

# Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XII, Issue 22, February 15, 2006

BAZE BOOKBINDING ADV  
514 W 7TH AVE  
AMARILLO, TX 79101



## Yoakum County Credit Union meeting on tap

The Yoakum County Credit Union will conduct their annual meeting Saturday night, February 25 in the Plains ISD cafeteria at 7 PM.

The credit union will furnish brisket, ham, potato salad, beans and drinks, and attendees are asked to bring side dishes including a vegetable, salad or dessert.

Three members of the board of directors will be elected and installed at the meeting. Board members whose terms expire are Tommie Brown, Lisa

Switzer and Kenneth Engle. Brown and Engle wish to serve another term of office, and Lisa Switzer Palmer will not seek re-election. Other nominees are Jean Patterson, Lola Elam, and Owen Schneider. Board members not up for election this year are Melvin Dearing, Ruby Sellers, Robert Canon and Lanny Smith.

YCFU manager Teddy Know noted door prizes donated by Denver City and Plains firms and individuals will be presented during the meeting.

## Presidents 2007 budget plan worries NRHA, local and area hospitals

The National Rural Health Association recently expressed deep dismay about devastating cuts included in the President's Fiscal Year 2007 budget proposal. For the third straight year, the Administration has proposed eliminating funding for several successful rural health programs and drastic cutbacks in others. Congress has reversed the cuts proposed by the President in past years. "Congress and the American people want a priority placed on rural health care," said Bill Sexton, NRHA President. "However, the actions of the President disregard the plight of rural America."

Included in the planned \$133 million cuts and reductions to

rural health programs are: Rural health flexibility grants - funding eliminated \* Small hospital improvement program - funding eliminated \* Community access program, - funding eliminated.\* Rural health network and outreach grants - funding cut \$28 million \*

Yoakum County Hospital CEO Clay Taylor, learning of the proposed budget cuts, furnished CCN with the following statement;

"The President's Fiscal Year 2007 budget proposal includes proposal to reduce and or eliminate several grant Programs. Most important of these to Yoakum County Hos-

Turn To Page 2,  
BUDGET

## 2005-06 Cotton Bonanza



Neighboring Lovington, New Mexico is back on the map of the cotton industry. Lovington Warehouse Inc. received 109,000 bales this year, most of it from nearby West Texas counties that had record harvests. "It's a ton," says

Mark Saxton, manager. This is a view of the 37 acres of outside storage across Commercial Street from the warehouse complex where 89,000 bales are stored inside. Now the cotton awaits buyers from domestic and foreign mills.

## National Animal ID System/Premise Number program for stock owners

Premise ID is part of the National Animal Identification System. A Premise ID identifies a location where livestock are handled or comingled. Producers can obtain Premise ID numbers free of charge until July 2006. **On July 1, premise registration will be compulsory in Texas.** All persons who own, manage or are caretakers for locations where livestock, exotic livestock, poultry or exotic poultry are handled must register their premises with the TAHC and submit the \$20 two-year fee. Renewal and fee payment will be required every 24 months thereafter.

This program is going to affect anyone who owns agricultural animals, whether they have one show pig or 15,000 beef cows. Animal tracking and disease control may be the impetus for the national identification program, but its benefits are not limited to those areas. Some other uses include information transfer and management, performance records, health and herd management, carcass quality tracking, age verification and source verification, to name a few.

If you are one of the producers who will be affected by this program and need further information, the following websites offer information and instruction on the registration process: <http://animalscience.tamu.edu> and <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/>. Please feel free to contact Arlan Gentry, Extension Agent for Yoakum County Extension at 806-456-2263 to obtain forms or if you have questions or need assistance.

## Council calls for General Election

The City Council for the City of Plains has called for a General Election to be held in the City of Plains Saturday, May 13, 2006/ The election will be held at the City of Plains City Hall located at 1015 Ave. F in Plains, Texas. The purpose of the election will be to elect a Mayor and two (2) Councilmembers.

Those with expiring terms are Mayor Shane McKinzie and Councilmembers Alfred Martinez and Pamela K. Redman.

The first day City Hall will be open to receive an application for a place on the ballot is Monday, February 13, 2006 and the filing deadline is 5 PM Monday, March 13, 2006. Applications for a place on the ballot can be picked up at Plains City Hall during regular working hours.

## Commissioners face lengthy, varied agenda

The February 13 session of Commissioners Court featured an agenda as varied as a can of alphabet soup.

Tax Assessor Jan Parrish reported her office collected a total of \$7,652,763 in county taxes during January. The total of all governmental entity taxes collected last month was \$37,425,773.

Sheriff Don Corzine sought permission to advertise for bids on the purchase of a VHF Project 25 Repeater System which would greatly increase the range of communications in the area. He reported the request would result in no additional costs to the county, but would be part of an earlier grant project to improve communications under the Homeland Security project. His request was approved.

## Locals take trial run on new electronic voting machines



County Clerk Debbie Rushing presented an informative program to a group of two dozen residents on the recently acquired voting machines in a meeting at the Yoakum County Library February 9. Rushing explained the voting process and demonstrated in detail how to use the machines, mandated by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The machines will be available to voters needing to use them in the country Primary Election March 7. Following the question and answer session those present had the opportunity to vote a fake ballot to become familiar with the machines.

## Four Crime Cases In District Court

Four criminal cases were heard in District Court February 9 with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Reynaldo Acosta Arenivas entered a plea bargain to order modifying terms of a prior conviction of methamphetamine, state jail felony. He must pay \$60 court cost and delinquent fees totaling \$509 on plea day, and appointed \$250 attorney fee with \$10 installments starting March 9, 2006.

Guadalupe Martinez Jr. pled true to modifying conditions of a prior conviction of aggravated assault with deadly weapon. He must pay an additional \$70 court cost. He must pay \$1230 on \$2171 delinquent fees on plea day, and the balance in monthly installments of \$100 beginning March 9. He will remain in Yoakum County jail up to 180 days or until space is available in a substance abuse facility and serve confinement and treatment for not more than one year or less than 90 days. Jimmy Hammons was his attorney.

Andres Lopez Arrellano, AKA El Jockey Arrellano, in a plea bargain judgement revoking supervision from a prior cocaine possession conviction. He was sentenced to two years in State Prison with 33 days credit jail time. Warren New was his attorney.

Joshua John Williams entered a plea bargain guilty to Burglary of habitation. A 10 year prison sentence was suspended and probated ten years. He must pay \$700 restitution to Dorothy Hornbeck. He will remain in jail here up to 180 days, or until space is available in the Ray Anderson Community Corrections Facility (CCF) for no less than one month or no more than 24 months. Angela French was his attorney, and investigating officers were Sheriff Deputies Noeoo Valdez and Danny Crutchfield.

**WANTED**

2006 Yoakum County  
Relay For Life Teams  
Please Call Stacey Meece  
592-5169 or 592-6285  
Stacey\_Meece@oxy.com  
for any questions you may have!

**2006 Yoakum County Relay for Life  
Team Captain Meeting Dates**

Tuesday, January 24th- 5:30 Oxy Office  
Tuesday, February 28th- 5:30 Wells Fargo  
Tuesday, March 28th- 5:30 First United Methodist  
Church in Denver City  
Tuesday, April 25th- 5:30 Oxy Office  
Tuesday, May 9th-5:30 Wells Fargo  
Tuesday, May 16th- 5:30 First United Methodist  
Church in Denver City


**ELECT**

# Kreg Keesee

**Candidate for County Commissioner, Precinct Four**  
*I would appreciate your vote and  
support in the Republican Primary,  
March 7, 2006*

**Early voting February 21-March 3, 2006**

Political Advertisement Paid For By Kreg Keesee




**Tim Addison**  
Candidate for County Commissioner  
of Precinct Four

.....  
*Your vote and support  
is appreciated !!*  
Republican Primary  
March 7, 2006

**Early Voting Feb. 21 thru March 3, 2006**  
Political advertisement paid for by Tim Addison

## Plains Family Health Clinic



*The professionally trained and dedicated staff of  
Plains Family Health Clinic are available and  
ready to meet the medical needs of the community*

**Prescription Assistance Friday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM**  
**For more information call 592-2121, EXT 521 or  
592-2121, EXT 506, or the Plains Clinic**  
**Please call 806-456-6365**



**MEMBER  
2006**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

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### EQIP deadline draws near

The deadline for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to accept applications for 2006 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding is February 17, 2006. Applications for EQIP funds received on or before February 17, 2006 will be ranked and funded from the ini-

## AG INSURANCE PLUS

CROP INSURANCE MPC1-CRC-CAT-CROP HAIL  
456-2788

Jim Brown, Agent  
CELL - 896-215-1054  
Home - 806-592-3490

Jeff Lowrey Assoc.  
CELL 806-592-1319  
Home 806-456-3195

**From Page 1, Budget**

pital is the elimination of the Small Hospital Improvement Program. The purpose of this grant, or SHIP, is to help small rural hospitals do any or all of the following: (1) pay for costs related to implementation of prospective payment systems (PPS); (2) Comply with provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996; and (3) reduce medical errors and support quality improvement.

Yoakum County Hospital has received through SHIP grants a total of \$37,480 over the past four years to assist with HIPAA compliance and quality improvement initiatives. While these funds have not covered the entire cost of these initiatives they have certainly been very beneficial and have helped reduce the tax burden on the citizens of Yoakum County."

Charlie Stone, Director of Office of Rural Community affairs (ORCA), said, "It's too soon to know if the cuts will be implemented. They would have negative ramifications on rural health care. Federal funded healthcare programs sustain communities, making it possible for rural Texans to contribute to the vitality and growth of the state. Loss of the funds would be deeply felt in both rural and urban areas."



**Capitol Comments  
by U.S. Senator  
Kay Bailey Hutchison**

**America has been blessed with strong leaders**

Texas celebrates Presidents' Day each year on the third Monday in February. Our first president, George Washington, was born February 22, 1732, and many states celebrate his birthday with a holiday bearing his name. In fact, the federal government officially recognizes the third Monday in February as Washington's Birthday. Individual states, however, observe their own holidays and since 1971, Texas has honored all presidents by celebrating Presidents' Day.

I have a deep respect for George Washington, who led our Revolutionary Army against the British in the fight for America's independence. His leadership in the formative years of our country paved the way for America to emerge as the bright, shining star it is today.

He also had unparalleled self-restraint. At the end of the Revolutionary War, even though he controlled a powerful army, General Washington rebuked those who urged him to become king of the new country. Instead, he resigned his post as commander in chief and dissolved the army, allowing for peaceful transfer of power.

Six years later, the country unanimously elected Washington as our first president. Despite his great popularity, he retired from office after two terms to set the precedent of voluntarily giving up the country's highest office. When King George III of England - the very man America revolted against - learned President Washington had stepped down, he stated the president's self-restraint "placed him in a light the most distinguished of any man living," and made him "the greatest character of his age."

Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president, was also born this month. President Lincoln stood out for his pragmatism and moderation. When the country was being torn apart by people from two political extremes, he sought to find a middle path. Toward the end of the Civil War, many northerners wished to punish the South, but Lincoln refused. In his famous second inaugural address, he announced a policy of forgiveness, offering "malice toward none" and "charity to all."

General William T. Sherman perhaps summed up who Abraham Lincoln was when he said, "Of all the men I ever met, he seemed to possess more of the element of greatness, combined with goodness, than any other." To this day the Republican Party is often referred to as the "Party of Lincoln."

In addition to Presidents Washington and Lincoln, I am happy to recognize all our other presidents on this holiday. Their sacrifice and service contributes to the distinguished reputation the president has today in our country and throughout the world.

Thomas Jefferson, our third president, greatly affected the early years of our country, championing the idea of government by the people. He drafted the Declaration of Independence in 1776, at the young age of 33, before being elected 20 years later. One of his most notable achievements was the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the United States and ushered in an era of westward expansion that led to the settling of Texas.

Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th president, became the youngest president ever at the age of 43, following the assassination of President William McKinley. President Roosevelt, a hero of the Spanish-American War, led the United States' emergence as a world power. Believing in diplomatic persuasion backed up by military might, he was known for quoting the West African proverb, "Speak softly and carry a big stick."

Texas has sent its share of leaders to the White House. Dwight Eisenhower, who served two terms as the 34th president, was born in Dennison. Lyndon Johnson, the 36th president, was born in Stonewall. More recently, George HW Bush, the country's 41st president, began his political career in 1969 by representing Texas in the US House, before eventually becoming president. Of course we also have George W. Bush today; our 43rd and current president, former Texas Governor George W. Bush. Our president has valiantly kept his word to defend America in the war on terror.

Please take a moment this Presidents's Day to appreciate our commanders in chief. We are blessed to have had so many strong leaders over the years.

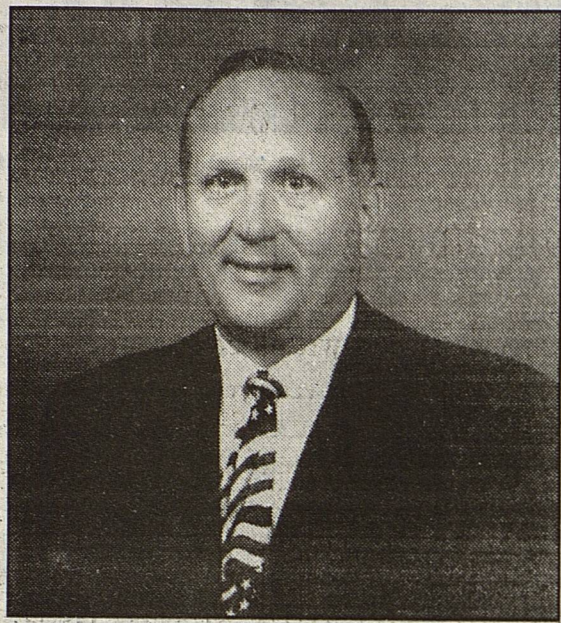


Your support in returning me to office will be sincerely appreciated

### Jack Cobb

Pct. 4 Commissioner  
Subject to the Democratic Primary March 7, 2006

Political advertisement paid by Jack Cobb



### Gregory S. Reinhart

Your Candidate for Mayor of Plains

May 13th

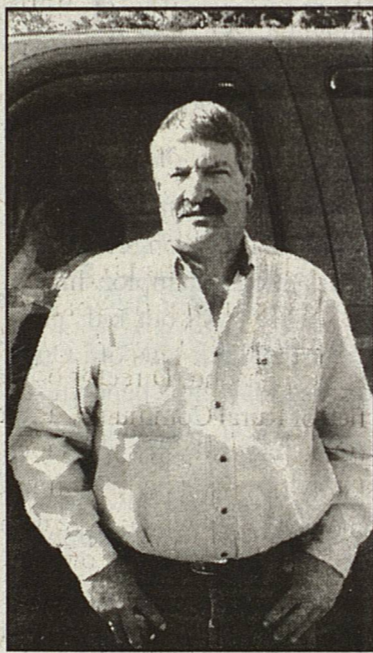
Your Vote and Support are Greatly Appreciated!  
Early Voting March 14 thru May 9

Political advertisement Paid For By Gregory S. Reinhart

Elect Steve Jones, candidate for a Full Time Commissioner in Precinct Four

*I will make every effort to be unselfish in dedicated service to the needs of this county in coming years. Your vote and support will be greatly appreciated. Early voting February 21 thru March 3, 2006*

Subject To The Republican Primary  
Political ad paid for by Steve Jones



#### NOTICE

EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE

FOR THE MARCH 7, 2006

**DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE**

La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en:

**COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, IN THE COURTHOUSE AT PLAINS AND THE DENVER CITY BRANCH TAX OFFICE, AT 122 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> ST.**

Beginning: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006  
Martes, Febrero 21, 2006

Ending: FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2006  
Viernes, Marcha 3, 2006

**VOTING WILL BE CONDUCTED MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. TILL 5:00 P.M.**

*Any qualified voter is eligible to vote early by personal appearance.*

\*\*\*\*\*

#### EARLY VOTING BY MAIL

Under certain conditions (see below) a qualified voter is eligible to vote early by mail. Application forms for ballot by mail, may be picked up at the Denver City Branch Tax Office, or at the County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, Plains. An application for ballot by mail must be received in the County Clerk's Office on or before February 28, 2006 to be eligible to vote in the Democratic and Republican Primary Election on March 7, 2006.

Conditions for voting by mail:

1. Voter is or expects to be **ABSENT FROM THE COUNTY** of the voter's residence on election day.
2. Voter has a **SICKNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY** that prevents him/her from appearing at the polling place on election day.
3. Voter is **65 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER** on election day.
4. Voter is **\*CONFINED IN JAIL**.

\* For more information on the above conditions for voting by mail, call the County Clerk's Office at 806/456-7491 Ext. 294.

Kathy Clark, Chief Administrator of the Learning Center in Denver City, brought written messages from a number of families and students attending the school. She requested a T1 electronic line to enhance distance communications for students enrolled in the Center's programs, and would be shared with the Denver City School District. The line would cost \$320 per month, which possibly could be shared by the Center and District. Clark also reported it could be possible Plains ISD could choose to share the rental cost. D.C. Hospital Administrator Clay Taylor reported on plans for the hospital and South Plains College to offer RN Nurse training over the internet in 2007. He indicated the hospital could also be involved in sharing costs of the T1 line, required in the RN program. No action was taken until more information is available. Mrs. Clark told the court the Learning Center now is serving over 90 adults and 60 children. CEO Clay Taylor reported hospital approval of an agreement

between the hospital and Covenant Medical Group Professional Coverage would actually lower cost of coverage by approximately \$100,000, from \$920,000 annually to \$820,000. The new plan was approved. Taylor also reported the Board would soon interview a physician for possible staff employment as the fifth physician. The Court heard a request from the Denver City Fire Department for the county to furnish a 10 percent matching grant for the purchase of a new brush fire fighting truck. The court approved funding \$11,300 for the purchase of the truck.

#### NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioner's Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4:00 PM. Thursday, March 2, 2006, for the PURCHASE of Communication Equipment Upgrades- VHF Project 25 Repeater System

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court Monday, March 6, 2006.

For more information and specifications, please contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-7491 Ext. 292, PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 or you may also contact Don Corzine, Yoakum County Sheriff, 806/592-2747, 1010 N. Main, Denver City, Texas 79323.

Sealed bids should be marked "COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/ Cowboy Way and Avenue G. Plains, Texas 79355. **NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

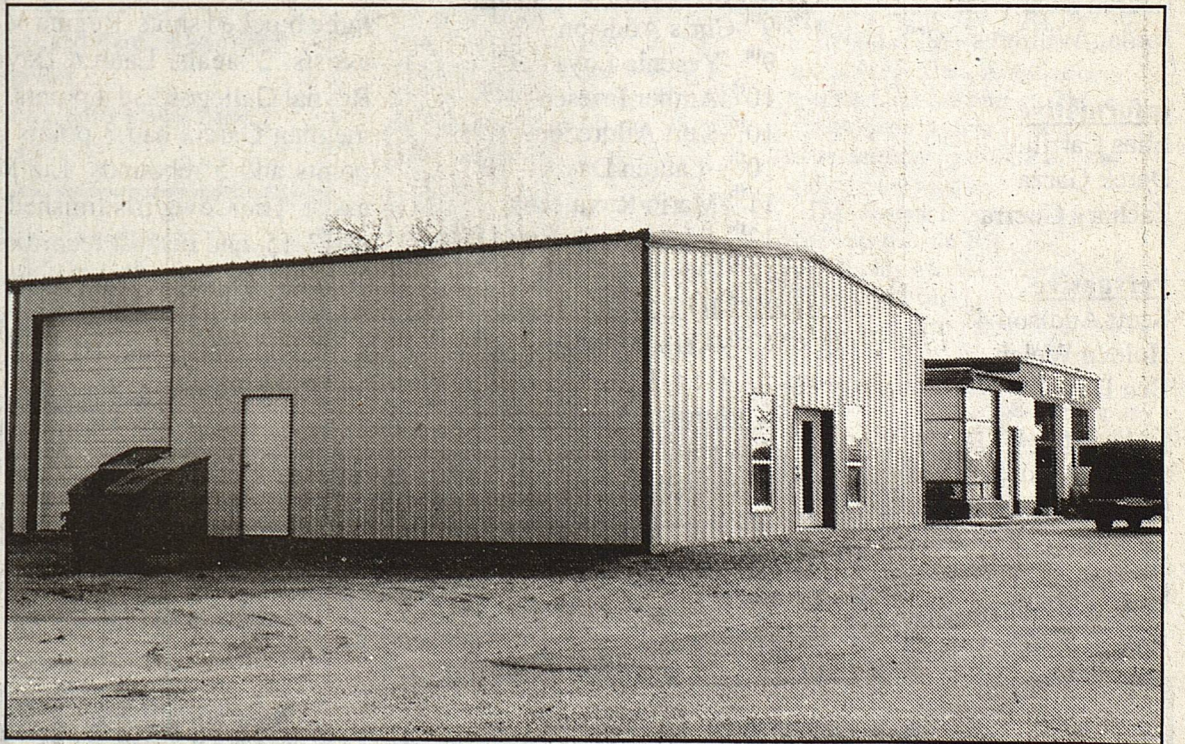
Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

## Is "The Donald" Trump Here?

### Entrepreneurship abounds on Cowboy Way



The 'Amigas Burritos and More' ladies will soon open their new location in the old Credit Union building



Tim Willis will soon open his new, 1600 sq. ft. parts store, right next door to his automotive repair and tire shop.



The old and not so slightly storage building beside the laundry is being totally rejuvenated into a ten table restaurant, and will be even larger with another planned addition.

2005 - 06 Varsity Cowgirls & Cowboys



Reyna Gallegos, Meghan Garcia, Katie Winn, Regina Morales, Lauren Hise, Joani Bell, Desiraye Broome, Lauren Davis



Todd Williams, Abel Ramos, T.J. Cordova, Zach Ramos, Blake Parrish, Blake O'Quinn, Landon Craft, BJ Lester, Scott Addison, Casson Curtis

**PISD Activities**

**PHS UIL Academics:**

The team placed 2nd overall behind 3-A Lubbock Cooper at the Monterrey UIL met Feb. 11. Journalism students were unable to compete. Number sense, science, math and computer science teams all placed second, and the calculator team was first.

**Current Events Team 2nd**

Colby Wilmeth  
Zachary Guerra  
Heather Parrott  
Edgar Munoz

**Ready Writing**

Maria Andazola 4<sup>th</sup>  
Flor Lara  
Angelica Mendoza 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Number Sense Team 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9<sup>th</sup>-Chris Addison  
10<sup>th</sup>-Amber Friesen-4<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>-Kurt Alldredge - 1<sup>st</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-David Alldredge - 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-Adam McCravery - 7<sup>th</sup>

**Accounting**

Ramiro Martinez

**Prose**

Maretta Trent

**Poetry**

Lauren Hise - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Jordan Williams - 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Informative**

Elias Carrillo  
Derek Garza  
Zachary Guerra

**Persuasive**

Scott Addison 4<sup>th</sup>  
Holden Welch  
Ben Hays

**Calculator 1<sup>st</sup> Team**

9<sup>th</sup>-Chris Addison - 1<sup>st</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup>-Landon Earnest  
10<sup>th</sup>-Amber Friesen - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>-Lauren Davis - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-Allison Friesen - 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-BJ Lester 3<sup>rd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Spelling**

Maria Andazola - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Flor Lara - 6<sup>th</sup>

**Science 2<sup>nd</sup> Team**

9<sup>th</sup>-Chris Addison - 1<sup>st</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup>-Yesenia Loya - 6<sup>th</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup>-Landon Earnest  
10<sup>th</sup>-Amber Friesen - 10<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>-Kurt Alldredge - 7<sup>th</sup>  
11<sup>th</sup>-Mario Ruvalcaba  
11<sup>th</sup>-Antonio Martinez - 9<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-BJ Lester  
12<sup>th</sup>-David Alldredge  
12<sup>th</sup>-Adam McCravery - 9<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-Allison Friesen - 8<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-Michael Crump 4<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>

**Computer Science 2<sup>nd</sup> Team**

Allison Friesen - 6<sup>th</sup>  
Adam McCravery - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Amber Friesen - 5<sup>th</sup>

**Social Studies**

Reyna Gallegos

**Mathematics 2<sup>nd</sup> Team**

9<sup>th</sup>-Chris Addison - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup>-Yesenia Loya - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>-Amber Friesen - 4<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>-Kurt Alldredge - 6<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>-Lauren Davis - 10<sup>th</sup>  
11<sup>th</sup>-Mario Ruvalcaba  
12<sup>th</sup>-Adam McCravery - 7<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-David Alldredge - 5<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>-BJ Lester  
12<sup>th</sup>-Allison Friesen - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Computer Applications**

Antonio Martinez  
Araceli Mendoza

**Literary Criticism**

Nancy Lozano

Middle School Math/Science Meet; The 6th, 7th and 8th teams took a 300 mile trip to Garden City to compete in the TMSCA meet, and Wrangler math and science teams had a 4th place Sweepstakes showing. The science and math teams took first and second places respectively. Individual results included:

8th Science team- Nathan McCravery 1st, Justin Taylor 3rd, Troy Parrish 4th  
7th Science- Jaxon Bean 6th, Kathryn Bolshazy 10th.  
6th Science- Zachary Lamar 1st, Chris Davis 6th, Troy Alldredge 7th, Sam Melendez 10th.

Math, calculator and number sense individual results were unavailable. Competitors in the meet included Trowy Alldredge, Chris Davis, Zachary Lamar, Sam Melendez, Denise Tarango, Jaxon Bean, Kathryn Bolshazy, Forrest Booth, Christian Botello, Theo Cordova, Dylan DeBusk, Samantha Delarosa, Roberto Reyna, Shalin Taylor, Federico Villegas, Hunter Welch, Robert Davis, Nathan McCravery, Troy Parrish, Justin Taylor.

**SPORTS:**

7th Wrangler Basketball: The 7th boys capped an amazing year with a final 45-35 win over Smyer for a 14-1 season record, a perfect 10-0 district win and two tournament championships. Coach Davis summed up the season saying "All our kids got almost equal playing time and all 15 hustled their tails off. Our starters claimed a small lead and then the kids off the bench just ran them to death. That was our strength all year. We didn't have just a few players, we had a TEAM."

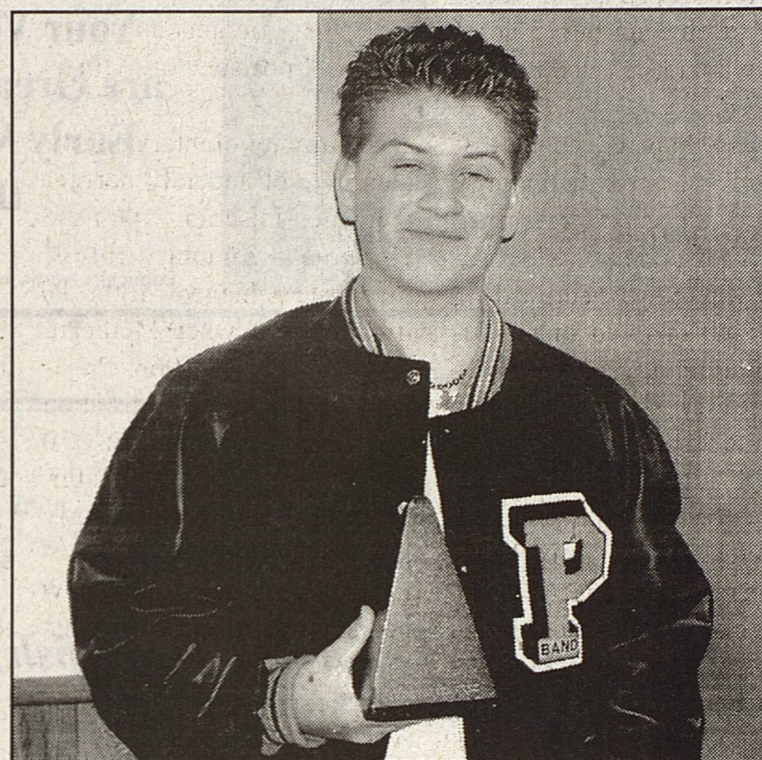
JV Cowgirl Basketball: The younger Cowgirls were downed by Smyer 41-20. Katie Winn had 9 points, Yesenia Loya 4, Kimber Williams 4, Mari Ruiz 3.

Varsity Cowgirls: The Cowgirls traveled to Smyer and lost 48-32. Desiraye Broome had 9 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists and three blocked shots, Regina Morales had 6 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals. Lauren Davis had 6 points and 5 rebounds, Reynal Gallegos had 4 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals. Meghan Garcia had 3 points and 5 rebounds, Joani Bell had 2 points and 5 rebounds, Liz Perez 2 points, 1 rebound and 1 assist. The Cowgirls finished the season with an overall record of 13-15, and district record of 1 and 9.

Varsity Cowboys- The Cowboys were downed by Smyer 59-38. Blake Parrish topped scoring with 11 points, Landon Craft had 8, Cassin Curtis and BJ Lester 5 each, Blake O'Quinn 4, Abel and Zach Ramos 2, Scott Addison 2.

They closed out their season with an outstanding win over O'Donnell, 77-62. O'Quinn topped scoring with 17 points, followed by TJ Cordova 16, Landon Craft 12, Curtis 10, Abel Ramos 8, Lester 7, Addison, Todd Williams and Parrish 2 each. They finished with a season record of 15 wins, 14 losses, and in district were 4 and 6.

**Student of the Week**



Student of the Week is Colby Ortega, a sophomore and the son of Treon Ortega and grandson of Joe and Sandy Cobb. He was nominated by Mrs. O'Quinn, who said, "Colby is a quiet source who sees things get done. Many may not realize the time, dedication and responsibility he gives behind the scene, because he does it without a big show to help several organizations be great successes. He is eager to engage in any opportunity to grow and experience life. He extends that to the classroom where he writes about his experiences, and relates them to the big picture. He is a pleasure to have in class, day in, day out, a solid rock!"

**Early Voting**  
**February 21 thru**  
**March 3**

**BENZENE ALERT**

Benzene is a known carcinogen linked to **LEUKEMIA** and various other forms of **CANCER**. If you or a loved one has suffered serious injury, such as **AML, MDS, NHL** or even death after exposure to benzene, especially prior to 1986, you may be entitled to a **CASH SETTLEMENT**. Call James Rolshouse & Associates toll free at 1-888-625-2460 for more information.

James Rolshouse is licensed in MN with principal offices in Burnsville MN, but associates with experienced lawyers throughout the U.S.

**YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO MONEY DAMAGES**

**TOLL FREE 1-888-625-2460**

**FIND THE HERO WITHIN**

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Or call 1-800-44-PRIDE (1-800-447-7433)

**SCHNEIDER**

**CASH NOW** As seen on T.V.

FOR STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS, ANNUITIES and INSURANCE PAYOUTS

**(800) 794-7310**

J.G. Wentworth means CASH NOW for Structured Settlements!

**\* AUCTION \***

February 24, 10 AM,

**Jack's Car Wash**

Plains, Texas, will be sold to the highest bidder. For more information, please call Gary at **806 - 637 - 3589**

**COMPANY PAID CDL TRAINING!**

Call now to find out about our recent pay increase!

- No Experience Needed!
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**South Plains area peanut production workshops on tap**

Farmers can update their peanut knowledge at either of two annual Texas A&M peanut production workshops scheduled for Seminole February 28 or Levelland March 1. Both meetings will begin registration at 8:30 AM, include a free lunch sponsored by Western Peanut Growers and Texas Peanut Producers Board, and conclude by 2:30 PM. The Seminole meeting will emphasize Runner and Valencia peanuts and will be held at the

Gaines County Civic Building, NW 5th and NW Ave. E. The Levelland meeting will emphasize Spanish and Valencia peanuts and be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1011 Houston. Topics will include varieties, fertility, marketing and irrigation. At least three CEUs will be available. For more information or to pre-register for the meal, contact Yoakum County Extension office, 806-456-2263.

# Lifelines & Styles

## Medicare D not up to high standards of Medicare A and B

By Lubbock Guest Writer Peter Laverty

Editors Note - This is the ONLY report and explanation of the touted Medicare D prescription drug plan so generously offered by our government which I half understand. Read on.

“Less than ten percent of people who could voluntarily choose a prescription drug plan have done so. Most seniors who most need a drug plan are frustrated and bewildered about a program that is needlessly complex and is proving itself unreliable to some. The reasons for low enrollment numbers are evident. Our elected officials in Washington refused to enact a Medicare drug plan. Instead, 43 million Americans are being offered a subsidized industry of profit-making insurance plans hawking incomprehensible benefit packages, one more incomprehensible than the next. Any honest appraisal of the drug program's current performance would appear to demand an immediate restructuring to enact a drug benefit that would offer nationwide, understandable and affordable, drug coverage through Medicare. OK, that might be impossible, but I can dream, can't I? It now be beyond repair.

The 6.2 million impoverished Americans who lost their Medicare drug coverage January 1 are among those at grave risk of catastrophic harm because they are being transitioned to this Medicare drug program. Transitioned without the education needed to assure compliance. Many of those in Lubbock who lost their Medicare drug coverage January 1 and automatically enrolled into the new Medicare D program are still

waiting for their new drug cards. Many of the poorest amongst us cannot afford this month's prescription drug because the programs automatic card was not sent to them in time.

The current voluntary enrollment rate of under 10 percent compares miserably with the 93 percent voluntary enrollment rate achieved in the 11 month period when Medicare was launched in 1966. President Johnson signed legislation allowing Medicare on July 30 1965. Eleven months later, when coverage began, nearly all eligible Americans had voluntarily signed up for the new health program and knew what to expect.

Medicare D's "extra help" was to be available to over 7.2 million low income people with Medicare according to the Social Security Administration. This was the population the program was established for; those whose income fell just above the Medicare cutoff for assistance. Yet only 14 percent of those who would benefit most with this extra help program have applied. Most were never properly informed they needed to apply to qualify, didn't know the benefit existed or couldn't figure out HOW to apply.

Am I wrong? Am I so out of touch with Washington I should expect a program expected to cost American taxpayers upwards of \$750 billion over the coming years to work?

What we have is a drug program with over fifty plans available in the Lubbock area. Plans in many instances are more costly than buying prescription's at Sam's.

## Art Association Meets

The Yoakum County Art Association met February 7, 2006, in the clubroom with thirteen members present along with a guest and guest speaker. President Lisa Gentry called the meeting to order and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Linda Powell brought information to our group about the upcoming Centennial of Yoakum County in 2007. We were all encouraged to get involved in this historical event.

Susie Powell introduced the guest artist for the evening, Vivian Rice, from Denver City. She started a large oil painting and explained the techniques she uses.

Hostesses for the evening were Linda Harris and Janelle Brantley.

## Plains students on SPC honor lists

Three Plains students were named to the South Plains College President's and Dean's Honor Lists for the fall 2005 semester.

"It's exciting to see students achieving high grade point averages and we want to recognize this accomplishment by naming them to the honor lists," said Darrell Grimes, vice president of academic affairs.

Marlie Diaz was named to the President's List while Audrey Navarrete and Joseph Rodriguez were named to the Dean's Honor List.

Students named to the Presidents' Honor List must earn 4.0 grade point average while carrying at least 12 credit hours.

Students named to the Dean's Honor List must have earned at least a 3.25 grade point average with no failing grades while carrying at least 12 credit hours.

## YOAKUM SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Is currently accepting applications for scholarships to be awarded for the Fall of 2006

Eligible applicants to include

- 1) A Yoakum County high school graduating senior.
- 2) A Home schooled resident of Yoakum County
- 3) A Yoakum County resident returning from active duty in the Armed Services is eligible.

Applicant does not have to be majoring in agriculture to be eligible.

For more information or an application call 806 456-3703 ext. 3

Bridal Shower Honoring  
**Kiley Gifford**  
Bride Elect Of  
**Justin Bennett**

Sunday, February 19, 2006, 2-3:30 PM in the home of  
**Mrs. Tonya Patton**

8 miles East Brownfield Hwy, turn South 1.75 mi., house on right

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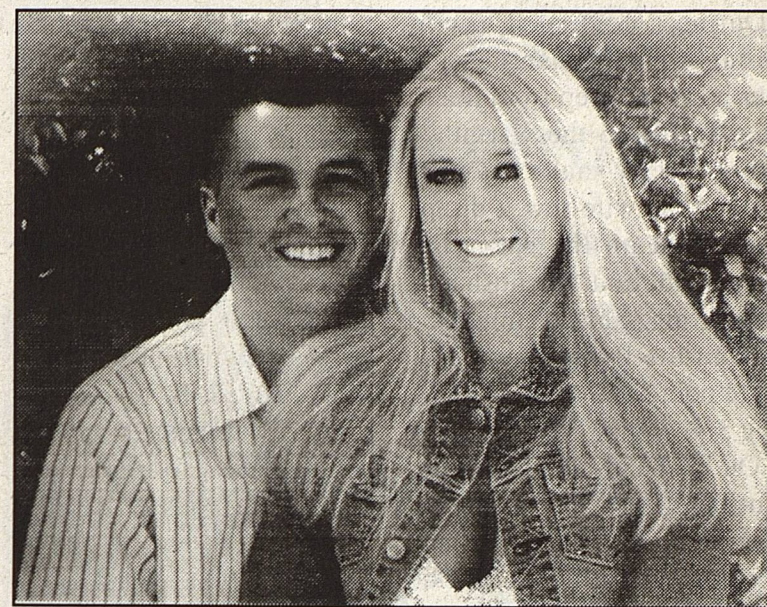
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## Couple Announce Wedding Plans



Roger and Diane Bennett of Plains and Kenneth and CeCe Hunter of Las Cruces, New Mexico announce the engagement of their children, Justin Neil Bennett of Brownfield and Kiley Lane Gifford of Lubbock. The couple will wed on March 4, 2006 at the First Baptist Church of Plains. Following the wedding the couple will reside in Lubbock

## Texas Yes!

Texas Department of Agriculture

New TDA Program Supports a First Impression Worth Making

By Agriculture Commissioner  
Susan Combs

When we want to impress we know to put our best face forward. First impressions are often lasting. The same principle holds true for small communities that are working hard to draw new visitors. Communities that look welcoming and attractive are much more likely to see visitors' brake lights as they stop for a look, rather than their tail-lights as they keep on driving.

Fortunately, little changes can make a big difference. Items such as welcome signs, decorative light poles, planters and benches can add the extra touch that shows a community is worth a stop. And visitors who stop often stay to dine, shop and explore, an important boost for local economies.

To support rural communities in these efforts, the Texas Department of Agriculture has launched the

Texas Yes! Rural Beautification program. This one-time matching funds program will reimburse communities up to \$5,000 for downtown beautification projects. Each award will require a one-to-one match, but up to \$2,500 of the total match amount can be in the form of in-kind support from the community. This can include items such as volunteer labor, landscaping materials, paint and cleaning supplies.

The program is open to city governments that are Texas Yes! Community Members. Texas Yes! is TDA's broad-based membership program designed to market and promote rural Texas. For details, program information, guidelines and applications, call our toll-free line at (877) 428-7848. Information is also available at our Web site, [www.agr.state.tx.us](http://www.agr.state.tx.us).

### Dairy Queen Jobs are a Real Treat !!

Plains Dairy Queen is accepting applications for part-time employees. Benefits include flexible scheduling, free stock ownership, paid time off, and career opportunities. Please stop by the DQ at 1105 Cowboy Way to apply in person.

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## From The Hack

It makes one feel warm and fuzzy knowing you have friends you can steal from. I have read this tale before, but this more detailed version from Stephen Henry, Mogul of the Levelland & Hockley County News Press, continues to be a classic;

### The Little Green Snake

During a cold spell a wife brought potted plants inside her house to keep from freezing. Inside in the warmth a small green snake crawled out and the wife saw it disappear beneath the sofa. She screamed, and her husband, showering, came running naked to the living room. The wife pointed to the sofa, yelling SNAKE!

On his hands and knees the husband searched under the sofa at the same time the family dog strolled in, and cold-nosed the husband, who thought the snake had bitten him there, fainted. The wife thought he'd had a heart attack, and frantically called EMS. The attendants arrived, and rushed to load him on the stretcher. On the way out, the snake slithered out from under the sofa, and one EMT guy was startled enough to drop his end of the stretcher. The husband fell off, breaking his leg.

The wife still feared the snake and called a neighbor, who rushed in and probed beneath

the couch with a rolled newspaper, and finally told the wife he thought the snake was gone. Relieved, she sat down on the sofa, to relax, when the snake wiggled over her hand, and she promptly fainted.

The neighbor saw she was out cold and decided to bring her around with CPR. At that time, his wife, returning from the grocery, heard the racket, came in to the living room to see her husband with his mouth glued to the fainted wife, and slammed her husband with a #2 can of spinach, knocking him cold and cutting his scalp badly. Another ambulance was called. All the noise woke the wife from her dead faint, and she saw her neighbor on the floor, his wife bending over him, weeping, and she assumed he had been bitten by the snake.

She rushed to the kitchen, returned with a bottle of brandy and began pouring it down his throat. At this point, the police arrived, saw the unconscious man, smelled the brandy and assumed a drunken brawl had occurred. About to arrest everyone in the house, the cops heard the two women try to explain it all happened over a little green snake. One of the cops saw the snake, pulled his pistol and fired at the snake. His aim was faulty, and he hit an endtable lamp, which shattered and set the drapes ablaze. The other officer rushed to help put out the blaze but tripped and fell through the drapes and window, onto the family dog, so startled it raced out in the street. An oncoming car swerved to avoid the dog, hit the parked cop car, setting it afire.

By now the burning drapes in the house had spread, and the entire house was ablaze. The fire department was called, and soon trucks were racing to the scene. Unfortunately one truck began raising its ladder too soon and tore down overhead power lines, knocking out power in a large area of the city. Time Passed. All damage

was ultimately repaired and replaced. The next late fall the original couple were watching TV news, predicting a strong cold front arrival. The husband asked his wife if she thought he should bring the plants inside.

She Hurt Him Seriously!

### TRUTHS:

Depression is merely anger without depression.

I drive much too fast to worry about cholesterol.

Shin: a device for finding furniture in the dark.

Laughing stock; cattle with a sense of humor.

### NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4 PM, Thursday, February 23, 2006, for the SALE of one (1) Chevrolet and the SALE of one (1) 2003 Crown Victoria. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, February 27, 2006

For more information, please contact Darinda McWhirter, County Auditor, 806/456-7491 Ext. 292 or P.O. Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355. To see the vehicles, please contact Estefana Mendoza, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, 806/592 8027

Sealed bids should be marked, "SALE OF JPO VEHICLE" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

### NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4 PM Thursday, February 23, 2006, for the PURCHASE of one (1) 2006 SUV with or without trade in of a 2001 Chevrolet Impala and a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, February 27, 2006.

For more information, please, contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-7491 Ext. 292 or PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355. To see the vehicles please contact Estefana Mendoza, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, 806/592-8027.

Sealed bids should be marked "JPO VEHICLE" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456 Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids

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### Public Notice

Pursuant to Article 258.002(c) of the Texas Transportation Code, the Commissioners Court of Yoakum County, Texas provides this notice to the public of its intention to convene a public meeting to receive comment upon the adoption of a County Road Map including each road in which the County claims the continued existence of a public interest and a right of access and egress for maintenance of an existing County Road. The roads in which the County claims a public interest have been maintained for many years, beginning some time prior to 1981, have previously been listed in a notice included in the 2005-06 Ad Valorem Tax statement. A proposed County Road Map depicting each road in which the County claims a public interest is available for inspection by the public at the office of the County Judge in the County Courthouse, during business hours, commencing December 1, 2005.

The Commissioners Court will conduct a public hearing on February 27, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Yoakum County Courthouse. At this time, pursuant to Article 258.002(b), Texas Transportation Code, any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may appear before the Commissioners Court to object or protest the County's claim of its right to continue maintenance of the public roads depicted on the County Road Map. Any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may also file a written protest with the County Judge at any time before the time and date of the scheduled public hearing. By way of this procedure, the County makes no claim affecting title, acreage, or ownership of the land, but seeks merely to establish and document the right of the County to continue maintenance of the existing county road in its present location and dimension.

*Dolores L. Rushing*  
County Clerk

### Advertisement For Management and/or Professional Services

The City of Plains has recently received a contract award #1000457 from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Owner Occupied Home Rehabilitation through the HOME Investment Partnership Program. The award includes \$170,564 for hard and soft costs and \$6,823 in administrative costs. Accordingly, the Contract Administrator is seeking to contract with a qualified professional management consultant to implement and administer the HOME contract activities.

Please submit your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for these proposed services to Attn: Pam Rowe, PO Box 550, Plains, TX 79355. A copy of the proposal format is available at 1015 Ave. F, Plains, TX 79355.

The Contract Administrator must receive proposals no later than March 13, 2006 to be considered. The Contract Administrator reserves the right to negotiate with any and all firms that submit proposals, per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-102.

The City of Plains is an Affirmative marketing/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages Historically Underutilized Businesses to submit proposals.

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