

Cowboy Country News

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



Volume X, Issue 28, March 24, 2004

Lovely Harbinger Of Spring



This beautifully blooming apricot tree in the Dennis and Melba Crutcher front yard was in full bloom on Saturday, March 20, the first day of Spring this year. Recent rain showers have all local fruit trees in fine condition for a harvest, barring late freezing weather.

Combs declares Western High Plains Zone suppressed of weevils

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs recently declared the five counties in the Western High Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone as "Suppressed" - one of seven Eradication Zones obtaining this status.

Suppressed means less than 0.025 boll weevils were found per trap per week during the cotton growing season. "This is a great milestone in Texas' fight against boll weevils, a destructive pest that has plagued our state's cotton industry for more than a century," Combs said. "The determination and hard work of cotton growers in the Western High Plains Zone, the Texas Legislature and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation helped us reach this goal.

"Boll weevils cause more than \$200 million in crop losses and crop protection treatment costs in Texas every year, so obviously our ultimate goal is to eradicate this pest in Texas completely. Now we are much closer to that day," Combs said.

"It is indeed a proud moment for our producers when we can claim a region is nearing a weevil-free status," said Senator Robert Duncan from Lubbock. "This spirit of hard work and cooperation for a common goal is commendable, and I hope it will continue as we face other challenges in rural Texas."

Growers in the Western High Plains Zone initially approved a boll weevil eradication program in 1999. The Zone covers almost 900,000 acres in Andrews, Gaines and Yoakum counties, and parts of Lynn and Terry counties.

Other Boll Weevil Eradication Zones obtaining suppressed status today were the Southern High Plains Caprock around Lubbock; Northern Rolling Plains around Childress; Northern High Plains around Plainview; Permian Basin around Midland, Odessa; Northwest Plains around Hereford, and El Paso/Trans-Pecos around El Paso. More than 4 million acres of cotton are farmed in the suppressed zones.

Farm Marketing Educational program

The Texas Cooperative Extension in Yoakum, Gaines, Terry and Cochran counties are hosting an Educational Marketing Program for agricultural producers on Tuesday, March 30, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Plains Community Building, according to Arlan Gentry, CEA-Ag. Gary Six with the FSA office

in Plains will explain Farm Bill payments and timing of those payments. Extension Economist, Dr. Jackie Smith, and Jay Yates, both of Lubbock, will discuss cotton and peanut marketing strategies as well as Farm Bill implications for 2004.

City Looks At Low Income Housing

The City of Plains is applying for a federal home program grant to build very low income housing for qualified home owners in the city limits.

Applications for these homes must meet strict eligibility requirements as specified by the Federal Government. The homes will be small three bedrooms, one bath homes with central heat and air.

Interviews will be conducted Thursday, March 25, 2004. Contact City Hall at 806-456-2288 if you have questions.

DWI Case

In County Court March 18, Judge Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state, George Gilbert Patchell pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .092/.095. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$600 and must pay \$226 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 24 hours community service, complete the DWI first offender program, and pay \$50 monthly supervision fees. Jail time was waived due to defendant's age. David Rogers, for Hal brockett Jr., was his attorney, and Chris Malloy, DPS, was investigating officer.

The last day to register to vote in the upcoming May 15 City Election is April 15, 2004. You MUST be registered in order to vote in this important election, to select two City Council Members and a Mayor.

School Finance and the Legislature

By James Haynes, Superintendent, Plains ISD

The Joint Select Committee on Public School Finance, which is a committee composed of select State Senators and Representatives, has issued an Executive Summary concerning their suggestions and thoughts about how to deal with the problem of school finance. Unfortunately, they address much more than the issue of school finance. Their ideas would involve a complete overhaul of what they consider to be a broken education system in our state.

The legislature was the first to brag when Texas was being recognized as one of the most innovative and successful states in the nation for our education system and its outcomes. When the media was talking about how well the schools of Texas were doing compared to other states in the nation the legislature was willing to take all the credit for the design of the system and its outcomes. Unfortunately, all is forgotten when the need arises to provide additional money to keep the system one that supports education for all students. When the need for more money arises because of the increase in student population, need for more teachers, and to maintain stu-

dent performance levels, the legislature, from the governor on down, must start pushing the need for more accountability, and their story changes to how the schools aren't performing.

The truth is, the best way to rationalize not spending additional money for education is to talk about poor results and then complain the money being spent currently is not being spent on public education that works. In other words, they don't think the state is getting its moneys worth for the education dollars it is spending now, so they don't want to spend any additional dollars without accountability strings attached.

The Executive Summary from the Joint Select Committee on Public Education Finance discusses the fact there should be performance incentives for schools whose students do well on the state tests. The states would reward the schools with more money for each student passing the state tests and graduates from high school. Schools would receive even more money for each student who is poor, at-risk of dropping out, limited English speaking of from a minority group that normally doesn't do well in

school. There is a huge problem with this approach. It assumes enough money already exists to do the job of educating these students. The legislature is asking educators to meet more strenuous guidelines without providing additional money up front. This is the equivalent of asking a contractor to build a new building and not putting any money into the project until it is finished. All we hear from the legislature and from business is, we should run education more like a business. I wonder how many businesses could or would start a new project or introduce a new project without putting money into the project up front.

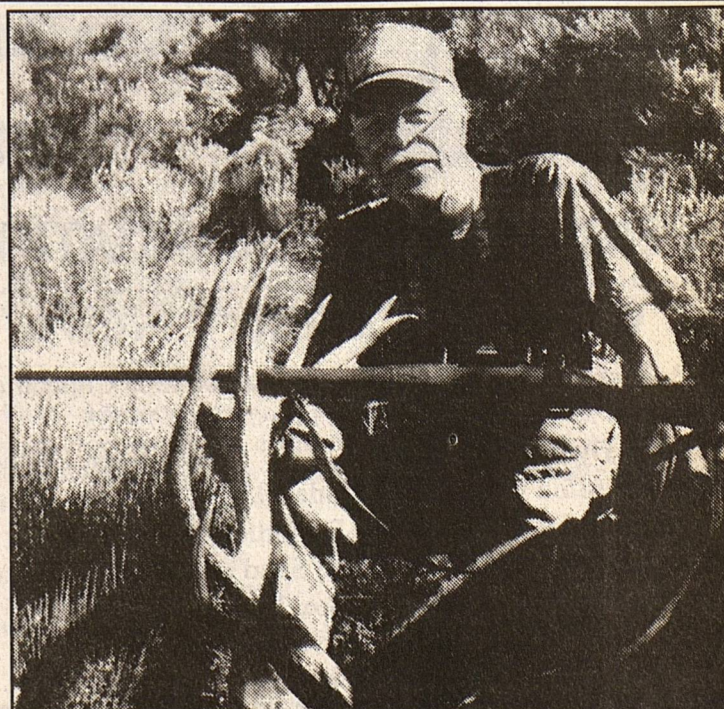
Texas has one of the most diverse student populations in the nation. Students come from varying ethnic backgrounds, from diverse family settings, from different socio-economic levels and with different moral values, which make education of the overall population by nature, a hard population to educate. Despite this, our system has been at the front of the reform movement and has been recognized nationally for the students performance. Now

Turn to Page 2, "School"

Big game hunters dream room



The photo above was taken in the den of Lovington resident Tom Peveler, an avid big game hunter, whose taxidermy skill is responsible for the outstanding game mounts shown. The room displays mounts of plains game from South Africa taken on two safaris, and mounts of North American big game, including deer, antelope, bison, and a Texas exotic Dall sheep. Tom, a retired Lea County Sheriff Deputy, has been performing taxidermy work almost five years. The photo on the right shows Tom with a Red Stag deer, collected on a trip last week to New Zealand. The den now displays 33 impressive mounts, and he is doing finishing work on nine more animals.



**From Page, 1
'School'**

our legislators from the governor on down would have you believe we can only be successful by dangling a carrot for more money in the form of performance incentives in front of us. At one point in time the state provided over 50 percent of the money needed to cover the cost of public education. The amount has been steadily shrinking over the past few years because of new students coming into the system at the rate of about 70,000 students per year, and because of increased performance requirements and unfunded mandates from the state. Unfunded mandates are rules, regulations or programs the state requires of the school districts, but doesn't provide money to support. This year the money provided by the state only covers 38 percent of the cost of educating the children. All of the loss from state income had to be made up at the local level using property taxes.

I have expressed my concern about the course the legislature is taking on the issue of school funding, so what would I suggest? First, the state should forget the notion there is enough money currently in the system to cover the costs of education for our children. A state with a growing student population and with high expectations for student achievement must be willing to cover the cost of the program. As the number of students grow and the expectations for their performance grow, so should the money to pay for it.

Second, the state must look for other ways to fund education and drop its total reliance on property taxes. Using property taxes to fund education is not requiring many of the people that will be helped by a better education to participate in the funding of the program. The businesses of our state that provide services do not pay taxes at all to help support education, and there are loopholes some companies have to avoid pay-

ing taxes as well. The state must find a way to get support in the form of taxes from a wide range of businesses and citizens.

Third, I think the state needs to allow time for full implementation of the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) and its evaluation portion, the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) test. The school systems in the state have been very successful meeting the challenges provided by our legislature, and will meet new challenges as well.

Fourth, we must first decide if we want to sacrifice vocational education, so we can tell everyone they will be prepared for college when they leave high school. We must first answer the question; does every student want to go to college, or do some students want to learn a trade or skill? I think we should prepare every student to achieve whatever they want to, and that means addressing the need of some of those students to learn a trade or skill. We then need to continue to test students who are on a course toward college the way we have been, and find ways to test students who are on a vocational course in a way which accurately examines their knowledge of the trade of skill they want to pursue. This idea would also require some altering of our current educational plan, but I believe it would benefit the states student population the most.

Finally, the state must provide funding formulas allowing for differences in cost of educating students in different areas of the state. There are economies of scale that cannot be accessed in small rural districts, but those districts are important to the existence of many small communities around our state. There are also areas that must pay more for teachers because they are more challenging to work in, or they are in isolated areas of the state. These areas still need highly qualified teachers to maximize the learning of their students, and that

**ELECT
KAREN BEARDEN**

for
**YOAKUM COUNTY
TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR**



- ★ 7 years combined service in District Clerk & County Clerk offices
- ★ Bookkeeping & records management experience
- ★ Work closely with other county offices
- ★ Election & voter registration experience

**REPUBLICAN RUN-OFF ELECTION:
APRIL 13TH
EARLY VOTING: APRIL 5TH—APRIL 8TH
PLAINS—COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
DENVER CITY—TAX OFFICE**

PAID POLITICAL AD BY KAREN BEARDEN, P.O. BOX 935, PLAINS, TEXAS 79355

means higher pay to attract them.

Thesolving of the education funding problem will not be easy. Our legislators and our governor must pay attention to

the human cost of funding education properly, and not be lured into a misguided idea simply setting higher standards and offering incentives to reach the goal will solve the problem.

**Don't Mess With Texas
Trash Off Scheduled**

Lubbock District Adopt-a-Highway groups will hit the highways Saturday, April 3, to clean up Texas. More than 500 volunteers from 17 counties in the Lubbock District will participate in the 18th Annual Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off with volunteers from more than 1,300 Adopt-a-Highway groups across the state.

Last year, 1 million pounds of trash was picked up by more than 70,000 Adopt-a-Highway and Keep Texas Beautiful volunteers across Texas, making it one of the most successful years in Trash Off history.

"The annual Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off brings people across the state together to clean up our roadsides and take pride in Texas," said Penny Mason, Lubbock District Public Information Officer and Adopt-a-Highway coordinator. In the Lubbock District, more than 300 volunteers from 23 groups collected almost 500 bags of litter at the 2003 event. "This year's event is even larger," said Mason. "The response this year shows that citizens are genuinely concerned

with beautifying the state and their local communities."

Since 1994, volunteers have picked up more than 14 million tons of trash on Texas highways, according to Doris Howdeshell, Director of the Travel Division for the Texas Department of Transportation, the organization that runs the state litter prevention campaign. "This equals 1,417 pounds for every man, woman and child in Texas," she said.

Kyle Frazier, President of Keep Texas Beautiful, the grassroots arm of Don't Mess With Texas, agrees. "In order to bring together the volunteers who will take to the highways during this year's roadside collection, every organization in every community plays a vital role. The goal is to heighten the visibility of the event to make this year the biggest and best yet."

For more information or to find out how to participate, visit www.dontmesswithtexas.org or contact Penny Mason at 806 748-4337 or pmason@dot.state.tx.us.

CAPITOL COMMENT
U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Teaching America's Boys and Girls

"As a college professor I could identify the students from girls schools with 90 percent accuracy rate on the first day of class. They were the young women whose hands shot up in the air, who were not afraid to defend their positions, and who assumed that I would be interested in their perspective." That's how Dr. Robin Robertson, a former professor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas described the benefits of single-sex education.

For years, all-girls and all-boys schools have been the bastion of the elite. They were only available to families who could afford to send their children to private or parochial school, opportunities out of reach for the average American. But now the doors of our nation's schools are opening for single sex education. Enabling public schools to implement creative approaches to educating our children is particularly timely as we struggle to elevate the academic performance of all our nation's youth.

In January 2002, President Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act. One of the landmark reforms in this legislation gives public school systems the flexibility to offer single-sex classes and schools. I was proud to sponsor the bipartisan amendment to remove the obstacles preventing public schools from offering single-sex programs to parents and students who request them. We wanted to provide this as an option, not a mandate, for America's public schools. This March, the Department of Education issued guidelines on implementation of these programs, providing a blueprint for schools interested in single-sex offerings.

Most of the time, co-educational classes are going to be the right answer for all child's learning needs. But recent evidence demonstrates in some instances, a single-sex setting enables students to flourish. Public school parents should be able to go to their school board and request, for example, an eighth-grade math class for boys, or a chemistry lab for girls.

Until recently, most public

school systems have avoided the legal hassles that typically accompany any attempt to offer single-sex programs. Few have dared to challenge the status quo and offer these innovative choices. According to the National Association for Single Sex Public Education, as of this spring there are 93 public schools in the country offering some form of single sex education, 25 are same gender schools, while the remaining 68 are co-ed public schools offering single-sex classrooms. But those numbers are climbing. With the passage of the legislation and the new guidelines offering schools safe parameters in which to operate, public educators across the country are beginning to realize that the 'one size fits all' approach is no longer the only option.

In Texas, Houston's William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prospering, or WALIPP Prep Academy, offers inner-city boys the opportunity to learn from male role models. In Dallas, the Stephen Hay High School will reopen this fall as an all-girls public school for junior students. The San Antonio public school district currently offers same-sex classes in 13 of its schools.

Opponents of single-sex education claim these guidelines undermine Title IX, which provides equal opportunity for boys and girls. I would argue that equality of opportunity means students from every racial, gender and socioeconomic background should have the options in a public school setting afforded those in private education.

Numerous studies have shown that single-sex programs can reduce barriers to learning by providing a less intimidating and more productive classroom. Additionally, it is proven that boys and girls learn and develop differently. These guidelines will help schools offer the best programs tailored to the children in their districts.

Many of our nation's public schools have been receiving a failing grade for far too long. By breaking down barriers to success and encouraging creativity and innovation, we are one step closer to leaving no child behind.

I would like to thank you, the citizens of Yoakum County, for your votes in the March 9 primary election, and I would ask for your continued support in the November 13 election. It has been my pleasure to serve as your Sheriff the last four years, and I hope to continue this service the next four years. Sincerely,
Donald L. Corzine
Political Adv. paid for by Donald L. Corzine

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**NOTICE OF RUNOFF PRIMARY ELECTION, REPUBLICAN PARTY
(AVISO DE ELECCION PRIMARIA DECISIVA, PARTIDO REPUBLICANO)**

To the Registered Voters of the County of YOAKUM, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados del Condado de YOAKUM, Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., April 13TH, for voting in a runoff primary election to nominate Members of Congress, Members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers; and for the purpose of electing county and precinct chairs.

(Por lo presente se da aviso que los sitios de votación designados abajo estarán abiertos de las 7 de la mañana a las 7 de la noche el día 13TH de abril de 2004, para poder votar en una elección primaria decisiva para nombrar a los miembros del Congreso, los miembros de la Legislatura, y los oficiales del estado, distrito, condado y del precinto; y con el propósito de elegir al presidente del condado y del precinto.)

**LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES
(UBICACION(ES) DE LOS SITIOS DE VOTACION)**

*Precinct No.(s) *(Núm. de Precinto(s))	Location (Ubicación)
101,202,305, & 406	BRANCH TAX OFFICE, 122 W. 4TH, DENVER CITY
303 & 404	PLAINS COMMUNITY CENTER, 1006 AVE G., PLAINS

*If precincts have been combined to form one consolidated precinct, list all precinct numbers that will be voting at the consolidated location. (Si se han combinado precintos para establecer un precinto consolidado, incluya todos los números de precinto cuyos votantes estarán votando en el sitio del precinto consolidado.)

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: **APRIL 5-8 (MONDAY-THURSDAY)**
(La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en:)

BRANCH TAX OFFICE, 122 W. 4TH, DENVER CITY
YOAKUM COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, AVE G AND COWBOY WAY, PLAINS
(location) (ubicación)

Recommended but not required

Between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on APRIL 5, 2004
(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el APRIL 5, 2004)
and ending on APRIL 8TH (y terminando el ABRIL 8TH)
(date) (fecha)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

DEBORAH L. RUSHING
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
Nombre del Secretario de la Votación Adelantada)

P.O. BOX 309
(Address) (Dirección)

PLAINS, TEXAS 79355
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:
(La solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el:)

APRIL 6, 2004
(date) (fecha)

**Cornyn: Let The People Decide
On Flag Amendment**

Constitutional amendment is only way to ensure American people have the opportunity to protect U.S. flag against physical desecration, Cornyn says

U.S. Senator John Cornyn, Chairman of the Constitution subcommittee, made the following statement regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit physical desecration of the American flag, S.J. Res. 4. Cornyn is a cosponsor of the amendment. This statement was entered into record during the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing where members met to examine the right of the people to enact such an amendment: Mr. Chairmen, thank you for convening today's hearing to consider Senate Joint Resolution 4, a constitutional amendment to give Congress the ability to prohibit the physical desecration of the United States flag. I am pleased to be one of the bipartisan group of original co-sponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 4.

The United States Constitution must never be amended casually. At the same time, as members of Congress, we must never forget our role in the democratic process. In the vast majority of circumstances, we are able to discharge our duties through the introduction, consideration, and enactment of statutes. In certain circumstances, however, statutes are not enough. On certain occasions, a constitutional amendment may be the only mechanism available to the American people and their representatives in Congress to participate in self-government.

The constitutional amendment process fulfills the spirit of the Founders. Indeed, when our Founders drafted the Constitution, they purposefully included a built-in procedure for amendment in Article V. After all, our Founders firmly believed, to quote George Washington, the President of the Constitutional Convention, that "the warmest friends and the best supporters the Constitution has do not contend that it is free from imperfections. The people can, as they will have the advantage of experience on their side, decide with as much propriety on the alterations and amendment which are necessary."

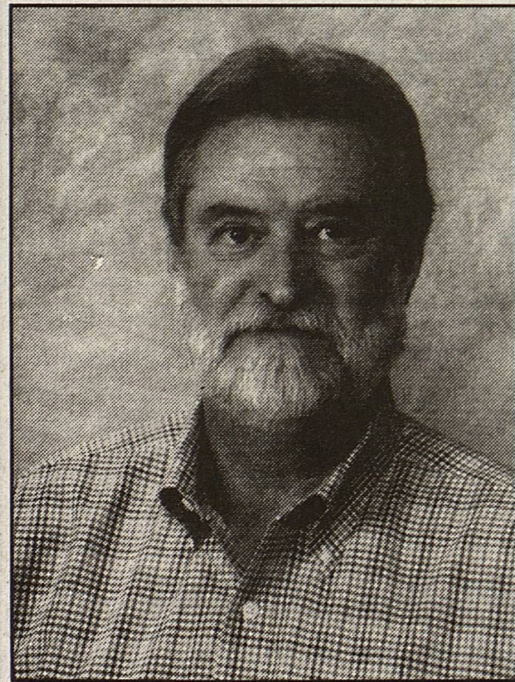
Protection of the United States flag meets the standard for a constitutional amendment. Indeed, a constitutional amendment is the only means available to the American people for protecting the U.S. flag. In light of the U.S. Supreme Court decisions in Texas v. Johnson (1989) and United States v. Eichman (1990), the only way to ensure that the American people have the opportunity to protect the United States flag against physical desecration in a constitutional amendment. We have ratified numerous constitutional amendments as a democratic response to judicial decisions including the 11th, 14th, 16th, 19th, 24th and 26th amendments.

The United States flag is different from other symbols of our nation. It is not merely an expression of patriotism. When a member of our armed services is killed in battle, the U.S. government solemnly provides the family with a U.S. flag. To thousands of military families, the U.S. flag uniquely represents the nation for which their loved ones have fought and died. As General Narman Shwartzkopf has written: "The flag remains the single, preeminent connection among all Americans. It represents our basic commitment to each other and to our country."

The American people have the right to determine whether to take steps to protect the United States flag against physical desecration. Approval of Senate Joint Resolutions 4 would simply give the American people that right. Senate Joint Resolution 4 alone would not regulate conduct, it would simply give Congress the power to determine whether to prohibit desecration of the U.S. flag.

Some critics scoff at the notion that we might amend our Constitution in order to protect the American flag, just as some critics scoff at the notion that we might amend our Constitution in order to protect the traditional institution of marriage. Such detractors of democracy believe in government under the rule of judges. I believe in government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Senate Joint Resolution 4 returns the business of government to the people, by restoring to the democratic process the power to protect the most powerful symbol of our democracy, the United States flag.

But you didn't know: If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.



Political Ad Paid For By Rex Swann

Rex Swann

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Jill Durham, Director of Radiology
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NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Plains Independent School District intends to destroy records of students who have received special education services. Records to be destroyed are for persons who received Special Education, including speech therapy services, prior to 1995-1996 school year. These records are located at
PLAINS ISD, TEXAS
806 - 456 - 7498
Box 479, Plains, TX 79355

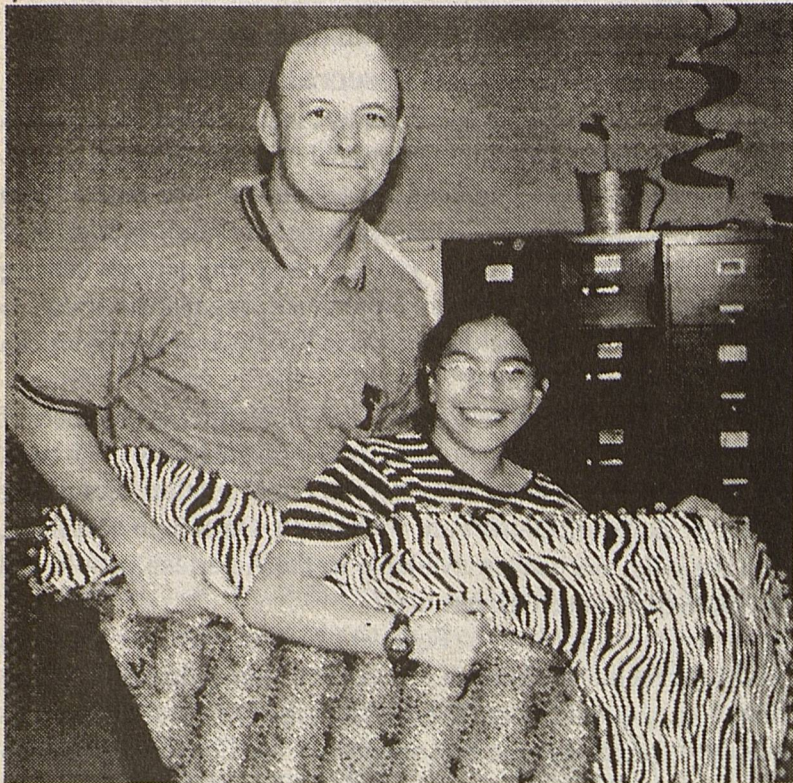
Legal parent/guardian or adult student with disabilities may request copies of these records at the school.

AVISO

Aviso esta dado que La Escuela de Plains tiene intencion de destruir documentos de estudiantes que recibieron servicio de Educacion Especial. Documentos que deben ser destruidos son para personas que recibieron educacion especial, incluyendo servicios de terapia de lenguaje hasta el ano escolar 1995-1996. Los unicos documentos que van estar destruidos son los que estan localizados en:

PLAINS ISD
806 - 456 - 7498
Box 479, Plains TX 79355
Padres/guardian legal o estudiantes adultos con incapacidades fisica/mentales pueden pedir copias de sus documentos en la escuela.

Life Skills Quilt Raffle Winner



Dave Wilkens was the winner of the African print lap quilt raffle made and sponsored by Mrs. Burgess' life skills class. The drawing was conducted by Middle School Principal Mr. Michaleson on March 10. The winning ticket was drawn by Roxanne Barrera. Mrs. Burgess' class would like to thank Plains for the fantastic support. The raffle was a huge success.



Thanks to the success of the raffle, on March 12, another name was drawn and the winner was presented with a baby blanket also made by the life skills class. The winner was Susana Wieler, who purchased her ticket from Middle School student Tina Unger.

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Obituary

Services for Robert T. Pippin

Services for Robert T. Pippin were held Wednesday, March 24, 2004 at the First Baptist Church in Plains, with Rev. Bill Wright officiating. Interment followed at Plains Cemetery under direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors/Plains Memorial Chapel. Mr. Pippin passed away Sunday, March 21, 2004 in Denver City.

He was born to Gunce and Jimmie Pippin March 11, 1910 in Tuscola, Texas. On January 4, 1943, he married the love of his life, Ruth Frances Lowrey in Monahans, Texas. They were married 61 years.

Left to cherish his memorial is his wife Ruth; A son, Johnny of Cincinatti, Ohio, and daughter Marilyn Ellison of Plains. He also left five grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren. The grandchildren are Debra Kleam

of Denver City, Jimmy Ellison of Hobbs, Beth Pippin of San Antonio, Carson Pippin of Douglas, Georgia, and Timothy Pippin of Tampa, Florida. Great grandchildren are J.J. Kleam, San Antonio, Misti Lance, Denver City, Mandi Bachman, Denver City, Evan Pippin, San Antonio, Kody Kidd, Denver City, Jenny and Michael Pippin, Douglas, Georgia, Timothy, Taylor and Tyler Pippin, Tampa, Florida. Great-great grandchildren are Randon and Lexi Lance of Denver City, and Makenzi Bachman, Denver City.

Mr. Pippin was preceded in death by a grandson, Tommy Joe Ellison in 1978, and a sister, Verna Knight in 2003.

The family requests in lieu of flowers donations may be made to the First Baptist Church in Plains, or favorite charity.

Jr. High

Track Results

At the March 5 Seagraves, the 7th and 8th Lady Wranglers finished 4th in team totals. The individual results included; Long Jump- Joani Bell 2nd, 13' 6.75" Katie Winn 3rd, 13' 6.50" Triple Jump- Katie Winn 5th, 28' 11"

Shot Put- Joani Bell 4th, 23' 10"

Discus- M'Leah McKinzie 1st, 82' 8.5"

100 M Dash- Joani Bell 2nd, 14.71

200 M Dash- Katie Winn 1st, 29.46

800 M Run- Reyna Gallegos 2nd, 3.06.6, Lauren Davis 6th, 3.11.55

400 Relay- 6th place, Katie Winn, Joani Bell, Maretta Trent, Reyna Gallegos, 59.13
899 Relay- 5th, Heather Parrot, Maretta Trent, Lauren Davis, Joani Bell, 2"10.09

1600 Relay- 1st, Reyna Gallegos, Lauren Davis, Heathe Parrot, Katie Winn, 4:47

7th Girls 300 Hurdles- Mari Ruiz 4th, 1:02.67

Lap Of Hope Begins American Cancer Society Relay For Life

In a nation where more than one million will be diagnosed with cancer this year, Denver City and Plains are invited to celebrate life.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a unique fundraising event in which teams of participants take turns walking or running the track for 14 hours in an effort to fight cancer. Teams camp out, eat, and play games. This year's Relay For Life will take place at Mustang Stadium in Denver City from 6 pm on May 14, 2004 to 8 am on May 15, 2004.

The message of the event is cancer can be conquered. This theme of hope is ignited as the ceremony begins with a cancer survivors lap at 6:30 pm. This emotional lap honors the courage of all who have defeated cancer. Each survivor is introduced, and then all will walk, run, or wheelchair the opening lap,

unified in victory and in hope.

The atmosphere of Relay For Life is one of camaraderie and celebration, providing an opportunity for cancer survivors to pass the touch of hope on to those still battling cancer or those that might be touched by cancer in the future.

If you or anyone you know is a cancer survivor and would like to take part in Relay For Life, please call Delia Sherman at 592-8023, Stacey Meece at 592-5169, or your American Cancer Society at 1-800-792-7126. All survivors receive a free Relay For Life T-shirt.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service.

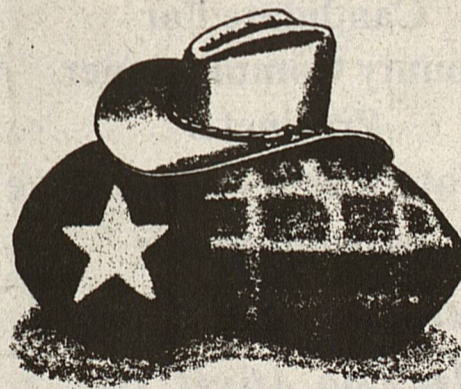
2004 Team Stats for Plains Cowboys (:PRE SEASON:) Wins= 5 Losses= 2 Batting Report

Player	Avg	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TBB	SO	SB	CS	Slg	Obp.	UP	1B	SOL	SOS	BB	
Evan Cain	471	5	17	9	8	1	0	0	5	1	7	1	7	1	529	550	21	7	0	1	1
Abel Ramos	308	7	13	8	4	0	0	0	4	6	4	4	0	308	609	23	4	0	4	6	
TJ Cordova	450	7	20	8	9	3	0	0	11	5	4	5	0	600	577	26	6	2	2	5	
Armando Ramirez	333	7	18	7	6	1	3	0	8	7	2	2	2	722	556	27	2	1	1	7	
Richard Diaz	357	6	14	6	5	0	0	0	2	7	2	7	1	357	571	21	5	1	1	7	
Scott Addison	286	7	14	6	4	1	0	0	0	3	3	5	1	357	444	18	3	1	2	3	
Peter Neufeld	313	6	16	6	5	3	0	0	3	2	5	1	0	500	450	20	2	3	2	2	
Ryan Martinez	375	6	16	4	6	1	1	0	5	1	7	2	1	563	444	18	4	0	7	1	
Blake O'Quinn	214	5	14	6	3	1	0	0	5	4	5	2	1	286	389	19	2	1	4	4	
Brandon Davis	286	5	7	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	0	286	375	9	2	0	4	1	
Adam McCravey	750	2	4	1	3	1	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	1000	800	5	2	0	1	1	
Landon Craft	200	3	5	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	2	0	0	200	429	7	1	0	2	1	
Blake Parrish	571	4	7	3	4	0	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	571	667	9	4	1	0	2	
Arnold Cordova	0	4	5	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	167	6	0	1	3	1	
Todd Williams	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
David Alldregde	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Brant Huerta	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	
Ramiro Martinez	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1000	2	0	0	0	0	
Reagan Haynes	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1000	2	0	0	0	1	

ANNUAL MEETING

OF

WESTERN PEANUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.



TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2004

12:00 NOON

GAINES COUNTY CIVIC BUILDING
402 NW 5th Street Seminole, Texas

WPGA Members and Friends:

Please make plans to attend your annual meeting. Washington Attorney, Mike McLeod will be giving a Washington update and discussing future challenges involving the peanut program. Lunch will be served beginning at 11:45 a.m. followed by the business meeting and other programs.

Tentative Agenda

- Welcome..... Ted Higginbottom, President
- "Washington Update"..... Guest Speaker: Mike McLeod, Washington Attorney
- Call Business Meeting to Order..... Ted Higginbottom, President
- Minutes and Financial..... Jimbo Grissom, Secretary/Treasurer
- Election: The membership will be nominating and electing directors to fill the positions of four expiring terms.
- National Peanut Board Update Dee Dee Darden, NPB Chairman
- Research Farm Update..... Tony Dill, Committee Chairman
Mike Schubert, TAES
- "Peanut Market Outlook"..... Jay Yates, Extension Program Specialist, Risk Management
- Other Business



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(Offer available only for members of Lea County Electric Cooperative.)

Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Lifelines & Styles

D.C. Annual Art Show set for March 30-April 3

The Denver City annual art show and sale will take place March 30 through April 3 at the Yoakum County Connection building at 118 North Main in Denver City. The event will feature paintings, graphics and photography.

Entry fees this year are \$5 for non-members and \$3 for members. Show entries will be accepted Tuesday, March 30 from 11 AM to 6 PM. Judging will take place Thursday, April 1, with the judge's critique from 5 to 6 PM. The show will open to the public Wednesday, March 31 from 2 to 6 PM, on Friday, April 2 from 10 AM to 6 PM, and Saturday, April 3 from 10 AM to 4:30 PM.

There will be an awards presentation and reception at 4 PM Saturday. Cash prizes will be awarded for Best of Show in both photography and fine art, and to ribbon winners in original categories. Further information about the show and sale can be obtained from Vivian Rice, 806-592-3389 or Sue Holder, 806-592-2960, after 5 PM.

Services Held For Wilburn Horace Randall

Graveside services were held for Wilburn Horace Randall, 87, of Kemp, at Baker Cemetery in Kaufman County at 2:00PM, Tuesday, March 16, 2004, officiated by Rev. Jim Addison. Interment was under the direction of Anderson Clayton Bros. Funeral Home of Kemp.

He was born in Kemp, March 17, 1916, to Horace O. and Leva (Barnes) Randall, and passed away in Kemp March 14, 2004. Randall had lived in Kemp the past 17 years and was of the Baptist faith. He married Verna Williams on May 25, 1936 in Mesquite. He was em-

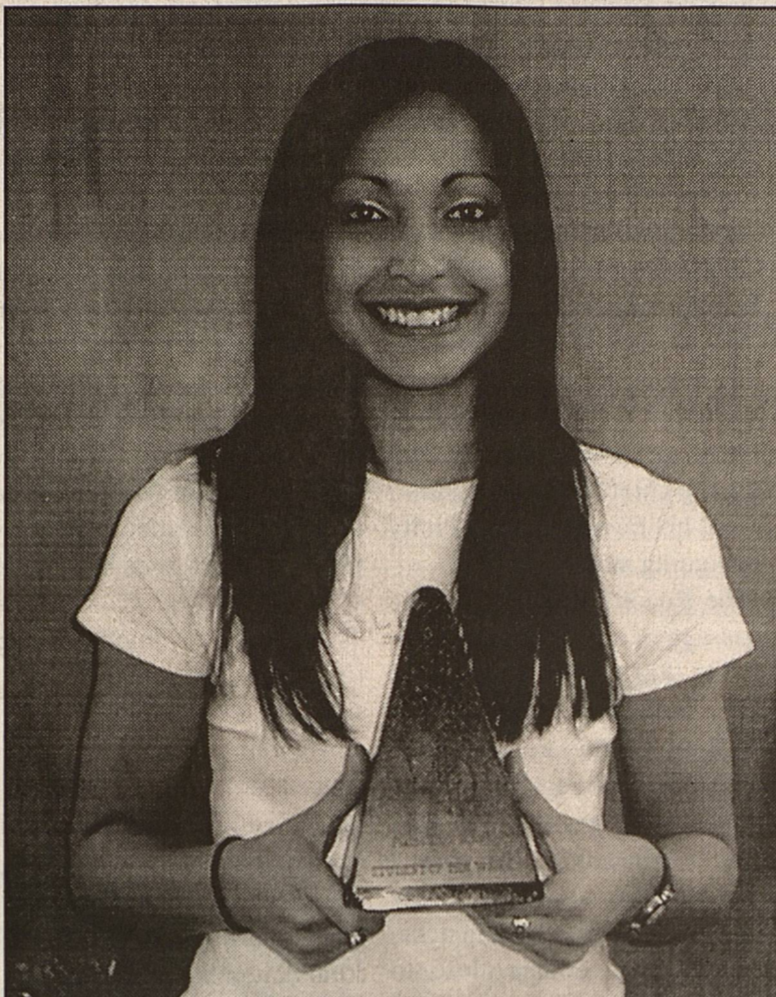
ployed by the Yoakum County Courthouse, as Custodian for 23 years, as well as the Plains High School for several years. Survivors include his wife of almost 68 years, Verna Randall of Kemp; daughters, Nell Powell of Big Spring, TX and Sandra Teaff of Tahoka, TX; sons, Royce Randall of Plains, TX and Gerry Randall of Austin; 9 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; 1 great great grandson; brother, Kenneth Randall of Dallas; and numerous other relatives and friends. Grandsons served as pallbearers.

Local Judge Attends Seminar

Judge Melba Crutcher was certified at the recent Twenty Hour Justice of the Peace Seminar held February 29 - March 3, 2004 in San Antonio, Texas. The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center, a division of Texas State University - San Marcos, with offices in Austin, Texas. The seminar is one of six held for elected Justices of the Peace so they can fulfill their Continuing Judicial Education Requirements as set forth in Article 27.005 of the Texas Gov-

ernment Code. The seminar addressed topics such as Judicial Ethics, Juvenile Law, Dealing With Difficult People, Cultural Diversity, Ruling on Objections, Contempt, Expungments, Traffic Laws, Parks and Wildlife Laws, Commercial Drivers License, Property Code Issues, J.P. Office Procedure for Inquests, Bond Setting and Forfeiture, New Technology, Financial Management, Attorney General Opinions and Court Security.

Student of the Week



Student of the week is Manuela Villegas, a senior and the daughter of Federico and Martha Villegas. Manuela was nominated by Coach Thaggard, who said, "Famed football Coach Vince Lombardi once said, "Through complete victory cannot be attained, it must be pursued with all ones might. It is the spirit, the will to excel which are the things that en-

sure, these are the important things." Manuela definitely has the will to excel. She always gives everything she has to every endeavor. I can attest her work ethic and the big heart she has. She is very active, participating in cross country, volleyball and track, and she strives for excellence in the classroom as well!"

The Passion of The Christ

You've read the book.....
You've seen the mpvie.....

Now Get The Rest Of The Story!
Hillside Church Of Christ
Ray Young
April 4 thru 7

Praise & Worship Gathering

Monday
March 29th, 2004
7:30 PM

Plains Community Building
Open to anyone interested in a time of praise, worship and giving thanks to God for the recent rains!

Fellowship & refreshments will follow the worship service!

Wedding Shower honoring Mrs. Chase Clanahan Nee Traci Tucker

Saturday, April 3, 2004, 10:00 - 11:30 am
in the home of Mrs. Bobbie Gayle

1313 Second Street
Selections: Lubbock: Target, Dillard's, Linens and Things Brownfield: Nelson's Plains: Image n' That Denver City: Tangerine Tree House, Ace Hardware

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Plains, Texas

Sunday School
9:30 A.M.

Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.

Evening Program
6:00 P.M.

From The Hack

One of the daughters reports she heard the following on the radio one day last week. Seems almost too bizarre to be true, but today, probably is;

Some teens were goofing off on the outskirts of a town and heard cries for help. They searched in the woods a bit, and found a naked man, one hand nailed to a large cross in the ground. Yes, his intent was to crucify himself, but with one hand impaled on the cross, could not figure out how to nail in place any other portion of his anatomy. Mel's smash hit movie will probably be blamed for this stupidity. At least it wasn't an act of anti-semitism.

For some reason, this weird happening brought to mind a guy I knew fairly well while I lived in El Paso, a young bachelor, who enjoyed curling up in his chair reading while sipping a cold can of Bud or Coors or whatever. One night, he was engrossed in a book, sipping away, and for some foolish reason stuck his tongue into the opening in the old fashion type can, which had to be opened with one of those triangular cutting openers commonly called 'Churchkeys' by the Hip crowd.

Yes, you guessed it. He explored too deeply with his cur-

rious tongue, which was now gripped by the very sharp hole in the can, actually already cutting his tongue rather painfully. He later reported he tried every way in the world to free his dumb tongue, only making it bleed and hurt even more. He tried phoning a friend for help, but have you every tried to talk with your bloody tongue trapped in a sharp Bud or Coors can? Starting to panic, blood now covering the front of his shirt, he stumbled to his next door neighbor and frantically pounded on the door.

He said the door opened and there stood his friend and his wife, whose eyes bulged as they gaped at him. He could only make incoherent sounds, pointing at the dangling can, blood dripping off his chin, and the lady of the house promptly fainted.

She was finally brought back around, and the couple hustled him to the emergency room of the nearest hospital. He said it was quite an impressive entrance as he paraded across the floor among waiting patients and ER staff, blood dripping everywhere from his mouth as he clutched the offending beer can to prevent further lacerations, and he heard one little old lady in a wheel chair gasp, "Oh, my, look at the pervert, bleeding to death, but won't put that vile beer can down long enough to get fixed!"

It was a harrowing experience, but not bad enough for him to swear off the suds... but from that moment on, any of the stuff he consumed was first poured into a nice, safe mug.

A faithful reader brought us a May, 1964 issue of *The Plains Record*, published at that time by Johnnie Moore. Pretty interesting stuff some forty years back.

A front page story detailed how a pair of locals, A.C. Jones, who

continues to live here, and Ben Liles, now deceased, had discovered and explored the grave of a deceased Indian in the sandhills 'northwest of town'. In today's mania for political correctness, it would have been spelled out 'the grave site of a Native American', but hey, this is the way *The Record* wrote it. The two gentlemen reported when they got to the actual skeletal remains in the grave, they were surprised to find the body had apparently been buried head first, with the lower part of his body 'somewhat folded into the grave.'

Upon reading about this, I became quite certain, this Indian Brave, or Brave Native American, what ever, must have really fouled up big time to get stuffed in the grave head first. Did he get overly friendly with the big chief's favorite squaw? Steal his favorite pony? Pretty intriguing stuff.

The Record also detailed the passage of a bond issuance for \$ 235,000, which was tagged for building the present Yoakum County Park between here and Denver City, and a new 'nine grass hole' golf course adjacent to the park. I was curious about the grass hole term, but then recalled, the first nine hole course, closer to Denver City, had greens made of nothing but sand. The story indicated not all county residents were exactly thrilled about the \$235,000 projects - a few of our more "seasoned conservative s" are still un-thrilled about the golf course. There are frequent times when I leave from it I'm not at all fond of it either.

The advertising in the 40 year old *Record* intrigued me; For \$400 down and \$63 monthly payments you could buy a three bedroom house. Alfalfa hay was available for \$1.25 per bale 8 ounces Kraft sliced cheese for 35 cents, center cut pork chops 59 cents per pound, and two heads iceberg lettuce for 29 cents.

Some things NEVER change; Political candidate Jessi T. George, running for State Representative, who promised; Correction of inequities in sales tax laws.

Development, protection of West Texas resources. Improvements in higher education and teacher salaries.

Mr. George qualifications included being an honest, dedicated worker, who doesn't make misleading statements to gain votes; Obligated to NO group, mindful of the duty to represent everyone fairly; Relies on his own merits.

Then Senate Majority Whip Hubert Humphrey, D-Minn, discussed agriculture in a manner making me wonder if some of today's pols have been using the same economic message to producers dating back to the days the Pilgrims stuffed a dead fish in the same hole they planted a corn seed in to start our ag industry;

"We need to maintain and improve farm income to strengthen the family farm;

"We can use our food abundance to raise standards of living here and around the world.

"Accelerate the development and conservation of both material and human resources in rural America.

Classic De Ja Vu.

Saw a new and intriguing TV commercial this weekend. This female person is sitting on the back steps of her porch, calling, "Here, kitty, kitty, kitty..." over and over. The camera finally pans to her yard, where a black and white sink, his tail raised, slowly approaches her calls. The announcer cuts in with, "Many times, regular eye exams can be far more important than you might think."

NOTICE OF RUNOFF PRIMARY ELECTION, DEMOCRATIC PARTY (AVISO DE ELECCION PRIMARIA DECISIVA, PARTIDO DEMOCRATICO)

To the Registered Voters of the County of YOAKUM, Texas: (A los votantes registrados del Condado de YOAKUM, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., April 13TH 2004, for voting in a runoff primary election to nominate Members of Congress, Members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers; and for the purpose of electing county and precinct chairs.

(Por lo presente se da aviso que los sitios de votación designados abajo estarán abiertos de las 7 de la mañana a las 7 de la noche el día 13 de abril de 2004, para poder votar en una elección primaria decisiva para nombrar a los miembros del Congreso, los miembros de la Legislatura, y los oficiales del estado, distrito, condado y del precinto; y con el propósito de elegir al presidente del condado y del precinto.)

LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES (UBICACION(ES) DE LOS SITIOS DE VOTACION)

*Precinct No.(s) *(Núm. de Precinto(s))	Location (Ubicación)
303	PLAINS COMMUNITY CENTER, 1006 AVE G, PLAINS
305	BRANCH TAX OFFICE, 122 W. 4TH, DENVER CITY

*If precincts have been combined to form one consolidated precinct, list all precinct numbers that will be voting at the consolidated location. (Si se han combinado precintos para establecer un precinto consolidado, incluya todos los números de precinto cuyos votantes estarán votando en el sitio del precinto consolidado.)

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: **APRIL 5-8 (MONDAY-THURSDAY)** (La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en: **BRANCH TAX OFFICE, 122 W. 4TH, DENVER CITY** **YOAKUM COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, AVE G AND COWBOY WAY, PLAINS**

(location) (ubicación)
Recommended but not required
Between the hours of 8:00 a.m and 5:00 p.m. beginning on APRIL 5, 2004 (date)
(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el ABRIL 5, 2004 (fecha)
and ending on APRIL 8, 2004 (y terminando el ABRIL 8, 2004 (fecha).

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

DEBORAH L. RUSHING
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
Nombre del Secretario de la Votación Adelantada

P.O. BOX 309
(Address) (Dirección)

PLAINS, TEXAS 79355
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:
(La solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el:)

APRIL 6, 2004
(date) (fecha)

When smokers quit

Within 20 minutes of smoking that last cigarette, the body begins a series of changes that continues for years. All benefits are lost by smoking just one cigarette a day, according to the American Cancer Society

20 minutes

- Blood pressure drops to normal
- Pulse rate drops to normal
- Body temperature of hands and feet increases to normal

8 hours

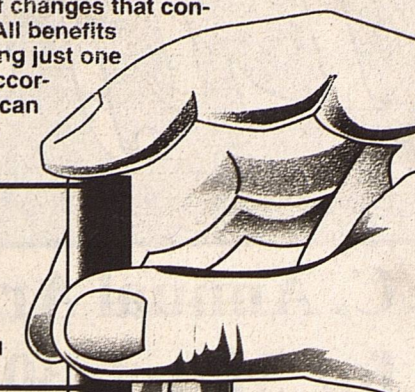
- Carbon monoxide level in blood drops to normal
- Oxygen level in blood increases to normal

48 hours

- Nerve ending start regrowing
- Ability to smell and taste is enhanced
- Coughing, sinus congestion, fatigue, shortness of breath decrease
- Cilia regrow in lungs increasing ability to handle mucus, clean the lungs, reduce infection
- Body's overall energy increases

10 years

- Lung cancer death rate similar to that of nonsmokers
- Precancerous cells are replaced
- Risk of cancer of the mouth, throat, esophagus, bladder, kidney and pancreas decreases



24 hours

- Chance of heart attack decreases

2 weeks to 3 months

- Circulation improves
- Walking becomes easier
- Lung function increases up to 30 percent

1 year

- Excess risk of coronary heart disease is half that of a smoker

5 years

- Lung cancer death rate for average former smoker (one pack a day) decreases by almost half
- Stroke risk is reduced to that of a nonsmoker 5-15 years after quitting
- Risk of cancer of the mouth, throat and esophagus is half that of a smoker's

15 years

- Risk of coronary heart disease is that of a nonsmoker

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& Buffalo Cultivators,
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Wilmar Sprayer
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