

The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon



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THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018

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Harbin Retires After 30 Years at Lighthouse

By Jennifer Harbin
 For The Hesperian-Beacon

After serving rural electric cooperative members in Floyd County and surrounding areas for over 30 years, Lighthouse Electric Cooperative (LEC) General Manager Bill Harbin will hang up his hat on April 30.

In August 1987, Harbin succeeded Russell Harrison as general manager at LEC, following 13 years as engineering services manager at Lamb County Electric Cooperative in Littlefield.

The Harbin family share a lengthy association with electric co-ops, spanning al-

most 70 years.

His father, Joe Harbin, was elected to the Bailey County Electric Cooperative board of directors in the 1950s. He later retired from the board and became an employee as member services director until his retirement in 1982.

While attending Texas Tech University, Harbin worked as a construction and engineering intern at Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative in Hereford until his graduation in 1970. He was employed by the Soil Conservation Service in Big Spring, Crosbyton, and Liberty prior to serving in Lamb County.

A source of pride, accord-

ing to Harbin, is that the co-op has one of the best safety records, if not the best, in the state and "nobody got seriously injured while working for me."

During his tenure at Lighthouse, he previously served as chairman of the board of Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC) and chairman on the Golden Spread Electric Cooperative board for many years, as well as several other offices.

As chairman for Golden Spread, he led the effort to form the consensus among the 11 members at that time to build Mustang Station located in Denver City, which

was Golden Spread's first generation asset, and has been an important contributor to the success of Golden Spread, according to Harbin.

"Soon after we came here, we defended our right to serve the Azteca Milling Plant south of Plainview. We were successful in that and worked out an agreeable solution that was good for them and us," said Harbin. "[Azteca Milling Plant] has been an important contributor to the financial stability of Lighthouse and they've enjoyed a good rate as a member and recipient of Lighthouse service."

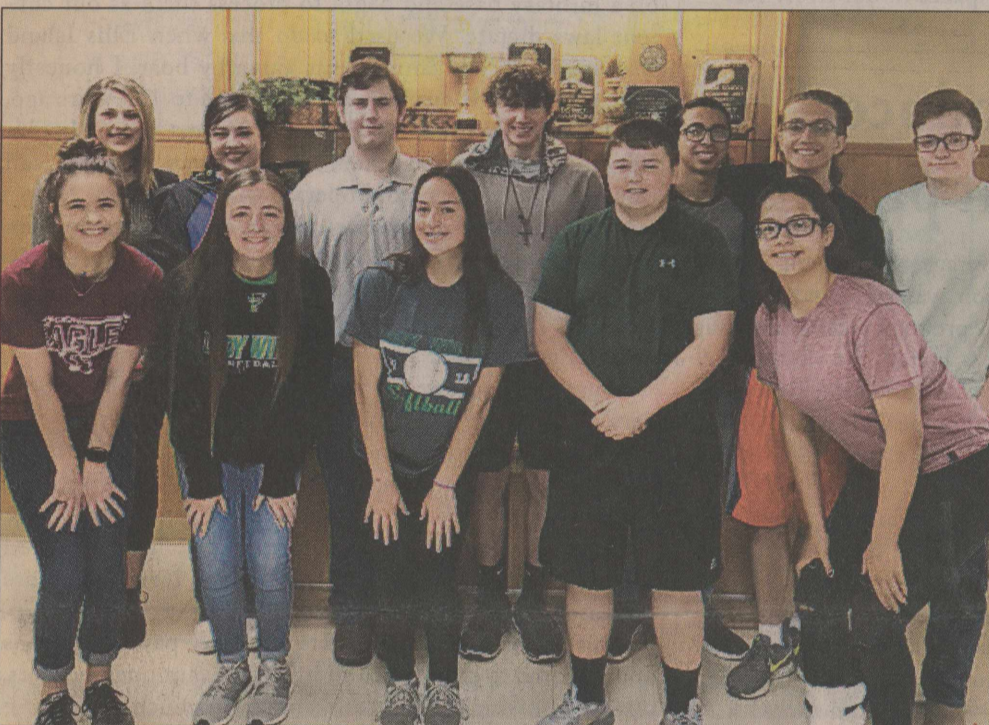
See HARBIN, Page 10



Photo by Jennifer Harbin

Lighthouse Electric General Manager Bill Harbin retires after 30 years of service in the rural electricity industry. A retirement reception in his honor will be on Friday, April 6 in the community room at Lighthouse Electric Co-op.

UIL regional



Courtesy photo

Twelve Floydada students have qualified for the regional UIL meet to be held April 13-14 in Odessa. FISD students will compete April 14. Shown here are, back row: Kortney Campbell, Marissa Valdivia, Monty Stambaugh, James Gibbens, Jonah Trevino, Donald Gibbens, Dusty Prisk; front row: Allison Muniz, Allison Orr, Audrie Strange, Ryder Glass and Lexie Ramos.

Former Lockney coach changed with assault

By Kay Ellington
 The Hesperian-Beacon

A former Lockney ISD softball and track coach, Ray Jimenez, was being held Friday in Garza County Jail on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

His victim, Misty Cochran, was taken to Mangold Memorial Hospital and then transferred to University Medical Center in Lubbock where she was in stable condition.

According to the Floyd County Sheriff's Department, Jimenez, 49, and Cochran had a verbal argument at the woman's residence in Floydada Wednesday morning. Jimenez had already left that



RAY JIMENEZ

scene when officers arrived.

Later that morning, at 9:08 a.m., Cochran was attacked inside her workplace, the Lockney Health and Rehabil-

itation Center at 401 N. Main St. in Lockney. Sheriff's deputies say Jimenez entered the nursing home through a backdoor into Cochran's office, then stabbed her. Cochran was able to flee her attacker and seek help across the street at Mangold Hospital.

Jimenez, who resigned his position with Lockney ISD on Wednesday prior to the incident, surrendered to deputies at the scene. In a statement Wednesday, Lockney ISD noted, "The alleged assault occurred at the residential care facility where the victim worked and not at the school. At no time was the safety of Lockney ISD students at risk during the incident."

PCG annual meeting set for April 6



Courtesy photo

Congressman Jodey Arrington is scheduled to speak to the annual meeting of the Plains Cotton Growers. Bruce Atherley, executive director of Cotton Council International, will report on CCI's export promotion activities.

By Mary Jane Buerkle
 Plains Cotton Growers

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., will host their 61st Annual Meeting on Friday, April 6 in the Banquet Hall of the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the program will start promptly at 9 a.m. The meeting is held in conjunction with the Texas Cotton Ginners' Association Annual Meeting and Trade Show, April 5-6, 2018, in Lubbock. For more information on the TCGA Annual Meeting and Trade Show, visit <http://www.tcga.org/>.

Current PCG president Johnie Reed, who farms near Kress, Texas, will preside over the meeting and PCG Executive Vice President Steve Vrett will report on the status of PCG operations and activities. An award recognizing the 2017 High Plains Cotton Agent of the Year also will be presented at the meeting.

Congressman Jodey Ar-

ington is scheduled to speak to the group. Bruce Atherley, executive director of Cotton Council International, will report on CCI's export promotion activities. Tom Wedegaertner with Cotton Incorporated will report on that organization's latest initiatives. The program will feature an update on the Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. PAC and an announcement about the 2018 Celebrate Cotton Game. PCG staff also will present information on the new Seed Cotton program, and John Aldinger with the Lubbock Cotton Exchange will discuss the Texas International Cotton School.

Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m., sponsored by Monsanto/Deltapine. Lunch, sponsored by Bayer CropScience/FiberMax/Stoneville, will follow the meeting.

There is no charge to attend and no RSVP is necessary. Additional information about PCG and the Annual Meeting can be found at <http://www.plainscotton.org>.

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.

LIGHTHOUSE ELECTRIC RETIREMENT PARTY

The retirement party for Bill Harbin will be held Friday, April 6 from 3-4 p.m. at Lighthouse Electric Coop, 703 A. Highway 70 East, Floydada. Everyone is cordially invited to join the celebration.

FLOYDADA COOPERATIVE GINS

The Floydada Cooperative Gins will hold their Stockholders and Producers Meeting on Thursday, April 5. See UPCOMING, Page 10

Correction

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

News on the go



Use your smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

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Brandon Harrison

Have a Blessed Easter!

Bridal Shower Selection

Dixie Williams & Logan Everett ~ May 19

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 Shower 4-7

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BMG BLACKBURN MEDIA GROUP

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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.

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MEMBER 2018
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Letter to the editor policy

The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon welcomes letters from readers on topics of local, state, national and international importance. Email letters are preferred to: fchb.editor@yahoo.com.

All letters must include a first and last name, street address (no post office boxes), town, and daytime phone number. Letters sent via U.S. mail may be sent to 201 W. California Street, Floydada, Texas 79235.

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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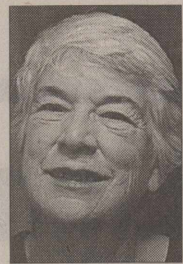
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The 501: The sofa shuffle

If you can't afford a big new house, rearrange your furniture. Your brain knows better but will deceive you anyway to make you feel like you've somehow moved to a better place. You'll feel renewed and hopeful. And all you did was switch the sofa with a couple of chairs and turn the coffee table sideways.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

Why do we humans like refreshing our surroundings? I suspect it starts the very moment we're born. Ah, more room! And better lighting. Not that we don't sometimes want to return to the cozy womb. Maybe that's why tiny houses are so popular. And maybe it's why children especially seem to like small spaces. Our granddaughter Emily had barely learned to walk when she claimed a place all her own behind a grate-type door in a sideboard. She even dragged her big stuffed pony in with her. It was a tight fit.

That's how it is when you're very short. All kinds of spaces are available just to you. What's more, sometimes your mother hangs a sheet over a couple of chairs and voilà! You've suddenly got one more little world that's all your own — one with space for a friend plus a pony.

Oops. I've suddenly slipped into my think-like-a-2-year-old mode. I've got reason. Emily's second birthday is coming up. When it's grandchild gift-buying time, you try thinking like the child. I hope she

likes her teepee.

I actually think I'm pretty good at childlike thinking. What's hard is getting the hang of adulthood. But age and maturity don't matter anyway when it comes to moving into a new area, large or small, decorating a room anew or just changing things around, as I've already mentioned. No matter what, you feel like you're getting a whole new lease on life. Prison is probably an exception.

Stand-alone new spaces are particularly nice — everything from playhouses to man caves and so-called "she sheds" (now trending.) Whether you build your own or not, the idea is to make the space very much your own.

Regarding playhouses, store-bought wasn't an option back in my day. I built my own with scavenged pieces of old Masonite and baling wire. A burlap feed sack covered the entrance. The finished work hardly needed personalizing. It was already me, the work of my hands.

Fast forward to now and man caves. My husband has one in our house proper, but we simply call it the music room. The guitars are his. So is most of the décor. When I seclude myself there to play my sax, I feel a little like I'm trespassing. I need my own space. He would probably agree, thinking the farther away the better.

Our shed on the alley is full of boxes. But Emily inspires me. If she and her pony can squeeze into a piece of furniture, can't my sax and I fit between the Christmas tree box and the soccer memorabilia?

Hope springs eternal when it comes to rearranging the spaces in our lives. Yes!

HPWD now enrolling producers for 2018 irrigation assessment program

From High Plains Water District

Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District is now enrolling producers for participation in its 2018 Irrigation Assessment Program.

Since the program's reinstatement in 2013, cooperating producers have volunteered to have their center pivot or subsurface drip irrigation system evaluated by HPWD staff. Water levels in wells are measured at the beginning and end of the growing season. In addition, flow rates of the wells/irrigation systems are checked with an ultrasonic flow meter. This service is provided by HPWD at no cost to willing participants.

The pumping hours, total gallons of water per minute, and the number of irrigated acres are calculated to determine the total acre-inches of

groundwater applied during the growing season. Rainfall totals are determined through the use of radar estimates from April to September. This gives an estimate of the total inches of water available for plant use.

Water samples are also collected as an extra service to those participating in the program. HPWD is able to check Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), chloride, and pH levels of groundwater. It is important to understand water chemistry since it impacts the efficient use of supplemental nutrients applied to crops.

All this information is used to better understand the groundwater conditions in aquifers within the HPWD service area.

For example, the 2017 program participants' well data reveals an average depth-to-water of 216 feet and an average flow rate of 110 gallons per minute. The

average amount of irrigation water applied in 2017 by program participants was 6.6 inches for cotton, 9.9 inches for wheat, 10.5 inches for peanuts, 11.8 inches for silage, and 12.2 inches for corn.

All information gathered from each site is shared with program participants. Several producers have said the data has helped them better understand their irrigation system's performance.

High Plains Water District encourages all interested producers to participate in the 2018 Irrigation Assessment Program. There are two major benefits. First, it helps farmers understand how much water is used per year for crop production. Second, it provides beneficial data for future water planning efforts where accurate irrigation pumping information must be considered.

For more information, call HPWD at (806) 762-0181.

The Paperboy Immigrant caravan will test Trump

You may have heard about this caravan of people headed toward the U.S. southern border. An estimated 1,500 are marching through Mexico unfettered and will be entering the country in days.

The funny thing is, due to our laws, we will likely have to let them in as refugees.

As an American and a taxpayer, I don't like this one bit. And before a liberal screams "racist," I must say to them, put your money where your mouth is.

If you're for open borders, it's time for you to invite the homeless into your home. You don't need a fence around your property or walls around your house. If you think your policies are good enough for the rest of us, you should lead by example. If you don't, why would I think you are serious?

This border march is going to place President Trump in a tough spot. He can't very well break the law and refuse the refugees. Congress would have to pass legislation. I suppose that could happen quickly, but this is the U.S. Congress we're talking about here. These people prove daily they are not concerned with us peasants.

If Trump decides to detain them at the border, admit them, and place them in camps, what then? I'm sure you can imagine the fit-throwing by leftists if this happens.

Maybe the best course of action is for us to put pressure on our Representatives and Senators to take action. We could start with phone calls and emails encouraging them to move on immigration laws because you know as well as I do that the entire globe will be watching with many thousands more wanting to immigrate here.

Perhaps Trump can detain these people and place them on a military base and begin to process them as our current laws dictate. We used to do this when Ellis Island was operating and immigrants came by boat. I honestly have no idea how our laws are compared to 100 years ago, but I'm sure there's a solution of some sort on the books. Regardless, by getting them on a military base, we can find out who they are and operate within the law.

Make no mistake, there are people behind this caravan. They have sponsors and organizers doing this precisely to make Trump and the U.S. look bad. For the record, I believe it's morally bankrupt to use families as pawns in a game of geopolitics.

I suppose one day we will have a globe with no borders or few borders. However, we are no where close to that time. From the economy to terrorism to the threat of disease, there are a myriad of issues which can arise from open borders.

Some U.S. cities and California may have declared themselves sanctuaries, but that is not legal. They are purposefully disobeying federal laws and it needs to stop. These cities favor immigrants over tax-paying citizens and it's time to put an end to it. If you want open borders, do it by passing federal laws stating as much. Of course you'd be supporting ending the United States and turning the country into a socialist ****hole, but at least it would be legal.

The reason why open-border liberals won't attempt to get federal laws changed is because they can't. The have to break the law in an attempt to get their way. How cowardly of them.

As a taxpayer and a citizen, I demand Congress get off of their butts and solve this crisis. If not now, when? Do you job and do it now!

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Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of The Red River Sun, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, The Knox County News-Courier and The Post Dispatch.

Pet Talk: Microchipping helps find animals

If your new year includes adding a furry friend to your family, consider microchipping your new pet to help locate it if it ever gets lost. Dr. James Barr, clinical assistant professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, said microchipping is one of the newest ways to locate and identify lost animals.

A microchip is a glass-encased device that bears an identification number unique to every marked animal. Once the microchip is inserted under the animal's skin and registered with the device's company, the microchip can be activated with a scanner at a veterinarian's office or local animal shelter. With no batteries or power source required to activate a microchip, this device will provide a permanent identity for your pet that will last its entire lifetime.

While many owners protect and identify their pet with a personal-

ized collar, there are many strong advantages to microchipping your pet. For instance, pet collars may fall or slip off and personalized tags may become unreadable after several years. Microchips do not face any of these challenges and have no chance of being removed, no matter where Fido wanders off to.

"The biggest advantage is that a microchip can't be lost," Barr said. "It allows access to detailed information about the pet and its owner with a quick phone call to the device's company."

Barr also added that most microchips can be conveniently installed at veterinarian offices and sometimes even spay and neuter clinics. He further explained that the process of installing a microchip is quick and does not hurt the animal, contrary to what some might believe.

"A microchip is implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades using a needle and plunger, which is

similar to a syringe," Barr said. "The needle is a rather large needle comparatively to what would be used for a vaccine, but it usually does not require sedation and is only transiently uncomfortable for the animal."

Microchips, which are about the size of a grain of rice, can be installed into dogs, cats, horses, ferrets, and most other mammals. If you are considering microchipping your pet, consult your local veterinarian to see which microchipping companies are most commonly used in your area. Some chips are more universally read than others, so it is important to consider which microchips your local veterinarian and animal shelters can read. Finally, do not forget to register your chip to your name and phone number. If you move to another address or change phone numbers, you will be required to update this information with your microchip's company. A microchip will only bring your pet home if your contact information is kept up to date.

Though personalized collars have been traditionally used as a method of identification in pets, microchipping is on the rise of becoming the modern solution for lost animals. To help prevent your new furry companion from becoming lost this year, consider a microchip that is registered to your name and updated contact information.

MENU
April 9 - April 13
UNAVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME

Thank you

We would like to thank the following volunteer fire departments for the quick response to the grass fire on our ranch: Floydada, Lockney, Dougherty, and Flomot.

We also want to thank Precinct 3 and Nathan Johnson for bringing the road grader.

We certainly appreciate the things that you all do.

Thanks,
Clinton, Dara and Clay Ware

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SOCIETY

Good Samaritan award



Courtesy photo

Brad Jackson, a Lighthouse Electric Co-Op lineman, received "The Good Samaritan Award" from Phil Hendricks with Texas Electric Cooperatives. Brad received the award for his efforts in helping to rescue a man caught in the auger of a grain buggy last October.

Rotary Club Schacht



Courtesy photo

At last week's Rotary Club president Clar Schacht addressed the group.



About Town . . .

By: Deon Fincher

Do you know your neighbors? I suspect that most can answer, "Yes" to this question. Between Terry and I, we are familiar with those houses on our block on our street. In a small town, people don't move around a bunch; but, every once in a while, someone new does move into town. When that happens near you, do you take that short walk and introduce yourselves? My family rarely did, but I remember the day that Mom and Dad walked across the street to meet the newcomers. Ed and Debbie Risley became life-long friends.

Just recently I have learned of several individuals or families that have moved or are moving into town. Most of them are young folks, at least,

to me they are! Which is a need for our community—new blood, new ideas, new perspectives. Not that it is a bad thing, but we humans tend to get into our comfort-zone and choose to stay, and some of those tendencies become the death of small towns. "It's always been that way," or "No one will come...they never have," and "It's just what happens to towns around here," should all be outlawed statements. Potential opportunities are everywhere—we just have to look past the blinders that time has placed over our eyes.

Which leads me to a "Big Welcome" to Tiffany Scott, proprietress of Canine Designs, located just off of the downtown square on Missouri. Tiffany is an

experienced groomer with years of service to our furry friends. Canine Designs is our LOCAL pet grooming salon serving dogs, cats and birds, and from my visit with Tiffany, she'll be happy to work with you and your exotic pets, as well. My little Emma got her 'summer cut' on Monday, and the service she and I received was impeccable.

Canine Designs is open Monday – Friday for appointments, which can be made by calling (806) 587-2832. Run by her shop and say "Howdy!" and welcome her to our community. She has done her part to serve Floydada. Let's do our part and support her absolutely. She is filling a much-needed void in our community.

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By LuAnn Collins

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA – Floydada Senior Citizens is our business name, but anyone of any age is welcome to "eat in or take out, or have a meal delivered". Call us at 983-2032 for deliver service at no extra charge.

We do have memberships available, at a cost of \$25.00 per year. This membership allows you to purchase the meal for \$5.00 instead of \$6.00.

Freida Dunn, BSN, Et, is present the 4th Thursday of the month for a blood pressure clinic, beginning at 11:30 a.m. weather permitting. Next clinic will be April 26.

The 2nd Tuesday Bingo, will resume on April 10 at 6:00 p.m. We will have sand-

wiches, drinks and dessert available at that time. We will also continue our progressive cash bingo game. Mark your calendars.

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

April 9 – April 13

- Monday – Chicken strips w/cream gravy
- Tuesday – Beef stew
- Wednesday – Chicken fried steak
- Thursday – Spaghetti
- Friday – Sirlion patty w/natural gravy

(Menus subject to change w/o notice)

Please join us to celebrate
Bill Harbin's Retirement
 at the Lighthouse office in Floydada
 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 6, 2018.



OBITUARIES/CHURCH

Obituaries

Margaret Ponce

Margaret Ponce, age 55, of Floydada passed away Monday, March 5, 2018.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, March 8, 2018 at the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Floydada. Father John Ohlig officiated.

Interment followed at the Floydada Cemetery. Rosary was held at 6 p.m., Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at Moore Rose Funeral Home Chapel.

Arrangements were under the personal care of Moore-Rose Funeral Home of Floydada.

Margaret Ann Ponce was born on April 3, 1962 in Floydada, Texas to Simon and Mabel (Salinas) Herrera. She graduated from Floydada High School in 1980.

From January 1, 1982 thru December 31, 2010 she worked as a secretary for Judge Bill Hardin, and then she worked at the Tax

Assessor's office June 14, 2007 thru September 20, 2017.

She married the love of her life Isaias Ponce on January 23, 1998. She loved her church and her faith, and any chance she could she loved helping her church.

Her greatest enjoyment in life was spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren. She had a heart of gold and was full of life, and never met a stranger. She enjoyed meeting and visiting with people. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her especially her BIG hugs and BIG kisses.

She was preceded in death by her father, Simon Herrera, Sr., a brother, James Herrera, a niece, Candyce Herrera, and a great nephew, Chandler-Brian Marler.

She is survived by her husband, Isaias Ponce of Floydada; two daughters,



MARGARET PONCE

Marty Herrera and husband, Jason Moreno of Amarillo, and Amber Ponce Sanchez and husband, Stephen of Amarillo; two sons, Isaias Ponce of Houston and James Ponce of Floydada; her mother, Mabel Casillas of Floydada; her brothers, John Herrera and Sylvia Bueno of Floydada, Simon and Angela Herrera of Amarillo, Danny Herrera of Floydada, Christopher and Amy Herrera of San Antonio, Anthony and Ashley Herrera of Lubbock, and two sisters, Vivian and Glenda Grisham of Amarillo, and Jacqueline Casillas of Amarillo.

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

"Paul's Journey" Coming to FUMC Lockney

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

"Entertaining, uplifting, and ministry-minded" are words often used to describe a Paul's Journey event. Paul's Journey, a Chapel Valley Music Recording Artist on the "Inspire" label, is an award-winning group based in Houston, Texas area.

The ministry of Paul's Journey is in its 40th year now, and they have garnered many Top 40 Radio hits and earned many awards down through the years such as the 2007 "SGM FanFair Group of the Year". In 2012 Paul's Journey was nominated for "Horizon Group of the Year" and in 2013, 2014, 2015 the group was chosen by Southern Gospel Music

fans as one of the "Top 5 Traditional Quartets" in the country.

Year after year they continue to sing on some of the biggest stages of Southern Gospel Music including the National Quartet Convention. Their music can be heard on the radio and the internet all over the world. Throughout time, this powerhouse group has quickly become known for their unique style and blend. The group travels some 200 dates per year all across the USA and abroad. Their high-energy performance and enthusiasm is captivating, contagious, and spiritually uplifting.

Paul's Journey is comprised of Rod Treme, Ron Higgins, Brad Davis, Keith Gilliam and David

Thornhill on keyboards. From up-tempo songs to heart-felt ballads, from the progressive sounds of today to the classics of yesterday, audiences of all generations and denominations are recognizing the refreshing sound of Paul's Journey.

Paul's Journey will be performing at the First United Methodist Church in Lockney on Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 a.m. and again at 6:00 p.m. For more information you may contact the FUMC Lockney office at 806-652-2193.

For more information about Paul's Journey or their ministry, check them out at www.paulsjourney-music.com or contact The Victory Agency at 936-333-0174.

Wit and Wisdom

By Charles Keaton

The Hesperian-Beacon

"Baseball is ninety percent mental and the other half is physical." — Yogi Berra

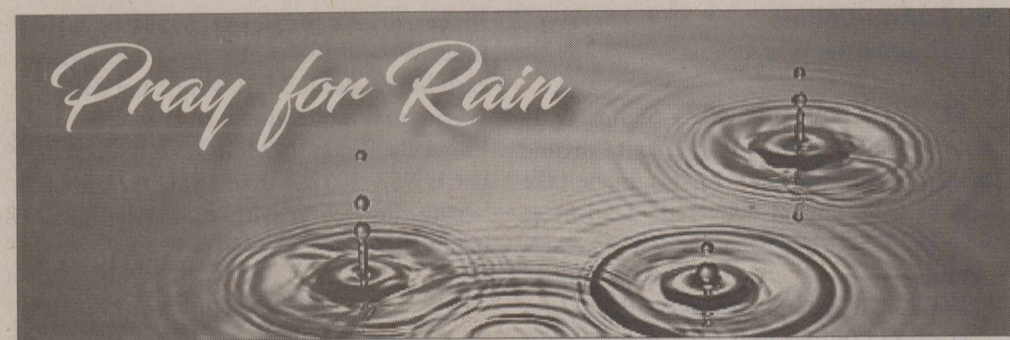
"Baseball is more than a game to me, it's a religion." — Bill Klem

"Baseball is about talent, hard work, and strategy. But at the deepest level, it's about love, integrity, and respect." — Pat Gillick

"This is a great thing that's happening in baseball. We don't know if it will ever happen again." — Mark McGwire

"There are only five things you can do in baseball — run, throw, catch, hit and hit with power." — Leo Durocher

"Baseball is more than a game. It's like life played out on a field." — Juliana Hatfield



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Creating Memories

Paul wrote, "I thank my God every time I remember you." —Philippians 1:3 (NIV)

"I know you! I remember when you were my fifth-grade teacher!" The young woman smiled. "What do you remember?" I asked. "The time we made lunch for our parents. We figured out a healthy menu and how much the food would cost. You even taught us table manners."

Seeing my former student reminded me that, intentionally or not, we make impressions on those around us. Each of us has recollections of those who have enriched our lives by following Paul's word to the Thessalonians: "Encourage one another and build each other up" (1 Thess. 5:11).

Unfortunately, many of us can also recall times when our

hurtful actions have led to broken relationships. Jesus gave specific instructions about handling such painful memories: "If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them" (Matt. 5:23-24).

By facing the past and taking action to repair a broken relationship, we can restore peace between ourselves and the other person. Even if we feel guilty or embarrassed, we can resolve to change. In the future, with determination and God's help, we can make a positive impact that reflects our walk with Jesus.

—Rebecca Brown LeRud (Oregon)

Prayer for the day: Heavenly Father, help us to live in ways that reflect you and your love. Amen.

from <http://devotional.upperroom.org/devotionals>

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Dennis Butler, Pastor
Morning Worship...11 a.m.

Bible Baptist Church
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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.

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.

Carr's Chapel
Service Every Sunday
Morning Worship - 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

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.

City Park Church of Christ
Matthew Benfield, 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.

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.

First Baptist Church
Lockney

Joseph Tillery, Pastor
Chad Cook, Youth Min.
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
Floydada
Rev. Ken Peterson, Pastor
Morning Worship - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:50 a.m.
Youth (Sunday) - 6:30 p.m.

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.

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.

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.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Floydada
Rev. Timothy Askey
401 N 12th St. 983-5805
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
Wednesday Study - 6 p.m.

New Salem Primitive Baptist Church
Floydada
Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges
(806) 637-0430
Sunday Singing - 10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship -11 a.m.

Out Reach Harvest Pentecostal Church

310 Mississippi
Floydada
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.

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.

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.

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.

San Jose Catholic Church
Lockney
Fr. Arockia Dhass Jeganathan
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

South Plains Baptist Church
Dan Beaty, Pastor
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.

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.

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
Floydada
Rev. Ruban Selvaraj
983-5878
Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m.
Mon. & Wed. Mass - 6:30 p.m.
Confession Sat - 10-11 a.m.

Templo Bautista Salem
Lockney
Rev. Joe Hernandez
Sun Prayer Service - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
Wed. Meeting - 7 p.m.

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.

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.

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.

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.

West Side Church of Christ
Floydada
983-2672 Or 470-0950
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening - 2 p.m.

AGRICULTURE

AgriLife Extension sets cotton marketing workshop in Lubbock

From AgriLife TODAY

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a Cotton Marketing Workshop on April 4 in conjunction with the Texas Cotton Ginners' Association Annual Meeting and Trade Show April 5 and 6.

The free workshop will be 1-4:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center in Lubbock.

Dr. Jackie Smith, AgriLife Extension economist at Lubbock, said the workshop is set the day before the gin show so producers can attend both events.

"We're hoping to have producers and ginners from all over the state attend," he

said. "We are also making a special effort to encourage attendance by some of our newer cotton producers from the Amarillo area."

Smith proposed attendees arrive by 1 p.m. April 4, attend this workshop, and be in place for the gin show and Plains Cotton Growers annual meeting, which is set for April 6.

"We will cover several very timely topics," Smith said. "Shawn Wade, director of policy for Plains Cotton Growers will lead a discussion of the new Farm Bill, including some comments about changes in crop insurance."

"I'll lead a discussion on cotton crop budgets with an emphasis on break-even anal-

ysis. We've been facing some tempting marketing opportunities that are likely at or near breakeven in most situations, so we're going to take a look at some marketing tools and weigh the risks of using those tools. It will be an interesting discussion."

Smith will be followed by Dr. John Robinson, AgriLife Extension state cotton marketing specialist at College Station. Robinson will present a market outlook and discuss several pricing tools, offering the pros and cons of each.

Dr. Seth Byrd, AgriLife Extension cotton agronomist at Lubbock, will review the 2017 cotton crop's low micronaire quality problems and offer his opinion as to

whether a similar scenario can be expected this year.

"Our final speaker will be Kelli Merritt who wears many hats — farmer, rancher, broker and market advisor to name a few," Smith said. "Kelli is a licensed commodity broker, Dawson County producer and president of Crop-Mark Select. I've asked her to describe her favorite pricing tool, which should generate some discussion. We're also interested in hearing what others use, so we'll encourage participants to describe their favorite forward pricing tool and strategy. All these discussions should make for an enlightening afternoon."

For more information, contact Smith at 806-746-6101.

Fertility Management becomes trickier in cotton

By Patrick R. Shepard
Special for The Hesperian-Beacon

Fertility management becomes trickier in aggressive high yield production.

California predominately grows Pima cotton cultivars, which in some limited recent research, were not found to have major differences in per bale nutrient requirements between those and upland/Acala cultivars.

The state's cotton specialist, Bob Hutmacher, says, "Because of our high production costs, and high irrigation cost, many growers try to push production into the 3.5 bales to 5-plus bales per acre zone to improve profits. We recommend 50 pounds to 55 pounds of nitrogen per bale per acre, with reduced amounts based on measured residual soil nitrate. We recommend that growers first do a preplant soil nitrate test to estimate how much nitrogen they will be able to pull from the upper few feet of soil, and reduce their fertilizer inputs accordingly."

Cotton in California is often rotated with vegetables, which in some, but not all situations, can leave significant nitrogen in the soil that cotton can reach, and fertilizer N can be reduced. With other typical rotations, such as cotton following cotton or small grains, there is typically very little residual nitrogen.

Decisions on potassium and phosphorus requirements can be more problematic, according to Hutmacher. "We suggest growers do at least top 1-foot evaluations for phosphorus, especially in situations of high cotton yields and aggressive crop rotation, including vegetables and forage crops."

"To my knowledge, San Joaquin Valley cotton growers don't routinely apply phosphorus for cotton. Instead, they apply the nutrient in their vegetable rotation such as for tomatoes — applying something like 125

pounds of super phosphate — and assume they have enough phosphorous carryover when the field is rotated to another crop. However, some soils in some locations are becoming marginal on phosphorus. So, at least every two years, growers need to soil sample to determine the surface soil phosphorus level."

Maximize genetic potential
After cotton growers select varieties that are best suited for the yield potential of their land, whether it's 2-bale or 4-bale ground, they need to adjust their fertility program to maximize the varieties' genetic high yield potential, says North Carolina cotton specialist Keith Edmisten.

"We'd like to plant a variety that performs well across all environments, but sometimes we can't do that because of different soil types," he says. "We have to select the varieties that perform the best on high yield-potential ground, and ones that do better on lower yield-potential ground, then adjust our fertility program accordingly."

"Our growers do a good job of replenishing the soil nutrients that the higher yield varieties take out of the field. Most of them soil test yearly to determine soil nutrient levels, and apply supplemental fertilizer as needed."

North Carolina is doing studies on splitting sidedressed nitrogen and potassium on sandier soils. Half of the sidedressed nitrogen is applied at sidedress, and the other half later, during early flowering. "We want to see if we can get a better yield response on our sandier fields," Edmisten says. "Early results indicate that in some real high yield situations, where we had good rainfall, there might be some benefit to doing that."

Tremendous cotton yields
Premium plant genetics enable growers to make a lot more cotton than ever, according to Louisiana
See COTTON Page 10

Enrollment Open for Texas International Cotton School

From Texas International Cotton School
Special to the Hesperian-Beacon

Registration remains open for the 38th session of the Texas International Cotton School, scheduled for August 6-16, 2018, in Lubbock.

The Texas International Cotton School (TICS) is uniquely structured to provide an integrated understanding of the Texas cotton industry and how it interacts with the global cotton/textile complex. The intensive two-week program covers all aspects of cotton, from the field to the fabric. Since its inception, the school has been a collaboration between the Texas cotton merchants who make up the Lubbock Cotton Exchange and the faculty and staff of the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute of Texas Tech University.

"Our planning committee works diligently to ensure that our curriculum not only includes the fundamentals of the cotton industry, but also examines the latest issues and advancements," Lubbock Cotton Exchange President John Aldinger said.

Jayci Cave, TICS graduate and communications manager at Plains Cotton Cooperative Association, said attending the Texas International Cotton School was an "incredible experience."

"It gives you an overview of everything from the farmer all the way to the finished textile product," she said. "I would recommend anyone with an interest in cotton to attend."

During the two weeks of the school, more than 30 experts from across the United States teach the students, who learn about the cotton marketing chain — including seed breeding, farm production, harvesting, ginning, warehousing, merchandising, and textile manufacturing. All aspects of U.S.

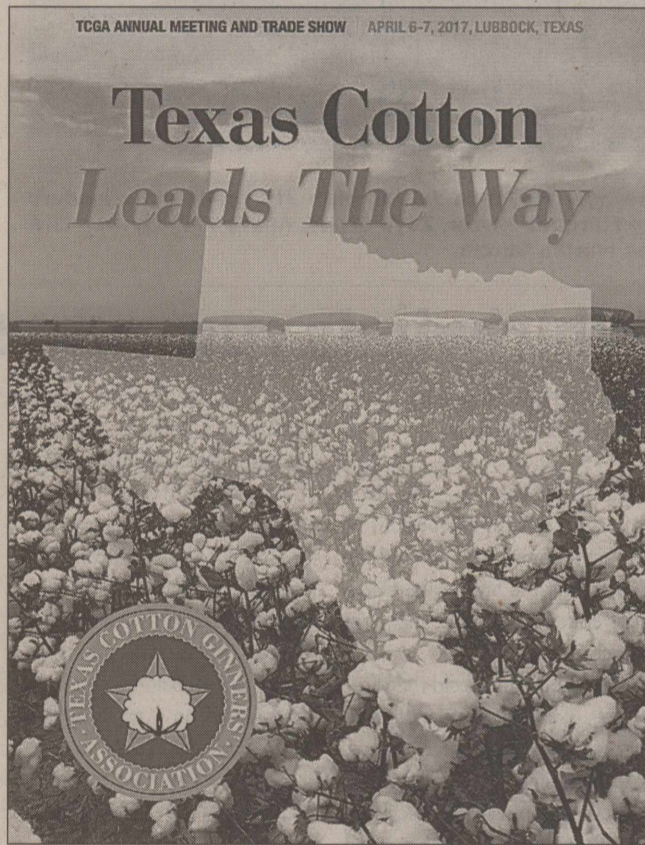
and global trade of cotton are covered, so the students obtain an understanding of what is required to successfully participate in the U.S. cotton market and to deliver the cottons needed in diverse

export markets. They learn about the important quality attributes of cotton fibers and how these translate into processing efficiency and textile product quality. Throughout the program, students

have repeated opportunities to interact with the cotton merchants of the Lubbock Cotton Exchange and the fiber and textile experts of Texas Tech University.

"My favorite part of the cotton school was getting to meet people from all sectors of the cotton industry," Cave said. "From the speakers to my fellow attendees, I learned something from everyone I met!"

For more information, including tuition and curriculum, visit <http://www.texas-intcottonschool.com> or call Taylor Bartek, TICS coordinator, at (806) 834-2438.



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AG TEXAS AgYouth of the MONTH

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

Alex Glass

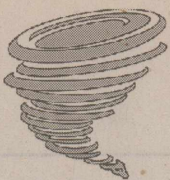
- Senior at Floydada High School
- Member of "A Honor Roll" as well as National Honor Society
- Member of Floydada FFA for 9 years: has held several FFA chapter offices as well as a member of Senior Quiz, Creed Speaking, Radio and Ag Communications, and Ag Mechanics Team
- Shows pigs and heifers
- Community Involvement: Volunteer for local little league baseball, camp counselor for church camp, attends mission trips, as well as volunteer work at South Plains Food Bank

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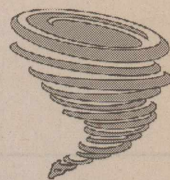
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Floydada Whirlwinds



How to prevent baseball players from having to get Tommy John Surgery

By Jacob Chavarria
FHS Journalism Class

In this time period there are many injuries that can affect a person's life in many different sports. One injury that can have a huge impact is Tommy John. Tommy John is a surgery that takes a ligament from another part of the body and attaches it to the elbow. The new ligament replaces the impaired one that wasn't able to allow the arm to throw so forcefully and allows it to throw with a better strength. One way to prevent having to get Tommy John Surgery is that the person who is going to be playing baseball needs to start throwing about 6-8 weeks before, not throw a curveball at an early age, and enforce a pitch count for your pitchers.

For anyone who is going to

play baseball and play for a long season they need to start conditioning their arms for the season. A good time for the athlete to start throwing is about 6-8 weeks or maybe even before. If a person just starts throwing as hard or as far as they can then that is how they can hurt their arm and cause Tommy John. A good thing for the players to do is find a throwing program that gives directions and specific days and lengths to throw. This will help because they will have a guide to follow. If they build up their arms then getting speed and being able to throw for a longer time will come because they will build up their shoulder.

Another way that a baseball athlete can help their arm is not throwing a curveball at an early age. Many coaches and parents of young kids that work with

these kids on pitching sometimes force them to learn curveballs. The main factor about a curveball is that it is not taught how to be thrown correctly. So if coaches don't force or have their kids throw curveballs at a young age then this will benefit these kid's arms in the long run. A way that kids can still have an off speed pitch is by throwing a change-up this doesn't affect the arm like the curveball does. Not only can a pitch affect the arm but also the amount of pitches thrown.

The total amount of pitches thrown does have an effect on the arm. Throwing a certain amount pitches can make the arm tired. If you throw about 20 pitches that doesn't have a huge affect unlike throwing 90 pitches. Another thing is that throwing a certain amount of pitches everyday without rest

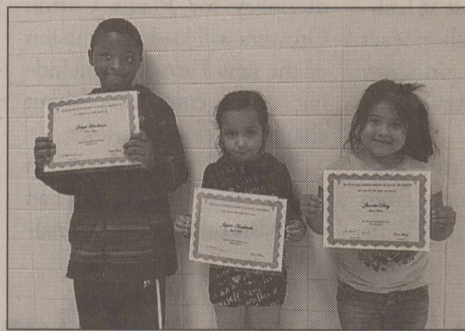
or easing up can make it worse. So the pitch count will put a limit on the amount of pitches thrown and how many days are needed to allow the arm enough time to rest. It's like using a car up to its max everyday it eventually will run out and you will need a new car. Well if you use your arm to throw to the max then eventually it will not be the same, which could be a symptom of Tommy John.

Protecting your arm is key especially for an athlete that does baseball for about almost the whole part of the year. So if you follow most of these tips and many others then it could help you in keeping your arm healthy and possibly from not having to get surgery. No one wants to have to have surgery if it can be prevented. So take care of your arm so it won't have to happen.

FISD students, staff of the month

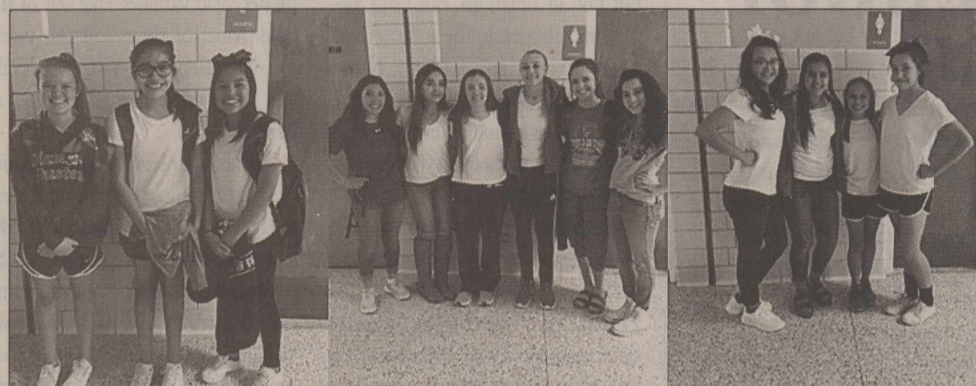


Courtesy Photo



The Floydada ISD Board met on Monday, March 26 and recognized the following students and staff for their efforts to make education the best it can be. Each month FISD staff selects students that exemplify education at its best and those students

FISD Varsity & JV cheerleaders



Courtesy Photo

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FLOYDADA ISD CHEERLEADERS for 2018/2019: Members of the cheer squads are: (Left photo) FHS Varsity - Allison Orr, Kylie Ricketts, Hannah Morales, Azalea Garza, Ruth Ramirez and Allison Muniz; FHS Junior Varsity - Natalee Romero, Alianna Gonzales, Katelyn Lechwar and Kimberlee Ramirez; (Right photo) FJHS - Tatum Glasscock, Kaley Garza, Clarissa Ramos, Marquez Porter, Zayli Crone, Analise Perez, Alea Lira, and Mariah Garcia

7th grade cheerleaders



Courtesy Photo

The new Floydada Junior High 7th grade cheerleaders are Marquez Porter, Zayli Crone, Analise Perez, Alea Lira and Mariah Garcia.

are recognized at the monthly school board meeting. The elementary students recognized were Daryl Henderson, Juanita Diaz, and Jaylah Arredondo, Kindergarteners at A.B. Duncan Elementary. The Junior High student of the month was Kailee Sanchez who is in the 8th grade at Floydada Junior High. The Floydada High School students recognized were the State Qualifiers in Band, below is a list of those students. The elementary educator selected this month was Nadia Flores who teaches 1st grade at A.B. Duncan Elementary. The secondary employee of the month was Nancy Trevino who teaches 7th grade Math. Band students recognized: Brandy Green, Destiny Marmolejo, Ryder Glass, Jerry Reyes, Kyle Bruington, Alonzo Ascencio, Dylan Ramos, Angela Vega, Brianna Casillas, Allison Muniz, Cassandra Cervera, Donald Gibbens, Kim Rios, Kiarra Collins, Jacob Johnston, Dusty Prisk, Aliana Gonzales, Audrie Stange, James Gibbens and LaMychal Henderson

Lady Winds outlast Crosbyton

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA - Floydada defeated Crosbyton in a weather-shortened game on March 27, 8-5. The game was called after five and one-half innings due to severe weather in the area.

Crosbyton put two runners on base in the top of the first but failed to drive them in. In the bottom of the inning, the Lady Winds scored three runs. With one out, Hannah Morales walked, then stole second. With one out, Morales stole third then stole home. Kylie Ricketts singled then stole second and third. Dora Cervera walked then Alexis Hernandez walked to load the bases. Ricketts stole home then Angela Vega walked to load the bases again. Denise Riojas singled to drive in Cervera as the Lady Winds took a 3-0 lead after one inning.

Crosbyton scored a single run in the top of the second. S Haynes walked to lead off the stole second. A Marquez ground out as Haynes moved to third. K Rodriguez singled to drive in S Haynes, making it 3-1 in favor of Floydada. Floydada could not score in the bottom

of the inning despite loading the bases.

T Guerrero led off with a single for Crosbyton in the top of the third. A ground out moved Guerrero to second then with two outs, E Reyna singled to drive in Guerrero, making it 3-2 in favor of the Lady Winds. In the bottom of the third, the Lady Winds got the first two runners on but failed to score. After three, the Lady Winds led 3-2.

Neither team scored in the fourth inning.

In the top of the fifth inning, H Haynes doubled to lead off for Crosbyton then with two outs, Reyna doubled to drive in H Haynes, tying the score at 3-3. In the bottom of the inning, the Lady Winds scored five runs with two outs on the board. Emily Cisneros doubled then Alyssa Obregon was hit by a pitch. Morales walked to load the bases. Stefanni Chavarria was hit by a pitch to drive in Cisneros. Ricketts singled, driving in Obregon and Morales. Cervera walked to load the bases. Chavarria scored on an illegal pitch then Ricketts scored on a wild pitch as the Lady Winds took an 8-3 lead after five innings.

In the top of the sixth with one

out, M Rodriguez singled then C Fira reached on an error. Garcia came in to run for Fira. T Guerrero reached on an error as M Rodriguez scored. H Haynes singled, driving in Garcia but Crosbyton trailed 8-5. In the bottom of the sixth, Floydada had one out when the game was called, giving the Lady Winds the 8-5 victory.

For Floydada, Ricketts went 2-2 with two RBIs and two runs scored and Morales went 0-0, scoring two runs. Morales pitched six innings allowing five runs on 15 hits while striking out five and walking four.

For Crosbyton, Guerrero went 3-4 with one RBI and one run scored, H Haynes went 3-4 with one RBI and one run scored and Reyna went 3-4 with two RBIs. Reyna pitched four and two-thirds innings allowing six runs on five hits while striking out seven and walking 10 and S Haynes pitched two-thirds of an inning allowing two runs on one hit while striking out one and walking one.

Floydada is 6-2 in district play while Crosbyton is 1-7. Floydada was open April 3 and will play Lockney on April 7. Crosbyton played Hale Center on April 3 and will play Abernathy on April 7.

Whirlwinds run-rule Springlake

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

FLOYDADA - Floydada scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to take a 13-3 victory over the Springlake-Earth Wolverines in district play on March 26.

The Whirlwinds held the Wolverines scoreless in the first three innings while they scored one run in each inning.

In the bottom of the first, Marcus Perez singled, stole second and third then Alex Glass reached on an error that allowed Perez to score and the Whirlwinds to take a 1-0 lead.

In the bottom of the second inning, Ethan Ibarra singled with one out then moved to second on an error. With two outs, Angel Cervera singled to drive in Ibarra and make it 2-0 for Floydada.

In the bottom of the third inning, Mike Delafuente reached on an error then with two outs, stole second and scored on a single by Jacob Chavarria to give the Whirlwinds and 3-0 lead.

The Wolverines broke thru in the top of the fourth with one run.

Jalen Solis singled with one out, stole second then scored on an error that allowed Robert Mendoza to reach safely. In the bottom of the inning, Arnie Martinez singled to lead off for the Whirlwinds then Cervera doubled. Andrez Suarez singled to drive in Martinez and Cervera. Suarez was thrown out trying to steal before Perez walked then scored on a triple by Glass. With two outs, Glass scored on a single by Jose Lira to give the Whirlwinds a 7-1 lead after four innings.

In the top of the fifth with one out, Brandon Casares reached on a single for Springlake. Kelsey Hensen walked then JR Vargas singled to load the bases. Devin Jones grounded into a fielder's choice that allowed Casares and Hensen to score as the Wolverines cut into the Whirlwinds 7-3 lead after five innings.

Springlake failed to score in the top of the sixth despite getting the first two batters on base. In the bottom of the inning, Delafuente drew a lead-off walk then Lira was hit by a pitch and Chavarria walked to load the bases. With one out, Jeremiah Johnston sin-

gled to drive in Delafuente then Cervera walked to force in Lira. Suarez singled, allowing Chavarria and Johnston to score. Perez was hit by a pitch to load the bases again. With Glass at bat, an error by the catcher allowed Cervera and Suarez to score and give the Whirlwinds the 13-3 victory.

For Floydada, Suarez went 3-5 with four RBIs and one run scored, Glass went 1-4 with two RBIs and one run scored and Cervera went 2-2 with two RBIs and two runs scored. Perez pitched five innings allowing three runs on five hits while striking out four and walking one and Caden Britt pitched one inning allowing no runs on no hits while striking out one and walking one.

For Springlake-Earth, Jones went 1-3 with two RBIs, J Solis went 1-3 with one run scored and Casares went 2-2 with one run scored. Vargas pitched four and one-third innings allowing seven runs on 12 hits while striking out one and walking two Casares pitched one inning allowing five runs on one hit while striking out one and walking three and Mendoza allowed one run on one hit.

Floydada splits double-header with Hale Center

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

HALE CENTER - Floydada split two district games with the Hale Center Owls on Saturday, March 31. Floydada won game one 10-7 and lost game two 11-1.

GAME ONE: FLOYDADA 10, HALE CENTER 7

In the bottom of the first inning, the Owls took a 3-0 lead. With one out, B Branson walked then B Castillo was hit by a pitch. J Martinez singled to drive in Branson. An error allowed K Harmon to reach safely while B Castillo score. A

fielder's choice by G Johnson advanced Martinez to third while Harmon was forced out at second. Johnson stole second and on the same play, Martinez stole home to give the Owls a 3-0 lead after one inning.

Floydada scored their first runs in the top of the second. Jose Lira led off with a double, then stole third. With one out, Angel Cervera walked then Andrez Suarez grounded into a fielder's choice to drive in Lira as Cervera was forced out at second. Suarez moved to second on a passed ball then Jordan Mendoza singled to move Suarez to third. An error allowed

Suarez to score as Floydada came within one run of Hale Center at 3-2. Hale Center answered with one run in the bottom of the inning. Jeremy Castillo reached on an error then Josh Castillo singled. Ayden Rodgers laid down a bunt as Jeremy Castillo was thrown out at third. Brady Branson hit into a fielder's choice as Josh Castillo moved to third and Rodgers was forced out at second. Brandon Castillo singled to drive in Josh Castillo, giving the Owls a 4-2 lead after two innings.

In the top of the third, the Whirlwinds scored six runs to take the 8-4 lead. With one out, Mike Delafuente reached

on an error then Lira was hit by a pitch. Arnie Martinez singled to load the bases. Cervera doubled to drive in Delafuente and Lira. Suarez followed with a single to drive in Martinez. An error allowed Marcus Perez to reach while Suarez scored. Perez stole second then scored on a single by Alex Glass to make it 8-4 in favor of the Whirlwinds. In the bottom of the inning the Owls added a run behind a base on balls to Garrett Johnson and a single by Jeremy Castillo to make it 8-5 Floydada after three innings.

For Floydada in the top of the fourth, Delafuente singled to lead off the inning

then stole second. Cervera doubled to drive in Delafuente as the Whirlwinds extended their lead to 9-5 after four innings. Hale Center failed to score in the bottom of the inning.

In the top of the fifth, Mendoza led off with a single for Floydada then stole second. With one out, Glass singled as Mendoza scored on the throw, giving Floydada a 10-5 lead. Hale Center failed to score in the bottom of the inning.

Floydada did not score in the top of the sixth despite putting two runners on base. Hale Center failed to score in the bottom of the sixth as Floydada held a

10-5 lead. In the top of the seventh, a lead-off single by Perez was eliminated by a double play from Hale Center and the Whirlwinds failed to score again. In the bottom of the seventh, the Owls scored two runs, but it wasn't enough as Floydada won 10-7. James Martinez led off with a double then advanced to third on a ground out. With two outs, Jacob Hill walked then Martinez scored on a wild pitch. Hill stole second then scored on an error but that was all as the Whirlwinds took game one, 10-7.

See HALE CENTER, Page 10

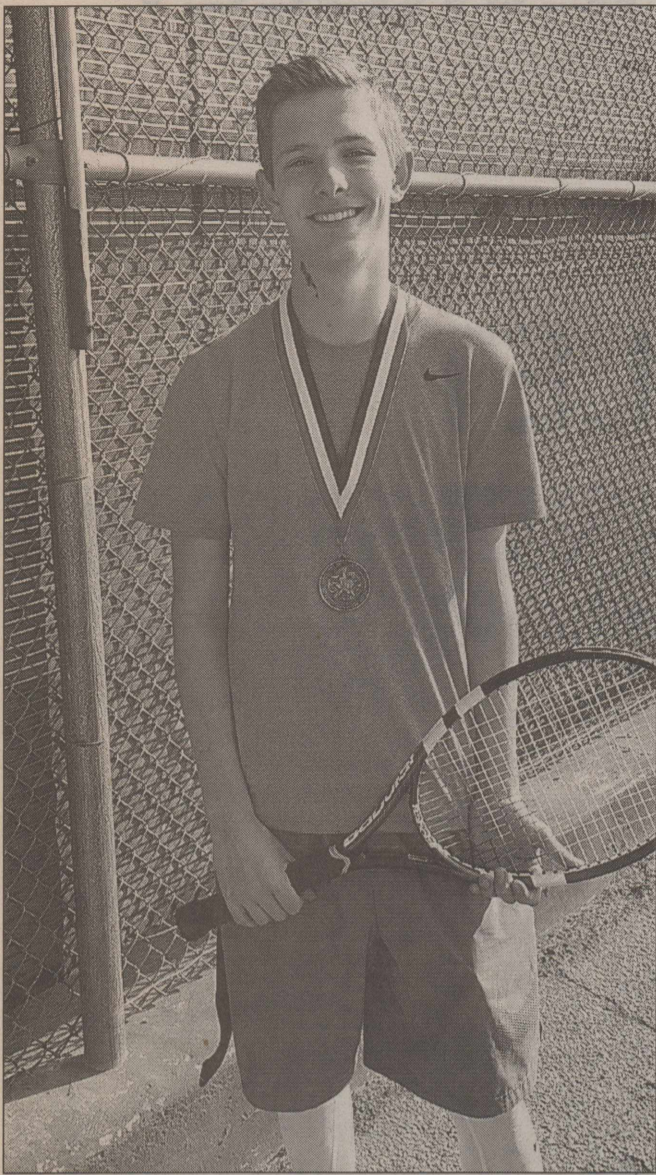
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Lockney Longhorns

Mason Esty



Courtesy photos

Mason Esty of Lockney, qualified for the Regional Tennis Tournament to be held on April 18 in Odessa. Esty won his quarter final round over Farwell 6-0, 6-3 then won the semifinals over Sudan 7-6, 7-6 before losing to the number one seed from Sudan in three sets.

Lady Horns defeat Crosbyton 10-5

By Charles Keaton
The Hesperian-Beacon

CROSBYTON – Lockney used a six-run fourth inning to pull away from the Crosbyton Chiefettes, 10-5, in their district softball game on Saturday, March 31.

The Lady Horns struck first in the top of the first with two runs. Alyssa Barretero was hit by a pitch to lead off for Lockney. With one out, Reagan Nuncio reached on an error then Madai Chavira walked to load the bases. With two outs, Aleah Jimenez singled to drive in Barretero and Nuncio, giving Lockney a 2-0 lead. Crosbyton went three up and three down in the bottom of the inning.

Neither team scored in the second inning.

In the bottom of the third, Crosbyton tied the game at 2-2. Audrey Marquez led off with a double, moved to third on wild pitch then scored on a single by Kayla Rodriguez. Marisa Rodriguez singled

then with one out, Thalia Guerrero singled to drive in K Rodriguez, tying the game at 2-2 after three innings.

Tatyana Cienfuegos walked to lead off the top of the fourth for the Lady Horns. Barretero singled then Cienfuegos and Barretero moved up on a passed ball. Karissa Petty reached on an error that allowed Cienfuegos and Barretero to score. Nuncio singled and reached second on the throw as Petty moved to third. Chavira reached on an error that allowed Petty to score. Chavira stole second and Nuncio scored on an error. With one out, Jimenez doubled to drive in Chavira. With two outs, Mika Williams singled to drive in Jimenez. Cienfuegos walked but a strike out ended the at bat with Lockney ahead 8-2. In the bottom of the inning, Emily Reyna doubled to lead off but was left stranded on base with the Lady Horns leading 8-2 after four innings.

The Lady Horns added two

more runs in the top of the fifth. Petty led off with a walk then Nuncio walked. Chavira doubled to drive in Petty. Jamin Cuba was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Jimenez hit into a fielder's choice as Nuncio scored and Chavira was forced out at third as the Lady Horns extended their lead to 10-2. Crosbyton went down in order in the bottom of the inning.

After Lockney failed to score in the top of the sixth, Crosbyton added three runs. With two outs, Reyna walked then Saron Haynes walked. A Marquez singled to load the bases and Courtney Guzman came in to run for Marquez. K Rodriguez singled, driving in Reyna and Haynes. M Rodriguez singled to drive in Guzman as the Chiefettes cut into the Lady Horns' lead, 10-5.

Neither team scored in the seventh as Lockney claimed the 10-5 district victory.

For Lockney, Jimenez went 3-4 with four RBIs and one

run scored, Barretero went 2-4 with two runs scored, Petty went 1-4 with two RBIs and two runs scored, and Nuncio went 1-4 with three runs scored. Nuncio pitched seven innings allowing five runs on nine hits while striking out six and walking two.

For Crosbyton, K Rodriguez went 2-3 with three RBIs and one runs scored. Reyna pitched four innings allowing 10 runs on 10 hits while striking out seven and walking five and Haynes pitched three innings allowing one hit while striking out two and walking one.

The Lady Horns game against New Deal on March 27 was postponed until later in the season due to weather.

Lockney is 4-3 in district and Crosbyton is 1-7.

Lockney played Ralls on Tuesday, April 7 and will play Floydada on April 10. Crosbyton played Hale Center on April 3 and will play Abernathy April 7.

South Plains College trains technicians for IMET opportunities

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

LEVELLAND – Staying current on industry trends and training the next class if graduates is the primary focus of the instructors of the South Plains College Industrial Manufacturing and Emerging Technologies program.

According to Raymund Elizondo, program coordinator and professor of IMET, the college enjoys a 95 percent placement rate for its graduates. What makes this number even more outstanding is that recruiters

from major oil companies in the region visit South Plains College at least twice a year to secure interns for their summer programs.

After a recent visit from Phets Sovilay, MCBU Learning and Development Team and Operations Recruiter for Chevron, Elizondo said the outlook for qualified technicians is great.

"When the recruiters come to campus, they are looking at our graduates as prospective employees," he said. "It begins with their participation in a paid summer internship which allows

the students the opportunity to see how the things they learn in the classroom are being performed in the field."

The Industrial Manufacturing program at SPC reflects the ever-changing needs of the industry. It provides students with the skills necessary to become an entry-level electronics technician. Graduates of the IM program can gain employment in a variety of areas such as manufacturing, industrial, medical, consumer products, communication, personal computers, net-

working and other specialized areas. SPC offers the highly-sought Associate of Applied Science degree as well as two optional Certificates of Proficiency.

In addition to Chevron, representatives from Oxy Module Truck Service and X-Fab also recruit student from the program.

"If the economy needs technicians, this is where it starts," Elizondo said.

For more information, contact Elizondo at (806) 716-235. or email relizondo@southplainscollege.edu.

District 2-2A Baseball Standings

2-2A BB	W	L
New Deal	6	1
Abernathy	5	2
Lockney	5	2
Olton	4	2
Floydada	5	3
Ralls	4	4
Hale Center	3	4
Crosbyton	0	6
Springlake	0	8

District 2-2A Softball Standings

2-2A SB	W	L
Abernathy	6	1
Ralls	6	1
Floydada	6	2
Lockney	4	3
New Deal	3	4
Crosbyton	1	7
Hale Center	0	8

LOCKNEY SCHOOL MENU

April 9-13

Monday, April 2

Breakfast – Pancakes, Sausage or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch – Corn Dog & Tots or Roasted Chicken, Broccoli, Roll, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk

Tuesday, Apr. 10

Breakfast – Breakfast Burrito, Hash Browns or PBJ, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch – Nachos Grande, Refried Beans, Salsa, Garnish, Tomato Cup, Cucumbers, Peaches Sherbet, Milk

Wednesday, Apr. 11

Breakfast – Biscuit, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Breakfast Parfait, Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch – Chicken Sandwich, Fries or Burrito, Corn, Garnish, Veggie Cup, Fruit, Milk

Thursday, Apr. 12

Breakfast – Sausage Kolache, Yogurt or Breakfast Crackers & Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch – Asian Bowl, Eggroll or Salisbury Steak, Biscuit, Gravy, Potatoes, Salad, Fruity Gelatin, Milk

Friday, Apr. 13

Breakfast – Breakfast Club or Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch – Pizza Choice or Ham & Cheese, Baby Carrots, Broccoli Salad, Fruit, Brownie, Milk

SPC Plainview Center to host reception for new director

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

PLAINVIEW – South Plains College Plainview Center will host a reception to welcome Jolee Dietrich, director of the SPC Plainview Center. The reception will be conducted from 3 to 5 p.m. on April 5 (Thursday) in Room 102 at the center, 1920 W. 24th St.

Members of the Plainview community are invited to attend.

Prior to joining SPC, Dietrich worked at Estacado Middle School for Plainview Independent School District as the registrar and technologist, a position she held since May 2015. She was responsible for technology integration,

student registration, and records management. For five years, Dietrich served as a Career and Technical Education teacher and technologist. She was responsible for troubleshooting technology issues for the faculty and staff as well as implementing online-based instruction. Dietrich also served as the advisor

for the National Junior Honor Society.

Dietrich received her bachelor of Business Administration and master of Education from Wayland Baptist University.

For more information, contact Dane Dewbre, associate dean of Marketing and Recruitment, at (806) 716-2210.

The Panhandle Gives 2018 Registration is NOW OPEN!

Special to The Hesperian-Beacon

It's TIME! Time for what you ask? It's time to register your organization for the 2018 Panhandle Gives campaign! You can help spread the word by making sure your favorite nonprofit is participating.

Two years ago, the Amarillo Area Foundation started a giving day that coincided with #Giving-

Tuesday, an international day of philanthropy on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This year we're going bigger. We are excited to announce that the Amarillo Area Foundation has contributed \$100,000 to enhance your organization's fundraising efforts during this campaign. This means your favorite organization could qualify for a portion of this contribution by participating in The Panhandle Gives 2018.

Encourage your favorite nonprofit to register to learn how their organization can benefit from the \$100,000 contribution from the Amarillo Area Foundation. Here's where to register: bit.ly/panhandle-gives. Complete the online registration and return the agreement

via email: thepanhandle-gives@aaf-hf.org or mail to Amarillo Area Foundation, 801 S. Fillmore, STE 700, Amarillo, TX 79101 by 3/30/18. The \$75 registration fee is due by 4-25-18.

Organizations with questions can visit our FAQ page: https://www.amarilloareafoundation.org/file/GT_Nonprofit-FAQ-2018.pdf

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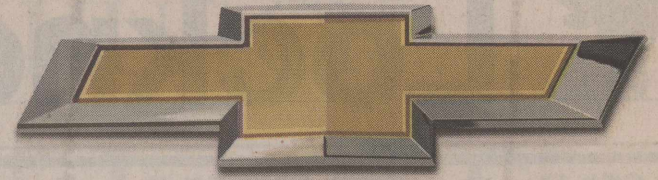
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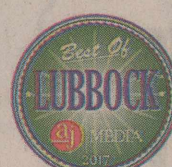
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HAMMOND SHEET METAL is looking to hire secretary. Must have computer skills and Quick Books is a plus. Duties include payroll, accounts payable and receivable. Insurance and retirement plans offered after 60 days at employment. Background checks will be performed. Pick up application at office between the hours of 8 a.m. - 9 a.m., Monday thru Friday. Hammond Sheet Metal, 105 N. 5th Street, Floydada. tfn

THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON is looking for a highly motivated person to be our new editor in Floyd County. This person will cover both Floydada and Lockney and report on all entities as well as sporting and community events. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office software and internet and have previous experience with photography. Please submit resume with work references and writing sample to chris@blackburnmediagroup.com tfn

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LEGAL NOTICES

AW-1-11
Prescribed by Secretary of State
Sections 4.004, 81.010, 85.004, 85.007, Texas Election Code
9/2009

FOR ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS EXCEPT COUNTIES

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)

To the registered voters of City of Lockney and Lockney ISD, Texas

(A los votantes registrados _____, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 5, 2018, for voting in a general election to elect School Board Members, Mayor and City of Lockney Council members.
(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales siguientes abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el de de 20 para votar en la Elección General para elegir)

On Election Day, voters must vote in their precinct where registered to vote.
(El Día de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en su precinto donde están inscritos para votar.)

Location of Election Day Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Ubicación de las casillas electorales el Día de Elección) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Precinct Number(s) (Número de precinto)
First United Methodist Church 102 W Poplar Lockney, TX 79241	1 2 3 4 5

For early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below:
(Para Votación Adelantada, los votantes podrán votar en cualquiera de las ubicaciones nombradas abajo.)

Locations for Early Voting Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Ubicación de las casillas electorales de votación adelantada) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Days and Hours of Operation Días y Horas Hábiles
ISD Administration Office 416 W Willow Street Lockney, TX 79241	April 23, 2018 to April 27, 2018 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
	April 30, 2018 and May 1, 2018 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to
(Las solicitudes para boletas de votación adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a)

Sammie Setliff
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario de la Votación Adelantada)
PO Box 428
(Address) (Dirección)
Lockney TX 79241
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Código Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 24, 2018
(Las solicitudes para boletas de votación adelantada por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el)

Issued this the 23 day of February, 2018
(Emitida este día de 20)

Sammie Setliff
Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)

AW6-1
Prescribed by Secretary of State
Section 127.096 Texas Election Code
3/07

PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY RUNOFF Election held on MAY 22, 2018 will be tested on APRIL 10, 2018 at 10:30 A.M. at FLOYD COUNTY COURTHOUSE (date) (time) (location) ROOM 208 to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Dinger Morgan
Signature of Officer

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección Escorrentía democrática que se llevará a cabo el 22 de mayo de 2018 se probará el 10 de abril de 2018 (fecha)

a las 10:30 A.M. en FLOYD COUNTY COURTHOUSE (hora) (sitio)

Habitacion 208 para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.

Dinger Morgan
Firma del/la Oficial

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EVENTS

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Gonzales - Come & Taste It Craft Beer, Wine & Art Festival, April 27-28. Presented by the Gonzales Inquirer and Gonzales Main Street; 830-672-2861 or 517-930-1368, email publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com.

Mount Vernon - 14th Annual Tour de Cypress Ride, Sat. April 21. Bike ride, music festival and fish fry. 10, 30, 45, 52 mile and 100K rides. www.tourdecypress.com.

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McAdoo VFD Brisket Cook-off winners



At the first annual McAdoo Volunteer Fire Department Brisket Cook Off, Reid Arnold wins first place in Brisket and Other, Kevin Brendle wins second in Brisket, James Edinburg wins second in Other, Shane Hickman wins third in Brisket, and Larron Little wins third in Other, pictured with Chief Mack Gardner.

HALE CENTER

From Page 6

For Floydada, Glass went 2-5 with two RBIs, Cervera went 3-3 with three RBIs and one run scored and Suarez went 2-4 with two RBIs and two runs scored. Glass pitched four innings allowing five runs on five hits while striking out four and walking two and Luke Holcombe pitched three innings allowing two runs on three hits while striking out three and walking one.

For Hale Center, Martinez went 2-4 with one RBI and two runs scored, Hill went 1-2 with one run scored and Josh Castillo went 1-3 with one run scored. Josh Castillo pitched two and one-third innings allowing six runs on four hits while striking out four and walking three, Jay Castillo pitched two innings allowing four runs on six hits while striking out two and Hill pitched three hits and striking out three.

GAME TWO: HALE CENTER 11, FLOYDADA 1

Hale Center used a seven-run third inning to pull away from Floydada as the Owls run-ruled the Whirlwinds 11-1 in game two.

In the bottom of the first, the Owls started their scoring with one run. Rodgers led off with a triple then scored on a ground out by B Castillo to give the Owls a 1-0 lead after one inning.

In the top of the second, a lead-off double by Delafuente went no where as

the Whirlwinds failed to drive in the score. In the bottom of the inning, the Owls went three up and three down.

Floydada went down in order in the top of the third. With one out in the bottom of the inning, J2 Castillo doubled then scored on a single by Rodgers. Branson reached on an error as Rodgers moved to third. Branson stole second then B Castillo singled to drive in Rodgers and Branson. Martinez singled then Harmon walked to load the bases. With two outs, Hill doubled to drive in B Castillo and Martinez. J1 Castillo reached on an error that allowed Harmon and Hill to score, giving the Owls an 8-0 lead after three innings.

In the top of the fourth, the Whirlwinds scored their lone run of the game. Devan Perez led off with a single. Jeremiah Johnston came in as a pinch runner. Delafuente singled to move Johnston to third. Lira hit into a fielder's choice as Johnston scored and Delafuente was forced at second. Floydada trailed 8-1. In the bottom of the inning, Rodgers was hit by a pitch to lead off for the Owls. Rodgers stole second and moved to third on an error. Branson doubled to drive in Rodgers. Branson moved to third on an error and scored by stealing home. B Castillo reached on an error, ending up at second. B Castillo stole third then scored on an error to give the Owls an 11-1 lead after four innings.

Floydada went down in order in the top of the fifth as the Owls claimed the

11-1 victory.

For Floydada, Delafuente went 2-2, Perez went 1-2 with Johnston scoring a run and Lira went 0-2 with an RBI. Perez pitched three innings allowing 11 runs on seven hits while striking out three and waling one and Marcus Perez pitched one inning, striking out one.

For Hale Center, Rodgers went 2-2 with one RBI and three runs scored, B Castillo went 1-3 with three RBIs and two runs scored and Hill went 1-2 with two RBIs and one run scored. Branson pitched five innings allowing one run on six hits while striking out four.

Floydada is now 5-3 in district and Hale Center is 3-4. Floydada played New Deal on April 3 and will play Olton in a double-header on Saturday, April 7. Hale Center played Springlake-Earth on April 3 and will play New Deal in a double-header on April 7.

UPCOMING

From Page 1

19, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Floyd County Unity Center. Serving begins at 6:30 p.m.

OLD SETTLER'S REUNION

SAVE THE DATE!!! Saturday, May 12th is Old Settlers!!!! Downtown Floydada - Lots of activities for the whole family to enjoy. Mark your calendars now!!!

HARBIN

From Page 1

Asked the source of his passion for rural electricity, Harbin replied, "I love this part of the country, the people who live in it, and it improves the quality of life of the people in this part of the world... and it's my heritage."

According to Harbin, the most enjoyable part of his job has been the relationships built over the years with his employees, the board of directors, and the members. He has taken great pride in the work he has done over the last 30 years, especially the many employees that he helped develop their careers and potential.

"He's the only boss I've ever had (at Lighthouse). He's been a great one, and I'll miss him very much," shared Dispatcher Sara Coursey, who started two weeks before Harbin joined the team. "His work ethic, getting up at the crack of dawn to work out, going to meetings, and his dedication to the co-op is amazing. He is very dedicated to his craft."

Whenever bad weather struck the areas serviced by

Lighthouse Electric, Harbin could often be found answering the phones late into the night, supporting the dedicated linemen who worked tirelessly in inclement weather to restore electricity to its members.

Lighthouse Electric's future looks great in Harbin's eyes, "because of the people that are in it, the people that work there, and the board that controls it." And he has the utmost confidence in his replacement, Albert Daniel, and all of his coworkers that remain.

"They have a solid, well-maintained electrical system, well-trained workforce with a good work ethic and an excellent board of directors that are engaged and dedicated to the success of the coop," he declared.

For a man who has found profound joy in his career, Harbin says he will miss "the fun of being with the people and having something challenging to do every day."

However, he hopes that travel, with his wife Linda, lies in their future, and "enjoying life with my family, my church, and my community. I'll enjoy my hobbies of gardening, hunting and spending time with my grandkids."

Member Services Director, Larry Ogden summed it up nicely: "I have had the privilege of working with Bill for almost 31 years, and I can honestly say, I believe there could not have been a better person to work with in all that time. He has been, and is, a good man—honest, straightforward, upright, willing to listen, and compassionate and caring for his employees and the members of Lighthouse. He is known regionally, statewide, and nationally as a wise, levelheaded, influential leader in the rural electric cooperative industry, and his peers often seek his advice and council on issues and challenges within the industry. They and I will miss not having his guidance. I consider him a good friend. He has been quoted as saying, as he so eloquently put it, 'To really succeed in this business, you need to have a servant's heart', and I truly believe he is a shining example of that."

All are invited to attend a retirement reception held in his honor on Friday, April 6 from 3-4:30 pm in the Community Room at Lighthouse Electric Co-op, located on the corner of Highways 70 & 207.

COTTON

From Page 5

cotton specialist Dan Fromme. "We're seeing some tremendous yields across the Cotton Belt, and I have yet to see any severe nitrogen or phosphorus deficiencies. But, from time to time, I see some potassium and sulfur issues."

"Potassium is needed late in the season during boll development. Oftentimes, even when a soil test shows potassium levels to be in the medium range, we see a yield response from potassium applications. Also, if the weather is just right — for example when you have dry conditions and you don't have good potassium uptake — we see some potassium issues."

The region's changing cropping system has altered fertility management in cotton, Fromme says. "We used to plant continuous cotton, but now we rotate it with soybeans and corn. I'm more concerned about having too much nitrogen, because Louisiana growers rotate cotton with soybeans and corn."

"We sometimes over-fertilize our cotton with nitrogen, and hurt yields following soybeans or corn. Soybeans fix nitrogen, and

you have residual nitrogen from corn. In our studies this past year, where we applied 90 pounds to 120 pounds of nitrogen on cotton following soybeans, we had reduced yields of 800 pounds versus 1,250 pounds where we applied either 30 pounds or 60 pounds of nitrogen following beans."

Optimize costs, yields
Years of research and validation have shown nitrogen application based on cotton's yield potential optimizes input costs and yields. The recommendation in Texas is 50 pounds of total nitrogen per acre per expected bale of yield, where 3 bale-per-acre cotton needs 150 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

"Growers farming heavy soils, and in a corn or soybean rotation, will also have some residual nitrogen remaining in the soil that should be credited and calculated into the 50 pounds of nitrogen per acre per bale recommendation," says Texas cotton specialist Gaylon Morgan.

"Growers seldom short themselves on nitrogen; however, too much nitrogen can reduce yields and can increase PGR and harvest-aid expenses. To optimize yields, I would like to see many producers divert some of the money spent on nitrogen to other yield-limiting nutri-

ents, such as phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, and zinc, as needed.

"Of course, the only way to know which nutrients are limiting is to take a soil test — at a minimum, a 0 to 6-inch sample, but preferably a deeper sample as well, to better represent nutrient availability in the rooting zone."

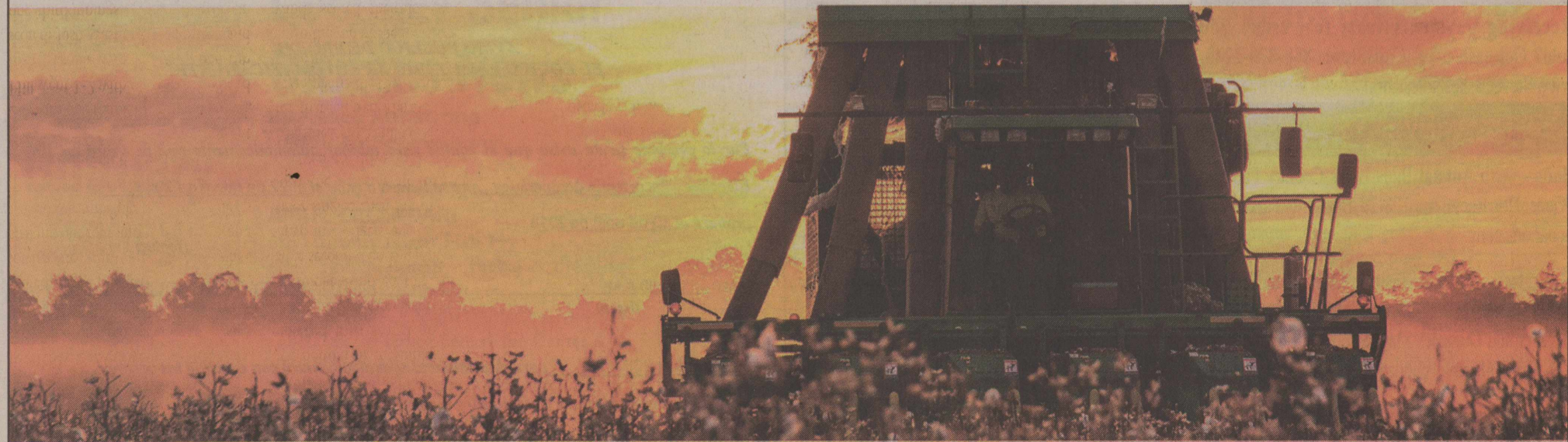
In recent years, with high-yielding varieties, Texas' biggest nutrient issue has been late season potassium deficiencies. In 2017, these potassium deficiencies led to premature defoliation in some situations in some of the higher-yielding cotton areas. "This past year, we saw that happen in the Upper Gulf Coast, and even in the Rolling Plains," he says.

"Due to high input costs and low cotton prices, potassium and phosphorus sometimes take a backseat — but they shouldn't. Assuming adequate water, heat units, and sunlight, cotton yields are capped by the most yield-limiting nutrient, macronutrients or micronutrients."

"So," Morgan says, "it's important to take a balanced nutritional approach for managing cotton. Applying nitrogen for 4 bale/acre yield, but only applying P, K, or other nutrients for 2-bale yield, is not a good return on investment."

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