in the nursing home and still qualify him or her for Medicaid benefits," Mr. Allen says.

"We welcome everyone to attend this meeting," John Vunk, Hackberry Creek Care Center Administrator, said. "Hackberry is proud to be able to offer Town Hall meetings to the public which present important information such as the topic of Senior Estate Planning. If you have questions regarding this subject, we encourage you to attend this meeting."

Hackberry Creek is located at the end of Main Street at 805 Harrison Avenue. The meeting will be held in the large dining room at 6:00 p.m. There is no charge to attend and refreshments will be served.

Hackberry Creek Care Center does not endorse or recommend certain organizations which may be featured at our Town Hall Meetings.

Hackberry Creek Care Center, INC is an Equal Opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitton Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.



Courtesy Photo

The damage to County Road 121, also known to local residents as Days Crossing, is just one of many county (dirt) roads in Floyd County that has sustained severe damage from the excessive rain and flooding.

DECLARING A STATE OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, the County of Floyd on the 3rd - 4th day of July, 2010 suffered widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property (or there is imminent threat of same) resulting from flood.

And;

WHEREAS, the Judge of the County of Floy has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE JUDGE OF THE COUNTY OF FLOYD:

1. That a state of disaster is declared by the County of Floyd.
2. That the County's Emergency Management Plan has been implemented.
3. That this state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days of the date hereof, unless the same is continued by consent of the Commissioners' Court of the County of Floyd, Texas.
4. That this proclamation shall the effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED THIS THE 6TH DAY OF JULY, 2010

PENNY GOLIGHTLY,
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:
Ginger Morgan,
County Clerk

Shop in Floyd County!

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Administration of the estate of **ARMINE TARPLEY, DECEASED**, has been commenced by the issuance of letters testamentary to the undersigned on June 18, 2010 by the County Court of Floyd County, Texas, acting in Cause No. 5853 styled IN RE ESTATE OF ARMINE TARPLEY, DECEASED, in which court the matter is pending.

All creditors having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present them to the undersigned at the address shown below within the time prescribed by law.

Dated this 18th day of June, 2010.

WINNIE LEE CROWLEY
INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR OF THE
ESTATE OF ARMINE TARPLEY
C/O KAREN HOUCHEIN
ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE
P.O. BOX 421, 124 W. CALIFORNIA
FLOYDADA, TEXAS 79235
PHONE (806) 983-5556, FAX (806) 983-8022