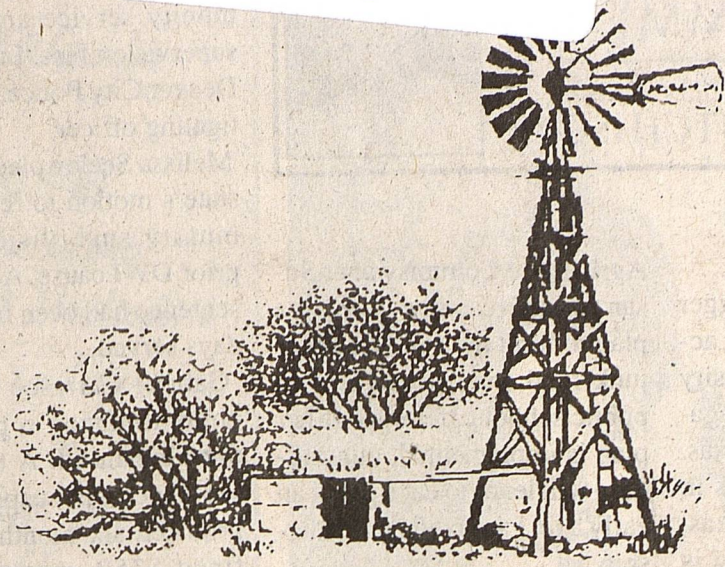


# Cowboy Country News

Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume X, Issue 34, May 5, 2004



BAZE, BOOKBINDING  
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10/2003 10/2004 2

## Multiple agencies join forces to protect, aid child abuse victims in county

### Child Protection Team formed

The Yoakum County Criminal District Attorney office, Yoakum County Sheriff Department and Denver City Police Department recently signed documents as participating agencies with the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services and Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains. The three county agencies will jointly operate as the Yoakum County Child Protection Team. Material furnished by the office of Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark states the mission of the Team is to more effectively protect the children of the community by consolidating investigative, legal and social services efforts for child victims of physical or sexual abuse. Often "revictimization"

occurs "when young victims are forced to tell their stories over and over again to representatives in each agency involved in child abuse investigations, often taking place in strange, forbidding environments. The child often feels they made a mistake by telling about the abuse."

Information from the CDA office reports 54 cases of abuse and neglect were investigated by Children's Protective Services Yoakum County in 2002, more than one each week of the year. This number does not include all the cases investigated by law enforcement agencies in the county. The mission of the newly formed alliance includes consolidating

Turn to Pg. 2  
'Child Abuse'

## Cowboys District Champs Again!

For the second year running, the PHS Cowboys are district champions after a very convincing 11-1 win over the Morton Indians last week. The Cowboy Baseball program, now in its sixth year, and third under head coach Kevin Bartley, has finished on top in district play two of the last three years, and was runner up the year before that.

T.J. Cordova was the winning pitcher against the Indians, giving up only three hits, walking one and striking out 8 batters. In district play he was 5 and 1 while pitching 29.67 innings and striking out 48 batters. He now holds the school season record for shutouts, 2, total strike outs, 77, and the season ERA with minimum 25 innings pitched. In the big win, Abel Ramos was 1-2 with a double, Cordova 1-2 with RBI, Ryan



Front: Ramiro Martinez, Brandon Davis, T.J. Cordova, Armando Ramirez, David Alldredge, Reagan Haynes. Middle: Richard Diaz, Arnold Cordova, Abel Ramos, Ryan Martinez, Blake O'Quinn, Todd Williams, Brant Huerta, Scott Addison. Back: Landon Craft, Evan Cain, Blake Parrish, Coach Todd Davis, Adam McCravy, Peter Neufeld, Coach Kevin Bartley, Coach Robert Canon.

Martinez 2-2 with 2 RBI's, and 2 RBI's. Prior to the last print day, the Cowboys were Peter Neufeld, 1-3 with homer game against Whiteface on 13-4 overall, and 8-1 in district.

Second Town Meeting On  
ED Tax 7 PM May 6  
At Resource Center

## Viewing Scholarships For Students

By James Haynes,  
Superintendent, Plains ISD

Every parent wants his or her child to do well in school and in life. There are many studies that support the common knowledge that student ability to do well in life is in direct relationship to their level of education. Students have many opportunities to earn scholarships and grants for two and four year institutions, and for trade schools.

At Plains ISD our high school staff, administrators and teachers, but more specifically our counselors, work with the students to help them find and apply for scholarships and grants. After reading an article in the Denver City Press last week concerning the Yoakum County Soil and Water Conservation District scholarships, I felt the need to outline what is done to help students through this process. The article contained a statement that would lead the reader to believe we do not make a concerted effort of working with our students to help them attain scholarships and grants. This idea/notion is completely false.

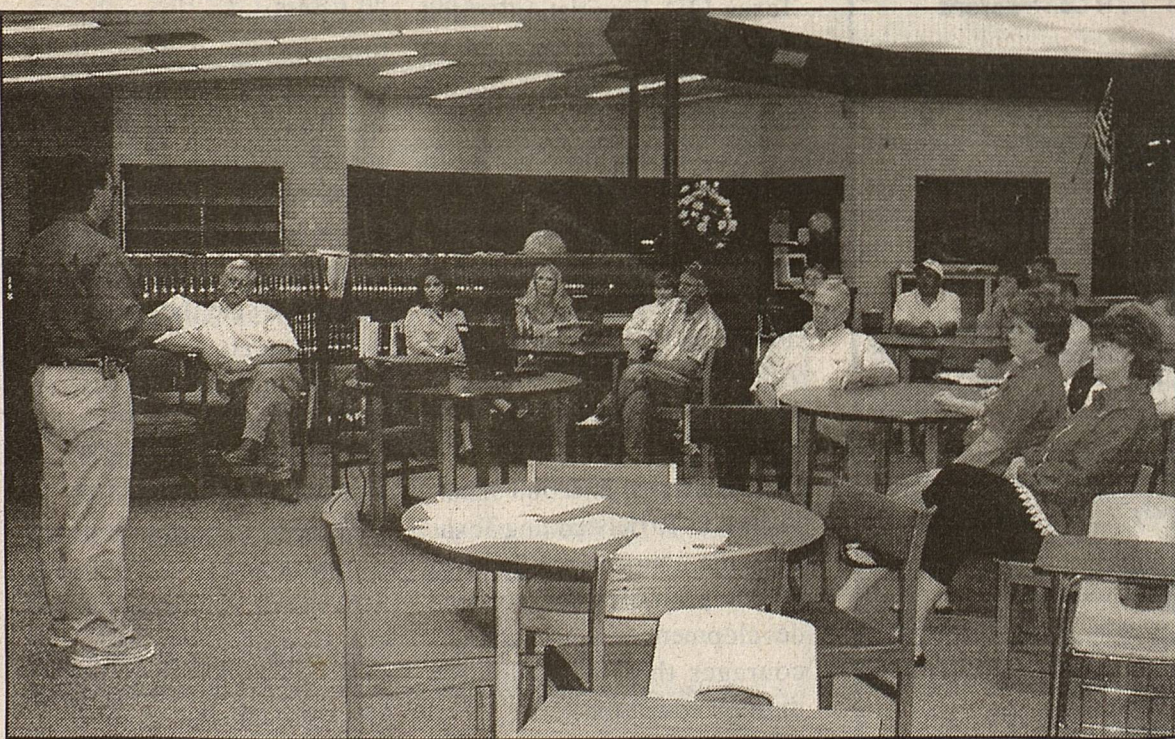
Available scholarships sent to the district are announced over the intercom every day for a week and the applications are available at the counselor's office. This action makes the scholarships available for any student. Toward the end of the application deadline the scholarships are again announced so students know time is coming to an end for them to apply.

Different scholarships have different requirements. Some have academic requirements, others may require an essay, while some are based on participation in a particular group or activity. Many grants are given to students based on

financial need, but still may have academic requirements to be met. The different requirements are endless. Students can get help from the counselor or other staff members, if needed, when applying for the scholarships. The important point to remember is the student and the parent of the student must initiate the application process. Plains ISD schedules help for students and families to apply for grants and other types of financial aid on numerous occasions throughout the year, but once again, the students and/or their parents must be willing to work through the process. This year we had two different teachers work with students to help apply for grants and scholarships.

A final point to remember is, grants and scholarships have application processes for a very important reason. The person, foundation or educational institution providing the money is looking for a way to determine if the person they are giving their money to is going to make good use of it. They don't want their money wasted. For students the application process is a way to prove their willingness to work should they receive the grant or scholarship. When they don't apply, it could mean they are not interested in meeting the requirements for the application process, or any extended requirements accompanying the grant or scholarship. It could also mean they are not interested in furthering their education. In any case, the lack of applicants for a particular grant or scholarship does not mean school personnel are not doing their job. Students and parents must activate the scholarship/grant process and continue to follow through with the particular requirements.

## City Pushes For Economic Development Tax



Ed Hansen addresses citizens on proposed tax hike to stimulate economic development here

CCN normally does not feature Letters To The Editor on the front page, but we are making an exception for this subject.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

With the start of early voting last Wednesday, the citizens of Plains will not only decide the election for mayor and two members of the City Council, but also a question about the future direction of an Economic Development Sales Tax.

There are many questions to answer about this proposal. What will it cost? It is a one-half cent increase in the current sales tax here in Plains. The current city sales tax is one cent of the total 7.25 cents that is being collected. The new total would rise to 7.75 cents on the dollar.

How much will this increase generate revenue? On average the City of Plains receives about \$35,000 a year in sales tax funds. The additional funds will amount to \$17 to \$18,000 dollars.

How will it be spent? That is up to a board of directors that have been chosen by the City Council, and the City council itself. A year ago the council recognized a need to form a group of people who could bring together their talents in developing our hometown to appear more attractive to business. They sent out invitations to see who would be interested. After some meetings and dialogue, five members were named to form the Economic Development Board for the City of Plains. They are Elsa Moya, Toni Jones, Steve Alldredge, Debbie Smith and Sandra Stephens.

What will it accomplish? Plains is a crossroads, our biggest employer (Plains ISD) is in a precarious situation. Our tax dollars go towards the edu-

cation of other towns children.

The only way to keep our tax dollars for the school at home is to attract more families to our town. The Economic Development Board will represent us and get our foot in the door to attract new business to town as well as attempt to help expand existing businesses. Through organizations like the High Ground of Texas, this is a regional economic development co-op. We will try to help Plains and its citizens.

Tomorrow, Thursday, May 6th at 7:00 PM, in the Resource Center, at the school there will be the second town meeting to provide information about the Economic Sales Tax question. Please attend.

Thanks,  
Edward M. Hansen  
City Administrator

## Criminal cases in County Court

Five cases were heard in the April 28 session of County Court with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Isaac Raymond Anaya pled guilty to possession of marijuana, less than two ounces, and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred. He will be under community

supervision 12 months, was fined \$350, and must pay \$211 court costs and \$140 restitution to DPS. He will serve 24 hours community service, complete the TAIP program, spend 36 hours in jail with credit for 17 hours served, attend weekly narcotics meetings, and pay \$50 supervision fee. Antonio de la Cruz, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force was investi-

gating officer.

Jose Leon Castillo Jr. pled guilty to assault causes bodily injury. A one year jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He will pay \$11 per month on a \$250 fine, and will pay \$25 time payment fee on \$256 court costs. He must com-

Turn to Pg. 2  
'County Court'

CAPITOL COMMENT  
U.S. SENATOR  
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



Healthy Downsizing

They say everything's bigger in Texas. Unfortunately, according to the latest obesity study by Men's Health magazine, so are the people in Texas. Five of the ten fattest cities in America are located in Texas. This is one contest no city is proud to win, obesity is not a laughing matter.

Poor diet and physical inactivity are becoming a leading preventable cause of death in the United States. The U.S. Surgeon General has even gone so far as to call obesity an epidemic. One third of adults in the U.S. are overweight and another third can be classified as obese. These statistics mean that fewer than half of America's adults are living at a healthy weight.

The costs associated with excess pounds and obesity are enormous. Diabetes, high blood pressure, heart attacks and cancer are just a few of the health risks more prevalent in overweight individuals. Health care costs are at an all time high, not to mention the economic costs due to lost productivity, which recently totaled \$117 billion.

Why are so many Texans overweight? The answer can be summed up in one word, lifestyle. In general, people spend more time sitting in front of computer and television screens than they did 30 years ago. Suburban sprawl has not helped our declining level of inactivity either. Today we spend more hours in our cars because there are fewer places within walking distance of our homes. People are simply not getting enough regular physical activity.

To make matters worse, our dietary habits have deteriorated. We eat more saturated fat, sugar and processed food products. Fast food diets combined with sedentary lifestyles are a recipe for disaster. To make healthy changes, aim to eat foods that are low fat and lean, increase your consumption of fruits and vegetables and, most importantly, keep a close eye on portion sizes. If you have school aged children, pack wholesome lunches and encourage them to eat healthy snacks. Texas schools are actively taking part in the 'battle against the bulge.' Our state's

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs recently unveiled a plan to limit the availability of junk food and fatty snacks in public school cafeterias. If her plan is implemented, our children will learn to eat right at an early age. I applaud her leadership.

Change is not easy, but this is more than your health we're talking about here; it could be your life. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released a study finding that by next year obesity will be the leading preventable cause of death among Americans. Currently, tobacco is the number one cause of preventable deaths, but the growing obesity epidemic will soon claim as many as 500,000 American lives each year. That's an astounding number of people dying before their time.

There are several things you can easily alter in your daily routine to help you and the ones you love live a more healthy lifestyle. I have a rule that I always take stairs at the Capitol, rarely using the elevator. At work, walk over to your co-workers' desks periodically instead of using e-mail or the telephone. You might try parking toward the rear of a parking lot and slightly increasing the distance you walk to get to wherever you're headed.

Establish a regular program of physical activity three or more times per week, but take it slow. Start with one day a week and go from there. Also, make sure to check with your physician before making any drastic changes in your exercise routine. For further motivation, sign up to participate in a walk or race for a charity or non-profit organization. To help children stay physically fit, enroll them in activities that get them off the couch and on the move, and encourage schools to increase physical education requirements.

The growing number of people who are overweight and obese is alarming. Fortunately, it's a problem we can work together to address. For more information on healthy living, visit [www.texasroundup.org](http://www.texasroundup.org) and [www.agr.state.tx.us/foodnutrition](http://www.agr.state.tx.us/foodnutrition). Your life may depend on it.

From Pg. 1  
'County Court'

plete the batterer's prevention program, serve 24 hours community service and pay \$50 supervision fees. Lupe Garcia, Denver City Police, was investigating officer.

Melissa Seeley pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI cause. A 45 day jail sentence had been met with 55 days served.

Gabriel Carrasco Caro pled guilty to minor in possession, third enhanced. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated six months. He was fined \$250, must pay \$211 court costs and \$25 time payment fee, and \$250 court appointed attorney fees. He will lose his license 180 days, will serve 24 hours community service and pay \$50 supervision fees. His attorney was Bill Helwig, and Deputy John Stephenson was investigating officer.

Manuel Garcia Hernandez pled guilty to a third enhanced minor in possession cause. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended six months. He was fined \$250, must pay \$211 court costs and \$250 appointed attorney fees. He will lose his license 180 days, must attend weekly AA meetings, serve 24 hours service, and pay \$50 supervision fees. Deputy Stephenson was investigating

officer, and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

From Pg. 1  
'Child Abuse'

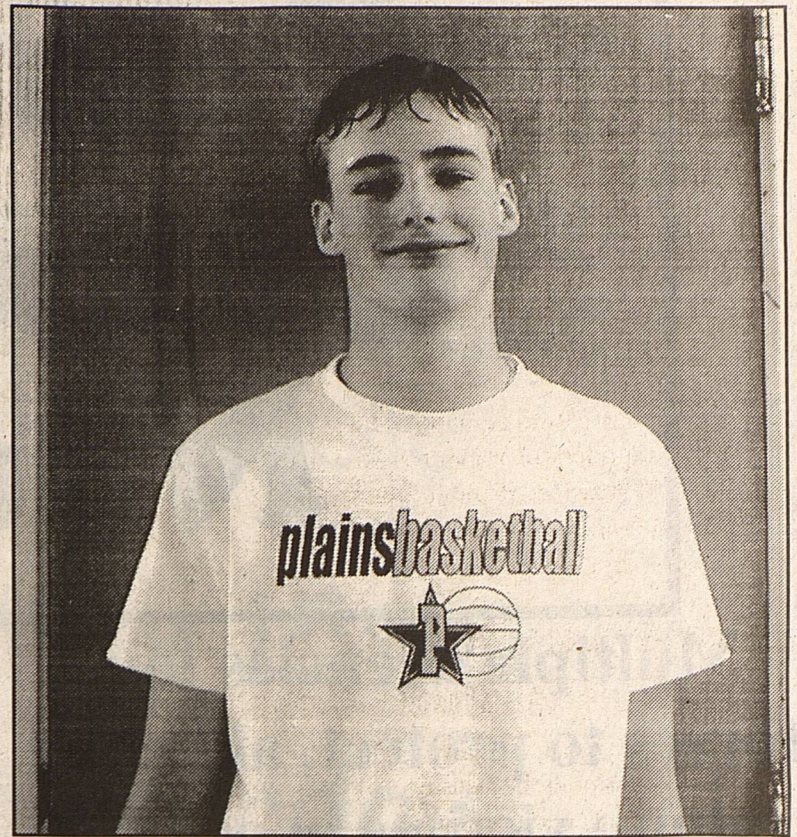
the community, investigative, legal and social services provided by the county agencies with the Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains and the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.

The Denver City Police Department and the Yoakum County Sheriff Department are mandated to investigate all criminal cases of physical abuse and neglect of children 16 or younger and sexual abuse of children younger than 17. The CDA mandate is to see justice done in all criminal cases of physical and sexual abuse and neglect of a child.

The Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains provides "child friendly" facilities and environment for agencies interviews of victims of abuse, with all involved agencies present to minimize the impact on young victims. Interview facilities will be available 24 hours daily. The Center will offer specialized abuse training for all participating agencies, and schedule Case Review Team staffing among the agencies.

The overall theme of the interlocal agreement between all entities is to ensure the best interest and protection of our children will be better served.

Kerry Sisson selected as candidate to Boys State



PHS junior Kerry Sisson has been selected as the 2004 candidate to attend the American legion sponsored Boys State Convention on the University of Texas campus in Austin. June 5 through June 11. Kerry, the son of Wayne and Judy Sisson, will join over 1,000 other Texas junior students for the week long session devoted to the successful management of our democratic society. Candidates expenses for the honorary trip and learning session were formerly paid for by the local American Legion Post. When it disbanded, the local Lions Club very generously began donating funds for the boys transportation, tuition and small amount of spending money. The convention will offer the nominated students a better perspective of practical government operation, and will offer the students an opportunity to be an integral part of the democratic process.

Texas FFA Foundation Recognizes Long-Time Partner

The Texas FFA Foundation has recognized the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLSR) as a Corporate Partner "for its many years of support for the young people of the Texas FFA." HLSR has a long history of commitment to the Texas FFA that includes support of the Texas FFA Foundation's fund raising efforts and hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual scholarships to FFA members.

"The partnership between Texas FFA and the Houston Livestock and Rodeo contributes in a very significant way to a bright future for all current and future FFA members," said Aaron Alejandro, Executive Director of the Texas FFA Foundation.

HLSR awards \$10,000 scholarships to 70 outstanding Texas FFA members annually. The HLSR promotes the positive development of youth and encourages their development through education.

"The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has a history with Texas FFA that goes back a long time," said Michael Wells, President and CEO. "We be-

lieve in the organization because we have seen the product. FFA producers fine citizens and representatives of what America is all about. We want to support that however we can."

"The FFA has always been blessed with great sponsors," said Alejandro. "Our state is fortunate to have industry leaders like the Houston Livestock and Rodeo who support local programs while at the same time investing in statewide ventures which ensure a strong local programming presence."

Alejandro said the strength of the Rodeo Houston organization and the tradition and involvement of FFA in Texas has combined as a powerful pro education force in Texas.

"We appreciate the Houston Livestock and Rodeo's investment in our young people and look forward to the many success stories which will result," Alejandro concluded.

Texas FFA members from across the state compete annually in Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo events.

The 2nd Annual YCH Foundation Golf Tournament was a huge success thanks to these sponsors:  
Tournament Champions: South Plains Physicians Associates, Yoakum County Hospital Home Health  
Longest Drive Sponsor: Luker Pharmacy Management, Closest To The Pin Contest: CJR Contractors  
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### Credit Union Ribbon Cutting



Over 100 Yoakum County Credit Union members and well wishers attended the ribbon cutting on their brand new building April 27. Pierre St. Romain, in wheel chair, is oldest surviving charter member. The credit union now has over one thousand members, and is enjoying excellent financial health.

### Neugebauer disappointed In WTO Cotton Ruling

Congressman Randy Neugebauer issued the following statement Tuesday regarding the World Trade Organization's (WTO) reported preliminary ruling against some U.S. Cotton support:

"Obviously I am deeply disappointed with what I've heard about the WTO's decision. I've spoken with U.S. Trade Representative Zoellick several times on this issue. It is still important to remember that this is a preliminary ruling. It is by no means final, and we fully expect an appeal will be filed.

Brazil claims that our policies caused low prices, but the fact of the matter is that low world prices from 1999-2001 caused supports such as marketing loan gains to kick in. Our commodity programs are fully consistent with commitments made in the last WTO agreement, and an analysis done by cotton economists at Texas Tech shows that world prices would not significantly increase with elimination of our cotton programs.

Just as I told the Cancun ne-

gotiators last year, singling out one commodity, and one nation's policies on that commodity, is not the path to take for fair trade. When all of the 148 WTO countries put their tariffs, export subsidies and unfair trade barriers on the table, then and only then can we have a full discussion of agriculture support. If Brazil, China, Japan or the developing countries believe that singling out cotton will help bring about free and fair trade, they are sadly mistaken.

I look forward to questioning U.S. Trade Rep. Zoellick and Agriculture Secretary Veneman in the Agriculture Committee's WTO hearing Wednesday on their plan to address this preliminary ruling. This hearing couldn't come at a more opportune time. I will also be meeting next week with our chief agriculture negotiator, Allen Johnson, on his plans to address this decision and move forward with WTO negotiations that address agriculture as a whole, rather than singling out commodities."

I would like to thank the people of Yoakum County for their donations for me to participate in the Miss Lubbock USA Pageant, in which I was a finalist. This pageant was an experience of a life time and it is all thanks to the people of Yoakum County. Without you there would have been no way I could have attended. Thank you again for your support and good wishes. I am going on to the Miss Texas USA Pageant in June. This will be televised on June 27. I will be going as Miss Yoakum County; I would appreciate your continued support as I represent all of you at Miss Texas USA.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Brooke Vantine

### Appreciation and Farewell Gathering For Brother Tom and Rhonda Carter

May 10, 2004, 7:30 PM  
Plains Community Building  
Hosted by Plains United Methodist Church and friends in the community.  
Refreshments, fellowship and a Money tree available.  
Please come and enjoy the food and Fellowship.

### EMS Program Requires Entrance Exam

An entrance exam will be required, beginning fall 2004, for admittance to the Emergency Medical Technician basic level course offered by the South Plains College Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program.

The exam will be given May through July in the Testing and Learning Center at the SPC Reese Center campus in Lub-

bock. The first test dates are 5 p.m. May 17 and 10 a.m. May 29. There is no test fee. Pre-registration is required one week before the exam.

For more information on EMS courses and requirements, contact Mike DeLoach, program director, of Jim Majorowski, instructor/coordinator at 885-3038, ext. 4627 or ext. 4802.

### May 6 National Day Of Prayer

TSA MOGA President Sarah Jane Shelton will ring the Methodist Church bell six times at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 6, in acknowledgment of the National Day of Prayer.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." (Psalm 33:12) The freedom to gather, the freedom to worship, the freedom to pray on National Day of Prayer, May 6, 2004.

Isn't it wonderful to know that "the weapons of warfare are, mighty through God." (Corinthians 10:4). Our creator gave us two powerful, invincible weapons against all evil forces, the Word of God and prayer.

The National Day of Prayer Task Force theme for 2004 is: "Let Freedom Ring." It comes from the verse inscribed on the Liberty Bell in 1751: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants." (Leviticus 25:10)

"I became a member and the NASE helped me gain access to health benefits. They can help you, too."  
Martin Olson, Football Hall of Famer, TV Actor and Spokesman

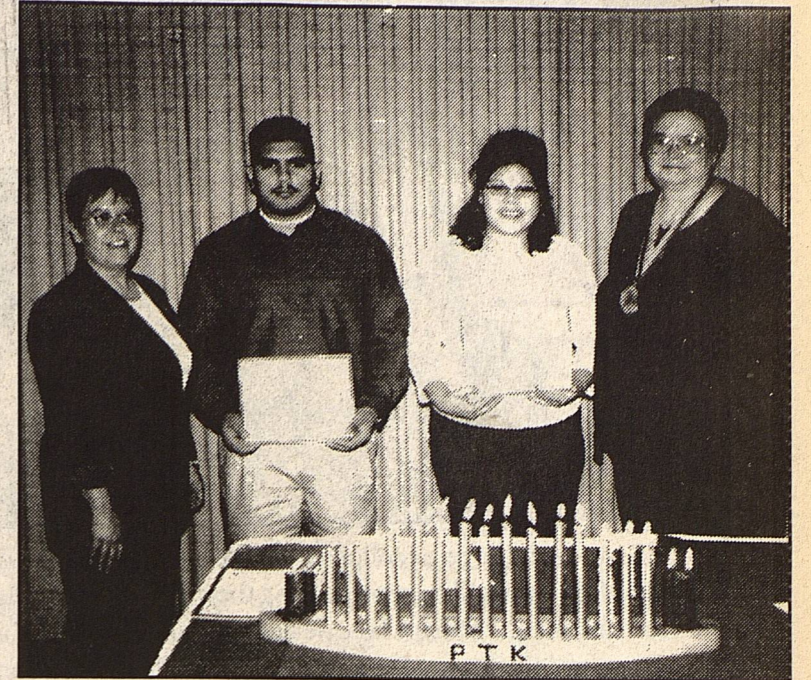
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### Plains Students Inducted Into PTK



Pictured are L-R Dana Decker, KAPPA MU Officer, Joseph Rodriguez, Jessica Rodriguez, and Ms. Geraldine Lingnau, President of KAPPA MU Chapter.

Jessica Rodriguez and Joseph Rodriguez from Plains were among a record 117 students inducted into South Plains College's Kappa Mu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, international honor society for students in two year colleges.

To be eligible for induction, students must complete a minimum of 12 hours of associate degree course work and earn a grade point average of 3.25 or higher. Students must maintain a high academic standing throughout their enrollment in the two-year college.

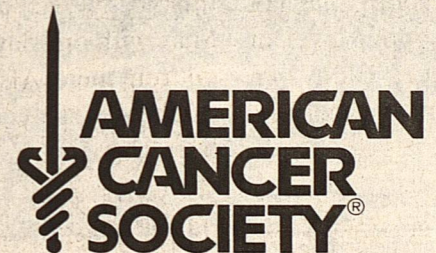
PTK is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters in 50 states, U.S.

### 4-H'ers participate in judging contests

Four Yoakum County 4-H members participated in the Regional Horse Judging Contest in Canyon April 2, hosted by West Texas A&M.

Team members Elias Carrillo, Sky Sellers, Natalie Butler and Kameran Loya were coached by Tiffany Peters. In the halter division, Elias placed 4th, Skye 9th and Natalie 16th. Overall, Elias was the 15th high individual and Skye was 19th.

The District 2 4-H Livestock Judging contest was held on the Texas Tech campus April 16. Yoakum County 4-H members participating included: Junior 1 - Matthew Merrit; Junior 2- Cody Mayes, Elias Carrillo and Skye Sellers; Senior- Sara Horn and Marty Roberts. CEA-Ag, Arlan Gentry coached the two teams,



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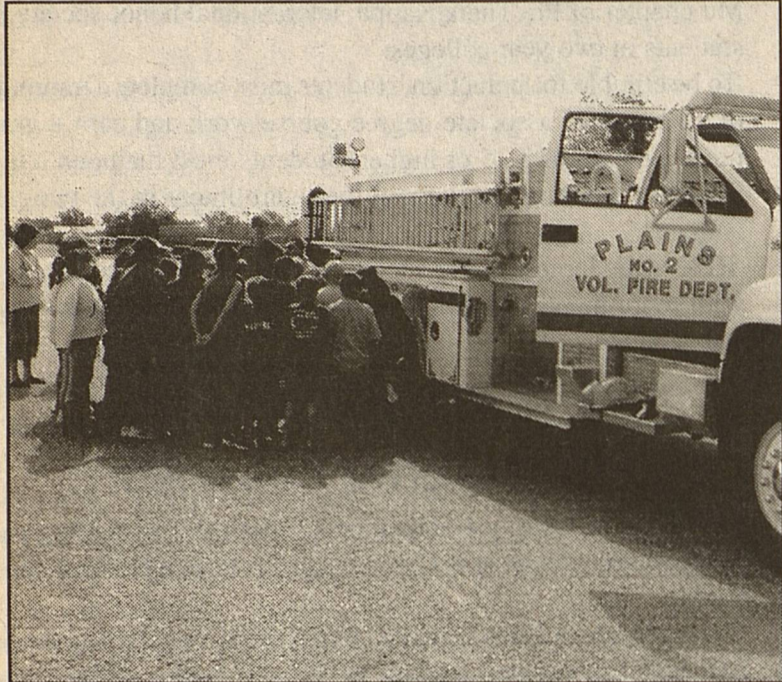
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## Going To State UIL

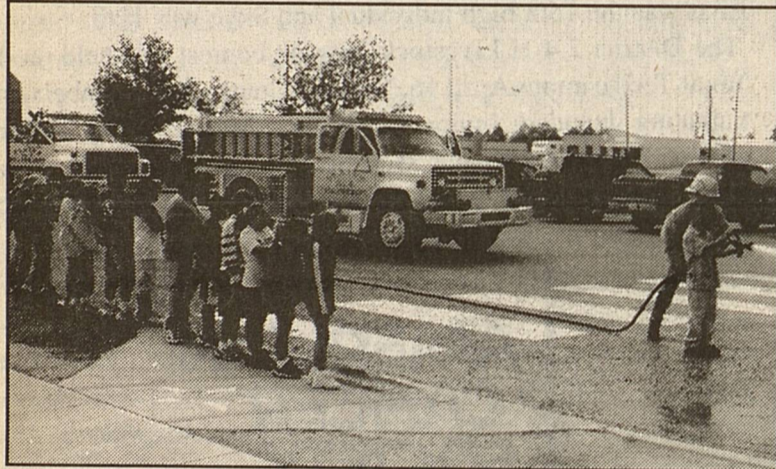


The PHS students have excelled in the recent Regional UIL Academic Meet, and will be representing their school in the May State Meet in Austin. Shown here seated, Allison Friesen, Calculator Team and Computer Science Team, Brandon Hise, Computer Science, Calculator Team, Mathematics, and Number Sense, Nolan Newsom, Computer Science Team. Standing is B.J. Lester, Calculator Team, Adam McCravey, Computer Science Team, Evan Cain Calculator Team.

### Plains Fire Department visits Elementary



Volunteer fire fighters demonstrated all equipment carried on trucks



The kids got to handle high pressure hose

### PUBLIC HEARING *El anuncio público*

THE CITY OF PLAINS WILL  
HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

*(La Ciudad de Plains tendrá un anuncio público que oye)*

ON THE PROPOSED  
*(en el impuesto)*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SALES TAX  
*(de ventajas propuesto del desarrollo de economico)*

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2004 AT 7:00 P.M.  
*(El jueves, el 6 de mayo de 2004 en 7:00 de la tarde)*

AT THE PLAINS ISD RESOURCE CENTER  
*(En el Centro del Recurso de Plains ISD)*



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## Technology Regional Meet

The Industrial Technology students participating in the Regional Technology Contest and were very successful. The results included: Reagan Haynes 3-1st places, 2-2nd places, Brant Huerta 2-1st, 1-3rd places, Brandon Davis 1-1st, 1-2nd places, Noe Martinez 1st place, Jose Avila 1st place. These students will be competing in State Contest May 6-8 in Waco.

### Student of the Week

PHS Student of the Week is Peter Neufeld, a sophomore and the son of Johan and Elisabeth Neufeld. Peter was nominated by Mr. Cullins, who said, "In the classroom, a student can choose to get by or to learn. I believe that the student that I selected this week has made the choice to learn. He is in my Chemistry and geometry classes, and has steadily improved in both of these classes this year. He does an excellent job on the classwork and has a strong enough grasp of the material to help other students who



may be having trouble. Last Thursday, he joined the homeroom club on his base ball team."

### Regional Track Meet Scenes



Jose Villegas ran great race, finished third in 3200 meter event

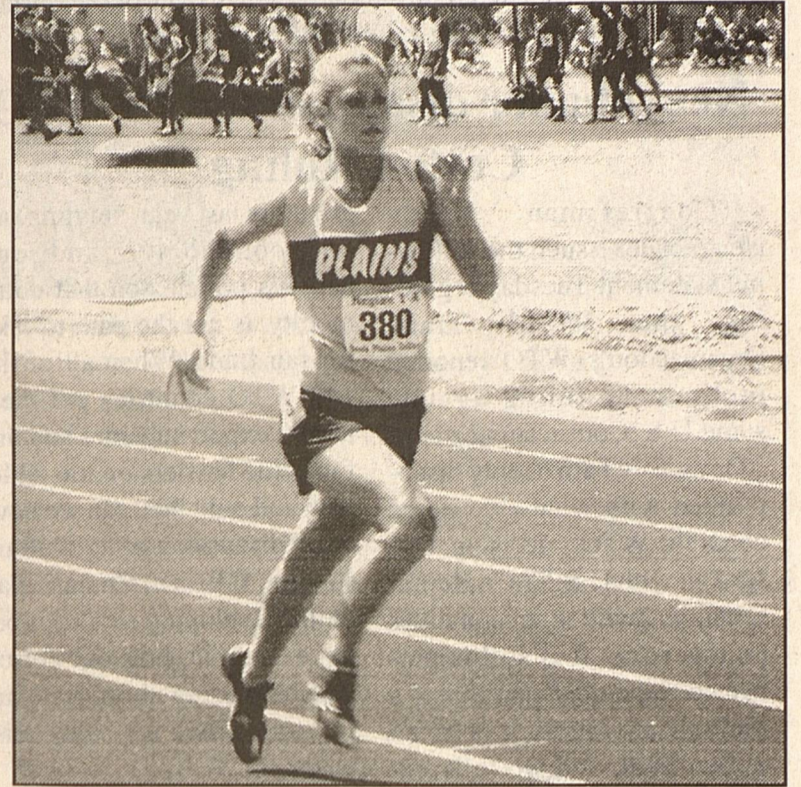


Payton Bean prepares to pass runner in 3200

End of School Guessing Contest At The Yoakum County Library  
The Yoakum County Library is sponsoring a "Guess the Number of Beans" Contest to end the school year. Bags of candy are the prizes for the person in each age category who guesses closest to the number of beans. The winners will be announced on Tuesday, June 1. The categories are as follows: Pre-K & under, 1st & 2nd Grade, 3rd - 5th Grade, 6th - 8th Grade, High School. All Pre K through high school students are invited to come by the library and MAKE A GUESS!



Patrick Cotton won gold in 800, bronze in 400 meter event, advances to state



Moriah Traweek competed in 100 and relay events



Ben Hays clears hurdle in 110 race



Desiraye Broome carries baton in 800 relay

You are encouraged to exercise your right to VOTE, and help Re- Elect


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City Council

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through May 11,  
General Election Day May 15

Political Advertisement Paid For By Pam Redman

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# Lifelines & Styles

## Senior Citizens Corner

The first item on top of the list of things this week for our column is to remind you again that the daily lunch serving time has been extended to include the time from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for your convenience.

Another week has slipped by and it is time to remind you again of the 'open-house' week at the Center beginning on Monday, May 3rd. Be sure to come and bring a guest with you. You can be assured of a sincere welcome and a lovely luncheon.

Edith Clemments has returned from the local hospital and is reported to be doing well at home this week. We miss her smiling face at the Center and wish her a complete recovery very soon.

John and Mary Avara were guests one day this week for lunch. We are glad to see these senior friends joining us for fellowship and a good meal.

Our staff has been busily substituting for one another these last days. Stella Montez had foot surgery two weeks ago, Sylvia Lozano has knee surgery coming up this week, and Gloria is spending time in Lubbock this week with her son, Rene, who is receiving another chemotherapy treatment and getting some tests run. We wish each one well and are looking forward to the day everything is back to normal.

Hoot and Mary Gibson returned on Tuesday from a visit to Las Vegas and reported a great time while in the city. Mary said Hoot was luckier than she was.

Inez Turner reports that Pep has been transferred from Ama-

rillo to the Veteran's hospital in Lubbock and is much more content there. We look forward to seeing him back in the midst of the pool room gang.

The two Billie's (O'Neal and McDonnell) were the winners in the '42' tournament this week. Enjoy your free meal tickets, ladies.

As Mother's Day approaches, let me share a few lines that echo from the heart of every mother who has raised a son.

Time spans a magic web of dreams, across the crowded years, I see a host of yesterdays, Shadows of smiles and tears.

Your eyes were wide and softly blue, Reflecting trust and love, As I hummed a quiet lullaby, And prayed to God above.

Soon you learned to speak and walk. We bowed to education's rule. I hid the tear so you'd not see, As I sent you off to school.

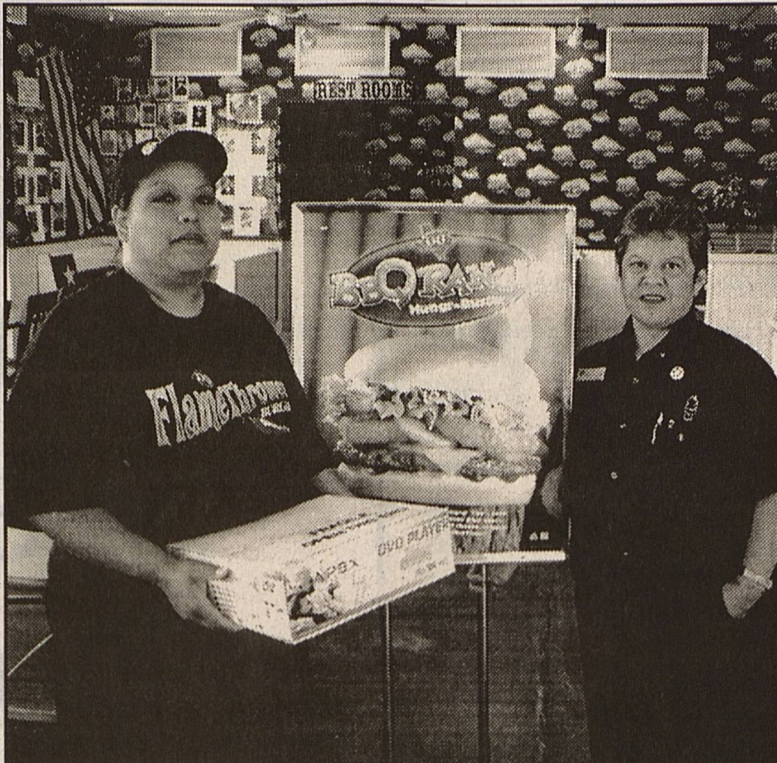
On graduation day, I stood beside your happy Dad, And knew the glow of pride he felt, In this special son we had.

It wasn't long 'til war came on; The country needed men. My frightened heart was crying, When I gave you up again. You married soon, a lovely girl; And yet somehow I knew, A vague and empty loneliness, At seeing her with you.

But when your little son was born, With eyes so soft and blue, I cradled in my arms again, This baby that was you. He snuggled softly in my arms, As you had often done, And then I knew it was for this, That I had Shared my son.

Thought For Today: "People's minds are changed through observation and not through argument." Will Rogers.

The time for the May 10 meeting of the TSA MO GA Club has been changed from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Club will install officers for 2004-2006 and conduct a business meeting. All members are urged to make note of the early meeting time which was changed to allow them to attend other community activities scheduled the same night.



Martha Perez, on left, was the winner in the local Dairy Queen's contest as the employee selling the most recently introduced BBQ Ranch Hunger Busters. She is shown accepting her DVD player from store manager Rosie Gallardo.



What about? Many people want to spend less on the funeral of their loved ones and there are many places, even in our area of Texas that will certainly 'sell' you a 'cheap' funeral, but is that 'really' what you're saying?

I don't think so. I believe families just want their money's worth! Many funeral directors just want to get the family in and out as quickly as they can so they can 'get on to another one!' I call it 'assembly line funeral service.' Service is what you have paid us for. Families just want a funeral service that means something to them, not just a quick 'in and out' for a funeral service. Some funeral directors only offer a traditional service. (Personalized services are too much work for them).

We have had many people either work with us or interview with us who said, "This is just too much work!"

What they were saying is the families of our area are not worth putting out that much effort.

A family really blessed us recently. They told us we had 'accomplished so very much more than they had ever dreamed a funeral director would do for them.'

They even told us we went 'way beyond the call of duty.'

Well, what we feel is our 'call of duty' is to make sure you have the service you need. A celebration of the life lived and one that leaves you with as positive of a memory as possible.

Many funeral homes offer Memory Boards of magnetic framed boards for your snapshots of the family.

We offer these items, but we can also place your snapshots on the lugs (attachments for the handles) of the casket.

And on our web site, we can even offer an obituary with a picture for your distant relatives to print or download as keepsakes.

Of course, many of you know we help you have as much personalization as your family needs or wants, a Celebration of Life or a traditional service that starts at \$2,500 and includes a steel casket.

And, when a family trust us to serve them, we offer discounts to the family's pre-need funeral plans and monuments.

Everyone has 'their reasons, beliefs, and wishes for a funeral service as well as the type of service they want. No one should be criticized for his or her wishes in death. Until Next Time!

Mark A. Jones  
www.majonesfuneraldirectors.com.  
email comments to:  
markajones@door.net.

## TSA MO GA Meets

County Librarian Pat McNabb gave TSA MO GA members an informative program on the Plains Library April 26 and announced the summer reading program will begin June 1.

Introduced by Carolyn Culwell, the Librarian said, "We wouldn't have the library we have today in Plains if it weren't for TSA MO GA."

Club member Wilma Powell, who serves at a lay representative to the West Texas Library System, noted in 1944 she and the county judge at the time visited Austin to seek funds for a library. They were turned down, but eventually TSA MO GA members were instrumental in getting a library started.

Today's library meets the needs of its patrons, and that includes lots of changes in what it offers. Besides copying and laminating services, the library subscribes to five newspapers including the Wall Street Journal and a variety of magazines.

In addition, computer games, mostly educational, are offered for one week checkout, along with videos, DVD's, and audio book cassettes and disks.

"The library isn't just books anymore," McNabb said. "We have expanded to get people to come into the library and see what we offer."

The library also has five computers with internet service, cable television, and computers for word processing.

"It's amazing how many people who are traveling stop and use the computers to e-mail family. We have had people

come in from England, Sweden and Germany," the librarian said.

The library is expanding its collection of 'older, more classic movies,' McNabb said. "DVD's are replacing videos and we are 'weeding' the library and have an on-going book sale so we can clear older books off the shelf and replace them with more current ones."

With use of Lone Star Grant money made available by the Texas State Library, the library also receives funds to purchase audio books. McNabb said space is becoming an issue with keeping every book and patrons can use the interlibrary loan to get books not on hand.

Other opportunities include film time for pre-schoolers, and exhibits by an 'artist of the month', an end-of-school-year guessing game for children, and the summer reading program. The library also sponsored an essay contest at Christmas. All of these programs get community members into the library.

"Everything is geared and gauged by numbers," McNabb said. "In the yearly report to the state, I have to give the number of people who attend and participate in programs. They are also interested in what you have done to develop programs."

Zareta and Valeria Winn were hostesses for the meeting. In business items, members voted to begin their May 10 meeting at 6 p.m. with installation of officers.

RETIREMENT RECEPTION  
HONORING  
JANELLE COBB  
AND  
LELA WARREN  
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2004  
3:30 - 5:00 P.M.  
PLAINS RESOURCE CENTER

## "National Day of Prayer" Rally

12:30-1:00 PM  
Thursday - May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Join us as we gather at the Courthouse Flag Pole to pray for Our People, Our Churches, Our State, Our Nation, Gov't Leaders & Our World!  
SEE YOU THERE!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
Plains, Texas

Sunday School  
9:30 A.M.

Morning Worship  
10:45 A.M.

Evening Program  
6:00 P.M.

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# From The Hack

An astounding little tidbit in the May 1 Lubbock sports pages caught my eye - actually, it made me GASP! My buddy and frequent golfing companion Bob Blundell at the county course reportedly shot one under his age there, exact date not mentioned. WOW! Admittedly, my admiration of this difficult achievement was dimmed just a bit when I read the list of witnesses to the great feat ; Robbie Fleming, Ray Gilstrap and David Bachman. Having those three testify in your behalf is greatly similar to having a radical Iraqi Shiite insurgent testify in your defense in a murder trial. And besides, it's really not that phenomenal, considering Bob just recently turned 89.

I am learning (admittedly at a very slow pace) quite a bit about homemaking, none of which to date I am greatly fond of. For instance, I was faced with (A) Wash Clothes, or (B) Buy New. Having just semi-reconciled my check book, I opted for (A). I remember the paramount rule handed down to me by the Bride many years ago..... Whites with Whites,

Colored with Coloreds, and she was not referring to racial issues. So, I gathered up all the white stuff for the first load, or I should say, semi-truck load. As I crammed T-shirts, white socks, white towels, sheets, pillow covers, my shorts into the washer, my white shorts really caught my eye, for they were no longer very white in certain areas. Determined to make them come out gleaming like pristine winter snow, I poured about half a jug of ALL in the bulging machine (that kitchen stuff has weird names) filled it to the brim with water, set the thing on Warp Speed and left for the post office.

Bad Move. When I got home, I first thought Mt. Vesuvius had erupted white, sudsy foam instead of lava and ash. About two hours later I had most of the suds sponged up. I was REALLY ticked off when I discovered my white shorts still weren't white, but pretty grungy, to tell the truth. So much for the miracles in ALL.

From a friend who really needs to find a little more to keep himself occupied;

### Signs Of The Times

On a septic tank truck in Oregon - *Yesterday's Meals On Wheels*

On another septic tank truck - *We're #1 in the #2 business.*

Sign on a Proctologist's office door - *To expedite your visit please back in.*

On a plumber's truck - *We repair what your husband fixed*

On another plumber's truck - *Don't sleep with a drip! Call your plumber.*

Pizza Shop Slogan - *7 days without pizza makes one weak*

At a towing company- *We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows.*

On an electrician's truck- *Let us remove your shorts.*

In a non-smoking area- *If we see smoke we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action.*

### Help Wanted

Plains School Cafeteria is accepting applications for full-time, part-time and substitute employees. Persons applying for positions must have no medical restrictions that would prevent them lifting 40 pounds. Application forms available at the school superintendents office. For more information call 806-456-7401.

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On a maternity room door- *Push. Push. Push.*

On a taxidermist's window- *We really know our stuff.*

On a fence- *All salesmen welcome. Dog food is expensive.*

Outside a muffler shop- *No appointment necessary, we hear you coming.*

In a Veterinarian's waiting room- *Back in 5 minutes. SIT! STAY!*

At the electric company- *We would be delighted if you send in your payment. However, if you don't, you will be.*

And very memorably the sign at a radiator shop- *Best place in town to take a leak!*

### \* ONLY IN AMERICA \*

Only in America... do drug-stores make the sick go all the way to the back for their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the very front.

..... do banks leave both doors wide open then chain pens to the counters.

..... do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and stack our useless junk in the garage.

..... do we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of six or eight.


..... do we use the word 'politics' to describe the process so well: 'Poli' in Latin meaning many, and 'tics' meaning bloodsucking little creatures.

..... do they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering.

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# Health Fair

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May 15th  
Saturday

8:00 a.m. - Noon

- Blood Pressure Checks
- Glucose and Cholesterol Testing
- Skin Cancer Examinations
- Pink Pantry Bake Sale
- Arts and Crafts
- Door Prizes

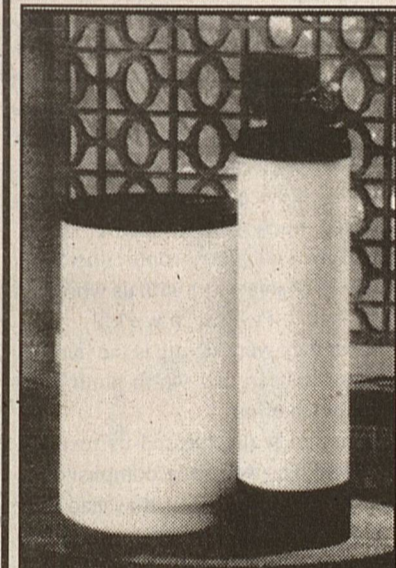
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CITY OF PLAINS  
EARY VOTING  
GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS  
MAY 15, 2004

EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE FOR THE MAY 15, 2003 CITY OF PLAINS GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED AT PLAINS CITY HALL LOCATED AT 1015 AVE F, PLAINS, TEXAS.

EARLY VOTING WILL BE HELD EACH WEEKDAY DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. BEGINNING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2004 AND ENDING TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2004.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION IS TO ELECT ONE (1) MAYOR AND TWO (2) COUNCILMEMBERS.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION IS TO VOTE FOR OR AGAINST THE ADOPTION OF A SALES AND USE TAX WITHIN THE CITY FOR PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW AND EXPANDED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AT THE RATE OF 1/2 OF ONE PERCENT.