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 Floyd County Histori Museum
 PO BOX 304
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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

HESPERIANBEACONONLINE.COM

\$1.00

Carr's Chapel celebrates 115th Christmas Eve service

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

The historic Carr's Chapel, located in the southwest corner of Floyd County on farm to market highway 378, will celebrate its 115th Christmas Eve service.

Beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24, the program will consist of congregational singing of familiar Christmas hymns, the reading of the Christmas story from Luke, and a seasonal meditation. The children in attendance will be invited to present musical selections, poems, and readings.

An offering will be taken to be donated to the Carr's Cemetery Association.

Santa Claus will make his usual appearance to the congregation's singing of "Jingle Bells". He will listen to the children's Christmas wishes and help distribute sacks of candy and apples to the congregation. After which, Santa will leave to go on his traditional Christmas Eve rounds around the world.

Everyone in the surrounding communities is invited to help celebrate Carr's Chapel's 115th Christmas Eve observance.

Hendricks Fire



Courtesy Photo

A fire engulfed Arin Hendricks' shop, located west of Floydada on FM 784, before 7:00 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019. Fire departments from Floydada, Lockney and Motley County were all present and involved in fighting the raging inferno. According to the City of Floydada, there is no definitive cause for the fire as of yet. Each and every one of the local first responders and fire department personnel are to be applauded for their quick response and dedicated efforts to control the fire.

Floydada citizens part of distinguished "Woodmen of the World" group

By Kendall McCullough
 The Hesperian-Beacon

If you drive just north of town to the Floydada cemetery you can find a few tombstones with the title "Woodman of the World" attached to it. A physical legacy of the organization are headstones in the shape of a tree stump.

Now most of you might not know what this group is. In fact, I had no idea as well. It turns out that the group is a non-profit fraternal society founded in 1890 out of Omaha, Nebraska. They operate a large private insurance company but participated in a number of philanthropic projects over the years.

Joseph Cullen Root founded WoodmenLife with the idea of providing life insurance to everyone. But WoodmenLife has done much more as well. In 1900 WoodmenLife chapters contributed more than \$13,000 to hurricane and tidal wave victims in Galveston, Texas.

In 1903 In Jacksonville, Florida, member J.M. Taylor organized the first Boys of Woodcraft unit. Woodmen Life opened a building between Chicago and the Pacific Ocean which was the tallest building in 1912. They even opened up their own radio station (WOAW) in 1923.

In 1934, the WoodmenLife Treasurer and U.S. Senator Morris Sheppard sponsored legislation to establish Federal Credit Unions, and Home Office associates received Credit Union Charger No. 16.

Also, WoodmenLife chapters donated more than \$160,000 for food clothing, medical supplies, fuel and general relief during the Depression. In 1946 Wood-



One of the most well-known legacies of Woodmen Life is their headstones in the shape of a tree-stump.



The headstones include a depiction of the WOW relics and symbols of the organization.



As Woodmen "do not lie", a common inscription was "Here rests a Woodman of the World".

menLife's patriotic program began. Since then, more than 2.5 million American flags have been presented to non-profit and community organizations.

In 1973 The Catastrophic Illness Benefit was created, which gave financial assistance to members with leukemia, a brain tumor, lung

cancer or tuberculosis. This benefit was retired in 2017.

In 1986 Woodmen Life's Adjustable Life product was rated best in the nation by a leading consumer magazine. WoodmenLife was the first insurer to provide its entire field force with laptop computers. In 1998, Woodmen- See **WOODMEN**, Page 8

Upcoming

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Please submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to fchb.editor@yahoo.com.

FLOYDADA ISD CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Floydada ISD Christmas Holiday schedule is: Wednesday, December 19 - 1:30 release; Thursday, December 19 - 12:00 release; Friday, December 20 - Tuesday, January 7 - no school; Wednesday, January 8 - Class will resume at regular hours

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FLOYDADA CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

The First National Bank of Floydada will be hosting their annual Christmas Open House on Friday, December 20th from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Community Room. Everyone is invited to come visit and enjoy all the refreshments.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

The First United Methodist Church of Floydada will hold a Christmas

See **UPCOMING**, Page 8

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact the FCHB office email: fchb.editor@yahoo.com

News on the go



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 County Hesperian-Beacon
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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, 201 W. California, Floydada, Texas 79235, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone (888) 400-1083. Email fchb.editor@yahoo.com

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

DEADLINES
Advertising: Noon Fridays
Editorial: Noon Mondays

SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$36 a year in the county
\$42 a year outside the county

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HESPERIAN-BEACON CLOSURES & DEADLINES

Tuesday, Dec. 24th & Wednesday, Dec. 25.
(DEADLINE for the Dec. 26th issue is Thursday, Dec. 19 @ 1 p.m.)

Tuesday, Dec. 31st & Wednesday, Jan. 1
(DEADLINE for the Jan. 3rd issue is Friday, Dec. 27 @ 1 p.m.)

We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Happy State Bank 2019 Stock Offering

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

HAPPY, Texas - For the seventh consecutive year, Happy Bancshares, Inc., a Texas corporation and the holding company for HAPPY STATE BANK, has raised new capital from the sale of its common stock in a private offering. This year, Happy boasts an impressive capital raise of almost \$65 million at \$45.50 per share. Happy Bank officials have received regulatory approval to purchase the First State Bank, Mobeetie and have reached an agreement to purchase Lubbock-based Centennial Bank (pending regulatory approval), with branches scattered across the Panhandle as well as the Hill Country of Texas.

"For oh, so many reasons, it is great to be a banker in Texas. Our bank's diverse geography throughout the state is helping us achieve a very balanced growth and increased profitabil-

ity," said J. Pat Hickman, Chairman and CEO of the bank and holding company. "We are blessed with the very unique bank name of 'Happy', arguably one of the best-known bank names throughout Texas. That name, coupled with our financial performance, has provided an easy story to tell for interested investors."

Mikel Williamson, bank president, commented, "We are very pleased with this offering - one of the company's strongest stock offerings to date. The success of this offering can be attributed to the confidence our customers and stockholders have in Happy and our plans for growth. This year's stock offering brings our seven-year total to over \$305 million. This capital won't sit still long, as we are already putting it to work in significant ways."

The company conducted the private offering on its own - as it had done in the prior six years.

The company did not retain or utilize the services of a placement agent for the offering. Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP served as legal counsel to the company in connection with the offering.

About Happy Bancshares, Inc.

With assets of \$3.7 billion, HAPPY BANCSHARES, INC. is the parent holding company of Happy State Bank. The company headquarters is in Amarillo, Texas. HAPPY STATE BANK & TRUST CO. was founded in 1908 in Happy, Texas. A state-chartered community bank, the Happy Bank offers a broad range of financial services and products through its network of 41 locations in 30 communities throughout the Texas Panhandle, South Plains and the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex as well as an extensive network of ATMs. Happy State Bank can be found online at happybank.com. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender

Six Texas children have died from flu-related causes this season

Provided by Texas Department of State Health Services

The Texas Department of State Health Services has confirmed that six children have died in Texas of flu-related causes since the flu season started at the end of September. Health officials recommend that everyone 6 months old and older get vaccinated now to prevent flu and its potentially devastating effects.

The children ranged in age from

under one year to 16 years old. They lived in four of Texas' eight public health regions. Four of the children were not vaccinated for the current season. Health officials are still gathering information on the other deaths.

"We're seeing high levels of flu activity across Texas right now," said Dr. John Hellerstedt, DSHS Commissioner. "Young children are one of the groups known to be at high risk of hospitalization or death



Courtesy Photo

There's still time to get your flu shot.

from complications of the flu. Getting your flu shot is one of the best ways to protect them and everyone else in the community."

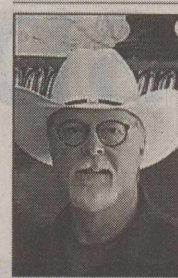
The flu shot is especially important for people with chronic health conditions, pregnant women, young children and older adults because they are at higher risk of developing serious complications. Caregivers should get the flu shot to protect themselves and to prevent spreading the flu to the vulnerable people they care for in their families and communities.

Influenza is an illness caused by one of a number of related viruses. Symptoms usually start suddenly and include fever, body aches, chills, a dry cough, sore throat, runny nose, headaches and extreme fatigue and can last a week or longer. It is important to note that not all flu sufferers will have a fever.

People can help stop the spread of illness and reduce their chance of catching the flu by getting vaccinated, washing hands frequently, covering coughs and sneezes and staying home if they're sick. Additional flu information and tips are at TexasFlu.org.

People can contact their health care provider, local health department, local pharmacy or use the Vaccine Finder at TexasFlu.org to find out where flu shots are available.

Between the lines A new beginning in the last best place



BRUCE W. GREEN

If you're reading this, you may already know there is a new owner of the Floyd County-Hesperian-Beacon and its sister papers. The LK Media Group, LLC purchased Blackburn Media Group the first week of December.

And I, as the president of LK Media, am pleased to be the new publisher of these fine newspapers. During the acquisition process, I worked extensively with the outgoing owners Chris and Sharon Blackburn.

Not only were they great to work with; they leave big shoes to fill in the local newspaper business. I know they will do well in their next chapter of life, and I wish them the best.

By way of a little background, LK Media is part of a hodgepodge of companies involved in construction, commercial and residential real estate, outdoor advertising, hospitality and newspaper and online media. Believe it or not, there is an interesting connection between these assorted companies.

They were all the brainchild of Mark Hicks, who never saw a backroad he didn't like, who can't sit still unless he's driving on one of those backroads and who loves small downtowns in Texas.

I know these things because I have covered many miles of backroads with this man who thinks John Denver's "Take Me Home, Country Roads" is the world's greatest opera. I have followed him around and looked inside countless boarded up buildings with a flashlight and listened to him talk in glowing terms of the rebirth of downtowns none but him can see.

When he is not driving Texas backroads, he creates companies dedicated to the business of revitalizing and promoting the historic downtowns he falls in love with. That's how LK Media made its way to the Panhandle and Panhandle Plains of Texas.

Mark introduced me to the beauty of this region. He explained his vision for the area and his attraction to the people. I, too, was captivated on my first trip to Childress and Paducah (who wouldn't be?). Upon our return home, Mark asked me to write a short piece for Facebook to introduce a couple of renovation projects in the area.

Here is the first paragraph of that piece: "The stars at night shine remarkably bright under the clear skies of the Texas Panhandle Plains. And, whether it's pioneer history or the famous ranches of Old Texas, there is more history in and near the small towns of the Panhandle than one can adequately explore in a lifetime. But, perhaps best of all are the Panhandle Plains people, —who still want their schools to refrain from assigning homework on Wednesdays, who know the pledge to the Texas flag by heart, and who may be the only people left on earth who still know how to put a horny toad to sleep. The Panhandle Plains may just be the Last Best Place in Texas."

So when the opportunity to purchase Blackburn Media Group arose, it was what is known in the Hicks business world as "a no-brainer." Not only do we get to spend more time in the small towns of our adopted Panhandle and Panhandle Plains region, we get to write about the places, the events and, best of all, the people. I intend to do that routinely in the paragraphs of this column that I am calling "Between the Lines."

But I need your help. I need our readers to send me all the information they find interesting about the area, the towns and the history. I am interested in names, locations and stories. I am also interested in hearing about your family and your current events - past, present and future.

If your granddaughter is marrying, or married, a freckle-faced young man who works on a ranch in Cottle County, I want to know the details - the date, place and names of all the family members who drove in from Amarillo. If you recently attended a family reunion, tell us where and when. Tell us if the family printed matching T-shirts commemorating the event and, if so, what was written on the shirt.

I think you get the idea. At our newspapers - actually, your newspapers - we are interested in reporting on real events and real people in perhaps the Last Best Place in Texas. We aren't unconcerned about people and events on K St. or Pennsylvania Ave. in Washington, D.C. (at least a few of us aren't). It is just that people who know how to put a horny toad to sleep are just a heck of a lot more interesting.

We'll leave world diplomacy, impeachment and cocktail parties to those who have more time on their hands; we want to know the name of your grandson, who is graduating from college, and what is happening all over the Last Best Place in Texas. I am looking forward to hearing from you at bgreen@lknewsgroup.com.

The 501: Dear guitar, I want you back



HANABA MUNN WELCH

First guitars. They're like first loves. You don't usually keep them. But you sometimes want them back.

I'd sure like to get mine back. I am referring to the guitar. It was a keeper.

If you're not into guitars, just think about your first car.

A Hawaiian scene embellished the top side of my first guitar. Picture

palm trees and a full moon shining on a blue lagoon, sound hole in the middle of it all. The scene looked hand-painted, but I suspect it was instead a very good decal from the glory days of decals. The fret board and pick guard were fake mother of pearl. Nice. The colorful parlor instrument epitomized America's love affair with Hawaii - a passion that peaked in the 1920s.

Yes, that guitar was a veritable piece of music and social history. We (meaning my parents) got just five dollars for it when we traded it in on a new \$100 Gibson acoustic. For me, about 14 at the time, it was a

lesson in what you get for a trade-in. Not much. The old guitar had cost ten dollars just a few years before at the same music store. Maybe if I hadn't stuck adhesive tape on the fret board to counteract the neck warp?

My vintage guitar probably ended up in the trash in the alley at the end

AG TEXAS AgYouth of the MONTH



AgTexas Farm Credit Services is proud to honor our Ag Youth of the Month!

- Hanna Hernandez**
- Hanna Nicole Hernandez
 - Community Volunteer
 - Member of Floydada High School basketball team
 - Participates in leadership and career development events with Floydada FFA
 - Involved in UIL Prose and Poetry
 - Hopes to attend Texas Tech University after high school
 - Has a passion for agriculture/wildlife management & law enforcement

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CHRISTMAS & YEAR-END SALE

December 2 - December 24

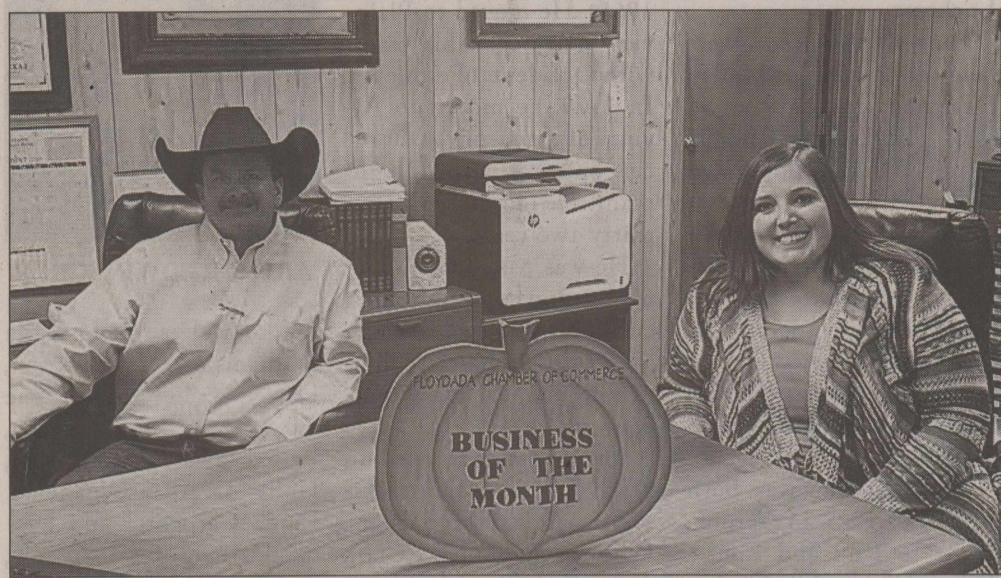
Everything in the store is on sale. Home Decor and lots of great items!

Velma's Gifts

1122 S Main St-Corner of Main/Ollie St
Floydada, Texas
(Behind Payne's Appliance Service)

SOCIETY

Floydada Chamber Business of the Month



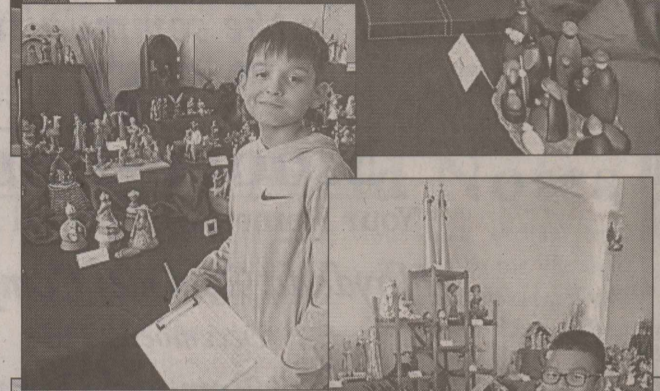
Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to Assiter Ag Risk for being the Floydada Chamber's December "Business of the Month". Tanner, Kalli and Tim know that their clients work hard and they insure that in the event of catastrophe, you and your crop are covered. Talk with them today and see how they can help your farm and give you that peace of mind. Congrats, Assiter Ag Risk! Pictured are Tanner Smith and Kalli Martin.

Nativity Scenes

Courtesy Photos

Mrs. Snowden's social studies classes made an outing to Floyd County Historical Museum last week. Students have been learning about religious holidays and how they impact society. They viewed over 400 nativity scenes from around the world. It was really interesting to see how although each nativity told the same story of Jesus's birth, they each expressed it in different ways. From different types of people, animals and materials being used, each nativity was a reflection of the culture from the country/region it originated from. The students really enjoyed seeing these wonderful works of art. Carolyn Cunningham's nativities will be at the museum til the end of January.



Floydada Senior Citizens News

By LuAnn Collins
Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA - The Center will be closed Wednesday, December 25 through Friday, December 27. We will open on Monday, December 30. We will also be closed for New Year's Day, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

We have ordered our new ice maker. We should be making ice by the end of this week. Thank you again to those who donated toward our ice maker.

Our Second Tuesday Bingo has been changed to 2nd Thursday Bingo. Next bingo date will be Jan. 9. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and play will begin at 6 p.m. Bingo special includes: 2 cards, meal, drink, dessert for \$5.00. Extra cards: 3 for \$2.00 or \$1.00 a card. Prizes include meal vouchers, cash, and household items. The Progressive Bingo game is over \$100.00 cash. We are in need of a volun-

teer delivery driver for one day or more. You will receive a delicious meal as payment for your time. The driver will report to the Center at 11:15. The deliveries, take about 30 minutes.

Remember, Tuesday meals are \$4.00 meals. Check the menu to see what is offered each Tuesday.

Call us at 983-2032 for home delivery by 11:00 am. Our delivery drivers will begin delivering at 11:30.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 573, Floydada, Texas 79235. Our phone number is 983-2032. Thank you for remembering the Center with your donations or memorials.

MENU
December 23- December 28
Monday - Chicken fajitas
Tuesday - Soup or Chili w/ cornbread - \$4
Wednesday - CLOSED
Thursday - CLOSED
Friday - Fish fry
(Menu subject to change without notice)

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong
Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

LOCKNEY- The Center will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24th thru Wednesday, Jan. 1. The Center will be open Thursday, Jan. 2 and Friday, Jan. 3.

REMINDER: Membership fees are due by Friday, January 3rd. The costs is \$30 per person per year.

Lockney Senior Citizens is a 501 c3 nonprofit organization, we receive no government funding, we rely on the generosity of our community. We appreciate any and all donations.

Breakfast is served here at the Center from 5:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Monday thru Friday only. Lunch is served Monday thru Friday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Be sure and call the Center by 9:30 a.m. if you would

like to eat lunch at the Center. Our phone number is 806-652-2745.

Remember to come exercise with us on Wednesday, and Friday, 8:45 - 9:30 a.m.

Coffee time - Monday-Saturday - 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Our Thursday night potluck is from 5-9 p.m. Bring a dish and a friend and enjoy games afterwards.

MENU
December 23- January 3
Monday - Club sandwiches
Tuesday - CLOSED
Wednesday - CLOSED
Thursday - CLOSED
Friday - CLOSED
Monday (12-30) - CLOSED
Tuesday (12-31) - CLOSED
Wednesday (1-1) - CLOSED
Thursday (1-2) - Soup and cornbread
Friday (1-3) - Pulled pork
(Menus subject to change without notice)

Merry Christmas

THE FLOYD COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

MEMORIES 1979

THE J. W. SIMS FAMILY

Joseph William Slims was born in 1854 in Georgia. Eliza Ellen Hogsted was born in 1859 in North Carolina. They married February 11, 1877. They lived in Georgia and farmed, tobacco being one of the crops. Four children were born to them.

In 1885, they moved to McGregor, Texas, where my dad farmed and worked with the railroad. Four more children were born. For health reasons my dad had to change climates. They had talked about the great plains in west Texas.

In the spring of 1905, my dad came to Floyd County and bought a tract of land about 25 miles northeast of Lockney in the Sunset Community, now South Plains. On his return home, his report to the family was something like this. "It is a beautiful country. There is a future there. You can see as far as your eyes will let you. The Plains are covered with knee-high grass waving in the breeze like a wheat field. Scattered over the prairie are pools of water called lakes. The people have a device called windmills, run by the wind, which pumps out of the ground the most tasty water you can drink."

In the early fall of that year (1905), Dad and two brothers, and all of their possessions came by chartered train to Canyon, the nearest railroad then. Among their possessions

was a "fringe-top surrey". It was soon traded for a Spaldin hack.

Mother, my sister, and I came in November by train to Estelline, then on by stage route and up the Cap to our new home. There was a U. S. Mail and passenger route from Lockney to Estelline also called a stage route. It was named as such because the journey was broken in stages, fifteen or twenty miles apart. At each stage was a place to rest and a relay station for

fresh horses.

The Sims' place was one of those stations. Often in the winter time, driver and passengers spent the night in our home. The Curlew Post Office (named for, the Curlew Bird) was in our home. People came from miles around by horseback and buggy after their mail, always "staying a spell" to visit. The Post Office was discontinued in 1919.

Seeing the need of a church in the community, Dad helped organize a

Sunday School and Church. He was Sunday School leader for many years. Dad, Mother and a sister were charter members of what is now the First Baptist Church of South Plains.

Dad and sons farmed and raised cattle.

Dad died in 1925; Mother in 1941. Their children were Ms. E. J. Thomas (Sophia); Mrs. Charlie Flack (Lassie); Paul; Charles; Will: Mattie Ruth; all deceased, Anna Sims, Plainview, and Mrs. Guy Sams (Pauline), survive.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FLOYDADA

Invites you to our
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 20
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Community Room

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OBITUARIES/CHURCH

Devotional Gifts

Matthew 2:11

Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of frankincense and of myrrh.

Encouraging Word

The most famous thing about these wisemen that many people remember is the gifts they gave. They have 3 gifts and each gift is so significant. These 3 gifts are so famous because they were part of the worship in their

lives. Worship is just not taking in. Worship is also giving out. It's also taking action. In Worship we receive from God but we also give back to God and others. They joy of giving and receiving is a great thing to experience. They gave gold because they recognized Him as King. This means to give your best in worship. They gave frankincense because they recognized Him as priest. Give Him your worst. He can forgive and make us whole. They gave him myrrh because they recognized Him as savior. This means give Him you all. Remember these 3 gifts this holiday season and express your worship through giving and receiving.

—Armando Morales

Arthur Edwin Schur

Arthur Edwin Schur, 90, passed away on Thursday, December 12, 2019 in Lockney.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Monday, December 16, 2019 at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Pastor Michael Heckman officiated.

Burial followed in the Parklawn Memorial Gardens under the care of Kornerstone Funeral Directors of Plainview.

A visitation was held on Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m. at Kornerstone.

Arthur Schur was born April 30, 1929 in Vernon, Texas to Paul and Louise Hempel Schur. His Mother died when he was four days old, resulting in his Aunt and Uncle, Karl and Selma Schur Haseloff raising him as foster parents.

He graduated from South Lockett School in 1946. He served in the Army National Guard of Texas from

1948 to 1952.

He farmed in the South Plains area from 1955 to 1965. He moved to Plainview and began his career with Occidental Petroleum. In 1979, he moved to Alvin, Texas to work as a process operator in the Olefins plant retiring in 1997 after thirty-two years.

He was passionate about fishing and enjoyed making custom fishing rods along with other hobbies such as making stained glass projects.

Arthur was preceded in death by his parents, his foster parents, three sisters, Pauline Schoppa, Clara Anita Kunkel, and Sidonia Kieschnick, and two brothers, Charles Schur and Martin Schur.

He is survived by his wife, Nell Glasscock Schur; three daughters, Charlotte Hawley and husband, Weldon of Vernon, Susan Chesik and husband, Ron of New-



ARTHUR EDWIN SCHUR

ton, New Jersey, and Karla Williams of Plainview; son, Darren Schur of League City; three step-children, Lanny Glasscock and wife, Holly of Ada, Oklahoma, Linda Carpenter and husband, Allen of San Angelo, and Jan Weir of Lockney, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to St. Paul Lutheran, 901 Oakland St., Plainview, Texas 79072.

Online condolences can be made at www.kornerstonefunerals.com

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Floydada Remodel Completed:
December 2018

Lockney Remodel Completed:
Summer 2019

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-The Moore-Rose Funeral Home Staff

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www.mooreroseffl@yahoo.com www.moore-rose.com

Obituary policy

The Hesperian-Beacon will post an obituary in the next possible issue for \$65. If a photo is wanted, add \$10.

Death notices are free, containing name, date of death, date of service and survivors.

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806-983-2884

Barwise Gin

Barwise Community
806.983.2737

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God Waits

God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who please God. —Ecclesiastes 2:26 (CEB)

During prayer time at our church one morning, our pastor had us hold hands with those beside us. Cole, my very energetic two-year-old son, was quietly playing with his toy construction vehicle when I reached out my hand to hold his. He held my hand for a second, but shortly after went back to running his toy up and down the pew. A short while later the toy was in my waiting hand, broken into two pieces but fixable. I put it back together for him and continued to hold out my hand. He took the toy, then grasped my hand for a while.

During all of this, I started thinking how God always keeps a

hand out waiting for us, even when we're happily going on with our life ignoring God or not putting God first. Despite this, when we go to God with our life that has broken into pieces, God puts us back together. We then have a choice to thank God and to take hold of our Creator's hand, or to go back to ignoring God. Either way, God waits for us. Praise be to God for God's ever-beckoning hand and unconditional love.

—Stacey Phillips (Virginia, USA)

TODAY'S PRAYER

Dear God, forgive us for the times we ignore you. Thank you for always being there to put us back together and to provide true contentment and meaning for our lives. Amen.

<p>Aiken Baptist Church Dennis Butler, Pastor Morning Worship - 11 a.m. *****</p> <p>Bible Baptist Church 810 S. 3rd, Floydada Darwin Robinson, Pastor 983-2578 Sunday School - 10 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:50 a.m. Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Wednesday - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>Calvary's Cornerstone Fellowship Floydada Armando Morales, Pastor Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship - 11 a.m. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>Carr's Chapel Service Every Sunday Morning Worship - 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>Church of Christ West College & Third Lockney Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Afternoon Worship - 1:30 p.m. Wednesday Service - 7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>City Park Church of Christ Bob DuPont, Minister Floydada Sunday Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>First Baptist Church Floydada Mark Snowden, Pastor Nathan Adams, Minister of Students and Discipleship Ashley Adams, Minister of Music Ludustria Prisk, Director of Children's Ministry Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Wed Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>First Baptist Church Lockney Joseph Tillery, Pastor</p>	<p>Chad Cook, Youth Min. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>First United Methodist Church Floydada Gary Boles, Pastor Morning Worship - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - 10:50 a.m. Youth (Sunday) - 6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>First United Methodist Church Lockney Rev. Ricky Carsensen, Pastor Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. Jr. High - 5:30 p.m. Wed High School - 6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>Grant Chapel Church of God In Christ Joe Bennett, Pastor Sunday School - 10 a.m. Morning Worship - 11 a.m. Evening Worship - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday - 8 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>Main Street Church of Christ Lockney James Blair, Minister Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Wednesday - 7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>Mt. Zion Baptist Church Floydada Rev. Timothy Askey 401 N 12th Sty. 983-5805 Sunday School - 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Wednesday Study - 6 p.m. *****</p> <p>New Salem Primitive Baptist Church Floydada Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges (806) 637-0430 Sunday Singing - 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 11 a.m. *****</p> <p>Out Reach Harvest Pentecostal Church 310 Mississippi Floydada</p>	<p>Rev David Ramos, Pastor Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible - 10 a.m. Morning Praise - 11 a.m. Evening Praise 5 - p.m. Wed Worship - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>Power of Praise Full Gospel Church Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor 704 B Main, Lockney Sunday Services - 10 a.m. Sunday Evening - 5 p.m. Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>Primera Iglesia Bautista Lockney Jesus Caballero, Pastor Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11 a.m. Discipleship - 5 p.m. Wed. Service - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>Primera Iglesia Bautista Floydada Rev. Toby Gonzales Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:40 a.m. Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Wed Evening - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>San Jose Catholic Church Lockney Rev. Renato Cruz Parochial Vicar - Jacob Powell Sun - 9 a.m. Children Bible study 10 a.m. - Mass Wed. - 6 p.m. - Faith Formation - CYO to follow Thurs. - 6:30 pm- Evening Mass *****</p> <p>South Plains Baptist Church Dan Beaty, Pastor Sunday School - 10 a.m. Morning Worship - 11 a.m. *****</p> <p>Templo Getsemani Assembly of God 701 W. Missouri Joe M. Hernandez 983-5286 (Church) Sunday School English - 9:45 a.m. Spanish - 11 a.m. Worship Spanish - 9:30 a.m. English - 11 a.m. Evening Service 5 p.m. Wednesday 7 p.m.</p>	<p>St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church Floydada Rev. Renato Cruz Parochial Vicar - Jacob Powell 983-5878 Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m. Mon. & Wed. Mass - 6:30 p.m. Confession Sat - 10-11 a.m. *****</p> <p>Templo Bautista Salem Lockney Rev. Joe Hernandez Bun Prayer Service - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11 a.m. Evening Worship - 6 p.m. Wed. Meeting - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>Templo Bethel Spanish Assembly of God Washington And 1st St Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship - 11 a.m. Evening Worship - 5 p.m. Wed Service - 7 p.m. *****</p> <p>Templo Nueva Vida Rev. Herman Martinez Co-Pastor Gilbert Flores 308 W. Tennessee, Floydada Sunday School - 10:00 A.M. Evening Worship - 5:00 P.M. Wednesday Service - 7:00 P.M. *****</p> <p>Trinity Assembly 500 W. Houston Kari & Justin Brown, Pastors 983-5499 Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:40 a.m. Sunday Evening - 6 p.m. *****</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church Providence Community On Fm 2301 293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington, Minister Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11 - a.m. *****</p> <p>West Side Church of Christ Floydada 983-2672 Or 470-0950 Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening - 2 p.m.</p>
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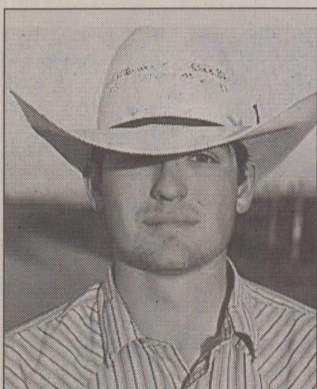
AGRICULTURE

Smith wins honor— 2020 Texas Tech Ranch Horse Team Member



Courtesy Photos

Ethan has always wanted to become a member of the Texas Tech Ranch Horse Team. Now his long-time dreams have come true.



Ethan Smith has been showing horses since he was 14 years old.

By Kendall McCullough
The Hesperian-Beacon

Floydada native Ethan Smith has been working hard

showing horses since he was 14 years old. He set his sights high, with a dream to become a TTU Ranch Horse Team member. Now, as a freshman at Tech, his dreams have come true.

As a member, he will go to a class every day to train his horse with other members, as well as practicing early in the morning and late in the evening at the Texas Tech Equestrian Center.

Ethan will compete in stock horse shows (with his personal horse) which involves Reining, Trail and Working Cow Horse, and Ranch Pleasure. These events give each com-

petitor the opportunity to show the versatility of their horses through each event. He will perform in multiple shows per year.

Outside of training and competition, the ranch horse team works to provide its members with many important life skills such as confidence, leadership, integrity and strength of character that will positively lead the industry of tomorrow.

Ethan is a graduate of Floydada High School and is the son of Eric and Leigh Smith of Floydada.

Congratulations Ethan! We wish you continued success!

Get to know the wild side of feral hogs

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

Whether you refer to them as feral hogs or wild pigs, *Sus scrofa* is a species that is negatively impacting nearly every part of Texas.

Not only do wild pigs wreak havoc on pastures, fields and golf courses alike, they contaminate our water sources and destroy native species. They can also spread disease to both man and beast. Wild pigs cause widespread damage to agricultural lands by destroying crops, the depredation of livestock, and competing with wildlife for resources.

A 2004 Texas A&M AgriLife



Extension survey study estimated the annual damage done in Texas by these unwanted invaders as \$52 million. Current estimates of the damage they cause nationwide range from \$800 million to \$1.5 billion annually.

Josh Helchel, AgriLife Extension associate with the Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute, NRI, recently shared some startling sta-

istics about wild pigs and the damage they are doing to the state – as well as ideas, tricks and tips that may help us combat them.

Wild pigs are smarter than dolphins?

They may not appear to be the Einsteins of the animal world, but they are in fact smarter than many species we hold in high regard. Some experts and studies argue that dolphins, killer whales and elephants all have lower IQs than wild pigs. Pigs are widely considered among the brightest of species — and they do beat out man's friend in the brains department.

See **HOGS**, Page 8

Game Warden Field Notes

(Continued from last week)
Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

SnapTrap

A Henderson County game warden received information from an individual who said he saw a Snapchat video of a young man shooting off the highway multiple times at night. After reviewing the video, the warden was able to obtain the shooter's name and location. Game wardens interviewed the individual who said that he was shooting at some pigs crossing the road and didn't know that the passenger was recording him with her phone. He was unaware it was going to be posted to social media. Cases pending.

Drive-by Poaching

On Nov. 9, a Henderson County game warden was contacted by a landowner who said he heard a gunshot near the end of his driveway right after sunset. The landowner walked down to the county road and found a freshly wounded doe in the ditch. Approximately 45 minutes after the doe was shot, the warden was talking to the landowner when a truck stopped for a few seconds where the deer had been shot, then proceed to leave the area. The warden made contact with the driver who said he was going to his girlfriend's house. The warden noticed a shotgun in the passenger seat and again asked the driver what he was doing in the area. After a short discussion, the driver admitted to shooting a deer from the county road and said he had come back to pick it up after he made sure no one heard him shoot. As the warden was busy with the driver of the truck, the landowner came to the

scene with another individual. The landowner stated he watched this individual, with his thermal scope, as he tried to drag the doe to the county road so they could load it up. Both individuals were arrested and booked into Henderson County jail for multiple violations.

Bag o' Bass

On Nov. 16, a Williamson County game warden received a telephone call from a complainant regarding a fisherman keeping undersize striped bass in Lake Georgetown. The game warden arrived on scene and made contact with a fisherman matching the description the complainant gave. The game warden immediately observed three undersize striped bass flopping on the ground next to the fisherman. The fisherman had a red bag that was open and in plain view there was a fish tail sticking out. The warden identified the angler and checked for a valid fishing license. The angler said all of the fish were his and said they were white bass. The game warden explained to him the difference between white bass and striped bass. The angler had a total of 7 undersize striped bass measuring 15-16 inches. Four of them were in plastic bags, wrapped

with black electrical tape, and stuffed in his bag. The angler was issued citations and civil restitution was filed. The fish were donated to a family in need.

Premature Celebration

On Nov. 10, a Red River County game warden was assisting a landowner in the evening when he heard what he believed to be duck hunters shooting well past legal hours. After relocating and talking to multiple deer hunters, the warden was able to locate a group of

See **WARDEN**, Page 8

Hemp seminar set in Lubbock

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

LUBBOCK - The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will hold an educational seminar on industrial hemp production on Dec. 19. The event will start with registration at 1 p.m. and run from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1102 E. Drew St., Lubbock.

The cost is \$20 for the public and is complimentary for AgriLife employees. An RSVP is required by Dec. 18 for all participants to 806-775-1740 or 806-746-6101.

The seminar, First Things – Considerations for Industrial Hemp in Texas, was organized by

Calvin Trostle, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension agronomist, Lubbock, and Danny Nusser, AgriLife Extension regional program leader, Lubbock.

"Texas hemp production will become legal at some point in 2020," said Trostle. "When depends on how quickly Texas Department of Agriculture can review and issue licenses once USDA approves Texas rules. But anyone who may be interested in growing hemp needs to be prepared. You would be ill-advised to wait until you receive your license to begin preparation."

AgriLife Extension does not support or oppose hemp, explained Trostle.

"We are here to help educate

our clientele and provide them the resources and knowledge to make informed decisions about hemp," he said.

Trostle said AgriLife has been commended for its realistic assessment during meetings with potential growers, as well as through written and video materials produced to educate the public about potential pitfalls and possibilities within the new industry.

"As Texans well know, there is a lot of hype around the CBD aspect of hemp," Trostle said. "But prices are now at their lowest since agricultural hemp production was initiated about five years ago. Prices are down as much as

See **HEMP**, Page 8

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SCHOOLS

Duncan Elementary students compete in UIL

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

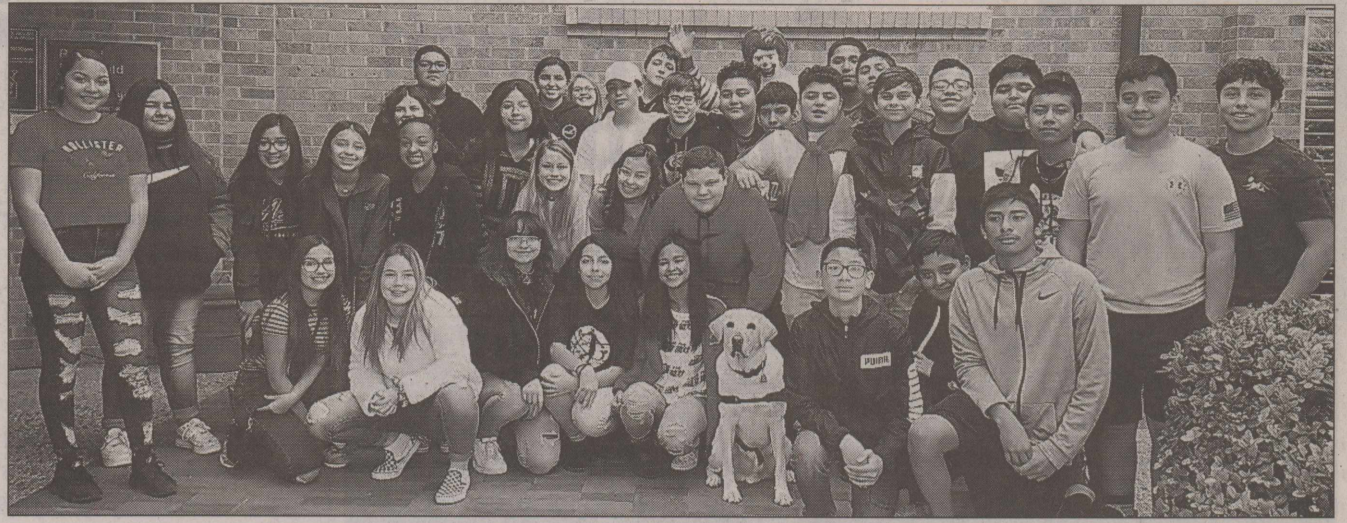
The Floydada Duncan Elementary students competed in the UIL meet last Wednesday, Dec. 4 that was held at Duncan Elementary. They finished with 148 points. Congratulations to all the students and teachers.

UIL results are as follows:

2-3rd Grade Chess – 2nd Place Team; Rocco Falcon – 3rd place; Emily Matinez, Aubrey Trevino
3rd Grade Oral Reading – Brooklyn Pyle – 3rd place
4-5 Grade Chess – Angel Olvera – 6th place
4th Grade Number Sense – 3rd Place Team; Raul Corado – 6th place; Luke Morales, Amareah Taylor

5th Grade Dictionary Skills – 2nd Place Team; Mattee Rekopf – 1st place, Tiffany Perez – 6th place, Kanon Rainwater
5th Grade Listening Skills – Mattee Rekopf – 4th place
5th Grade MC&G – 1st Place Team; Kanon Rainwater – 2nd place, Madison Pyle – 4th place, Mattee Rekopf
5th Grade Art – 3rd Place Team; Tiffany Perez – 5th place, Valentin Martinez, Sophie Arreola, Angel Olvera, Isiah Balderas
5th Grade Social Studies – 1st Place Team; Kanon Rainwater – 1st place, Yager James – 1st place, Ariahna Duran
5th Grade Oral Reading – Madison Pyle – 3rd place

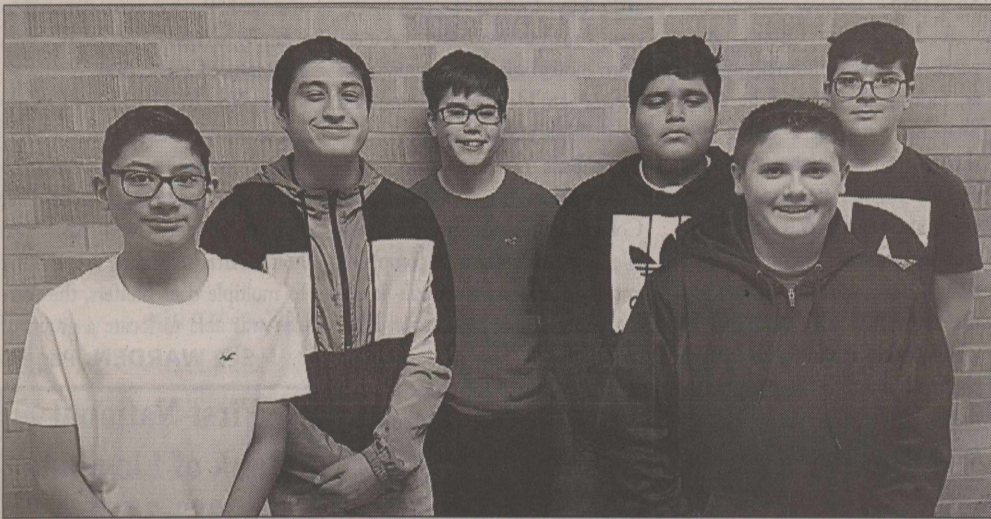
LISD Student Council



Courtesy Photo

The Lockney Junior High 8th Grade Student Council took the Junior High donations to Ronald McDonald House on Dec. 9. A big thank you to all the businesses that donated to make the Ronald McDonald House Drive a big success! Thank you to Poole's Automotive, One Main Financial, Beall's, FCS Credit Union, Tastee Burger, Wilber Ellis, Lockney Elementary, Davis Lumber, First Baptist Church, Hearts Desire, Roxie's Attic, Methodist Church, Lockney High School Student Council, Lockney High School, Helena, Wright's Automotive, Lockney Junior High Student Council, Lockney Chamber of Commerce, Mangold Memorial Hospital, and Western Cattle Feeders. A great community helping out a great cause...thank you!

Lockney JH All Region Band



Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to the Lockney Junior High All Region Band Members: (left to right) Alberto Sotogonzales, Jisiah Lara, Colby Guerrero, Eric _____, Haygen LeFevre and Bryson Klein.

7th Grade Lady Winds



Courtesy Photo

The Floydada 7th grade Lady Winds win the Abernathy tournament this past weekend. Congrats Lady Winds!

Lockney FFA places in the Russell Johnson Memorial Swine Jackpot

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

The Lockney FFA had a great day at the Russell Johnson Memorial Swine Jackpot.

Results were:

Adalayah Jones had Breed Champion York, 5th overall Sr. Showmanship, and 2nd with her Duroc.
 Analsy Jones placed 3rd with her Landrace.
 Malaki Alvis placed 4th with his Chester.
 Kalebh Cook had a 2nd place Poland
 Kaileigh Cook had a 4th place Spot and a 2nd place overall Junior Showmanship.
 Also, at The South Plains Show Down Lockney FFA placed with the following:
 Keanu Villarreal had a first place Cross and 3rd place Crosses.
 Kason Villarreal had a 6th Place Cross

CONGRATULATIONS

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The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon

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NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY INTO FIELDS

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the Northern High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Deaf Smith, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Parmer, Randall, and Swisher counties are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning January 6, 2020.

All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone.

To mitigate risk, beekeepers should notify the Foundation of beehive locations near cotton fields. The Foundation will monitor treatments in these locations where bees are present to ensure the security of hives.

For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

THANKS FOR READING!



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THE FLOYD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT IS TAKING SEALED BIDS ON THE FOLLOWING

SURPLUS VEHICLES FROM THE FLOYD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:
 2014 CHEVROLET TAHOE - VIN: 1GNLC2E08ER167435
 2015 CHEVROLET TAHOE - VIN: 1GNLC2EC1FR253598
 2016 CHEVROLET TAHOE - VIN: 1GNLCDECXGR317831

THESE VEHICLES ARE PARKED ON WALL STREET ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE FLOYD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. CONTACT THE FLOYD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AT (806)983-4902 CONCERNING ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE VEHICLES.

SEALED BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE FLOYD COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE (ROOM 105 OF THE FLOYD COUNTY COURTHOUSE) NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019. PLEASE INDICATE THE YEAR MODEL OF THE TAHOE ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPE. AN INDIVIDUAL BID MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH VEHICLE WITH ONLY ONE VEHICLE BID PER ENVELOPE.

BIDS WILL BE OPENED DURING THE REGULAR FLOYD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019. PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 10 DAYS OF BID OPENING. PAYMENT MUST BE CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK. NO PERSONAL CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS. BUYER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TAXES AND FEES.

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Donate a boat or car today to Boat Angel. 2-Night Free Vacation. Sponsored by Boat Angel Outreach Centers to stop crimes against children. 800-700-BOAT, www.boatangel.com.

HUNTING
GOT LAND? Our Hunters will Pay Top \$\$\$ to hunt your land. Call for a FREE info packet & Quote. 1-866-309-1507, www.BaseCampLeasing.com.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE
18-Wheeler Wrecks - It's easy to blame the driver when a big rig is involved in a wreck, but the truth is usually much more complex. When trucking company management cuts corners in training, equipment and maintenance, the rest of us pay the price. If you or someone you love has been killed or injured in a truck wreck, call 800-460-0606 for professional insight or visit www.YourCarWreck.com.

LOG HOMES
Log Homes - 4 Log Home kits selling for balance owed, free delivery. Model #101 Carolina, bal. \$17,000; Model #203 Georgia, bal. \$19,950; Model #305 Biloxi, bal. \$14,500; Model #403 Augusta, bal. \$16,500. View plans at www.loghomedream.com.

OIL AND GAS RIGHTS
We buy oil, gas & mineral rights. Both non-producing and producing including non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. 806-620-1422, LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800.

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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	1124	1124
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WOODMEN

From Page 1

Life and the American Red Cross formed a partnership that led to the creation of more than 1,000 member-led Disaster Action Teams. WoodmenLife donated more than \$1 million to the Red Cross in subsequent years.

It is neat to see that community members have been part of this historic and important organization. Take a trip to the cemetery, pay homage to these citizens, and check out the unique tombstones.



Woodmen Life has been in existence for 125 plus years.

501

From Page 2

of the day. With my parents' help, I could perhaps have retrieved it along about sundown. But I was enamored of the shiny new Gibson, and dumpster diving hadn't yet been invented. Back then, anybody who went through trash was a scavenger. We weren't scavengers.

So do I still have the Gibson? No. I finally admitted to myself that the relationship, almost life-long, wasn't working. I sold it to Alan, a musical friend from Utah, for \$100. Thanks to inflation, I can't say I broke even.

PAUSE FOR INFLATION CALCULATION.

I don't think Alan would have paid \$738. In retrospect, I should have asked.

Meanwhile, three old guitars like my first one are for sale on the Internet, palm trees and all, ranging in price from \$350 to \$1,199.88! The brand is Stromberg-Voisinet - a Chicago-based company eventually bought out by Kay. (I'm sounding like an Antiques Road Show expert.) The costliest is offered by a guitarist named Mike. He talks about its restoration and plays it beautifully in a YouTube video. He's like one of those professional cowboys at horse sales. They get in the saddle on a green-broke horse and make the beast look perfect for a child. Even so, I could almost imagine that my old guitar really did sound like the identical 1928 Stromberg he was strumming and plucking. Tears came to my eyes.

Impetuous me, I emailed Mike and told him it was like my ten-dollar first guitar and that I wished I could afford it.

He replied: "Feel free to make an offer on the guitar, but it will have to be more than \$10. Lol."

Somehow I already knew that.

WARDEN

From Page 5

duck hunters celebrating their recent kill nearly 45 minutes after legal shooting hours. The five duck hunters killed a total of 21 ducks. Multiple citations were issued for hunting ducks after legal shooting hours and various other violations. Cases and civil restitution pending.

Poaching on the Job

On Nov. 15, a Bexar County game warden received an Operation Game Thief complaint about a deer

killed in San Antonio City limits and immediately went to pick up the poached deer. The next day game wardens made contact with construction workers that were working at the housing development where the deer was killed. After interviewing one of the subjects, he said that he had killed a deer in Devine. After more questioning he confessed that he did indeed shoot two deer in the housing development construction property. The landowner was notified, and the workers are no longer allowed on the property and charges are pending.

HOGS

From Page 5

Texas has an estimated 3 million wild pigs. They say everything is bigger in Texas, and this includes our pig population. The U.S. is estimated to have 4 million wild pigs, and we've got well over half of the pig population in the Lone Star State alone, based on a 2012 study. That study had Texas at 2.6 million; current population models predict our actual figure is now closer to 3 million. Wild pigs are also largely nocturnal, which means you are more likely to see the damage they do than see the animals themselves.

You do not need a license to hunt wild pigs in Texas

On May 31, Gov. Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 317 into law. This permit allows any landowner, landowner's agent or lessee to take wild pigs without a hunting license. The only time a hunting license is required is on Texas public lands. Unfortunately, recreational hunting alone cannot control the wild pig problem.

Pigs are pretty much everywhere

Over 79% of Texas is deemed a suitable habitat for wild pigs, according to NRI. Wild pigs can now be found everywhere, from farms to the lands surrounding suburban shopping malls. Sows, females, can roam a territory of around 2 miles, or 1,100 acres. That also means that if your neighbor or a neighboring county has wild pigs, odds are it is just a question of time until you do too.

We'd need to eliminate 66% of the population, each year, just to break even

Experts agree that given current technology, complete eradication of wild pigs in Texas isn't realistic right now. It doesn't help that pigs are the most prolific large mammal when it comes to reproduction. A sow can average 1.5 litters a year and each litter typically produces five to six piglets. Even given mortality rates, we'd need to eliminate 66% of our wild pig population annually just to stop our population numbers from growing.

Wild hogs spread E. coli and other diseases

Not only can wild pigs infect our water resources with E. coli, but they may also carry 15 other diseases, some of which can be

transmitted to people. Swine brucellosis and tularemia are two particular concerns to humans. There is also the threat of tick-borne diseases like Lyme and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. That said, when handling a dead pig make sure protective latex gloves and eye wear are worn and avoid bodily fluids. Like all pork, wild pig meat must be cooked to a minimum of 160 degrees before it can be safely consumed.

They learn to avoid traps quickly

As we mentioned earlier, pigs are smart - really, really smart. If you set a trap that only captures one or two animals at a time, odds are pretty good you won't catch any other wild pigs that saw the earlier misfortune of their brethren. You need to have a trap large enough for the entire sounder, or group, or you'll be looking for alternative means to capture the pigs from the sounder that got away.

To learn more about wild pigs, AgriLife Extension has online courses available and links to informational videos. The Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Overton also offers a thorough online wild pig abatement and education guide.

First Responders Luncheon



Courtesy photos

MOORE-ROSE FUNERAL HOME in Floydada hosted a First Responders Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 6. Everyone enjoyed the BBQ lunch. Moore-Rose will also be hosting another luncheon in the spring and hopes to see everyone there. We are all so appreciative of all the first responders who diligently and faithfully serve our communities.

UPCOMING

From Page 1

Even Candlelight and Communion Services on Tuesday, December 24th at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

CARR'S CHAPEL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The historic Carr's Chapel, located in the southwest corner of Floyd County on farm to market highway 378, will celebrate its 114th Christmas Eve service at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24th. Everyone in the surrounding communities is invited to help celebrate Carr's Chapel's 115th Christmas Eve observance.

LOCKNEY CHAMBER BANQUET

The Lockney Chamber has moved their annual banquet to January 25, 2020. We are needing nominations for 2019 Citizen and Business of the Year. Nominations will be accepted til Dec. 31, 2019. To nominate, please send your letter to PO Box 477, Lockney, Texas 79241 or give it to a Chamber member. More exciting details about the banquet will be coming soon. You won't want to miss it!

NATIVITY COLLECTION FLOYD COUNTY MUSEUM NEW HOURS

Carolyn Cunningham will be available Monday - Friday from 12 noon - 6 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. to show her International Nativity Collection. Nativities are located in the Barrow Building at the Floyd County Historical Museum, located at 105 E. Missouri Street, Floydada. The nativities will be displayed through the end of January. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas. For private tours call the museum at 806-983-2415.

Home Ec Class

Courtesy photos

Mrs. Crossland's class at Floydada High School is baking again. They are serving the staff M&M cookies. They were delicious!



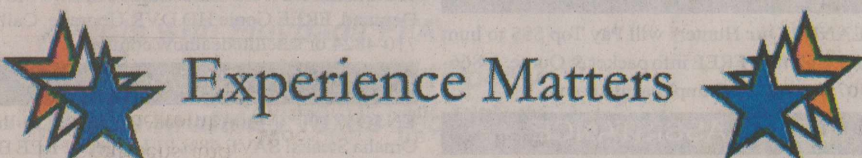
Lockney Elementary



Courtesy Photo

It's been awhile, but Lockney Elementary 3rd grade is back on top! 98.13% attendance for last week. Cold and Flu season is here, but this group has an iron immunity system! Omar shows the confidence this class has. Great job.

Re-Elect SHERIFF PAUL RAISSEZ




To the residents of Floyd County: It has been, and continues to be, an honor and privilege serving as your Sheriff. I have gained valuable experience in my twenty years in Law Enforcement and in my twelve years as Floyd County Sheriff. I believe it is important that you, the residents of Floyd County, know that I'm not an eight-to-five Sheriff. I'm a working Sheriff with strong beliefs that being available and working alongside my staff keeps me in touch with the citizens of Floyd County whom I serve. I am strongly committed to my duties as Sheriff as I announce my re-election candidacy for Floyd County Sheriff. I am asking for your Support and Vote in the Republican Party Primary on March 3, 2020.




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