

# Cowboy Country News

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

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## Grand Jury hands down indictments on 16 defendants

On April 21 the Yoakum County Grand Jury returned true bills of indictments listed here on 16 defendants. All bonds for felony indictments are set by District Judge Kelly G. Moore. The State was represented by Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark.

Cathy Lynn Hernandez was indicted for fraudulent use of identifying information, a state jail felony.

Hilario Longoria was indicted for obstruct retaliation, a third degree felony.

Lezlee Anne Garza was indicted on two offenses; forgery of government instrument (money), a third degree felony enhanced; Fraudulent use of government instrument, money, a state jail felony enhanced.

Tiffany Dee Taylor was indicted on forgery of government instrument, money, a third degree felony.

Shannon Jeter was indicted for forgery of government instrument, money, a third degree felony.

Gilberto Garza was indicted on two offenses; DWI, third or more, with deadly weapon, a third degree felony; Forgery of government instrument, money, a third degree felony enhanced. Guadalupe Sanchez was indicted on assault causes bodily injury, family member, a third degree felony.

Claronaldo Mathew Davila was indicted for forgery of financial instrument, a state jail felony enhanced.

Guadalupe Soto Medina was indicted for three causes of criminally negligent homicide with a deadly weapon, all state jail felony enhanced causes.

Manuel Gutierrez Martinez was indicted for third or more DWI, with deadly weapon, third degree felony.

Royce Dee Bownds was indicted for third or more DWI with deadly weapon, third degree felony.

Esmeralda Rose Ochoa was indicted for forgery of financial instrument, state jail felony.

Arturo Velasquez was also indicted for forgery of financial instrument, state jail felony.

Javier Gallegos Clark Sr. was indicted for bail jumping and failure to appear, third degree felony.

Gary Wayne Horne was indicted for DWI with child under 15 with deadly weapon, an enhanced state jail felony.

Jose Dolores Ramirez was indicted for two causes of indecency with a child, exposes, third degree felonies.

A second degree felony can call for confinement in state pen for not more than 20 years or less than 2 years and optional fine up to \$10,000.

A third degree felony can call for confinement in State Prison not more than ten years or less than two years, and optional fine not to exceed \$10,000.

State jail felony is confinement in a state jail not more than two years or less than 180 days, and optional fine not over \$10,000.

## Parrish reports more than \$587,500 property taxes now delinquent

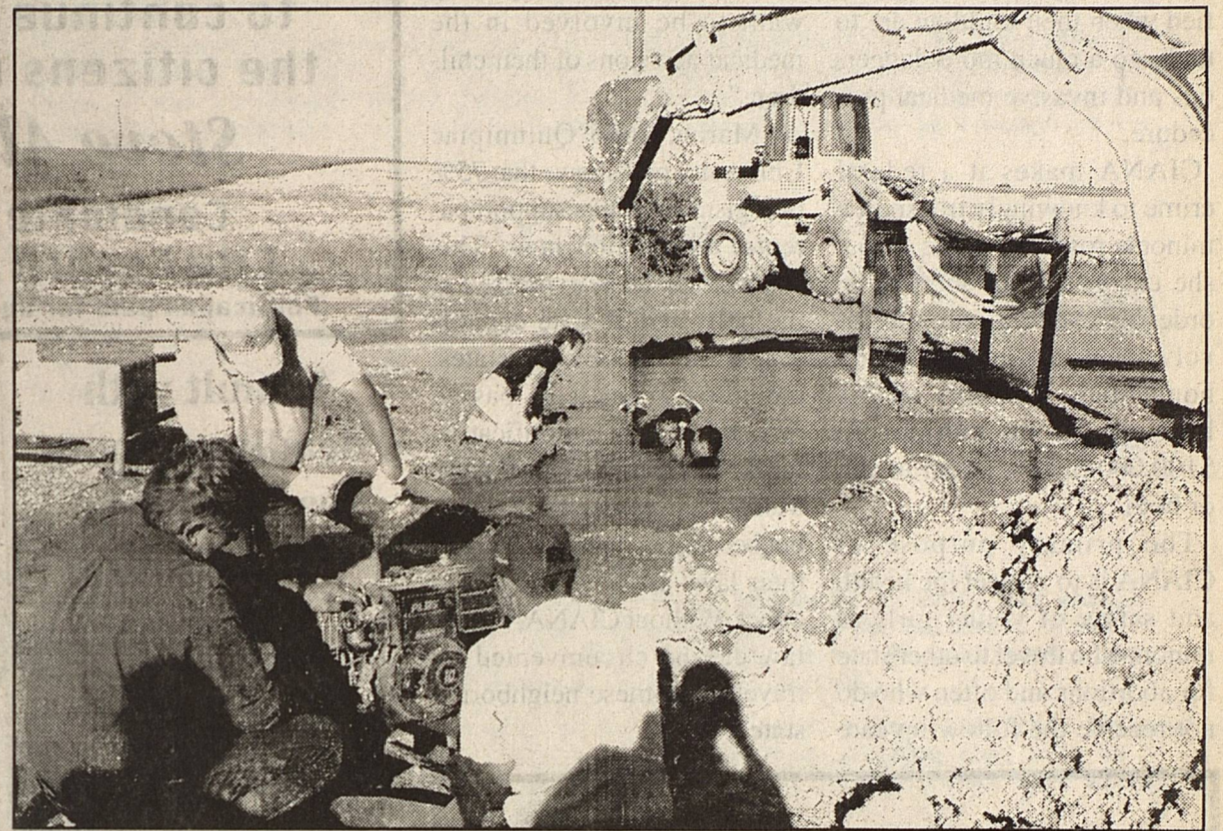
Yoakum County Tax Assessor-Collector Jan Parrish reports over 2,000 delinquent property tax statements are in the mail. The taxes became delinquent February 1, 2005. Parrish stated, "What many tax payers are ignoring is the fact when these property taxes became delinquent last February, they also began accruing both penalty and interest, and both will continue to grow until paid in full. This arrangement is part of laws passed by the state legislature, and is not merely a tax office policy. Delinquent tax payers should also be aware every account not paid in full by June 30, 2005, will also incur a twenty percent Law Fee.

The delinquent taxes include funding for the county, Plains and Denver City School Districts, both the county towns, and Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District.

Parrish explained a portion of the delinquency problem. "Property owners in the Plains School District received two separate tax statements this year, a new arrangement. Many property owners paid one statement, but not the other, creating a larger number of delinquencies than we normally face".

It does not require a mathematic genius to understand what faces taxpayers on the June 30 date - They will face a 12 percent penalty, interest of one percent per month will be charged, and a 20 percent law fee will be assessed.

## Blown valve causes water problems, long, wet, and cold repairs

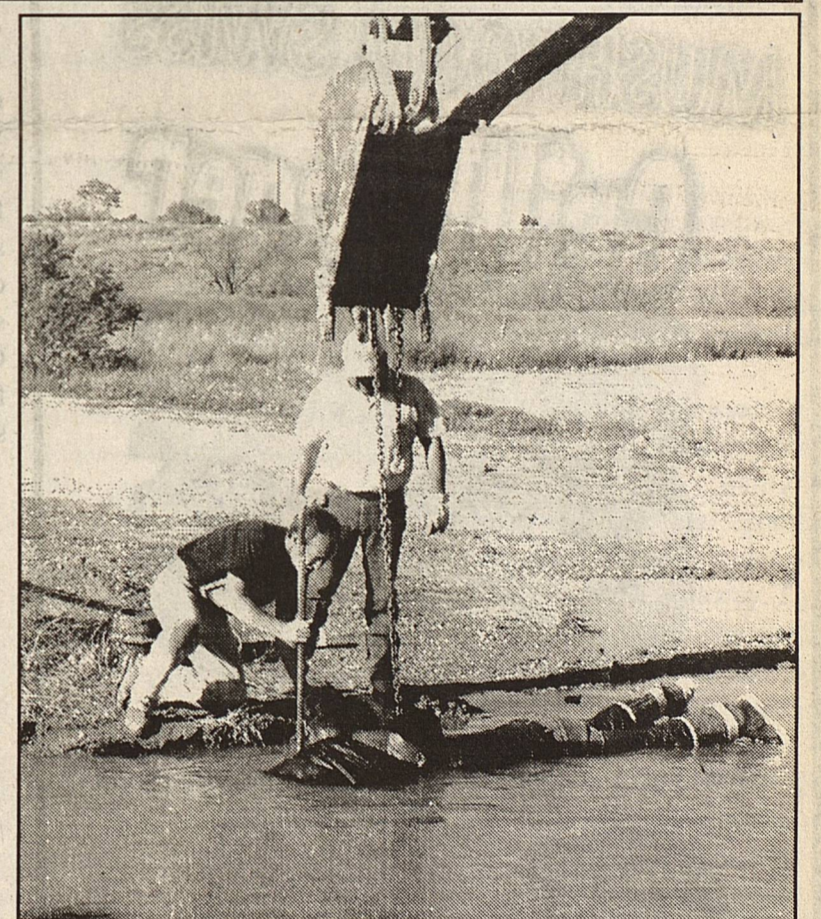


Shortly after five PM last Wednesday afternoon, many residences and firms began noticing drops in their city water pressure outlets. Soon the flow would be reduced to a trickle.

City employees quickly found the source of the problem, a blown out large valve on a mainline behind and south of the livestock show barns.

City Administrator Terry Howard said storage water flowing to the line was promptly shut down, and a repair crew and equipment soon gathered at the site. A backhoe dug out the area around the faulty valve, but enough water continued to flow down lines to completely fill the hole, forcing city workers into the cold pit of water.

City Mayor Shane McKinzie arrived at the scene and helped start a gasoline powered pump to reduce the depth of the flooded hole, but three of the workers were forced to stay in



the water to replace the valve, shortly after 10 PM. A worker and as night fell, the conditions worsened rapidly. The job was finally completed

## UIL State Academic Meet..... 'More than just a trip to Red Lobster'

In the March, 2005 issue of the *UIL LEAGUER*, Bobby Hawthorne, UIL Academic Director penned an interesting, entertaining, and very humorous article about high school students competing in the large and prestigious UIL State Academic meet in Austin May 4, 5 and 6. Plains High will be well represented in the state meet by students featured in last weeks CCN. As an additional salute to these achieving students, a portion of Mr. Hawthorne's *LEAGUER* article is featured here;

Mr. Hawthorne explained he had recently welcomed the 4A and 5A Cross Examination state qualifiers at their state meet. Earlier Governor Rick Perry had addressed the 1A, 2A and 3A qualifiers, and said, "What you do, the sacrifices you've made, the commitment you've shown may be lost on some people, but it's not lost on me."

Hawthorne continued, "The small school kids are a much easier crowd than the 4A and 5A qualifiers. The small town kids are content to debate, ride the escalators in the University Teaching Center, shop at Old Navy, eat the Shrimp Lovers Combo at Red Lobster and head home. The big school kids are more demanding."

Turn to Pg 4, "Trip to Red Lobster"

## Record Golf Tournry For YCH Foundation



Hospital Administrator Clay Taylor, center of photo, conducted the drawing for many donated and impressive prizes before the tournament winners were introduced. First, second and third place winners in three flights were awarded with state of the art golfing equipment. Prizes were also given for closest to the pin, and mens and womens longest drive contests.

The numeral three must be the charmed number for the Yoakum County Hospital Foundation - their third annual fund raising golf tournament was the biggest and best yet. Thirty three four man teams battled it out in a scramble format at the county course April 28, and in almost perfect conditions turned in some very impressive scores.

The tournament is one of the major fund raising events for the Foundation, an association of volunteers working to better the hospital by purchasing or acquiring needed equipment or programs. Since the Foundation was organized, they have been instrumental in the purchase of hospital beds, patients televisions, patient lifts for the dialysis center, and new wound care equipment.



## Neugebauer Supports Abortion Parental Notification Bill

Congressman Randy Neugebauer voted for parental notification legislation Wednesday that reinforces states' rights, supports the rights of parents to be involved in the medical decisions of their minor daughters, and protects the health of young girls.

The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act (CIANA), HR 748, passed the House by a vote of 270-157. CIANA now goes to the Senate for consideration. "Parents must be notified when kids go on field trips, get their ears pierced, or simply take an aspirin while in school," Neugebauer said. "It is only common sense that we respect the right of parents to be notified when their children are to undergo a much more dangerous and invasive medical procedure."

CIANA makes it a federal crime to knowingly transport a minor across a state line so that she can obtain an abortion in order to evade a parental involvement law in the minor's home state. Violators of this law would be subject to \$100,000 fine, or a year in jail, or both.

The primary purpose of CIANA is to protect the health and safety of young girls as minors who travel to other state for abortions and often who do not receive the follow-up care

necessary for this type of invasive surgery. The legislation also protects the rights of parents to play a role in the health and well being of their children. The bill does include a 'judicial bypass' provision to allow minors to receive authorization from a judge to waive the notification requirement in extreme cases.

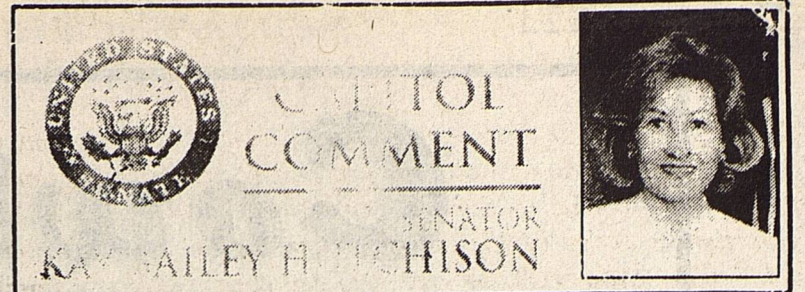
"CIANA respects states' rights and the democratic process by reinforcing parental notification laws that have gathered wide support," Neugebauer said. "To allow these laws to be circumvented is undemocratic and runs directly against the wishes of parents across the country who have said that they want to be involved in the medical decisions of their children."

A March, 2005 Quinnipiac University poll shows that 75% of registered voters support parental notification laws. This support has been expressed at the polls and in state capitols across the country. 44 states, including Texas have passed parental consent or notification laws. Oklahoma and New Mexico have passed such laws, but because of court challenges, their laws are not currently in effect. Without CIANA, Texas' law can be circumvented by traveling to these neighboring states.

## Parrish completes Class One Certification at Austin

Yoakum County Tax Assessor-Collector Jan Parrish recently completed Class One Certification for the Board of Tax Professional Examiners. The class, "Introduction to Texas Property Tax Law" was taught by the Texas Association of Assessing officers in Austin.

The training is a five year process of educational schools and tests to become a registered Tax Assessor-Collector (RTA). Once the RTA is earned, continuing education must be earned regularly. The class offers an overview of the entire property tax system, from the process of appraisal of the property to actual collection of taxes. Jan reported, "It was a very intense class. Much of what was taught takes place in the Appraisal District, not in my office, so I had no previous knowledge of their terminology, procedures and requirements. I learned a great deal, and I'm glad to get this first step of my certification out of the way."



**I will appreciate your support and vote to return me to the City Council. I am anxious to continue to serve the citizens of Plains.**

**Steve Alldredge**

**Candidate for the City Council of Plains**

**Political ad paid for by Steve Alldredge**

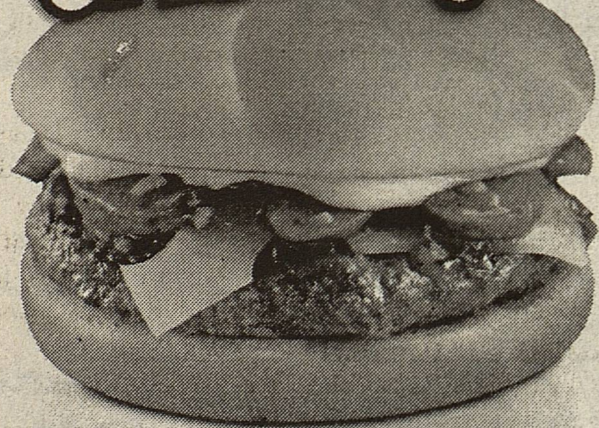
### Assault with deadly weapon leads to seven year sentence

In District Court May 2, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state, Benny Ralph Vasquez pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon. A prior conviction and judgement for a third or more DWI cause was revoked by Judge Moore. The assault charge, a first degree felony, resulted in a seven year sentence in state prison, with credit for 105 days previously served. Sheriff Deputy Curtis Coffman was investigating officer, and Jimmy Hammons served as his attorney.

### Criminal Case In County Court

Edgar Garcia Vidana pled guilty to marijuana possession, less than two ounces. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$750, must pay \$211 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. Failure to appear and bail jumping causes were adjudicated. He will lose his license 180 days, serve 14 days in jail with credit for 53 days served, and must attend weekly Narcotics meetings. Investigating officer was Deputy John Stephenson.

## MUSHROOM SWISS GrillBurger



A thick, juicy 1/4 lb. burger with mushrooms, Swiss cheese & mild garlic mayo on a toasted bun.



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### YCHF Golf Tournament Results

Championship Flight:  
55 - Doug Brown, Ben Jaime, Steve Deaton, Milo Martinez  
56 - Gary Luker, Jim Bullard, Jason Bullard, Mike Click  
56 - Kenny Smith, Greg Black, Debbie Black, Cliff Black  
First Flight:  
57 - Russell Dial, Jim Brown, Raul Garcia, Russell Dane  
60 - Bubba Mull, Pablo Chavez, Joe Broadwater, Bob Vandenburg  
60 - Arlan Gentry, Bill McNeal, Lisa Wood  
Second Flight:  
61 - Mike Vaught, Stephen Quisenberry, Stephen Thornton, Matt Elliott  
63 - Gary Stewart, ? Latham, ? Gerdemann, ? Owens  
63 - Jimmy Rogers, Jubel Reed, Mike Nelson, Bobby Langtry

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**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals, addressed to Yoakum County, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, Texas 79355, for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for Tank Battery Relocation will be received until May 20, 2005 at 4:30 P.M. in Yoakum County Courthouse, Judge's Office, at which time the bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated. **Bids will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 23, 2005.**

Bidders are expected to inspect the sites of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions and legislation concerning the wage rate and the payment of prevailing wage.

Plans, specifications, proposals, and contract forms may be seen and examined at the office of West Texas Consultants, Inc., 1710 W. Broadway, Andrews, Texas.

Each bidder will be required to submit with his bid a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond, in the amount of five (5%) percent of the total of the bid submitted, made payable to Yoakum County, as a guarantee that bidder will enter into contract and execute bond and guaranty in the forms provided within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract. Bids without the required check or bid bond will not be considered.

Yoakum County reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive all technicalities and to award the bid that is most advantageous to Yoakum County, in the opinion of Yoakum County.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals, addressed to Yoakum County, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, TX 79355, for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for Construction of Flow Lines, will be received May 20, 2005 at 4:30 pm in Yoakum County Court House, County Judge's office, at which time the bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated. **Bids will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 23, 2005.**

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**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals, addressed to Yoakum County, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, TX 79355, for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for the construction of lease roads, will be received until May 20, 2005 at 4:30 pm in Yoakum Courthouse, County Judge's Office, at which time the bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated. **Bids will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 23 2005.**

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The fourth, fifth and sixth grade Bible Drill participants from First Baptist Church competed in the Permian Basin Association Bible Drill on Sunday, April 17 at Southside Baptist Church in Seminole. The five Plains young people all advanced to the state Bible Drill held in Plainview on Saturday, April 30. Pictured from left to right: Cody Friesen, Hunter Welch, Haley Welch, Whitney Davis and Autumn Friesen.

**Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Registration**

Plains Independent School District will hold pre-registration for Pre-Kindergarten Kindergarten from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm through the month of May. Parents should come by the Elementary School Office for registration and bring the appropriate documents as listed. It is not necessary for the children to be present at registration.

**PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

Children who will be four years old on or before September 1, 2005, may qualify for pre-kindergarten providing all guidelines are met. Please bring your child's birth certificate, social security card, immunization record and proof of family income. All documents must be provided at this time in order to qualify for pre-kindergarten.

If you know a child in our community who may qualify, please pass this information on to the parents.

**KINDERGARTEN**

Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2005, may enroll in kindergarten. The documents needed for enrollment are as follows: birth certificate, immunization record and social security card. We will need a copy of these documents before the first day of class in August.

If you know of a child who may qualify for kindergarten, please pass this information on to their parents. We need to try to get a number of children that will be in our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes. The children that were enrolled in pre-kindergarten this year do not have to register.

**We Get Letters.....**

(and some of them are LONG letters!)

'Arts in Education' - by Linda Powell

Statistics don't lie but they can be skewed to support any argument for the failure of American Public Schools to adequately prepare our students for freedom; freedom from want, freedom to choose, freedom to be, and freedom to create. Let's approach "No Child Left Behind" that mandates improvements in our schools, creatively, Perhaps the issue is not "why students aren't learning in our public schools", but why are they learning to take tests, regurgitate facts and generally evade any higher level thinking skills. Let's constructively channel their learning, which is ongoing (in spite of the rumors), by tapping into their innate love of music, art and dance. Arts in Education is a time that has come!

Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee recently said, "Today's employers are looking for individuals who can not only read and write well, but who can think creatively and find creative solutions to difficult problems." He says disadvantaged kids involved in the arts score higher on standardized tests and for this reason, every child should be given the opportunity to participate in the arts.

In Ft. Walton Beach, Florida professional ballet dancer Eric Allen teaches elementary students his vocation. In 1999 he asked the Okaloosa County School Board permission to replicate Citydance, an outreach of the Boston Ballet, for at-risk third graders in Boston public schools. Two years later he was given permission to organize the three year curriculum to teach students French, music, art and ballet everyday, along

with academics related to the arts. Students are picked for the program on potential to excel in dance. 30 percent of them qualify for free or reduced lunches; several are learning disabled. In only two years their third graders in this school were scoring better than any other county school in both reading and math.

Art is not just for highbrows. It is inclusive and solves many behavioral problems by reaching students in ways they are not otherwise being reached. Oklahoma requires district level art assessments on grades 3 - 8. This includes written work, portfolio and performance assessments/ "The creative arts process, imbedded in quality arts instruction, contributes to the social, cognitive and emotional development of children and is fundamental and essential to the education of all children," (written for Oklahoma Arts Assessment Task Force March 26, 2004)

Sir Ken Robinson, Senior Advisor, Education Policy, The Getty Foundation, states, "America needs a workforce that is flexible, adaptable, and highly creative; and it needs an education system that can develop these qualities in everyone. Standardization is the enemy of innovation."

Herein is the dilemma; Teaching to the test is the antithesis to expanding horizons with the arts. Pressure for annual progress shown with test scores is the norm in America's schools. Furthermore, innovation and creativity are being flushed out of the educational system with budget cuts for arts programs. Reading, writing and

arithmetic are the focus in schools today, at the expense of turning out students well rounded and who can relate to others.

Art is fun, art is necessary, art is life. How can we deny this soul part of us by using a money tourniquet that tightens until this vital force is denied oxygen and withers away. The future demands we recognize and implement arts in schools for enrichment if life and demands of industry.

Schools are turning out increasingly fearful and non-risk taking students. With computers at our fingertips, today's students need to know how to find information, then, use it to solve problems. This will only come about if they are encouraged to role play, look at the situation upside down, or synthesize and try something new. I only saw

test review and more review for the eight weeks before the standardized test in March at my school. Students were creative in turning out, turning in and generally wasting time during this cramming for the test. Change is required. Change is scary. Change can be fun. Art is the solution to interesting our potential dropouts, helping our learning disabled to feel competent, and it stretches our brightest students. It makes learning fun and inspires all the in between. Art is a universal language all students can speak successfully, if given the chance

Linda Powell  
\* Letters to the editor are solely the expressions and opinions of the writer, and CCN reserves full right to edit all submissions.

**Texas at a Glance**

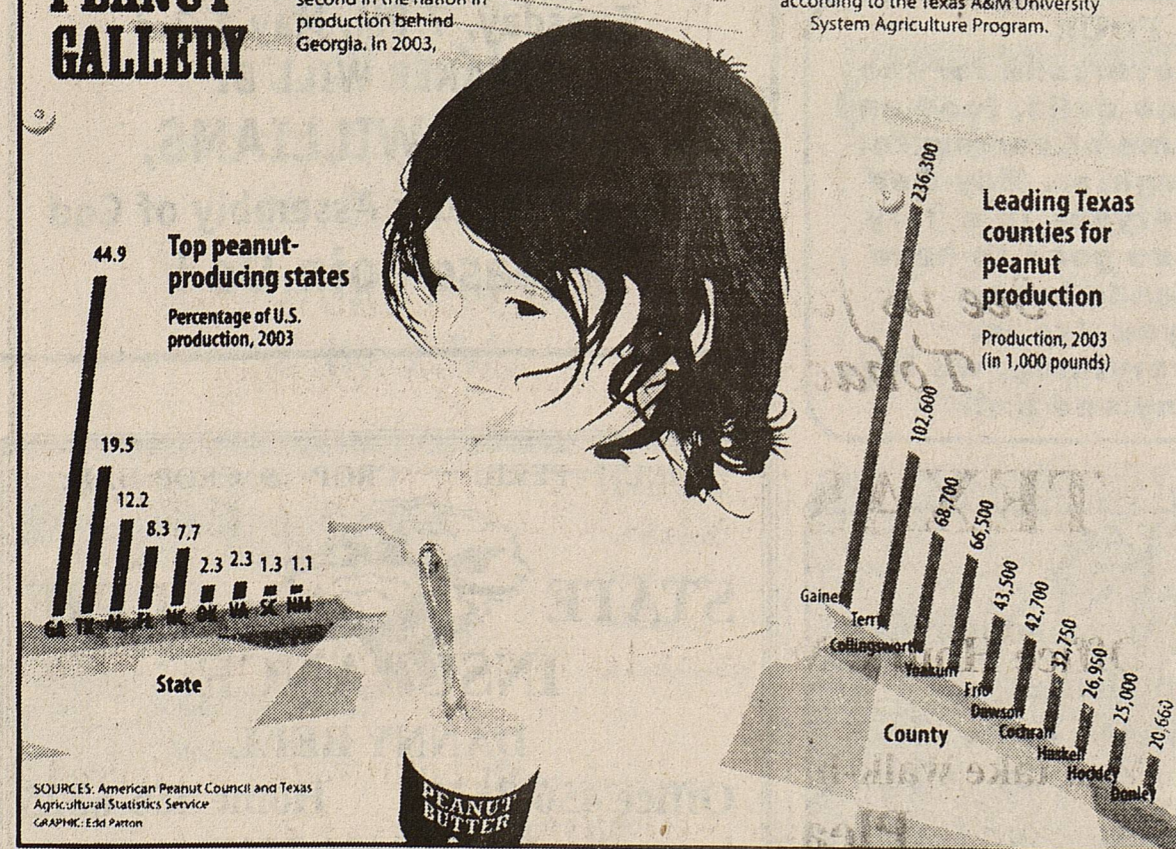
**FROM THE PEANUT GALLERY**

The nuttiest job in Texas? Peanut farming, of course. Texas is one of the nation's top producers of peanuts, harvesting nearly 20 percent of U.S. production in 2003.

Nine states produce 99 percent of all the peanuts grown in the United States, according to the American Peanut Council. Texas is second in the nation in production behind Georgia. In 2003,

Texas farmers grew 810 million pounds of peanuts worth almost \$150 million, according to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Most of those peanuts grew in Panhandle Plains counties. More than 70 percent of the state's peanut production is in the West Texas region, according to the Texas A&M University System Agriculture Program.



SOURCES: American Peanut Council and Texas Agricultural Statistics Service  
GRAPHIC: Eric Patton



## From Page One, "More than just a trip to Red Lobster," by Bobby Hawthorne

ing. We could trot out Oprah Winfrey and some of them would yawn.

"It reminds me of the difference between kids attending our scholarship foundation banquet at UT and the banquet at Texas A&M. The UT kids tend to come from cities or their suburbs, the Aggies from one stoplight hamlets where a night on the town means a trip to Dairy Mart. For example: (UT kid) - 'Good evening, my name is Heather Laurel. I graduated from Humongous High School and am a sophomore ethnomusicology major with a 4.3 grade point average. I competed in UIL prose interpretation and all the writing contests and was a member of all-state choir. I'm a member of Campus Wellness Center for Stray Kittens. My life goal is to bring joy and harmony and sunshine to all the world.'

(A&M kid) - 'Hidy. (Hidy, the other Aggies respond.) My name is Buck. I'm from Shoot First, Texas, and am a junior petroleum and finance major here at Aggieland, at which point about a third of the room makes the same noise you or I would make if we sat on a wet toilet seat. I competed in UIL calculator applications, and was an all-district tackle and shot putter. I plan to graduate next year, get a job with an oil company and vote Republican.' At which point the whole room responds with "WHOO!" which apparently means, in Aggie talk, "Righteous."

"This is all foreign to me. I'm an inveterate Longhorn. Mt daughter is a UT junior. We live and die UT. But I do admire the kids at A&M and am willing to bet it all that whatever progress this nation makes in the next decade or two will be the brainchild of a couple of Aggies with graphing calculators and two hours free time.

"Fact is, I admire all these young people. While I'm sure each has their own special reason for having competed in UIL academic contests, I don't think I'm off base by suggesting they competed because: \* competing in UIL offered them an opportunity to get out of class, even out of town now and then. \* UIL provided a social circle, if not a social life. \* UIL was academically challenging at a time when some of their classes were not. \* they were forced to. Drafted. Shanghaied. They were minding their own business, listening to their MP3s or saving the world from alien vampire robots on their notebook computers, not bothering anyone, and out of nowhere, a teacher tapped them on the shoulder, thrust the Handbook to Literature in their paws and said, Read. "The remarkable thing is, they did. They read. Studied Steinbeck and Walt Whitman before, during and after school. Rehearsed the one-act play on weekends. Crunched endless calculator numbers. Survived on cold pizza, flat Dr. Pepper and stale potato chips. Rode countless miles on a beat-up school bus to invitational meets. Won some they should have lost. Lost some they should have won. Survived to tell the story.

"Chances are they did all this in relative anonymity. Might have received some recognition over the school PA system Monday morning, but probably didn't. Daily newspapers rarely cover high school kids unless they're shooting a ball or gun. Oh well. I'm satisfied knowing these kids are the best the state has to offer.

"The world is crying out for young people who are creative, diligent and disciplined, kids who are motivated by something more than celebrity and fortune. The cure for muscular dystrophy won't be found in front of a TV camera. Only those willing to devote the time, energy, focus and passion will be capable of solving our planets' most vexing problems: hunger, war, disease, injustice.

"And they'll have to overcome enormous odds to do so. The entrenched global interests will surrender their stations neither quickly nor quietly. The struggle ahead will dwarf the battles already fought. I fear. But I take heart in knowing the young people who've participated in our contests are better equipped for the coming scrape than if they'd not participated. We nudged them in the right direction and they took the jump.

"So what did they get from it, beyond possibly a medal or ribbon or trip to the Red Lobster in Lubbock or Waco? They forged friendships that will last a lifetime. They made memories they'll cherish forever. They learned how to think on the spot, how to write with power and clarity, how to speak with confidence in a public setting, how to solve a seemingly unsolvable problem.

"They learned they possessed the discipline, the grit to drag themselves out of bed at 5:30 on a Saturday morning after arriving home from an away football game at 1:30 to catch a 6:15 bus going to an invitational meet 150 miles away. They learned to survive on cold pizza, flat Dr. Pepper and stale potato chips. They learned it's OK to be smart. What more could anyone want or need?"

With thanks to Mr. Hawthorne and his eloquence, this is CCN's salute to the PHS academic team which will soon journey to Austin. We wish you the very best.

## PHS Student of the Week



PHS Student of the Week is Prisma Ortiz a senior and the daughter of Leobardo and Rosa Ortiz Prisma was nominated by Mrs. Brink, who said, "Prisma has been a real joy to have in class the last two years. She always brings a cheerful and courteous attitude with her. She has been active in athletics, student council and other school activities."

## Cowboys still alive in race for district crown

A pair of huge wins by the Cowboy Baseball Team last week kept the team and coaching hopes alive for their third consecutive district title.

They first downed O'Donnell 8-6. T.J. Cordova was winning pitcher, giving up 6 runs on 8 hits and striking out nine. On offense, Landon Craft was 2&3 a double and a RBI. Todd Williams ran for CVraft and had 3 stolen bases, and scored two runs. Tyler Caffey was 2 & 4 with a double, RBI and two runs. Adam McCravey was 2 & 3, had a RBI, two stolen bases and scored a run. Tordova had a RBI. Scott Addison was his runner and had two stolen bases and scored twice. Ramiro Martinez was 1&3, with 3 steals and 2 RBI's. Blake Parrish as designated hitter was 1 & 2.

In Saturday's game against New Home, the ten run rule downed the Leopards 11-1. Winning pitcher Caffey faced 19 batters and struckout 12 with his one hitter and a 4 - 0 season record. The Cowboys had 14 hits and upped their season batting average to .393. Batters were Craft, 2-3. Cordova 2-2, Caffey 2-3, McCravey 3-3, Martinez 2-3, Abel Ramos 2-2, and the Cowboys are 14 and 4 for the season, 9 and 2 in district play.

## Cowboy Regional Results

The Cowboys finished 7th at the Regional 1-A track meet at South Plains College April 29 and 30. Coach McWhirter reported injuries prevented some Cowboys from competing in several events. Patrick Cotton won the 800 meter run in a time of 1:59.77. He is a two time regional winner in the event, and will advance to the state meet in Austin the second time.

John Tyson finished tenth in the same event with a time of 2:09.86, an outstanding time for a freshman athlete.

Daniel Parker captured third place in the discus event, with a throw of 142.5 feet. He will be an alternate to the state meet in the event.

The 1600 meter relay team of Joseph Loya, Payton Bean, Tyler Caffey and Patrick Cotton finished in fourth place with their best time of the year, 3:26.63. Patrick had a 48.3 second anchor split, a new school record.

Payton Bean finished 6th in the 3200 meter run with a time of 10:46.69

Ben Hayes cleared 12 feet 6 inches in the pole vault, and ran 15.93 in the 110 meter hurdles.

Tyler Caffey had a personal best time of 40.4 feet in the triple jump to take 10th place in the event.

### THANK YOU!!

**We want to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, food and visits during our time of sorrow for the loss of our daughter. May God bless each and everyone in a very special way. It is so good to have wonderful friends in the community you live in. Thanks again for everything, we love you all. Johnny and Nell**

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## PHS Places In TCEA Meet

The Plains High team of Allison Friesen, Kerry Sisson and Brandon Hise competed in the prestigious Texas Computer Education Association meet in San Antonio April 30, and competing against 1A & 3A schools, placed 9th. Instructor Brad Friesen reported he was very proud of the team's efforts, and said it is unusual for a small, 1A team to place at all in the meet.

## Plains Elementary School Honor Roll 5th Six Weeks

### "A" Honor Roll

#### 1st Grade

Lionel Contreras  
Dantzen Debusk  
Genoveva Esparza  
Margaret Fehr  
Alexus Flores  
Yazmin Flores  
Briana Hernandez  
Brittany Michaleson  
Maddie Munsell  
Makenzie Patton  
Aaron Ramos  
Bailey Rios  
Sieanna Sosa

#### 2nd Grade

William Boyles  
Kristian Cueto  
Riley Earnest  
Derrick Fehr  
Clayton Gass  
Brock McWhirter  
Kasidee Taylor

### 3rd Grade

Brittney Roper  
Zackery Wilkins

#### 4th Grade

Merrit Crump  
Katie Dearing  
Isaac Fehr  
Autumn Friesen  
Stacey Loewen  
Matthew Ramos

### "A" - 1B Honor Roll

#### 1st Grade

Maysen Brown  
Jasmine Escobar  
Bethany Mares  
Analyssa Vasquez

#### 2nd Grade

Perla Corrales

#### 3rd Grade

Helena Friesen  
Herman Sawatzky  
Kelli Sellers

### STORY TIME AT THE YOAKUM COUNTY LIBRARY

The weekly Story Time was held on Wednesday, April 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Heritage Room of the Yoakum County Library.

Following the pledges to the United States and Texas flags, songs and activities included: "If You're Happy & You Know It," "I'm a Little Teapot," "Hokey Pokey," and "Five Little Monkeys." Those present enjoyed the books: LEARN THE VALUE OF CONSIDERATION; GIGGLE, GIGGLE, QUACK; and THE COW THAT GOT HER WISH.

A film entitled "Molly Moo Cow & the Butterflies" was enjoyed by Austin Robertson and Treeny and Jentry Wall.

### NEW ITEMS AT THE YOAKUM COUNTY LIBRARY

#### NONFICTION

THE ULTIMATE BOOK OF HOMESCHOOLING IDEAS by Linda Dobson  
TRAIL OF BLOOD by Wanda Evans  
FLOWERS: WHAT TO GROW & HOW TO GROW THEM by Alan Toogood  
SHADOW LIFE: A PORTRAIT OF ANNE FRANK by Barry Denenberg  
ONE SOLDIER'S STORY: A MEMOIR by Bob Dole  
TASTE OF HOME'S CONTEST WINNING ANNUAL RECIPES 2005  
TASTE OF HOME'S DIABETIC COOKBOOK 2005  
THE NEW HIDE AND SEEK by Dr. James Dobson  
LOVE MUST BE TOUGH by Dr. James Dobson

#### FICTION

POSSESSION by Ann Rife  
KILLING PLAIN by Ralph Cotton  
LOST IN THE FOREST by Sue Miller  
THE INNOCENT by Harlan Coben  
THE CHAIRMAN by Stephen Fry  
TWO DOLLAR BILL by Stuart Woods  
DREAM OF FREEDOM by Michael Phillips  
THE DRIFTER by Lori Copeland  
SUPERSTITION by Karen Robards

#### AUDIOBOOKS

TRUE BELIEVER by Nicholas Sparks  
TWO DOLLAR BILL by Stuart Woods  
WITH NO ONE AS WITNESS by Elizabeth George

#### DVDS

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS  
THE THREE FACES OF EVE  
FINDING NEVERLAND  
LOVE'S ENDURING PROMISE  
THE INCREDIBLES  
MICKY

### \* Revival Meeting \*

**Plains Assembly of God**  
Sunday, 6 PM - Monday, 7 PM  
Tuesday, 7 PM, May 1,2,3

**SPEAKER WILL BE**  
**DANNY WILLIAMS,**  
Minister, Snyder Assembly of God  
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# Lifelines & Styles

## TSA MO GA Program Features Habitat For Humanity

Perhaps Habitat for Humanity has received its greatest publicity from the involvement of former President Jimmy Carter and wife Rosalynn who lead the Jimmy Carter Work Project every year to help build houses, but it has also received acclaim from a local resident who has taken part in construction of a Lubbock home.

"Habitat for the Homeless" was the April 25 program chosen and presented by Tsa Mo Ga President Debbie Spears who helped build a Habitat home.

"Members of the Lubbock Lions Club came to our Lions Club meeting asking for volunteers," Spears said. "It was my chance to prove I was a carpenter," she said jokingly. Spears spent the weekend working on a handicapped-accessible house for a Lubbock family. "I helped with sheetrock, baseboards and cabinets."

She was part of a church service that is held for volunteers on Sunday during the building project, and was there when the house was dedicated. "It was very special to be there the day it was dedicated. The owner, who was the mother of four, cried and cried, she was so happy."

"The first thing they do when you start a house is introduced you to the family. The owner has to give hours to the project, too, and the more volunteers they bring, the more they earn towards the house," she said.

Following the project, Spears was invited to a Lions Club appreciation program at the Civic Center where she was given an award, a Habitat for Humanity block of wood. She also received the special award of a key chain because, they said, "No matter what I did, I was still smiling."

Spears encouraged people to call Habitat in Lubbock to volunteer. "You don't have to know anything to help."

The program, developed in 1976 to offer affordable housing to those in need, and its volunteers has since "built more the 175,000 houses, sheltering more than 900,000 people in more than 3,000 communities worldwide," according to website information. The program is based on 'putting faith into action,' that to 'follow the teachings of Jesus Christ we must reflect God's love, using the economics of Jesus and the theology of the hammer.'

Following the program, members were urged to continue collecting recipes for the centennial cookbook. Residents may pick up recipe forms from the library or a member. Club dues of \$25 are also due at the next meeting. Hostesses for the meeting were Mary Jo and Elouise St. Romain.

The next meeting will be held May 9 at the library, with Plains High School Student Council sponsors and students with their "Shattered Dreams" program.

## Thanks To ALL



Locals in YCHF tournament; Chad Wall, Ty Earl Powell, Wilma Powell, and Tanner Blount

**On behalf of YCH Foundation, the Board of Directors would**

**like to express their sincere gratitude to those of you who donated, whether in monetary value, physical help or just your interest and word of mouth. The money raised from this tournament will benefit the patients of Yoakum County Hospital. The 3rd annual tournament was a great success, but it could not have been such a success without the people who made it happen. A special thank you to the employees of the Yoakum County Hospital who worked in the tournament. Thank you to the cooks who labored in the heat to serve us a wonderful meal, to all the county employees, and Wiley Osborn and his staff. We look forward to next year's tournament.**



### What About

Well, everyone has been calling and asking about Mark and Beth. Nothing is wrong and no we

have not moved!

In the past couple of weeks, we have been with our son and daughter-in-law in Kansas City, MO. As many of you know, they have been expecting their first child.

Sarah had been in labor for a couple of weeks off and on so we decided to go on up to be there with them when the baby came.

On Saturday, April 23, 2005 at 1:40 pm., Alexander James (a.k.a. 'AJ') was born. He weighed 9 lbs., 13.9 oz. and was 23 inches long! That's 1 inch short of 2 full feet!

Isn't it wonderful how the Lord made each of us. This little one is in the womb and totally engulfed in fluids one minute and the next, he is breathing air like the rest of us.

It is just hard to imagine how something like that can occur. How a little one can change and become a live, breathing human being by going through the birthing process.

I also can't help but wonder how someone could have an abortion and

kill something so precious.

We did have a wonderful and refreshing time seeing Kansas City. We enjoyed the scenery as well as the beautiful fountains all around the city.

One week, all the fountains had blue water because the Kansas City Royals were in town. It is truly a show place for travelers.

The son's in-laws also were wonderful. We had only met them at the wedding in February, 2004.

So, the last couple of weeks, we were able to stay with them and the kids and really get to know each other. He is a salesman for Toyota Forklifts and she stays home and works from their website. Their website features wood carvings and beautiful ceramics and handwork. They sell it through the website.

Allen does some very unique crosses with a wonderful family story attached to each one. He also enjoys fishing and hunting deer and turkey out the back door of their home.

Bottom line, we had a wonderful time off. Everyone needs time to get away and enjoy some R & R!

BUT, we were awfully glad to get back home!

Until next time....

Mark A. Jones

## Senior Citizens Corner

Here it is May Day once again. I am told it is the international working class holiday, this first day of May. It originated long ago in pagan Europe as a festive, holy day celebrating the first spring planting. The Saxons celebrated it as the end of winter and the return of the sun and fertility of the soil. It was one of the two most popular feast days when villagers elected a "Queen of the May" from the eligible young women of the village to rule the crops until harvest. Some think our tradition of beauty pageants may have evolved from this practice. Besides the selection of the May Queen was the raising of the Maypole, around which the young men and women of the village would dance holding on to the ribbons until they became entwined with their (hoped for) new love.

Our modern celebration of May Day as a working-class holiday evolved from the 1886 struggle for the eight hour day. The unfortunate result of this struggle in Chicago, ended in some deaths of both workers and police. In Paris, in the year 1889, the International Working-Men's Association declared May 1st an international working class holiday in remembrance of those who lost their lives in that struggle; and so May Day, which had been banned for being a holiday of the common people, has been reclaimed once again for the common people.

If you enjoy reading by listening to cassette tapes, visit our Senior Center Library. Thanks to our local Yoakum County Library, there are about seventy books on tape in there now. Some are mysteries, some romance, some adventure, and there are several of the popular Tim LaHaye/Jerry B. Jenkins series on the end of time. We really appreciate this gift from the library, so check out your favorite and 'read while you work.' Return it to the library when you are finished so someone else can enjoy it too.

Are you like me these days while traveling? Instead of enjoying the countryside and watching traffic on the city streets, I find myself checking prices at the gas pumps. Unless there is a special little gas war in progress, I know exactly which pumps around the country sell gas for a few cents less than their competitors. We all know gas really isn't worth that much per gallon, but if we put it in perspective maybe we will give it another thought. Did you know that Lipton iced tea sells for \$1.19 for a 16 oz. glass which makes it worth \$9.52 a

gallon: Gatorade is \$1.59 for a 20 oz. container which totals \$10.17 per gallon; Brake Fluid costs \$3.15 for 12 oz. which is \$33.60 per gallon; a 6 oz. bottle of Nyquil costs \$8.35 which would make a gallon of that stuff worth \$178.13. Then there is Pepto Bismol which would cost \$123.20 per gallon at the current rate and a gallon of Scope would cost you \$84.48 even at Wal-mart. Having said that, let me tell you that Evian Water costs \$1.49 for 9 oz. which equals \$211.19 for water-and the buyers don't even know the source. Did you know that Evian spelled backward is NAIVE which Webster says means innocent, simple, or unsophisticated. I'm hoping this bit of humor will help ease the pain on your next trip to the gas pump.

Stanley Dahm, the area representative from the VA representing those veterans who have sight deficiencies, made his welcome visit to our area this week and stopped to have lunch with us. We appreciate this young man with his concern and willing helpfulness for those who cannot see well. Other visitors on Monday were Charlie Gillis' son and wife from Decatur, TX. On Tuesday everyone was happy to see (and get a hug from) Ruby Kennedy who left us two years ago to move to Brownfield to be nearer to her children. She says she is getting along well but still misses Denver City.

We are saddened this week to lose yet another from our Senior Center family. Lorene Randolph died on Sunday in Lubbock. We have enjoyed having Lorene and Randy share Table #3 with us for many years. We shall miss her quiet ways and remember her as an example of perfect grooming at all times. Our sympathy goes to Randy and the family.

Let me share this really neat reminder that crossed my desk this week. It says: "The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember: Noah was a drunk; Abraham was too old; Isaac was a day dreamer; Leah was ugly; Joseph was abused; Moses had a stuttering problem; Gideon was afraid; Simon had long hair and was a womanizer; Pete denied Christ; the Disciples fell asleep while praying; Martha worried about everything; Paul was too religious; Timothy had an ulcer; and Lazarus was DEAD!"

Thought for today; "God grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change..the courage to change the one I can.. and the wisdom to know it's me."

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# From The Hack

Neither REAL bad or real sad -

During his visit to China, George H.W. Bush was intrigued by a new telephone capable of connecting China with Hell. He spoke briefly with Satan and the call cost him exactly 27 cents.

When he returned home he discovered this same service was now also available in the USA. He again placed a call to Satan, but shortly after received a bill for \$12,950. Furious, he personally placed a call to the phone company. "How come the very same call only cost me 27 cents in China?" he demanded.

"Well sir," the phone company person replied, "Over there it's considered a local call."

And then, one considered mild by a preacher I am acquainted with -

"Rabbi, what shall I do? My son has converted to Christianity!"

"I really don't know," answered the Rabbi. "Come back tomorrow... I'll ask God about it."

The man comes back the next day. "I'm sorry, I can't help you. I talked to God about it and he told me he has the very same problem."

Nero's (or someones) Circus Maximus continues in Austin, and completely re-affirms the old, old definition of a politician; "a person who shakes your hand before his election, and your confidence and faith afterwards."

I recently read a collection of stuff about politicians, and because the legislative session is tantamount to open-season, no-bag limits on politicians, the following is intriguing;

A couple of cannibals were discussing their favorite entrees; one preferred missionaries because they were so sweet and tender. The second cannibal replied, "That's true, but for truly zesty dining, you just can't beat politicians!" The first guy nodded, "Well, that's right, of course, but ain't they Hell to clean?"

Politicians were once described as "kind of like a bullfrog - what ain't stomach is head, and that's mostly mouth,"

Astounding! I had absolutely no idea until today there are breeds of dogs called bichon frise's. When I saw the word in print I assumed it was some fancy new diners delight in a French hoity-toity cafe - like snail burritos. I also learned a NEW breed of dog had been bred (or cloned) in 1980, the amazing labradoodle, which is actually half labrador, half poodle. There is also another

new breed with a name that to my perverted brain sounds XXX rated - the shih-poo, which evolved from the original poodle and some creature called another nasty sounding name, the Shih Tzu. Another new dog which makes me think it should be placed on our food chain is the Schnoodle - actually, it's a cross between the poodle and schnauzer.

Aren't you elated you have been exposed to all this brainy stuff?

It's a really strange world. In Hong Kong a betrayed wife is legally allowed to kill her adulterous husband, but may do so only with her bare hands. The husband's lover, on the other hand, may be killed in any manner desired by the offended wife.

On a bumper - "If you can read this I can slam on my brakes and sue you!"

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Yoakum County, Texas

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County cordially invites the Public to attend a hearing on the topic of possible relocation and consolidation of polling place locations on the 9th day of May 2005, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at the Yoakum County Hospital. A similar meeting will be held following Monday's Commissioner's Court meeting, for residents in Plains.

The Commissioners Court is considering plans for the relocation and consolidation of polling place locations of County Commissioners Court precincts. Public comment is sincerely solicited.

### Public Notice for Commissioners Court meeting in conjunction with public hearing

Pursuant to Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code, Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners Court of Yoakum County, Texas will convene in special session on the 9th day of May 2005, at 7:00 p.m. to receive public comment on possible relocation and consolidation of polling place locations. Following the public hearing, the Commissioners Court will take up for consideration and possible action one or more alternative plans for the relocation and consolidation of polling place locations of County Commissioners Court precincts. The Court reserves the right to take any and all appropriate action regarding the relocation and consolidation of polling place locations of Yoakum.

The Public is invited to attend and participate in this meeting. Those wishing to address the Court should sign a speakers request form provided for this purpose. Each speaker will be asked to come before the Court, to identify themselves, their address, and the Commissioners Court precinct and Election Precinct they reside within. Comments should be reasonably concise and to the point. Questions will be answered, but the Court will not permit argument or excessive discussion of any particular topic. The hearing will be conducted under rules of judicial decorum. A tape recording of the hearing will be made of this hearing. Your comments will be transcribed and included with the submission of the proposed changes to existing polling place locations to the United States Department of Justice.

## AVISO DEL PÚBLICO AUDIENCIA Condado De Yoakum, Tejas

Las comisiones Court del condado de Yoakum cordialmente invita a público que atienda a una audiencia en el asunto de posible la relocalización y la consolidación de la interrogación ponen localizaciones en los 9th día de Mayo de 2005, en 7:00 p.m. Esta reunión será celebrada en el Meeting Room at the Yoakum County Hospital. A similar meeting will be held following Monday's Commissioner's Court meeting, for Plains residents.

Las Comisiones La corte está considerando los planes para la relocalización y la consolidación de la interrogación ponga las localizaciones de los recintos de comisiones Court del condado. El comentario público es solicitado sinceramente.

Público sugerido para las comisiones Reunión de la corte conjuntamente con la audiencia pública:

Conforme al capítulo 552 del código del gobierno de Tejas, aviso se da por este medio que las comisiones La corte del condado de Yoakum, Tejas convocará en la sesión especial sobre los 9th día de Mayo de 2005, en el 7:00 p.m. para recibir el comentario público sobre posible relocalización y consolidación de las localizaciones del lugar de la interrogación. Después del público oyendo, las comisiones Court tomarán para la consideración y posible acción unos o más planes del alternativa para la relocalización y la consolidación de localizaciones del lugar de la interrogación de los recintos de comisiones Court del condado. La Corte reserva la derecha de tomar cualesquiera y toda la acción apropiada con respecto a la relocalización y consolidación de las localizaciones del lugar de la interrogación de Yoakum.

Invitan el público para atender y participar en esta reunión. Ésos que desean tratar la corte si la muestra los altavoces solicitaron la forma previo este propósito. Cada altavoz será pedido venir antes de que la corte, identificarse, su dirección, y el recinto de comisiones Court y recinto de la elección residen dentro. Los comentarios deben ser razonablemente sucintos y al punto. Las preguntas serán contestada, solamente la corte no permitirá la discusión o la discusión excesiva de cualesquiera asunto particular. La audiencia será conducida bajo reglas de judicial decoro. Una grabación de cinta de la audiencia será hecha de esta audiencia. Su los comentarios serán transcritos e incluidos con la sumisión del propuesta cambios a las localizaciones existentes del lugar de la interrogación al departamento de Estados Unidos de Justicia.

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