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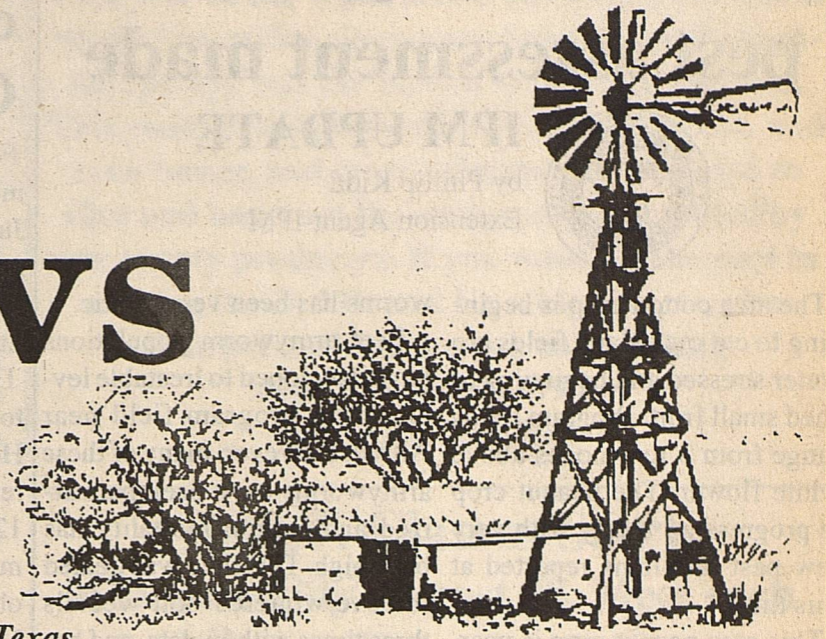
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Cowboy Country News
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Cowboy Country News

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



Volume III, Issue 51, Wednesday, Aug. 20, 1997

Boll Weevil eradication program is dead issue Weevil populations still alive and well

The recent 52 to 48% negative vote on the proposed \$31 million boll weevil eradication plan for a nineteen county South Plains/Caprock control zone effectively killed chances of an area wide effort to suppress and destroy cotton producers biggest insect pest.

Local producers reveal contrasting views on the failed effort to establish the control zone, which Yoakum County would have been part of. Some cotton farmers felt the proposed eradication was too expensive, many dry land producers planting cotton in skip-row patterns felt their share of the assessment fees too high compared to costs for irrigated producers planting row to row. A series of interviews with area individuals indicates there was some dissatisfaction with the Texas Boll Weevil Foundation Board in Abilene, while others did not favor the Plains Cotton Growers Association operating the weevil spray-

ing campaign.

Most producers readily admit the insect does pose a serious threat to this and future years cotton production. One farmer said he hadn't found enough infestation to warrant costly insecticide spraying, but added, "It's probably just a matter of time before I will be forced to. The weevils are definitely here". Another producer reported he had already sprayed his fields three times, and probably wasn't through in his efforts to combat the weevil.

A number of producers share the opinion some sort of organized effort should be mounted against the pest, but feel it should have local control, similar to the way certain county water districts are administered and operate. Meanwhile, cotton farmers continue to warily monitor their fields, full aware Mr. Boll Weevil poses a serious threat to production and bank balances.

Large turnout for county employees annual picnic



Employees and families lined up for burgers and homemade ice cream

The annual County Employees Picnic drew a large crowd at the County Park last Friday evening. No official tally was kept of those lining up for barbecued burgers with all the trimmings, and home-made ice cream for dessert, but the employees and family members filled a large area of the park. County Judge Dallas Brewer, Precinct One and Three Commissioners Woody Lindsey and Jim Barron, and Precinct three employee Royce Randall served as 'Master Chefs' of the burgers, and many of the lady employ-

ees whipped up a variety of flavors of ice cream for the event. Following the meal and a period of visiting, a large number of employees were recognized for their years of county employment. Each received pens of different styles according to their employment longevity. They included; Five Year Chrome Pens; Ben Coston, Pct. 2 Carla Clark, Hospital Pat McNabb, Plains Library William Upchurch., Cnty. Park Donna Manzano, Hospital Joni Hancock, Extension Off.

Liz Chandler, Sheriff Dept. Ten Year Black Pens; Dallas Brewer, Judge Ted Welch, Juvenile Probation Officer Hazel Lowrey, Auditor Anna Gonzalez, Probation Off. Jess Gass, Plains Cemetery Fifteen Year Gold Pens; Thomas Merritt, Pct. 1 Anna Taylor, Hospital Joe Martinez Jr., Pct 4 Sandra Ford, Hospital Lisa Switzer, Sheriff Dept. Twenty Years; Bettye Reed, Hospital Jim Barron, Pct 3

New Faces At P.I.S.D.



New PISD teachers Sonya Young, Michelle Hawthorn, Terry Petty, Ruth Curtis, and Shelley Carter. Brad McWhirter not present for photo.

All three campuses of the Plains Independent School District have new teachers in place for the coming school year.

Elementary Principal Donnie Weems reported the hiring of three new instructors. Michelle Hawthorn has been assigned to the Pre-Kindergarten class. This is her first full time teaching assignment. She is a graduate of Lubbock Christian University, and her husband Vince farms and is also employed by New Tex Farms.

Sonya Young is an instructor in the third grade. She taught half a year at Seagraves, and is also a Lubbock Christian University graduate. She is the wife of Ray Young, Pastor of the Hillside Church of Christ here.

Shelley Carter starts her first year of instruction in Elementary as an Institutional Assis-

tant. She earned her Bachelors Degree at New Mexico State University, and her Teacher Certificate at College of the Southwest. Her husband Eddie is a Biology instructor in Plains High School.

Middle School Principal Ronnie Watkins has two new teachers on his staff. Ruth Curtis will teach fifth and sixth grade math, and is the Junior High Cheerleaders sponsor. She is a graduate of Texas Tech University, and has previous teaching experience at Lorenzo, Mexia, and Brownfield.

Terry Petty is the new seventh grade keyboard instructor, and will teach P.E. to fifth and sixth grade girls. He is also the new Varsity girls head basketball coach (see related article on page 3).

Brad McWhirter is the High

School Spanish 1,2, and 3 instructor. While he was here last year, this is his first year as a contract teacher. He is a graduate of Baylor University, and also studied Spanish during a stay in Mexico.



Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY: partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 96, overnight low 66 degrees. THURSDAY: variable clouds with showers, thunderstorms, high of 92, overnight low 64. FRIDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 87, overnight low 62 degrees. SATURDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 85, overnight low 62 degrees.

A circa 1981 "Best Legs Contest" - and in very poor taste



Pictured above, L-R, are locals Johnnie Fitzgerald, Jack Palmer, Gayle Craft, Jack Cobb, and Billy Winn, in a chorus line type pose which is probably the ugliest our readers have ever been exposed to. The photo was made in Hawaii in 1981, and it is reported these guys spouses persuaded them to don shorts for the sight seeing trip, some for the first time ever, as the whiteness of their legs indicates. Viewers of this photograph have made a number of quotable comments, including, "Bill Winn's dress shoes really add a touch of class to the shorts", and, "Gayle Craft would offer free ginning on 1,000 bales of cotton if he had that waist line now", and "Jack Cobb's hair looks like a messed up Barbie Doll after an all night party". One so called friend added, "I've seen better legs on ostriches than Palmers and Fitzgeralds".

Cotton crop insect pest assessment made



IPM UPDATE

by Phillip Kidd
Extension Agent-IPM

The area cotton crop is beginning to cut out. Many fields are water stressed and beginning to shed small fruit. Program fields range from 3 to 6 nodes above white flower. The peanut crop is progressing nicely with very few pest problems reported at this time.

This area peanut crop is nearing harvest and should be monitored closely. Timing is extremely important in optimizing peanut yields. The Terry County Extension Service will be holding a Peanut Production Workshop on August 20th from 9:00 am. to 1:30 pm. at the Terry County Show Barn. Lunch will be provided and 3 CEU's will be offered. This workshop will focus on optimizing peanut harvest.

Boll weevil percent punctured squares in program fields remain very low. Don't be lulled to sleep though, because punctures can increase rapidly and second generation weevils are beginning to migrate.

A significant bollworm egg-lay occurred last week. Egg counts in program fields ranged from 0 to 74,000 eggs per acre. The highest counts were west of Plains. Bollworm larvae counts ranged from 0 to 17,000 per acre. The highest counts were west of Plains and near Meadow. Survival of these

worms has been very erratic.

Beet armyworm populations have developed to treatable levels in on program field near Allred. However, many of these armyworms have been parasitized and natural mortality has been high. This field was treated for overwintered boll weevils three times with Vydate, and has not received any other insecticide applications.

Cotton aphid populations appear to be building throughout the area. Since available products for cotton aphid control are limited, producers should consider aphid populations when treating for worms. Products other than pyrethroids such as Lannate 2.4LV should be considered. Keep in mind that bollworm control may be reduced compared to the level achieved with a pyrethroid. The trade-off is that you are less likely to flare aphid populations.

Lygus bugs are still a threat in many area fields. Treatable populations were found in program fields west of Allred and north of Brownfield. Lygus bugs can cause up to nickel-size bolls to shed, and can damage large bolls. You should continue to scout for this pest until you are basically no longer worried about boll weevils.

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Assault, DWI cases heard in County Court

Four criminal cases were heard in County Court August 13, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the State.

David Moreno, 32, pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury. He received a 60 day jail sentence, suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$140, must pay court costs of \$157, obtain drug/alcohol testing by Lubbock Regional Council on drug and alcohol abuse, attend weekly AA meetings, and serve 24 hours community service. He must also successfully complete the Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Program at his expense.

Shawn Grady Rogers, 22, pled guilty to a subsequent charge of DWI. His 180 jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months, and he was fined \$750. He must pay \$227 court costs. He will serve 30 days in jail, with credit for one day served, and will perform 80 hours of community service. He must complete the DWI repeat offender program, will have his license suspended 180 days, and must install an ignition interlock device on any vehicle he owns or operates. He also must obtain drug/alcohol evaluation, and undergo outpatient counseling with the Lubbock Council on drug/alcohol abuse, and report weekly to the community supervision office for six months. He was represented by Attorney Jerry Corbin.

Darlena Diane James, aka Darlena Diane Craft, aka Darlene Leverette, 30, pled true to the state's judgement revoking community supervision. She was sentenced to 60 days in jail, with credit for 42 days served.

Richard Earl Eickenhorst, aka Ricky Eickenhorst, pled true to the state's judgement revoking community supervision. He was

sentenced to 10 days in jail with credit for nine days served. Cause 7870, violation of protective order, was adjudicated.

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Navajo Nation Scholarship awarded to Tessa St. Romain



Tessa St. Romain, a 1997 Plains High graduate, was one of 117 high school scholars recently awarded financial scholarships at Kayenta, Arizonia by the Navajo Scholarship/Financial Assistance Program. The program of the Navajo Nation was established in 1980, and awards high school students of Navajo descent with scholarships based on their college entrance test scores and high school grade point average. Tessa's scholar-

ship award was for \$5,000.00, and she can apply for more assistance after her Freshman year in college. Tessa was accompanied to the 'Chief Manuelito Scholarship Banquet' by her parents, shown above, Elouise and Joe St. Romain, and the scholarship award was presented by President of the Navajo Nation, Albert Hale, on the right. Tessa will start school soon at Texas Tech University in a Pre-Med program.

Varsity Girls Basketball Coach Brings Impressive Record to P.I.S.D.

Last week new girls head basketball Coach Terry Petty said he was excited about the upcoming round-ball season. "I haven't had the chance to meet all the girls, but I am really impressed with the work ethics of the basketball players who are now working in the Volleyball program. I think our team will have good height and will work hard, but it's too early to make a fair assessment of all the players."

Petty is a 16 year veteran coach. He comes here from Laneville I.S.D. in East Texas, where he was Girls Athletic Director, Head Girls Basketball Coach, and Varsity Boys Assistant Coach. From 1993 through 1996, his girls teams posted 104 wins, with only 21 losses. As the Boys Assistant, the 1993 team was a state semi-finalist, and the 1994 was a Regional semi-finalist.

Petty is a native of Levelland and graduated from high school there in 1970. He received his BA degree at Sam Houston

State University with a P.E. major. He also has teaching and coaching experience at Huntington and Ropesville.

In last weeks interview, Petty said he had reviewed last years girls record and statescholastics, and noticed the number of games lost during the second half. "That's something we have to remedy. I'm a firm believer in pressure defense, and I know the pressure has to be applied all four quarters."

J P Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases heard, and fines and bonds set in Judge Melba Crutcher's Justice of Peace Court, Precinct One. Cases filed:
 67 Traffic Cases
 7 Minors in possession of alcohol
 1 Disorderly conduct
 1 Assault-Class C
 2 Public intoxication
 Bonds & Fines set: Issuance of bad check-\$1,000.00 bond, Criminal mischief-\$1,500.00 bond, 6 cases-Assault causing bodily injury-\$1,000.00 ea., Assault of Public servant-\$5,000.00 bond, Evading arrest-\$500.00 bond, Assault-Family violence-\$1,500.00 bond, Motion to revoke probation-held until hearing, 2 cases-Public intoxication-\$232.00 fine, Disorderly conduct-\$500.00 bond, Issuance of bad check-\$400.00 bond, Theft-\$1,000.00 bond, Public intoxication-\$450.00 bond, Expired license plate-\$42.00 fine, No drivers license-\$72.00 fine, No liability insurance-\$200.00 fine, Driving while intoxicated-\$1,500.00 bond, Driving while intoxicated-\$1,000.00 bond, Issuance of bad check-\$1,400.00 bond, Issuance of bad check-\$3,500.00 bond, Failure to appear-\$10,000.00 bond, Bond Forfeiture-\$5,000.00 cash bond, Delivery of a controlled substance-\$20,000.00 bond.

Help Needed Desperately Needed!
 Last year at the Watermelon Round Up the booth where free melon slices were handed out throughout the day was the busiest booth of the festival. This years event promises to be bigger, better, and even busier, and more volunteers are needed to slice and hand out the watermelons provided by our county producers. If you want to take part in making the 2nd Round Up a big success, give chairperson Toni Jones a call at either 456-2676 or 456-8794...
YOU ARE NEEDED!

E.M.T. Classes Start in Denver City August 25. Meet each Monday & Thursday, 6-10 pm. For details, call Joe Humphrey, 456-7419 or City Hall 456-2288

* NOTICE *

The City of Plains Will Conduct A Budget Hearing Monday, August 25, 1997, on the proposed FY 97-98 Budget. This hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m. at The Plains City Hall. This Public Hearing is Available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance to attend this hearing please contact City Hall at 456-2288 at least 4 hours in advance of the hearing.



Plains Royal Bounders Tumbling*Trampoline*Cheer Program

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Election Judge changes approved

In Commissioner's Court Monday, Edith Tuggle was appointed Election Judge in Precinct 303, at the Plains Library. She replaces Sarah Guetersloh who resigned earlier. The Court also appointed Cindra Box as Alternate Election Judge of that precinct to replace Tuggle.

County Clerk Deborah Rushing requested the Court's approval of a resolution concerning juror's compensation donations. Legislation passed in the last session allows jurors to donate their jury service compensation to a non-profit County organization. She said she and County Treasurer Toni Jones suggested any future juror donations be pledged to either the County Women's Protective Services agency, or the County Children's Protective Service. Effective September 1 this year, prospective jurors will be furnished a letter explaining they may make donations of their jury compensation to one of the organizations of their choice, and the donations are tax deductible. The resolution was approved.

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NOTICE OF RATE DECREASE REQUEST

July 22, 1997

In accordance with Subtitle E, Section 2.212 (a) of the Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act of 1995 and with Subchapter D, Section 22.51 (b) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas' Procedural Rules, notice is herein provided of Lea County Electric Cooperative's intent to reduce rates to its members within the City of Plains, such rate reduction to become effective September 1, 1997. Lea County proposes to accomplish the rate reduction by applying its currently approved Texas rates to those applicable residential and commercial accounts within the City of Plains. The following summarizes the effect of the proposed rate reduction on the Cooperative's test year revenues (1996).

Rate Classification	# Customers	Annual Revenue Decrease	Annual % Decrease
Current 02 Residential (change to Texas 01 Residential)	220	\$26,507	18.11%
Current 08A Residential All-Electric (change to Texas 01 Residential)	20	\$ 2,960	11.97%
Current 11 Commercial (change to Texas 10 Commercial)	37	\$10,653	23.37%

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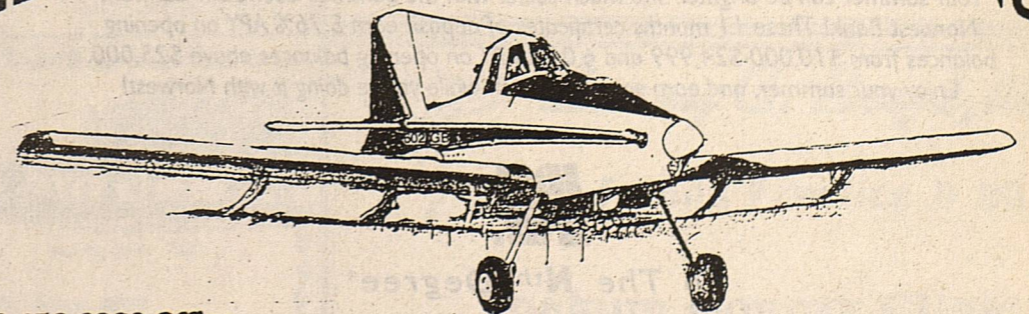
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**Dry Application
 Liquid Application**

David and Sarah Guetersloh

Water District lowers '98 budget

The Directors of Sandy Land UWCD met August 8, 1997, for their regular monthly meeting. In addition to the normal agenda items, the District's 1998 Budget was adopted. For the new year the board approved \$176,340.00 to be spent. Compared to 1997, the 1998 budget is a decrease of \$3,850, or 2.1%. In the past five years (since 1993) the Sandy Land UWCD has lowered its budget by \$28,060, or 13.7%. In that same time frame the district has contributed a greater role in the county by taking on the construction, maintenance and daily operation of the Yoakum County Landfill. The district continues to offer all services it has provided in the past, yet doing so in a more efficient, effective manner.

PUBLIC HEARING

As required by law, and by directive of the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County, Texas, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Hearing on the salaries, expenses and allowances of elected County and Precinct Officers to be provided for in the Fiscal Year 1998 Budget for Yoakum County is set for 4:00 p.m., September 2, 1997, preceding the Public Hearing on 1998 Proposed Budget. The hearing will be held in the District Courtroom, County Courthouse, Plains, Texas. The salaries and allowances will be considered and acted upon at this meeting and officially adopted before the completion of the hearing on the Fiscal Year 1998 Budget. Present salaries and allowances with the requested and proposed increases are as follows:

ELECTED OFFICIAL	PRESENT BASE SALARY/ LONGVITY SALARY/ ALLOWANCE	PROPOSED BASE SALARY/ LONGVITY SALARY/ ALLOWANCE (\$)	INCREASE
County Judge	\$35,963.88	\$35,963.88	0.00
	2,880.00	3,168.00	288.00
	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
NOTE (1)	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
County Clerk	\$35,963.88	\$35,963.88	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00
District Clerk	\$35,963.88	\$35,963.88	0.00
	5,184.00	5,472.00	288.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00
County Treasurer	\$35,963.88	\$35,963.88	0.00
	5,208.00	5,496.00	288.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00
Tax Assessor/ Collector	\$35,963.88	\$35,963.88	0.00
	6,744.00	7,032.00	288.00
	5,040.00	5,040.00	0.00
County Sheriff	\$35,963.88	\$35,963.88	0.00
	4,872.00	5,160.00	288.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
Commissioner, Pct. 1	\$35,355.84	\$35,355.84	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Commissioner, Pct. 2	\$35,355.84	\$35,355.84	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Commissioner, Pct. 3	\$35,355.84	\$35,355.84	0.00
	5,760.00	6,048.00	288.00
	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Commissioner, Pct. 4	\$35,355.84	\$35,355.84	0.00
	1,728.00	2,016.00	288.00
	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
JPO, Pct. 1	\$31,065.60	\$31,065.60	0.00
	3,360.00	3,648.00	288.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00
JPO, Pct. 2	\$31,065.60	\$31,065.60	0.00
	0.00	432.00	432.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00
Constable, Pct. 1	\$ 2.00	2.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
Constable, Pct. 2	\$ 2.00	2.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00

*NOTE (1) Juvenile Board Salary.

Roping Club Finale

The Yoakum County Roping Club closed out the season with a final team roping on August 12. In a Round-Robin series of team ropings, Tanner Blount, Plains, and Justin Nevarez, Denver City, teamed up to win the event and a pair of belt buckles. Justin was the header, and Tanner was heeler.

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Editorial concerning taxes and tax rates for Plains ISD

As superintendent of schools for Plains ISD, I would like to provide information concerning the Notice of "Public Hearing on Tax Increase" that adjoins this editorial. First, Plains will not be asking for an increase in the tax rate from our property owners. Because of new legislation during the last session, taxation is looked at in a different manner than it has been in the past. Several things have happened to cause the official notification of a tax increase. I will address each one.

Plains ISD has experienced an increase in property value this past year. This means that the amount of revenue generated under our current tax levy will increase. This is the reason we must hold a hearing to discuss a possible tax increase.

Under the old guidelines, the term "tax increase" referred to the increase in the tax rate. An example would be moving from \$1.45 per hundred-dollar valuation to \$1.50 per hundred-dollar valuation. Under the current guidelines, the "tax increase" refers to the additional revenue generated by the property value increase.

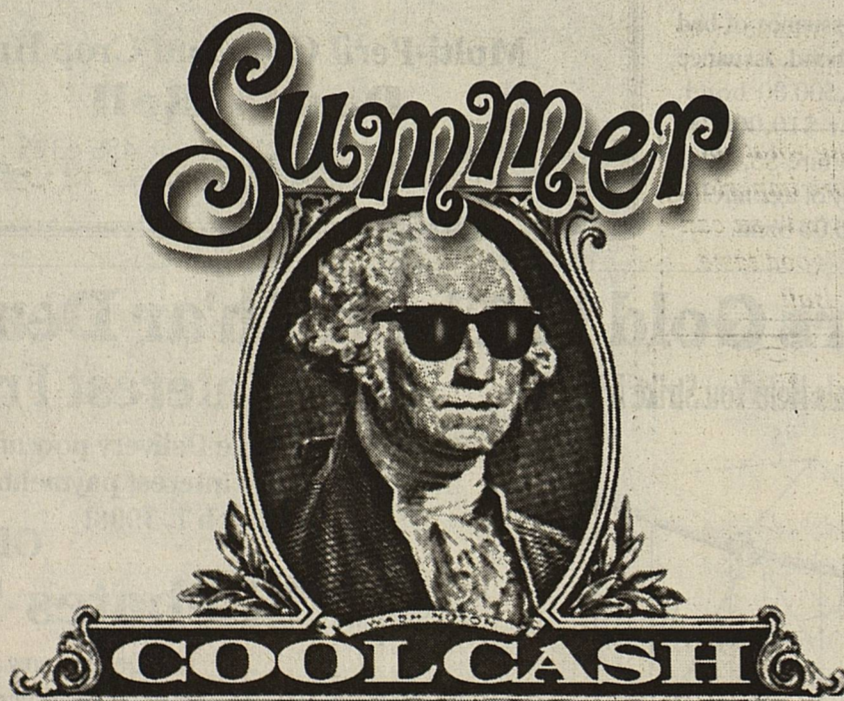
Plains ISD will not consider the raising of the tax rate for the current year. The administration will propose a possible decrease in the rate of as much as five cents. The constitutional amendment to increase the homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$15,000 will also affect the amount of taxes paid by homeowners. If as a property owner your property value has remained steady (no increase), the overall affect should be to lower the amount of tax dollars you will pay for this year.

Since Plains ISD property values have risen, the proposed decrease in tax rate will still generate additional revenue that can be channeled toward the installation and use of technology for the school district. The administration and board are committed to supporting the education of Plains ISD children while keeping at a minimum the tax burden on its constituents.

One other item to consider is that all of the money generated through property taxes for Plains ISD does not remain in the school district. The District has above average property wealth under the current state formulas and continues to operate under the "Robin Hood" provisions of state law. A portion of the local tax revenue is recaptured by the state and used to provide funding for the low wealth school districts in our state.

As superintendent, I feel that the legislature worked hard to provide some tax relief for the people of Texas. It is unfortunate that this particular reporting procedure causes confusion about the same issue. Additional information about this issue can be obtained by attending the hearing that is announced in the adjoining notification or by calling my office.

James Haynes,
Superintendent
Plains Independent School District



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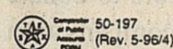
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Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in 1996 by 18.85 percent. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property.

The public hearing will be held on August 28, 7:30P.M. at Plains ISD Administration Office
FOR the proposal: Addison, Bell, Canada, Gonzalez, Palmer, Sisson, Tuggle.
AGAINST the proposal: None.
PRESENT and not voting: NA
ABSENT: NA

The statement above shows the percentage increase the proposed rate represents over the 1.22 per \$100 tax rate that the unit published on August 13, 1997. The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average home value	\$ 38,700	\$ 39,220
General exemptions available (amount available on the average home, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000
Average taxable value	\$ 33,700	\$ 24,220
Tax rate	1.50/\$100	1.45 /\$100 (proposed)
Tax	\$ 505.50	\$ 351.19 (proposed)

Under this proposal taxes on the average home would DECREASE by \$ 154.31 or 30.5% percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would DECREASE by \$ 0.05 per \$100 of taxable value or 3.3% percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

Criminal Justice Mandate (for counties):

The NA County Auditor certifies that NA County has spent \$ in the previous 12 months beginning 19, for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.



Femme Friends



HOWDY!

By: *Kathy Adair*



Watermelon Wisdom

I have been asked several questions on watermelon that I think have interesting answers. With the Watermelon Roundup approaching, we should all get to grow in our watermelon wisdom.

How diet-conscious are watermelons? One cup of watermelon cubes generally contains 45 calories, 1 gram of dietary fiber, a significant amount of vitamin C (26% of daily recommendations) and potassium (230mg.), little sodium, no fat or cholesterol, 92% water and a good source of lycopene-an-anti-cancer nutrient.

How can you tell when a watermelon is ripe? 1. Appearance-look it over. Choose a symmetrical watermelon that's free of bruises, cuts and dents. 2. Weight-lift it up. The melon should be heavy for its size. 3. Ripeness-turn it over. The underside of a ripe watermelon will be a cream color. 4. Thump-it should have a distinct hollow sound.

What determines the sweet flavor of watermelon? There are differences in sugar content from one variety of watermelon to another. The sweeter varieties include Crimson Sweet, Dixie and the old variety Black Diamond (if harvested at the proper stage of maturity). Excessive moisture caused by late irrigations or rainfall near maturity of the watermelon will also result in poor flavor.

Can you cook with watermelon? It is best cold and crisp, but it mixes great with aromatic spices and vinegars as well as onions, garlic and cilantro.

Senior Citizen Corner

We congratulate Ida Garner on the nice honors bestowed on her by family and friends. She can always be remembered as a dedicated Pink Lady and the oldest of our Senior Citizens who come to the Center regularly. She visits one day each week.

The Jamboree is over at Lubbock. This year we had no representative there. Guess we can always remember the good ole days, and look to another year.

The 'Watermelon Festival' is coming up soon. This year we will give to some lucky person a VCR at our booth. Tickets are available at the YCSC office and everyone is invited to participate.

Claude Beathe has been ill, but back at the Center one day. Bitty Moore in Local Hospital on Wednesday.

Thanks to Darwin Hobbs for the cantaloupe. As Mr. Food would say 'So Good.'

Visitors this week were Hoot and Mary Gibson's granddaughter, and the Venguata Family and their guest Micky Dela Cruz. As always, we want people to come in and visit any day. The Welcome Mat is out all the time.

Next Weeks Events:

Line Dancing Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 AM

Pool/Game on Monday at 6:30 PM

Tues. Advisory Council of Aging in Lubbock 2:00 PM

Thurs. SPAG meeting in Lubbock 12:00 PM

Fri. Cite Council Meeting 10:00 AM

Lunch Monday through Friday 11:30 AM There is always something cooking at the Center—food, games, exercise, good fellowship—so come on Down!

See you next week, Smitty

A Pastor's Forum

Literacy

Since I was in high school, knowledge has increased dramatically. In spite of this, we have a literacy problem. The biggest literacy problem in the general public is the lack of Biblical knowledge.

In 1966, I sat in a high school English class. The teacher asked the class several questions. The first was, "How many of you go to church?" Everyone raised their hands. Then she said, "Did you know there are people living in the U.S. today that have never been inside a church?" The class was shocked. Students started arguing, "that can't be true." She further stated, there were thousands in the U.S.A. that have never seen a Bible, much less read one. The class laughed in disbelief, but her words have seemingly come to fruition.

Scriptures are no longer part of the general education process. Our country's heritage has strong religious roots that influenced the founding principles of our politics and society. However, the priority of the influence of these roots are rarely taught.

Do the scriptures have any relevance for today? The ten commandments found in the book of Exodus sit high on the wall of the highest court in our land, and yet one no-name judge is being sued because he had it on his wall. He made a profound statement. Let me paraphrase it like this. If the people of America would just honor and live by those ten laws, we could leave our doors unlocked, our windows rolled down and put half the police force out of work.

Several years ago while watching a tv game show, I saw my old English teacher's word being fulfilled right before my eyes. Three people with Ph.D.'s could not answer remedial questions on scripture. What was the Exodus? What is the resurrection? What were the first clothes of Adam and Eve?

Without dusting off grandma's old Bible, could you answer these question off the top of your head? Now, I wonder if Adam's loincloth was suede or buckskin, or a leaf off a pear tree. You tell me.

By Rev. James Stanley Moore

LIBRARY UPDATE

On September 1, the Library will institute new policies on overdue books and videos.

All books and videos checked out have return dates, and when they become overdue, patrons will be charged a 5 cent per day fine. Library staff will no longer call to remind patrons of a book or video return dates. Overdue items and unpaid fines will prevent patrons from accessing other books or videos. We will appreciate your cooperation.

Filmtime returns for pre-school age children beginning September 3 from 10:00 am.

to 11:00 am. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to filmtime for games, reading, songs, and movies. Special holiday parties will be held, and mothers are encouraged to participate and help with refreshments.

Helen Hunter is back at the library after recovering from a broken leg. Her artistic work in decorating bulletin boards is greatly appreciated.

I think knowing what you cannot do is more important than knowing what you can do. In fact, it's good taste.
Lucille Ball

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Plains Elementary School Staff 1997-1998 School Year

The staff at Plains Elementary School would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to a new school year!! We are excited about another successful year.

We are happy to welcome new members to our faculty. All are well qualified in their particular teaching disciplines, and I am sure they will further enhance our exceptionally fine faculty

PRE-K
Mrs. Hawthorne
Mrs. D. Flores
KINDERGARTEN
Mrs. Banfield
Mrs. May
Mrs. McGinty
1ST GRADE
Mrs. Davis
Mrs. Morris
Mrs. Y. Ramos
2ND GRADE
Mrs. Cheatham
Mrs. Cobb
Mrs. Hise
3RD GRADE
Mrs. Engle
Mrs. House
Mrs. Young
4TH GRADE
Mrs. McAdams
Mrs. Pierce
Mrs. J. Ramos

ESL
Mrs. Conway
MIGRANT
Mrs. Covarrubias
Mrs. Garcia
SPECIAL ED
Mrs. Scott
Mrs. Carter
MUSIC
Mrs. Blair
NURSE
Mrs. Wilmeth
P.E.
Mr. Davis
SWIMMING
Mr. McAdams
CUSTODIAN
Mrs. E. Flores
SECRETARY
Mrs. Howell

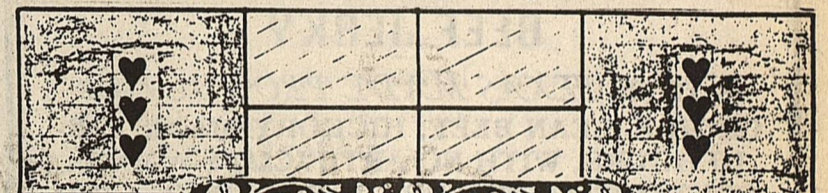
We are looking forward to another great year.

Thank you for allowing us to teach your children.

Donnie Weems, Principal
Plains Elementary School

Sugar is an excellent disinfectant. For open wounds or skin ulcerations, sprinkle on granulated sugar to kill bacteria and speed healing. Smear a ring of petroleum jelly around the edge of the wound to hold the sugar in place, then put a little sugar directly on the wound. Cover the area with a bandage and be sure to change the bandage once or twice a day.

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From The Hack



Probably because school has started, teachers of yesteryears were the subject of an enlightening conversation at the fabled Table of Wisdom last week. It was the consensus of opinion among some of the regulars that their teachers were all mean spirited disciplinarians, and most could not recall a truly nice looking female instructor. All but one, who declared he was deeply in love with his third grade teacher. The would be romance was somewhat thwarted, he said, because of her habit of busting his young bottom at least twice a day.

Another oracle recalled one of his teachers, a mid life female of epic proportions with no redeeming facial assets. He said she constantly walked the aisles of the class, and when chancing upon some urchin, male or female, who was cutting up, or not paying attention, she would whack the offender on the head with a 15 inch wooden ruler; Not with the flat side of the thing, with the edge, always leaving a noticeable lump on some nog-

gin. Today, of course, the errant kid and parents could sue her out of her girdle.

This reminiscing caused me to do some. Try as I would, I too could not recall many nice looking female teachers, and there sure weren't any handsome male mentors. Well, I take that back; One of my fourth grade teachers, a Miss Temple, I think, was pretty stunning, as I remember. She was single, and it was rumored she had a number of boy friends. I vividly remember how nice she smelled. Now I know it was probably some exotic perfume, like maybe 'Eau De Sexy', but at that age I didn't know the word sexy, much less how to spell or understand it.

One memorable day, just before school was out for the summer, she announced she was going to whisper a secret to each and everyone of us. I was thrilled, about to hyperventilate as I imagined what she would whisper in my ear when she came to my desk.... maybe she would ask me to carry her books home for her... maybe she would

let me buy her a soda, if I could borrow the money from her... maybe she would whisper what the stuff was that made her smell so delicious. She finally came to my desk, smiling beautifully, leaned down, almost making me swoon with her fragrance and warmth, and carefully whispered "You print really lovely G's". That's it. I was stunned, bitterly disappointed. What a bummer; She brags on my stupid permanship, and I'm yearning for something, anything, just a bit more intimate.

It's possible my assessment of others has become more charitable with passing years and approaching senility, but I will have to say my weekly visits to our three school campuses here tells me today's teachers (well, at least the females) are much nicer looking today than in those long past days. And I have yet to witness any instructor whacking a kid on the head with a wooden ruler. But I have to tell you... I haven't smelled any of the ladies wearing anything as nice, as mysterious, as that Miss Temple doused herself with back then.

I readily admit, I stole the following off the Internet; It seems the Federal Aviation Administration has a unique device for testing the strength of windshields on aircraft. It is sort of a gun, which launches a dead chicken at a planes windshield at approximately the speed the plane flies, and the theory is if the windshield survives and doesn't crack, it will survive a real collision with a bird in flight.

British raliway developers got word of the device and wanted to try it on the windshield of one of the speedy 'bullet' trains traveling European rails. They borrowed the FAA chicken launcher, loaded up a chicken and fired at the locomotives windshield. The ballistic chicken shattered the windshield, went through the engineers chair, broke an instrument

panel to pieces, and imbedded itself in the rear wall of the locomotives cab. The Brits were stunned, and asked the FFA to recheck the test to see if all their procedures were correct. The FFA rspoded, "Next time, do noi use frozen chicken".

Also from the Internet is the following 8th grade students history essay; "Without the Greeks we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three columns, Corinthian, Doric and Ionic. They had myths. A myth is a female moth. One myth says the mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Stynx until he became intolerable. Achilles appears in "The Illiad" by Homer. Homer also wrote "The Oddity", in which Penelope was the last hardship that Ulysses endured on his journey. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer, but was written by another man of that name. Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who gave people advice. They killed him. Socrates died of an overdose of wedlock.

Public Notice

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF YOAKUM
NOTICE is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on September 2, 1997, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the District Courtroom in Plains, Texas on the 1998 Proposed Budget for Yoakum County.

All persons attending the hearing will have the opportunity to give written and oral comments and to ask questions about the Proposed Budget. A copy of the said Proposed Budget is on file in the County Clerk's Office and may be examined there or in the office of the County Judge or County Auditor, or in the Denver City Library or Plains Library

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