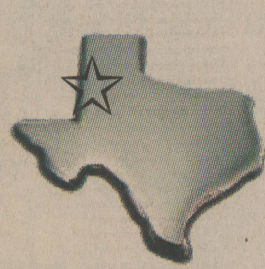


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VOLUME 115 NUMBER 6 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2011 8 PAGES - 75¢

Floydada Students Represent FISD at Texas Capitol Schoolhouse



Courtesy Photo

Four Floydada Junior High School students that represented Floydada Independent School District at the Texas Capitol Schoolhouse Monday, Jan. 31st were (left-to-right) Kaylee Morren, Calvin Seago, John Cortinas and (front) Brooke Galvan

By Penny Giesecke
 Four Floydada Junior High School students represented Floydada Independent School District at the Texas Capitol Schoolhouse, Monday, January 31, 2011. The Texas Capitol Schoolhouse is a legislative event giving students and teachers from across the state of Texas the opportunity to showcase how technology is being used to improve public schools. The goal of the event is to provide information for legislators and other state leaders about how the most advanced technologies and best practices are accelerating and reforming the way teachers teach and students learn.

Ambassadors to our state's capitol were 8th grade student John Cortinas, 7th grade student Calvin Seago and 6th grade students Brooke Galvan and Kaylee Morren. Accompanying the students were teachers Melva Dorman and Penny Giesecke, FJH Principal Mac Sherman, FISD Technology immersion Coordinator Sandy Vaughn

and Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Anne Carthel. Also attending were Interim Superintendent Clifton Stephens and FISD School Board member Dr. William Dean.

Floydada was one of 11 schools in the state to be invited to exhibit projects and demonstrations of the applications in technology used on a daily basis at Floydada Junior High. In addition, four schools participated by remote. The students shared projects they had designed and created using their laptops and programs, software, applications and subscriptions available through the 1:1 technology immersion grant awarded to Floydada Junior High in 2004. Because of the success of FJH through the TIP grant and this recent exhibition demonstrating the benefits of technology in the classrooms, it is a goal that ongoing funding be increased for educational technologies.

AUSTIN
 Continued on page 8

Two local restaurants enjoy monumental anniversaries



Photo by Homer Marquez

On February 4, Joe and Lisa Covington celebrated their one year anniversary as owners of the Dixie Tavern Café. Since its opening, the Dixie Tavern has established a tradition of good serve and even better food.

By Homer Marquez
 As federal and state lawmakers desperately look for solutions that will in-turn stimulate America's sluggish economy, the effects of our country's current recession continues to hit home as the cost of maintaining a business steadily continues to rise for local merchants. The rising cost of a businesses' overhead has forced many Mom and Pop shops to make almost unrealistic sacrifices just to stay afloat; and all across West Texas,



Photo by Homer Marquez

On February 2, Silvia Guerrero celebrated 21 years as the owner of Tastee Burger in Lockney. Made famous by its delicious hamburgers, the Tastee Burger staff would like to thank Floyd County for its continued support.

many of these sacrifices have led to the eventual demise of our small town institutions. It is because of these conditions that stories of accomplishment reached through perseverance are held in a slightly different reverence then once before. Proof of this sentiment could be found as two local restaurants recently celebrated two monumental anniversaries. Last week, local restaurants, Tastee Burger and the Dixie Tavern Café both hit hallmark milestones in the restaurant business, as longtime staple of Floyd County cooking, Tastee Burger celebrated 21 years under the ownership of Silvia Guerrero and the recently established, Dixie Tavern Café, marked its first year of business.

For Tastee Burger, it all began in the mid-80's, when sister-in-laws Rosie Rendon and Lisa Rendon decided to buy a milkshake and hamburger restaurant named, Pinner's Drive-in located in Lockney. Changing the name of the restaurant to Tastee Burger, the pair found great success selling old fashioned burgers and chili to the community and to Floyd County. It was here, that their niece, Silvia Guerrero learned the ropes of the high paced restaurant business.

By the beginning of the 90's, both Rosie and Lisa decided to pursue other ventures and ultimately sold the business to Sylvia Guerrero in 1990. Silvia

RESTAURANTS
 Continued on page 8

Freezing temperatures cause damaged water lines

By Homer Marquez
 With a winter storm that sent temperatures plummeting to subzero in the early part of last week, many Floyd County residents were forced to battle frozen pipes and busted water lines as rising temperatures thawed pipes later on in the week.

Flooded bathrooms and basements keep local hardware stores, city workers, and plumbers plenty busy as they scrambled to fix and prepare water lines for the second wave of winter blasts. "It was busy...many return customers," commented Ace Hardware employee, Mona Anderson, as she described the chaotic environment of the hardware store as homeowners made several trips to find the right pieces to fix their busted pipes. It was no different at Davis Lumber in Lockney as customers



Photo by Homer Marquez

At Ace Hardware in Floydada, employee, Bruce Lefevre restocks the shelves in the plumbing section of the hardware store. Last week a bitterly cold winter storm front sweep across the state sending temperatures to the negatives; because of the temperature drop, many homeowners were plagued with frozen and broken water lines throughout the week. On Saturday, customers bombarded hardware stores as they scrambled to fix pipes before the next wave of cold fronts.

FREEZING
 Continued on page 8

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The Fair Needs Your Help

By Carol Huggins
 The Floyd County Fair Board will have its first regular meeting of the year on Thursday, February 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lockney Library.

Since the Fair was such a great success last year, the Fair Board would like to build on this success, but we need more help to do this. The building is in pretty good shape (except for the roof), but there are still many things that could be done to improve the surroundings. We would like to have more activities, too, but we need people to give us ideas and to take charge of making these things happen.

The Floyd County Fair is one of the few local community events we have in Floyd County. It has the potential to be a great draw for our county, but it takes participation from everyone to make that happen. Please come to the meeting on February 17 and make your ideas known. We welcome any and all to our organization.

Let's help to put Floyd County on the map!

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By **Margarette Word**

The Center is open Monday through Friday. Lunch starts at 12 noon. If you plan to eat with us, please call the Center by 10 a.m. If you are 60 years or older come join us.

This past week, with all the snow and ice, our attendance has been around 15 brave people that have been at the Center to eat lunch. I understand this next week is also going to have some weather problems. I did not go to the Center Monday, January 31st because of the weather. I did go on Tuesday through Friday. We had very good meals and almost 15 per day were in attendance. It was good to get out of the house and visit friends.

Dedra Thomas ate lunch at the Center Friday, February 4th with her brother, Donald Hardy and a friend, Jeff Highland.

James and Sue Lovell have recently returned to Floydada after spending two weeks in Yuma, Arizona visiting James' sister, Gladys Fitch.

Jon and Elaine LaBaume were in Lubbock on January 29th to attend the piano recital at Jent's that included their grandchildren, Harrison and Kate Childre.

Our sympathy to the family of Berle Coleman. She was 107 years old.

Our sympathy to Shorty Turner on the loss of his brother, Bud Turner.

If you have some news you think our readers would be interested in please call me at 983-3194. I need more news to make this interesting. I have several people tell me

they like to read what we are doing.

If you are disabled and unable to get out of your home, you may be eligible for a lunch to be delivered to you. Call the Center at 983-2032 and talk with Sylvia, our director.

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

In memory of Louis Lloyd - Guy Ginn, K. D. and Janis Julian, Gale Ramsey, Higler Allen and Lutin P.C., Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Chappell, Mr. and Mrs. George Lange, Stuart A. Lutin.

In memory of Bud Turner - K.D. and Janis Julian.

In memory of Peggy Probasco - K. D. and Janis Julian.

In memory of Phyllis Atteberry - William and Faye Bertrand, Kathy Pritchard.

Thought for the Week - If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?

MENU

Feb 14 - Feb. 18

Monday - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, Italian blend, salad, garlic bread, fruit

Tuesday - Meatloaf, peas, corn, roll, oranges & bananas

Wednesday - Turkey & dressing, green beans, mashed potatoes, roll, pumpkin crunch

Thursday - Crispy chicken salad, vegetable soup, pimento cheese sandwich, cake

Friday - Pork stew, pinto beans, cornbread, snickerdoodle bars



Courtesy photo

Karis Carstensen recently donated her hair to Locks of Love. Locks of Love is a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to children and adults in the United States and Canada suffering from long-term medical hair loss from a number of diagnosis, including individuals who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy and other medical treatments. Kay Brock assisted Karis in the donation and will submit the 9 inches of hair to the Locks of Love office.

Second Annual Foothill Saturday night

The Motley County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor music, food, booths, and dancing in the street on August 21, 2010, from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. Last years event was a great success and the chamber is planning a bigger, better event. The event will take place on the streets of downtown Matador.

At 6:00 p.m. entertainment will feature local artists participating in the open mike hour. If you can sing, tell jokes, perform music, dance, twirl a rope or perform any type talent call and reserve your spot and show everyone this area has got talent.

Former Motley County resident Max Barton with his Flashback Band will be the featured performers. They specialize in 1970s music. Guests are invited to bring

their lawn chairs to watch the festivities, dance in the street, or shop at the booths selling crafts, jewelry, or other wares.

This year the chamber is having a do it your way hamburger bar. Customers will make a hamburger the way they like it. If you need help putting your hamburger together a chamber member will be on hand to help. The cost of the hamburger meal deal consisting of hamburger, chips, drink and dessert is only \$5.00. Donations of brownies, rice crispy squares and other easy to eat goodies would be appreciated.

The chamber has planned the foothills fiesta as a family event. Young, old and in between are encouraged to attend this end of summer event. Any suggestions to

help make this a fun night would also be appreciated. Please call 347-2636 or 347-2820 with suggestions or for information on donating brownies.

Vendors of all kinds are encouraged to bring their wares and join the fun. Call 806-347-2939 to reserve 10 x 10-foot booth space. Booth fees are waived for Motley County Chamber of Commerce members. Member dues can be paid on August 21 and the booth fee will be waived. Call 806-347-2939 to reserve 10 x 10-foot booth space.

The Flashback Band has been performing together for eight years and has "wowed" crowds at many local festivals including Fort Worth's May-Fest, Main Street Arts Festival and several

Cowtown Marathon Finish Line celebrations, Whitney's Pioneer Days Festival to many local venues including where it all started, The Stagecoach Ballroom in Fort Worth.

The group has appeared at venues such as Cristina's Mexican Restaurants, in Roanoke Trophy Club and Flower Mound, The Rig Steakhouse in Fort Worth and at many private functions throughout Texas.

Flashback prides themselves in delivering the same performance whether they are performing for hundreds at any local venue or for thousands such as the Ameriplan's Group's "A Musical Journey Through Time" with thousands packing Trinity Hall at the Anatole Hotel in downtown Dallas, Max Barton said.

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By **Renee Armstrong**

Wow! What a week here at the Center. The heaters in the dining room went out, the pipe that is connected to the ice machine broke and the water main in the alley was broke, which filled the basement with water; but by the time you read this hopefully everything will be fixed.

Mrs. McClure fell over the weekend and is in the hospital and Jr Belt has been ill this week. Keep these and

other in your prayers, you all get well soon.

Remember Pot Luck on Thursday and exercise on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. Hope you all have a great week.

Menu

Feb 14-18

Monday- Soup and Cornbread

Tuesday- Tacos

Wednesday-Chicken Fried Steak

Thursday-Pork Chops

Friday-Grilled Chicken

Lockney Chamber searching for Citizen or Family of the Year

Lockney's Chamber of Commerce would like to announce that they will start accepting nominations for Citizen of the Year or Family of the Year. Vote for this

prestigious honor by mailing your nomination picks to PO Box 477 Lockney, Texas 79241, or drop off your vote at J&K Insurance at 119 West College Street in Lockney.

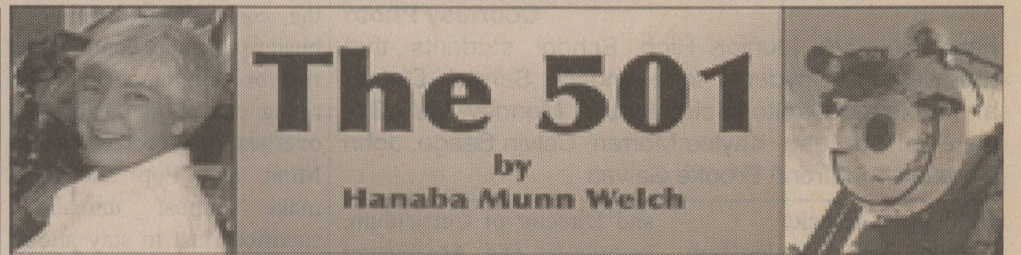
Floydada Chamber News

The Floydada Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to a Membership Drive and Member Appreciation Open House.

Join us at the First National Bank Community Room on February 10th from 4 - 6 p.m.

Come by and visit with your Chamber members and let us show you what your Chamber is doing for your community.

Refreshments will be served. See you there!



What do you wear to an auction?

It depends on what image you wish to convey. I try to look underprivileged. That's an outdated euphemism for poor.

I'm not talking about an estate auction where everybody knows you anyway, auctioneer included, and where you should look nice out of respect for the deceased. Nor am I referring to a livestock auction at the local sale barn, where it's best just to blend in with the farmer set and wear Redwings if you have any or some equivalent thereof.

The kind of auction I'm talking about is one where you can truly be anonymous. I went to one last weekend.

An old John Deere wheat drill drew me to the miscellaneous monthly sale for all sorts of stuff, as in junk and ladders, drywall screw guns, RV air conditioners, a vintage tractor with an ominous oil leak, toys, a bicycle, a round baler, electrical odds and ends,

assorted chains and some cars. You get the picture.

I'd been the day before to see the drill. It was like one my daddy had when I was little and also like one I bought from my late friend Roger who got it from his neighbor Joe, also my friend, who inherited it from his Uncle Drew, whom I knew. But the drill at the auction was in much better shape and even had an owner's manual tucked in the grain box. I wanted that drill, even minus a pedigree.

You could say I collect drills. My husband indulges me. He has to. I told him drills are like guitars.

In fact, even he agreed we should buy one at an auction last year. It's a newer John Deere. It works on just one side. I'd like to see what it would bring at an auction.

Regarding last weekend, I started out wrong. The day before, on my initial visit to the site, I had mentioned to an auction employee that I was interested in the drill. I thought he was a farmer.

More important than proper auction attire is that you never tell the auctioneer, Heaven forbid, or any of his sidekicks that you want something.

The day of the sale I considered disguising myself but figured it wouldn't do any good unless I dyed my hair. I settled for looking nondescript in jeans and a faded blue plaid shirt.

At the auction, I ran into Ronnie, a relative of a relative. He recognized me despite my shabby look.

Eventually the auctioneer came to the drill. I like to think his spotter was scanning the crowd, eyes narrowed, looking for the short gray-headed lady who'd said she wanted it. I was hiding in the barn. Ronnie, bidding for me, got the drill at a good price, even though he looked mildly remarkable in his orange shirt and didn't look underprivileged.

So ladies, it's good to know how to dress for an auction, but it's even better to find a man to do your bidding.

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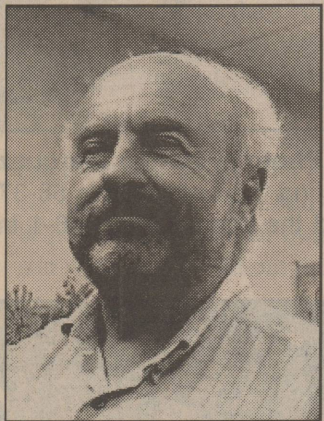
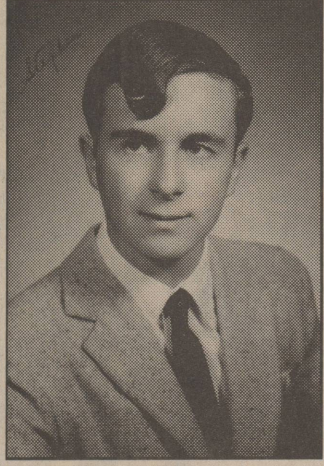
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Obituaries



STEPHEN PAUL WILSON

Steve Paul Wilson passed away on January 30, 2011.

Steve was born January 22, 1951 to Paul and Mary Helen Wilson in Floydada, Texas. He attended schools in Farmington (McCormick Elementary and Tibbetts Jr. High) and Kirtland High school in New Mexico before graduating Floydada High in 1969. Afterward, he graduated the drafting program at TVI in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He also attended Lubbock Christian College for a year.

Steve died from complications following a heart surgery he had on December 31, 2010.

Steve spent the last 20 years as a contract mail carrier where he was well liked. His friends and family

will miss him and his sense of humor.

Steve is survived by his mother, Mary H. (Cypert) Wilson of Floydada (currently living in Aztec, New Mexico); his brother, Gary L. Wilson and wife, Lea Andra of Lubbock, Texas, their children, La' Rae, Garrett, Kevin and Amy; his sister, Phyllis Trujillo and husband, Lonnie, their children, Helen and Anita Trujillo. Additional survivors include Anita's husband Mike Logan and their children, Phillip, Alexandria, Zoe and Sophia, all of the Farmington, New Mexico area.

Steve is preceded in death by his father, Paul Wilson, grandparents R.C. and Ida Winifred "Winnie" (Whitfill) Wilson, Bass and Goldie (Brown) Cypert.

You may consider a donation to the charity of your choice in Steve's name.

DELMAR DOUGLAS (BUD) TURNER

Delmar Douglas (Bud) Turner, 83 of Noble, Oklahoma, passed away Monday, January 31, 2011 in Purcell, Oklahoma. Funeral services were held Monday, February 7, 2011.

Bud was born December 12, 1927 in Floydada, Texas, to Virgil and Valree Medley Turner. He attended Floydada schools until joining the U. S. Navy. After his honorable discharge, he returned and graduated high school in 1949. He married Kathryn Calahan. They had three sons, Mark, Vance, and Brad. He was employed with Builder's Mart and Turner Transfer until he moved to Norman, Oklahoma in 1967, where he started working

as security patrol at Little River State Park. He helped organize the Park Ranger Program, and in 1974 became the first commissioned Park Ranger in the State of Oklahoma after completing basic police training.

Bud married Vida Landry in 1975 and they moved to Noble, Oklahoma. He retired in 1993 as Park Manager, with 26 years of service with the state of Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Doyle, and a step grandson, Doug Hardy.

His survivors include his wife, Vi; sons, Mark and Lisa of Franklin, Texas, Vance of Leander, Texas, and Brad and Cookie of Austin, Texas; an adopted grandson, Justin and Shannon Turner of Noble Oklahoma; a step-daughter, Sherry and Steve McClure of Tennessee; grandsons, Chris Turner of Ft. Worth and Brent Turner of Abilene; great grandchildren, Jordan Turner of Noble, Amara, Ramsey, Roman, and Arden Turner, all of Ft. Worth, step-grandchildren, Jenna Peerson and Jennifer and Barry Petit of Tennessee and Olga Peerson of Alabama. Sisters are Loretta and LeRoy Burns, Margie and Travis Young, all of Floydada and Audeen and Sherman Irwin of Lubbock. Brothers are Shorty of Floydada, Dorman and Annette of Wimberly, Texas, Elton and Sandra of Flagstaff, Arizona, and sister-in-law, Dorothy Turner of Floydada and twenty-three Turner nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Floydada Senior Citizens or the Floyd County Historical Museum.

Floyd County Church Directory

<p>AIKEN BAPTIST CHURCH Dennis Butler, Pastor Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.. *****</p> <p>BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 810 S. 3rd, Floydada Darwin Robinson, Pastor 983-5278 Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:50 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>CALVARY'S CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP Floydada Armando Morales, Pastor Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Bible Study6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>CARR'S CHAPEL Service Every Sunday: Morning Worship9:00 a.m. Sunday School10:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST West College & Third, Lockney Steve McLean -Minister Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship5:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST Levi Sisemore, Minister Floydada Sunday Bible Study..9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Tim Franks, Pastor Terry Simmons, Minister of Ed./Music Josh Burgett -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. *****</p> <p>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 Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....6:30 p.m. *****</p>	<p>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. *****</p> <p>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. *****</p> <p>GRANT CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Joe Bennett, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....7:30 p.m. Tuesday8:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST Lockney Jay Don Poindexter, Minister Bible Study9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Floydada Rev. Ralph Jackson 401 N 12th St (983-5805) Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday Study ...7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH Floydada Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges (806) 637-0430 Sunday Singing10:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>OUT REACH HARVEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 310 E. Mississippi Floydada Rev. David Ramos, Pastor Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible...10:00 a.m. Morning Praise..11:00 a.m. Evening Praise5:00 p.m. Wed. Worship.... 7:00 p.m. *****</p>	<p>POWER OF PRAISE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor 704 N. Main, Lockney Sunday Services....10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Lockney Jesus Caballero, Pastor Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Discipleship5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Floydada Pastor Lupe Rando Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:40 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>SAN JOSE CATHOLIC CHURCH Lockney Rev. Patrick Maher, Pastor Wed. Communion....8:00 p.m. Sunday Mass 11:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>SOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH Joe Weldon, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting..... 7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>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. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH Floydada Rev. Angelo Consemio Phone: 983-5878 Sunday Mass11:30 a.m. Mon.Wed. Mass6:30 p.m. Confession Sat.....10-11 a.m. *****</p> <p>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. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO BETHEL SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD Washington and 1st St. Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA Rev. Herman Martinez 308 W. Tennessee, Floydada Sunday School10:00 a.m. Evening Worship5:00 p.m. Tuesday7:30 p.m. Thursday Service.....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>Trinity Assembly 500 W. Houston, Floydada Henry Russell, Co-Pastor Vance Mitchell, Co-Pastor Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:40 a.m. Sunday Evening 5 p.m. *****</p> <p>TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Providence Community on FM 2301 293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington Minister Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST Floydada 983-3548 Sunday Worship ...10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening5:00 p.m.</p>
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FSA announces general signup period for CRP

Floydada, Texas — February 1, 2011 — Stephanie Bradley, Executive Director for the Floyd County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), announced a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup March 14, 2011 through April 15, 2011. This is the second consecutive year that USDA has offered a general CRP signup.

"Financial incentives available through CRP afford farmers and ranchers a low risk opportunity to implement a variety of conservation practices that will benefit the environment in a number of ways," said Bradley. "Over the past 25 years, CRP practices have improved water and air

quality, increased wildlife habitat and prevented soil erosion," she said.

Landowners enrolled in the CRP program receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland. Land that is not currently enrolled in CRP can be offered during sign-up if all eligibility requirements are met. CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall can make new contract offers during the signup period. Contracts awarded during this general signup will become effective October 1, 2011.

All CRP offers are evaluated and ranked using

an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) that indicates the environmental benefits of enrolling land in CRP. There are five environmental factors that make up the EBI: wildlife, water, soil, air, enduring benefits and cost. Decisions will be made following the end of the sign-up period and after analyzing EBI data on all of the offers.

In addition to the general sign-up, the continuous CRP sign-up program will be ongoing.

For more information, please contact the Floyd County FSA Office at 806.983.5747 or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp>.

THIS WEEK'S

LOCKNEY BAND BOOSTER MEETING

Lockney Band Booster parents will be holding an important meeting on Feb. 10 at 6 p.m. Please make plans to attend. Meeting will be held at the band hall.

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<p>Tastee Burger 116 North Main 652-2630</p>	<p>Oden Chevrolet Inc. 221 S. Main, Floydada 983-3787</p>
<p>Clark Pharmacy 320 N. Main - Lockney 652-3353</p>	<p>Payne Family Pharmacy 200 S. Main, Floydada 983-5111</p>
<p>Davis Lumber 102 E. Shubet Lockney 6523385</p>	<p>Pay-n-Save 210 N. Main Lockney 652-2293</p>
<p>Sawaya Ins. Agency 120 E. 7th Street Plainview 293-1318</p>	<p>Schacht Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts 112 W. Poplar, Lockney 652-2385</p>
<p>Lighthouse Electric Coop 703 A Matador Hwy 983-2814</p>	<p>Sunshine Pump Oliver Clark Box 266, Lockney 983-5087 - 774-4412 (Mobile)</p>

Longhorn Powerlifters compete in Abernathy

By Coach Browne

The Lockney Longhorns powerlifting team competed in Abernathy on Saturday.

The Horns did very well and competed very well.

These kids always work hard, they do what I ask them to do and they do it to the best of their ability.

Shaq Thompson placed

1st in his weight class, Luke Sherman placed 2nd in his weight class, Marcos Mercado placed 7th in his weight class, and Collin Fulton placed 17th in his weight class.

On the girls side Rayann Race placed 5th and McKenzie Kemp placed 5th as well.

The Horns next meet will be on Feb. 12 in Levelland.

Patrick Doucette Makes SMU's Fall 2010 Honor Roll

Patrick Doucette, a resident of Lockney and a sophomore at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, is listed on the honor roll with distinction.

To be listed on the SMU honor roll with distinction, students must be in the top 10 percent of their school of record. SMU's Fall 2010 undergraduate enrollment included 6,192 students.

SMU is a nationally ranked private university in Dallas founded 100 years ago. Today, SMU enrolls nearly 11,000 students who benefit from the academic opportunities and international reach of seven degree-granting schools.



Photo by Homer Marquez

Lockney's Memory Lane (25) drives past a defender during the Lady Horn's 58-37 victory over Hale Center last Friday. The win improved the Lady Horns to 6-1 in district, guaranteeing the girls a playoff spot.

Lockney Little Dribblers to host meeting

Lockney Little Dribblers will be hosting an opening meeting of Monday, Feb. 7.

Parents need to attend if you plan on your child playing. Some changes have been made; new officers will be in charge this year to make sure that

this year will be a great year; this includes President Shawn and Melissa Kunselmon, Vice President Michelle Araujo, Secretary Jamie Butler, Treasurer Becky Fortenberry, and Commissioners Tony and Angelica Salazar.



LITTLE LONGHORNS: Korligh Webb, Austen Rexrode, Israel Cuellar, Austin Asencio, Kiara Williams, Kayla Archer, Tabitha Hernandez, Derek Luna, Jesus Gonzalez, Esai Garcia, Cassandra Ramirez, Hailey Aufield, Jaila Martin, Adliyah Jones, Erick Martinez.



Photo by Homer Marquez

Without hesitation, Lockney's Marcos Bernal (22) sends a bullet of a pass to an open Landon Kidd (12) during the Longhorn's last home game of the regular season. Unfortunately, the Owls defense would prove to be too much to handle as the Longhorns would suffer a tough loss to Hale Center.

THE CITY OF LOCKNEY WILL TAKE SEALED BIDS FOR LOTS 5-7, BLOCK 1, SOUTHWESTERN HEIGHTS ADDITION, ON MARCH 10TH. PLEASE BRING SEALED BID TO CITY HALL, 218 E. LOCUST ST., LOCKNEY, TX. 79241

2-3, 2-10, 2-17, 2-24c

Thanks for Reading!

Lockney Coop Gin wishes to thank its Producers for 54 years of patronage. We are proud to pay back another \$8.41 per bale on the 2009 crop making total dollars paid back for 2009 \$15.66 per bale and \$6.40 per bale from Farmers Coop Compress. We appreciate the opportunity to serve and work with each of you. We wish you a very healthy and prosperous 2011.

Lockney Coop Gin

East Texas Communities foundation has scholarships available

Feb. 1 — East Texas Communities Foundation believes that hard work should be rewarded, especially to students in West Texas! The Foundation is currently accepting scholarship applications for its various scholarship funds, with a deadline of March 1, 2011.

The scholarships being offered include: Alcorn and Taylor Cotton Scholarship

For recipients admitted to attend West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas and preference will be given to applicants who are dependents of those in the cotton industry. Applicants who have attended high school in a Texas county that is a member of Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. in Lubbock, Texas, recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(5) agriculture organization are encouraged

to apply. Those counties currently include: Andrews, Armstrong, Bailey, Borden, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Bray, Hale, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Howard, Hutchison, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Midland, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Terry and Yoakum counties. The recipient must have achieved a minimum GPA of at least a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in his/her high school.

See SCHOLARSHIPS on page 8

Longhorn 7th grade wins over Hale Center

By Coach Browne

The Lockney Longhorns 7th grade basketball team improved their record to 11-3 on the season with an impressive win over the Hale Center Owls 57-47.

The Owls beat the Horns earlier in the season and the Horns vowed that it would not happen again.

The Horns came out with lots of intensity and desire and played very hard and very aggressive defense. "The

kids wanted this game really bad and they played like it tonight. I was very proud of how they preformed and how they worked on defense.

The Horns where lead in scoring by Derick Patel with 21 points, followed by Mark Solis with 14, Daylen Gatica with 9, Ruben Ascencio with 7 and Justin Suarez with 6.

The Horns next game will be on Monday February 7th in New Deal with tip coming at 5 p.m.

Lockney School Lunch Menu Feb 14-18

Monday
Breakfast-French Toast or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch-Chili Dog or Grilled Cheese, tater tots, baby carrots, orange, milk

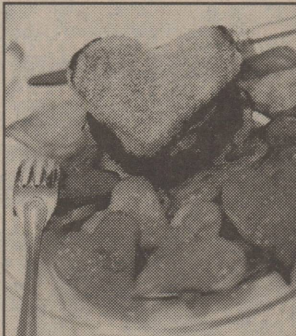
Tuesday
Breakfast-Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch-Fish Sticks or Ham, pinto beans, mac and cheese, spinach, pears, cornbread

Wednesday
Breakfast- Oatmeal or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch-Spaghetti or Corndog, salad, applesauce, bread stick, milk

Thursday
Breakfast- Eggs and Sausage or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch- Carne qaisada or Chicken patty, refried beans, corn, fruited gelatin, milk

Friday
Breakfast- Cinnamon Roll or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch-Chicken Nuggets or Burrito, potatoes, green beans apple cobbler, roll, milk

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Saturday Feb. 12th and Monday Feb. 14

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Lady Winds Beat Idalou 73-60

By Coach Styles

It did not take two overtimes to decide this game but there was plenty of scoring on both sides. Floydada jumped out to an early 15-2 lead and held that advantage till the end.

The Lady Winds led 17-8 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Winds execution on offense and their press were paramount in establishing the 41-27 lead at halftime. The home crowd was fantastic. When Idalou would make a run, this energized the Lady Winds to withstand their charge and make a run back at them.

In the second half, Idalou came out and hit five 3's to cut the lead to 9. The Lady Winds had a run of their own and were able to run out the

time and hit 9 of 12 free throws in the fourth quarter to take the victory.

The Lady Winds shot 25/59 from the floor (42.4%), 20 of 28 from the free throw line (71.4%), 35 rebounds, 20 assists, 17 steals, and 22 deflections and only 11 turnovers were vital to the Lady Winds keeping the Lady Cats from getting any closer. Floydada's defense made Idalou turn the ball over 28 times.

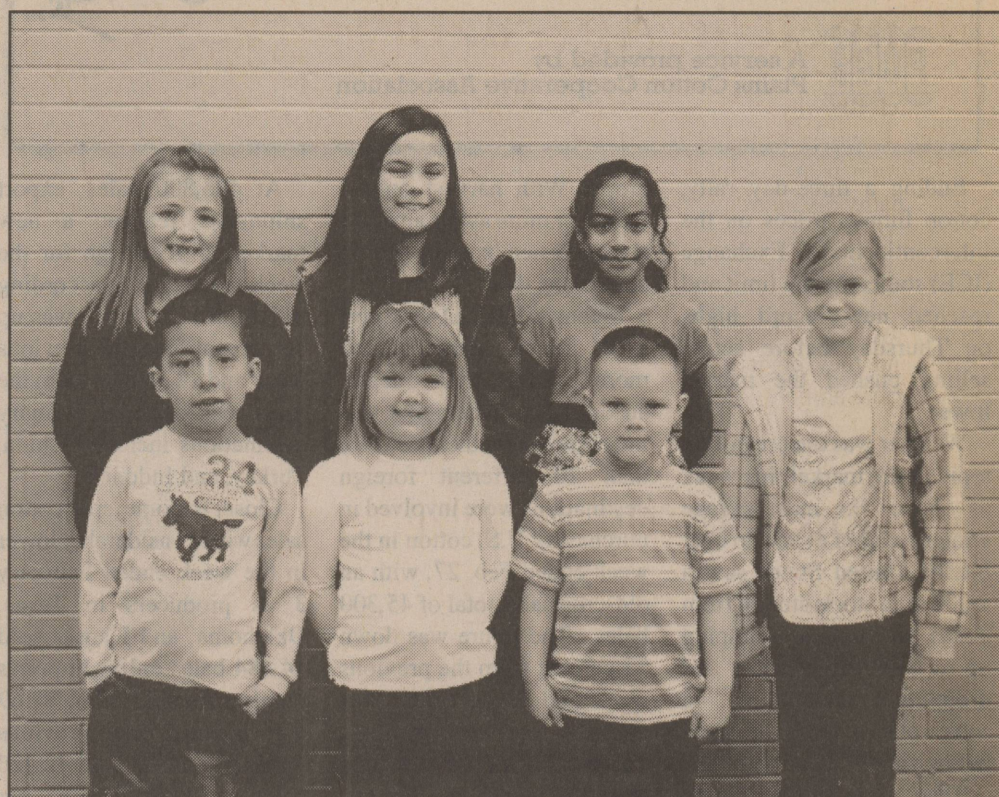
Avery Miller had 23 points and 7 rebounds. Sarah Sanders had 14 points and 4 rebounds. Sarah Jo Miller had 13 points and 10 rebounds. Whitley Beedy had 10 points and 3 rebounds. Brityn Helms 7 points and 3 steals. Breann Gooch had 5 points

and 5 steals. Emily Hall had 1 point and 4 rebounds. Liz Suarez had 2 assists and 1 rebound. Nikki Seymour had 1 rebound and 1 deflection.

With the win the Floydada kept their one game lead over Littlefield and Dimmit for the district championship. The Lady Winds are 22-4 on the year and 10-2 in district. The Lady Winds have secured a spot in the playoffs with the win. There are only two games left in the district season. If the Lady Winds win the next 2 games they will be the district champions outright for the third year in a row.

Great job Lady Winds and continued success. Come out and support the Lady Winds and Whirlwinds.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Courtesy Photo

DUNCAN ELEMENTARY students of the week for February 2 were (back row) Allison Orr, Lexi Molinar, Amber Morales, Katlyn Smith; (front row) Raymond Chavira, Tatum Glasscock and Christopher Louallen.

Floydada falls to Idalou

By Coach Renfro

The Floydada Whirlwinds fell to the 8th ranked Idalou Wildcats 61-38 last Wednesday afternoon. The game was postponed from Tuesday night due to the weather.

The Winds were within 9 points of the Cats early in the fourth quarter at 44-35, but Idalou went on an 11-1 run to push the score to 55-36 and put the game away. Bryson Session turned in a strong performance with

18 points, 14 rebounds and 4 steals. Haden Lipham also hit double figures for the Winds with 13 points. John Angel Yannis scored 3, while Cole Covington and Tyler Renfro had 2 each.

Wind's drop to Mules

By Coach Renfro

The Floydada Whirlwinds lost to Muleshoe 64-46 Friday night in 2-2A basketball action. The Mules jumped out to an 18-8 lead after the first period, and led 33-22 at the break. The Winds battled back in the 3rd quarter,

getting within 1 of Muleshoe 41-40, but could not capture the lead.

Turnovers and missed shots haunted the Winds as they were outscored 23-5 the rest of the way. Bryson Session had 14 points and 10 rebounds. Haden

Lipham put in 11 points for the Winds while grabbing 6 boards. Cole Covington had 7 points, while RJ Deleon put in 5. John Angel Yannis hit a 3 and grabbed 6 rebounds, while Greg Aleman also hit a 3; Ventura Gonzales put in 2 for Floydada.

Whirlwind 8th grade loses to Littlefield

By Coach Riley

The Floydada 8th grade Whirlwinds played Littlefield on Monday, January 31st and lost by a score of 45-39. Zach Martinez had three

3's and ended up with 13 points. Josh Posada had 11 points.

Danny Martinez's assertiveness led to 10+ team steals and also chipped in 6 points. And

Corbin Nutt had 2 big baskets at the end of the 1st half to keep us within 2.

Tucker Lorange hit a crucial 3-point attempt towards the end of the game to keep us within winning reach.



Courtesy Photo

DUNCAN ELEMENTARY students of the week for January 31 were (back row) Jeremiah Johnston, Monty Stambough; (front row) Anna Hernandez, Kaitlyn Vega, Joseph Gonzales and Azalea Garza.



Photo by Jim Covington

Floydada's Tyler Renfro (20) zips past an Idalou defender during last week's game. The Floydada boys would drop two last week as the fell 61-38 to the Wildcats and 46-64 to Muleshoe.



Photo by Jim Covington

Lady Wind, Nikki Seymour (10) looks for an open space as she takes it to the paint during last week's game against Idalou; after a stellar year, the Lady Winds will look to take the same momentum into the playoffs.

FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU FEB. 14 - FEB. 18

Monday
Breakfast-Breakfast pizza or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch- Chicken fajitas, tortillas, refried beans, salad, orange smiles, chocolate pudding cup, milk
Tuesday
Breakfast- Sausage/ biscuit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch- Stuffed baked potato, baby carrots/ranch, fresh fruit cup, Texas toast, milk
Wednesday
Breakfast- Pancakes/ syrup or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch- Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes/

gravy, green beans, hot roll, strawberries w/whipped topping milk
Thursday
Breakfast- Oatmeal and cinnamon toast or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch- Meat and beans chaluapas, Spanish rice,

lettuce & tomatoes, rosie applesauce, milk
Friday
Breakfast- Breakfast burrito or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch- Submarine sandwich, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, tater tots, brownie,



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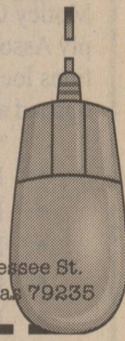
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FOR FEB 2011 Jessica Johnston

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THANKSFORREADING

Cotton Market Weekly



A service provided by
Plains Cotton Cooperative Association



Ending a three-day rally, cotton futures prices on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) stalled up the limit and reached new record highs on Thursday before active selling pushed the market lower.

Weather was the prevailing topic in the market this week as one of the most savage winter weather events to ever hit the United States saw a 1,000 mile storm stretch from Texas to Illinois, dumping up to two feet of snow and dropping temperatures in some places to 20 degrees below zero.

"The glass-half-full story here is that the glacial weather will kill any insects in the top six inches of soil, which is a money saving blessing to farmers to be delivered during the next growing season," a trader said.

Even though the bulk of the world's cotton is grown in the now "crop-dormant" Northern Hemisphere, global weather concerns continue to have an effect on the potential for cotton production. Tropical cyclone Yasi hit Australia this week wreaking havoc. Yasi, which experts say could be as large as Hurricane Katrina, will only add additional excess precipitation to an already saturated Australian cotton

crop. With harvest only a month or more away, analysts are interested in news of crop conditions there.

Meanwhile, USDA's export sales report demonstrated more width than depth, according to traders, but was impressive nonetheless. More than 20 different foreign destinations were involved in purchasing U.S. cotton in the week ended Feb. 27, with an old-crop sales total of 45,300 bales. The figure was down 83 percent from the previous week and 63 percent lower than the four-week average. Turkey, Brazil, and China were the week's top buyers. Analysts said more sales might have been made if there had been more cotton left for merchants to offer.

Net sales of 196,300 bales for delivery in 2011-12 were mainly for China, South Korea, and Turkey. Data shows the new-season U.S. cotton export total now stands at more than 2.6 million bales compared to less than 330,000 bales in this category at the same point one year ago. Many feel that 1.9 million bales of the 2.6 million bales already sold into next year represent almost all of the projected U.S. year-end carry out. Analysts certainly will be keeping an eye on the figures.

At 426,800 bales, export shipments reached a new marketing year high for the week ended Jan. 27, according to USDA. The figure was up 18 percent from the previous week and 42 percent from the four-week average. Primary destinations included China, Turkey, and Indonesia.

Closer to home, spot cotton sales were considerably lower in the week ended February 3 as producers in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas sold 14,484 bales online at prices ranging from \$1.57 to \$1.69 per pound. The previous week, producers sold 42,426 bales at \$1.47 to \$1.57 per pound.

In other news, the National Cotton Council (NCC) will release its survey of grower planting intentions on Saturday, February 5. The survey asked for "intentions," and actual plantings can be very different in some years. Nevertheless, the survey has proven to be a reliable indicator. Some traders expect the report to indicate planting intentions between 12.6 and 12.9 million acres, but more producers may have decided to grow cotton since the data was collected.

"The Council's survey results are as of the January 1 to January 15 time period," a market observer explained. "However, I think actual U.S. cotton plantings, based on today's prices, will likely top 13 million acres."

Farm Service Agency boosts rural economies

Floydada, Feb. 7, 2011 – The Texas Farm Service Agency provided approximately \$1.6 billion in assistance to the state's agricultural producers during fiscal year 2010 (FY 2010), October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. According to Stephanie Bradley, executive director for Floyd County FSA, these funds provide farmers and ranchers with assistance to recover from disasters, implement conservation practices and with commodity price support to insure the well-being of American agriculture. Of the \$1.6 billion, \$27.7 million was disbursed in Floyd County.

Following is an accounting, by program, of federal farm payments issued in Texas during FY 2010:

\$728.1 million was issued through the Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) program, which provides annual fixed direct payments to eligible producers according to historically-based acreage and yields. The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) provides producers with revenue-based payments as an alternative to receiving price-based counter-cyclical payments. \$3.4 million was disbursed in Texas through the ACRE program.

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE)

program provides crop disaster assistance to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses due to natural disasters. Qualifying producers in Texas received \$181.1 million during FY 2010.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary land retirement program available to agricultural producers to help safeguard environmentally-sensitive land. In FY 2010, CRP contract holders in Texas received \$136.2 million in annual rental payments for doing their part to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat.

Other notable Texas program totals for FY 2010 include: \$16.4 million for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); \$4.6 million for the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program and \$7.2 million for the Dairy Economic Loss Assistance Payment (DELAP) program.

In addition to direct payments, Texas FSA paid \$180.2 million through commodity loans and Loan Deficiency Payments to provide producers interim financing at harvest to meet cash flow needs, and the Farm Storage Facility Loan program provided \$650 thousand in low-interest financing for producers

to build or upgrade farm storage.

FSA's Farm Loan programs provide direct and guaranteed loans to purchase real estate or to provide funding for operating expenses. In FY 2010, Texas FSA made 1,235 operating loans and 142 ownership loans for a total of \$100 million in direct loans. Additionally, FSA guaranteed 387 operating loans and 50 ownership loans for a total of \$130.3 million.

Payments made through FSA's federal farm programs provide a financial boost to rural communities. The economic impact of farm programs reaches local businesses through purchases of equipment and crop inputs, such as seed, fertilizer and fuel. Some economists estimate that once a federal farm program payment is made to a producer, those dollars change hands locally at least seven times.

For consumers who are not directly involved in production agriculture, a safe, affordable and abundant food, fiber and fuel supply are the indirect benefits received through FSA's issuance of federal farm program payments.

For more information about USDA Farm Service Agency programs, contact the Floyd County FSA office at 806.983.5747 or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

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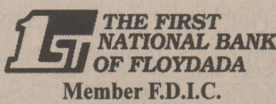
Kyle Smith, Pam Bennett,
Jana Borchardt and Rebecca Moore

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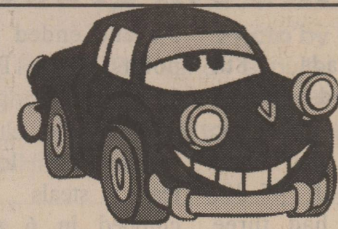


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SECTION 00100

INVITATION TO BID

Motley County, Texas, will receive bids for furnishing materials as listed below and specified to the Flomot Water Supply Association (WSA) in Flomot, Texas until 3:00 pm on February 11, 2011 at the office of Carthel Engineering Solutions located at 4409 71st Street #6, Lubbock, Texas 79424, at which time and place all bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid packages are as follows:

- Package 1: Air compressor, tank level gauges, level controls, and air piping and valves.
- Package 2: Booster pumps and controls.
- Package 3: Rehabilitation of existing ground storage tank.
- Package 4: Chlorination system
- Package 5: Nitrate treatment system

Vendors may bid on all, one, or any combination of the above packages. Owner will award individual packages based on the lowest qualified bid. Contract documents, including plans and specifications, are available at the office of Carthel Engineering Solutions, 4409 71st Street #6, Lubbock, Texas 79424, phone 806-687-8322, fax 806-687-8323. Questions concerning this project should be addressed to Mr. Chester "Ches" Carthel, P.E. at the office of the Engineer.

This is a unit price contract. Method of payment to Contractor will be via check by the County after approved requests for payment.

A Bid Bond (issued by an acceptable security) in the amount of 5 percent of the bid, shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the County of Motley, or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (at par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. The successful Bidder must furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, from a Surety Company holding a permit from the State of Texas, to act as a Surety or other Surety, or Sureties satisfactory to the Owner. If the total bid is less than \$25,000, a Payment Bond will not be required.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than the federally determined prevailing (i.e., Davis-Bacon) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Commerce and contained in the Contract Documents must be paid on the project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Attention is called to General Condition 309, "Restrictions on Public Building and Public Works Projects". The Bidder certifies by the submission of its bid that it:

1. Is not a Contractor of a foreign country included on the USTR list.
2. Has not and will not enter into any subcontract with a subcontractor of a foreign country included on the USTR list.
3. Will not provide any product of a foreign country included on the USTR list.

Motley County reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by Motley County for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to awarding of the contract.

Ed D. Smith, County Judge

2-10c

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OPINION



The Paperboy

Filling the void

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

I guess in a way, we never escape the voices of our parents.

Three years have passed since my mom passed, but the echoes of her voice still ring in my ears.

When Mom would call, and I would answer, she always said, "It's just me..." That always ticked me off a bit. I didn't like the fact that she would discount herself as if it wasn't important that she was calling.

When my Dad would call, he would say, "Christopher!" He always said it like he was glad to hear my voice. It always made me smile.

There was no guessing who was on the line when either of my parents called.

My father is still alive, but he has no knowledge of his life. Dementia, likely Alzheimer's, claimed his memory for good not long after Mom died. At the time, he didn't know she had died. Now he doesn't know he was ever married.

Perhaps one of the greatest gifts we are given in this life is our memory. I cherish too many memories of my parents to mention in this small space. Sometimes I wonder if I will

always have them. For now I do and this time of year always brings them flooding back.

It's impossible to come up with a favorite memory of my parents. That's because there were so many good ones.

I remember a trip to Six Flags Over Texas when I was 10. We had a blast. Morning thunderstorms meant the park was shut down for a couple of hours. I recall it was also a weekday, so the crowd may have been lighter to begin with, but the weather made the park virtually empty.

We spent the whole day riding whatever we wanted, whenever we wanted. Mom and Dad were 33 and 34 respectively then so they were up for riding with my sister and me. What a day!

Before you become a teenager, you need your parents. You depend on your parents. Of course you also need them when you're a teen, you just don't want to admit it. You want to be independent and point out how much you know, especially compared to Mom and Dad.

I recall having to get an occasional attitude adjustment. I also recall Mom giving me the old tried and true guilt trip. Every once in awhile I'd receive a guilt vacation.

For the most part, as long as my grades were good and my

mind was right, I got along great with my parents. I now see how lucky, and how sheltered I was.

When Dad really started slipping, I felt the impact immediately. Almost overnight, the advice I had depended on was gone. The progression of his disease was so rapid, his digression was staggering. At that point, I began to babysit my Dad during the day to give Mom a break. I'd pick him up in the morning, and we'd spend the day together. While those memories are still painful, we did share some good times on our daily adventures.

When Mom died, my source for knowledge on child rearing, a job she was very good at and very serious about, disappeared as well. Being an older father with a wonderful wife helps in that regard, but there's not a day that goes by that I don't miss the support.

We try and fill the voids in our lives the best we can. God, the love for family, precious friendships ... all play a key role in balancing our lives. At least they do for me ...

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

Deepwater Spill Was Just an Excuse

By BILL WILSON

We have to get our priorities straight. When even Cuba, which minus Chinese assistance lacks the technological capability to do so, is looking to drill for oil in the deep waters just 50 miles off the coast of the U.S., but we refuse to do so, clearly the nation is falling behind in the global energy race.

Writing for Politico, U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) raises the alarm bells: "We cannot allow this project to move forward." Buchanan has introduced legislation that would deny oil permits to any company that does business with Cuba.

That's a start, and if Republicans can force votes in both houses of Congress, the American people may gain some insight into the Obama Administration's intentions. Is the White House going to block U.S. domestic energy production and then allow the communist thugs in Cuba to do it?

This could be one of the most telling decisions Barack Obama will make. It will show clearly what side he is on.

The problem the U.S. faces, of course, is not too much overseas competition per se from adversaries like Cuba or China. It is domestic restrictions and regulations that restrict the na-

tion's ability to drill for its own oil and natural gas. This has been a long time coming.

According to data collected by the Energy Information Agency (EIA), in 1970 the U.S. produced 9.6 million barrels of oil every day. Now only 5.5 million barrels are produced a day, a 42 percent decrease. So precipitous has this decline been that the U.S., which was once energy independent, now imports more than half of its energy.

Making matters worse, since the deepwater Gulf oil spill of 2010, government's iron grip around drilling has only tightened.

"[N]ot a single deepwater permit has been issued in nine months," said Offshore Marine Service Association President Jim Adams in a report by Bloomberg News. The association is calling it an informal moratorium, even though Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar supposedly lifted a second government moratorium on deepwater drilling.

In fact, so rampant has the Obama Administration's obstruction of U.S. drilling been that federal Judge Martin Feldman blocked Salazar's first moratorium from being implemented, and then found the government in contempt of court because it refused to follow the order.

But it's even worse than that. As noted by the editorial board of Investor's Business Dai-

ly, "The moratorium is driven by ideology and not safety. Its purpose was to further the administration's war on domestic energy production, including a seven-year ban on offshore drilling off both coasts and the eastern Gulf."

In other words, the Obama Administration is exploiting the oil spill as an excuse to shut down domestic oil production, something the Hard Left has sought for decades.

These restrictions will mean thousands of lost jobs and billions of dollars in lost revenue for American companies, and have the unfortunate added effect of increasing the nation's dependence on foreign sources of energy. The effects are already being seen in EIA's data, which projects that domestic crude oil production "declines by 20,000 bbl/d in 2011 and by a further 130,000 bbl/d in 2012 (U.S. Crude Oil Production Chart)".

How does this advance American interests? As the nation is learning by the ongoing turmoil in the Middle East, the U.S. cannot afford to be dependent on foreign sources of fuel. Today, we are at the mercy of hostile regimes in Venezuela and the Middle East, and unstable nations like Nigeria, Mexico and in others in Central and South America.

The shame is that we have enough energy and other resources in America to provide for

our own needs as a nation, but we choose not to. Federal restrictions are in the way. Those restrictions should be lifted to open 650 million acres of federal lands and to dramatically expand oil, mineral, rare earth metals, and nuclear leasing and permitting.

The Obama Administration could do this immediately, for example by reopening the Gulf to drilling, expanding drilling leases in Alaska, rescinding the EPA's endangerment finding, and allowing Texas refining to go forward unhindered. Additionally, we must begin exploiting our oil shale, coal, and nuclear capabilities.

A rapid expansion of the nation's natural resources production would create tens of thousands of jobs and investment opportunities, increase revenues through economic growth, and reduce our dependency on foreign natural resources.

Instead, Cuba and China are drilling for those resources right in our backyard, and Obama is busy making sure that we can't. It compels one to question just why it is this Administration and the leftists that support it are so opposed to America being energy independent and able to produce its own resources. Whose side are they really on?

Bubbles Galore In Lives Lived In The Abstract

By VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

The 2008 financial crash originated with a housing bubble. Not long ago, the cheap-money policies of the Federal Reserve, the infusion of trillions of dollars in new foreign investment, and the misguided policies of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae all conspired to extend to millions of Americans lots of easy cash for inflated houses that they could hardly afford.

Owning a house was seen as a "right" rather than the just rewards of household sacrifice, delayed gratification and budgetary discipline.

Builders, lenders, realtors and bureaucrats all got in on the easy-money Ponzi scheme — until a few noticed that the emperor had no clothes and that rather pedestrian homes were hardly worth what unqualified purchasers had paid for them.

Financial hysteria followed when shaky borrowers began to miss exorbitant mortgage payments, walked away, and lenders panicked. The subsequent meltdown is history.

There is a similar pension bubble rising as well. There is perhaps as much as \$6 trillion owed in retirement pledges to Americans, \$500 billion in California alone. That tab under present conditions simply cannot be met.

For the last 30 years, politicians outbid each other to offer more lavish retirement packages to union members and public employees — more eager for their votes than for ensuring the payment of what they had promised. Receiving a generous retirement package was considered a right rather than an investment predicated on past savings coupled with modest interest and dividends.

There may already be an immediate \$1 trillion shortfall in

meeting what is owed current retirees. Pensioners on the receiving end are becoming more numerous, older and more affluent, while the younger workers on the paying end are becoming less numerous and poorer.

At some point, a city, a state or perhaps the Social Security system itself is going to announce there is no more money. Then, if there is not another financial crisis and Wall Street meltdown, the fantasy will end with workers paying higher contributions, retiring later and receiving less.

Then there is the higher-education bubble, as collective student debt nears \$1 trillion with no guarantee that it will be paid back. Lots of poor college students and their strapped parents are floating huge government-subsidized student loans to pay for ever more costly bachelor's degrees that no longer ensure that the recipients are either well educated, will find a job upon graduation or, if employed, will be better-paid than the vocationally trained.

Going to college has somehow become seen as a national right rather than a privilege predicated on superior academic achievement, financial sacrifice and continued academic discipline.

There are disturbing commonalities to these expanding bubbles — and others like the recently enacted health care entitlement on the way. The rich and connected seem exempt from the impending reckoning, and the poor assume that government will offer them debt relief. Those in between are on their own and will have to pay more for receiving less.

America is not creating enough wealth to justify the notion that everyone should go to college, get a higher-paying job than their parents, buy a nice, affordable house and retire earlier and

with more money than did prior generations.

We have forgotten what wealth is — and how tenuous the good life is. Riches are created by educated and skilled workers who directly translate natural resources into commodities that make life easier. The nonproductive sector in government, law and banking must facilitate that process with efficient and transparent financial and political systems.

Instead, we are failing to provide our college graduates with unique skills that make them rare assets in the global competitive arena.

Meanwhile, our more talented and better-trained workers are suing, subsidizing and regulating more than ever — instead of searching for more oil and gas, supplying more water to productive farmland, fast-tracking nuclear power plants, manufacturing machines and consumer goods, or devising new and more efficient ways to help others to produce such food, fuel and products.

In other words, we are living the good life in the abstract that we have not quite earned in the concrete.

America is a naturally rich country. Unlike Russia, China, Egypt or Greece, it is stable, transparent, tolerant and free of civil strife. The result is that we are not doomed to see these bubbles expand and burst with the attendant social unrest. We need only return to our old American creed that wealth is created only with hard work and delayed gratification.

In other words, America must get back to producing real, rather than imaginary, riches and ignore pleasing rhetoric that masks unpleasant reality — the faster the better.

Social Security and the Fallacy of Government Compassion

By DAVIS BOZEMAN

The chatter is becoming a roar. With the first baby boomers approaching the legal retirement age and concern mounting over the solvency of Social Security, the first solution on the table is to raise the age even higher.

Republicans such as House Speaker John Boehner, governors Tim Pawlenty (MN) and Mitch Daniels (IN) have expressed support for upping the age to 70. Bush 43 spokeswoman Dana Perrino recently proposed on Fox News phasing in, not affecting anyone now at or near retirement, an increase to age 69. Fox News analyst John Stossel, a staunch libertarian, echoes the same idea as the first solution to saving the program.

Social Security, of course, remains the vaunted third rail of American politics, the crown jewel of Roosevelt-era liberalism. Even conservative-minded Americans consider the program the one saving grace keeping the elderly out of the poor-houses. Like a national institution or memorial, it will be saved come whatever. Just the mere concept is an American value unto itself and we will make it endure, regardless of the costs or the puny payouts or the toll on the American worker.

Nothing written here is meant to endorse the privatization of Social Security, but I do submit that the American worker should not be coerced into planning his or her future on the edicts of

Washington politicians and policy wonks. Social Security, like most government programs, offers one-size-fits-all solutions for a diverse nation of 300 million-plus and fosters dependency and conformity. From where in the Constitution does government derive the power to set my retirement age?

Furthermore, Boehner, Pawlenty, Perrino and the rest of the raise-the-age-nowers make their livings in the halls of government and in temperature-controlled studios opining on the issues of the day. Consider that millions of Americans work with their hands. Pipe fitters, bricklayers and construction crews labor in the most intense heat and extreme cold. Factory workers spend eight, nine, ten hours a day on concrete floors, lifting heavy boxes and other materials, leaving hundreds of thousands of Americans with back and knee problems as early as in their thirties.

How many of those who publicly advocate raising the retirement age plan to cut six-inch thick telephone wire or load tractor trailers when they are approaching 70? How many would take comfort in their parents or grandparents forgoing precious leisure time late in life to continue punching the time clock? Is this the brand of government compassion for which agency officials are always beating their chests?

The point is not to lament poor working conditions. Most honest work confers honor, dignity and great benefit for the em-

ployee, and advances in technology and freedom (with a modicum of government oversight) should offer a promising future for the American worker. What we require is greater choice and flexibility in planning our retirement. One need not advocate the abolishment of Social Security to see that while some of us enjoy careers we want to continue through our 70's and 80's, some of us have jobs.

We must further discard the conventional wisdom that we must follow the dictates of a bi-partisan blue-ribbon commission in planning when to retire. Our individual lives and the financial markets still offer options for early retirement (as tall an order as it is), which we can explore while we still enjoy the freedom.

Greater market-based choice would tailor plans to suit the needs of workers and their families, lest the customer go elsewhere. Government plans, by contrast, are predicated upon their own survival, and it is the worker bee who must sacrifice so that a noble endeavor can endure. Government cares little about your aching back, broken knees or frayed sanity, so unless 70 miraculously becomes the new 40, I'd like to enjoy my golden years while I can still walk. Still, if there's an opening for a congressman or a pundit on a cable news channel, I'll consider it.

Texas counties receiving 2 to 6 inches of moisture

COLLEGE STATION -- Since New Year's, some Texas counties had received from 2 to 6 inches of moisture, but much of the state remains behind as far as long-term accumulations go, said Texas AgriLife Extension Service personnel.

From the Panhandle to South Texas, the lack of moisture affected winter wheat and other crops and caused concern about the future success of spring plantings, according to county reports from AgriLife Extension agents.

"Producers have had a productive week in the field this week with above average temperatures but no moisture in the area," reported Rick Auckerman, AgriLife Extension agent for Deaf Smith County, west of Amarillo. "Winter wheat continues to deteriorate with the lack of moisture and extreme drying conditions in our area."

"Soil moisture is very short with no measurable rainfall since late October," said Jay Kingston, AgriLife Extension agent for Kent County, east of Lubbock. "Wheat is in poor to very poor condition along with native pastures."

"Pecos County has gone 120 days without any measurable precipitation," said Norman Fryar, AgriLife Extension agent for Pecos County, south of Odessa. "Continued winds and diverse temperature ranges are impacting the overall agricultural industry of the county."

"Conditions remain dry in Foard County. Producers are debating on whether to top-dress wheat," said Seth Manney, AgriLife Extension agent for Foard

County, west of Wichita Falls. "Many would like to contract wheat, but are reluctant with this weather pattern."

"It has been very cold this week, we still have not received any rain," reported Greg Gruben, AgriLife Extension agent for Scurry County, west of Abilene. "Rangeland and wheat were really struggling due to the lack of rainfall. We certainly do not have any underground moisture to start next season's crop."

"We had from 0.5-1.5 inches of snow Sunday and Monday with some scattered rainfall late Monday," said Rick Hirsch, AgriLife Extension agent for Henderson County, west of Tyler. "Hay supplies are rapidly depleting with increasing cold weather. Soil-moisture conditions were helped by snow and rain but it was not enough to sustain production."

"We went from a 100-percent topsoil moisture shortage to a 100-percent adequate topsoil moisture," said Larry Perez, AgriLife Extension agent for Jim Hogg County, east of Laredo. "A 1- to 2- inch rainfall event will do that in this area. Very cool temps with significant moisture and lots of clouds means no evaporation and moisture retention; lots of smiling faces in the county."

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

Central: Most of the region received rain in the past week. Livestock producers were providing cattle with hay and feed. Wheat producers were applying fertilizer on those wheat fields that developed good stands. Corn produc-

ers were also applying fertilizer to fields they plan to plant in the spring. The cold, wet weather was hard on beef cows.

Coastal Bend: Soil-moisture levels were greatly helped by rain. Winter pastures responded well to the rain. Wind damage and hail from a Jan. 9 storm was reported to be widespread. Wet soils prevented growers from planting spring wheat. This late, most spring wheat that was originally planned will probably not be planted as growers opt for other warm-season crops in its place. Farmers had not applied fertilizer due to very dry soil before the rain but were expected to resume as soon as fields dried out. Producers continued to provide supplemental feed to livestock as winter forages were in short supply.

East: The region had very cold days and nights, but received moisture in the form of snow, sleet and rain. Where rainfall was significant -- as much as 3.5 inches -- soil conditions were improved. However, many areas were still well below normal accumulations for the year. With average yearly precipitation more than 20 inches below long-term averages, San Augustine County reported that 2010 was the driest in 41 years. In nearly all the region, much more precipitation was needed to replenish stock ponds and improve winter pasture growth. Livestock were in fair to good condition with producers providing supplemental feeding. Many producers were searching for hay to buy.

Far West: The region has had no measurable amount

of precipitation in more than 120 days. The lack of moisture in conjunction with high winds has put the region at very high risk for wildfires. Pecan growers were pruning dormant trees. Fall-planted onions and alfalfa were dormant as well. Farmers were preparing fields for spring planting of cotton, chiles and corn.

North: Soil moisture ranged from short to adequate. From 2 to 9 inches of snow fell with temperatures dropping into the teens and low 20s. The cold temperatures meant the snow did not melt for a few days. Though the snowy, cold weather brought needed moisture, it forced livestock feeders to use a lot of hay supplies. Winter pasture growth slowed with the low temperatures, but the snow was expected to have insulated young wheat from freezing. With the inclement weather, there is not much field activity other than feeding livestock. The pecan harvest was complete, and winter wheat was in fair to good condition. Rangeland and pasture conditions ranged from poor to good.

Panhandle: The region remained very dry. Soil moisture was short to very short, which adversely affected all winter wheat but particularly that grown without irrigation. Field activities across most of the area were at a standstill due to weather. In a few counties, producers were preparing fields for spring plantings. A large increase in acreage destined for cotton planting was anticipated. Supplemental feeding of cattle was the norm for most livestock producers.

Some had to routinely break ice in tanks and ponds due to the severe cold.

Rolling Plains: Cold and dry conditions continued, and wildfire danger was high. Some wheat fields under center-pivot irrigation made good progress. Other fields were in severe need of moisture. The farmers nearly had the cotton harvest finished with only a few modules of cotton needing to get picked up. All things considered, 2010 was a very good year for cotton farmers. Many were shredding and plowing the last remaining of their fields. Eventually, they plan to prepare beds for spring planting, but currently, soils were rock hard due to the lack of moisture. Livestock were in fair condition with supplemental feeding. Feral hog movement and destruction increased.

South: Several counties received a long-awaited rainfall. However, soil-moisture conditions were mostly short to very short throughout most of the region. The exceptions to the short soil moisture regions were those eastern and southern counties that received large rains. Rangeland and pastures improved somewhat, but cold temperatures slowed winter-annual forage production to a standstill. Supplemental feeding was in full swing due to diminishing forage quality and quantity. Beef cattle scores were fair to good. In the northern part of the region, growers were actively planting potatoes. Producers in the eastern part of the region were applying fertilizer and pre-emergence herbicides. In the western part of the

region -- mostly the Zavala County area -- growers were busy harvesting fresh-market spinach and cabbage. In the southern part of the region, the harvesting of citrus, winter vegetables and sugarcane was ongoing.

Southeast: Some areas receive about 1 inch of rain, which was absorbed quickly by dry soils. Wheat was good. Land preparation has slowed some due to the wet conditions.

South Plains: The region was bitterly cold with a low of 8 degrees and a high of 27 degrees, and wind gusts up to 23 mph. Soil moisture was very short to short. The cotton-ginning season continued to wind down with only a few gins still running. Winter wheat was in poor to fair condition and in need of moisture. Pastures and rangeland were in poor to fair condition with rainfall needed for cool-season grasses. Livestock remained in mostly good condition, with producers providing supplemental feed on colder days.

West Central: Extremely cold weather and dry conditions continued. All counties needed rain to keep winter pastures and crops going. The cotton harvest was completed in most areas. Winter wheat was in poor condition due to lack of moisture. Farmers were preparing fields for spring plantings. Rangeland and pasture conditions continued to decline. Forage availability was very low.

Livestock were in fair condition with continued supplemental feeding. The pecan harvest was completed in many areas with average yields reported.

AUSTIN

While at the Capitol Schoolhouse event, Jim Landtrep, District 85 State Representative, met the students and participated in recognizing them in the House of Representatives during the afternoon. Students also received recognition in the Senate.

The theme for 2011 TCSH was "Texas Exceptionalism and Innovation". State

representatives, TEA officials and members of other districts were impressed by the products the students created and were quite complimentary of the level of the work these students have achieved. Floydada ISD has been consistently referenced by these officials as a standard by which all districts, state and nation-wide, should be measured in the area of technological proficiency.

FREEZING

almost depleted the hardware store's plumbing supplies, "when it comes to plumbing (we) were a lot busier...sold out of a lot of stuff," described Ricky Griffith, manager of Davis Lumber in Lockney.

It was reported that the vast amount of damaged pipes in the area was somewhat unusual for the time, but with last week's

blistering below zero weather, which was the coldest that the county had seen in years, the high number of frozen and busted pipes was not a surprise.

This week, Floyd County should not expect to hit such low temperatures again, but will be expecting a 40 percent chance of snow for the middle of the week.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Amount: \$5,000.00 each; available for 2 students.

Jan Alcorn Scholarship - For recipients admitted to attend West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. Preference will be given to applicants who are graduating seniors or who have graduated within the last two (2) years from Tascosa High School in Amarillo, Texas, and who are commuting to West Texas A&M University from Amarillo, Texas. The

recipient must have achieved a minimum GPA of at least a 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in his/her high school. Amount: \$5,000.00 each; available for 2 students.

All scholarship applications and eligibility criteria are available at www.etcf.org. Applications must be post marked on or before March 1, 2011. For more information, please call Dana Durman at 903.533.0208 or log on to our website at www.etcf.org.

decided to keep the Tastee Burger name, and for the next 21 years, continued to provide customers with great food and great service. Since then, Tastee Burger's menu has continued to serve great stand-buys like hamburgers and chili dogs made with the same chili recipe that Pinner's Drive-in used, but throughout the years the restaurant has also introduced new items to their menu including a barbacoa night and the famous Sweetheart Burger; but no matter what's on the menu, Silvia accredits the success of Tastee Burger to home-style cooking and to the use fresh ingredients.

And like all restaurants, the pressures of food costs and overhead have sometimes put an almost unbearable stress over Silvia's head, but she thanks the support of both Lockney and Floydada for helping her to continue for such a long time. For the time being, Silvia plans to continue to running the restaurant and is looking forward towards the many

more years of living in a small town community, when asked what she loved the most about working at Tastee Burger, Silvia responded, "The people... the kids. I love that every year different sets of kids come in to eat." In 2004, Silvia moved Tastee Burger to its current location on north Main Street in Lockney; Silvia is happily married to Rene Guerrero and has three children.

It's a well know fact in the restaurant business, that most restaurants will fail within the first 3 months of their opening; this was a statistic that breathed heavily down the neck of Joe Covington as he endured the trials and tribulations of his first year as owner of the Dixie Tavern Café.

It wasn't long ago that Joe and his wife, Lisa desired to transform their love for cooking into a business, and exactly one year later on Feb. 4, the couple was able to hold their head up high as the celebrated their year anniversary as owners of the Dixie Tavern Café.

RESTAURANTS

Joe explained, "If we could make it through this last year, as tough as its been in the economy and the local, all we can do is go up from there, sustain and keep doing what we're doing." And with a year of trial and error learning, Joe and Lisa, who both had no prior restaurant experience, spent the last year perfecting their unique cooking style and business style.

Throughout their lives, both Joe and Lisa have always found great joy in experimenting with different recipes and cooking styles in their kitchen at home. While Joe worked in construction, the young couple had always aspired to one day open a restaurant. Born in Floydada, Joe Covington is the grandson of Alva Redd, who was one of the owners of the original Dixie Tavern Café back in 1934; and following in his grandfather's footsteps, Joe took his love for cooking the next level when he opted to buy the restaurant building located on the south side of Highway 70 in Lockney. Since then, Joe has hit the ground running providing

fresh and delicious plates to hungry customers from all over the area. "We cook food up here, even though it's on a bigger level, just like we cook at home. We season it, do stuff to it just like you would do stuff at your house." Joe commented.

And despite our current economic status, that Dixie Tavern philosophy has been the key to Joe's and Lisa's success; and the response has been overwhelming, "everybody has responded real well," Joe explained, "it takes a while to get established, word of mouth, especially in a small town, but we got lots people (coming in) from Floyd County...we've had a tremendous amount of support from Lockney and Floydada."

Currently, Joe and Lisa plan to continue serving hot home cooked meals to the area, and also plan on adding even more variety to Floyd County cuisine. "Even though it's hard, we do enjoy the cooking," Joe explained, "when people like your food, that's all the

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Floyd County Hesperian Beacon Classifieds

Farm Miscellaneous

LET ME FARM FOR YOU. I would like to rent 300 to 500 acres in western Floyd County. Francis Montandon, 806-652-3696, Lockney (Sandhill Community). Tfn

For Sale or Rent

FOR SALE OR RENT—2 bedroom, 1 bath, central heat and air. All electric, large carport. 313 E. Tennessee. \$18,000. Call 806-786-6768. tfn

Help Wanted

CARE COORDINATOR to provide targeted support services, via the Wrap-Around process. Must have

high school diploma/GED, Prefer Bachelor's degree in the field of social or human services or juvenile justice. Apply at CPC, 2700 Yonkers, Plainview, www.clplains.org 806-293-2636. Salary range \$10,708 - \$12,288 hr.

House for Sale

804 W. MARIVENA—Two large bedrooms, two full baths, 1503 sq. ft., brick veneer, fireplace, 3 year old Lennox heating and cooling system, new backyard fence, all electric, new dishwasher and hot water heater, 1 car garage with large storage area. For information call Connie Johnson at 806-983-3441 (work) or 806-983-

3603 (home). tfn

Wanted

CANNING JAR NEEDED! Free or cheap. Will pick up. Call 806-983-3372.2-10c

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