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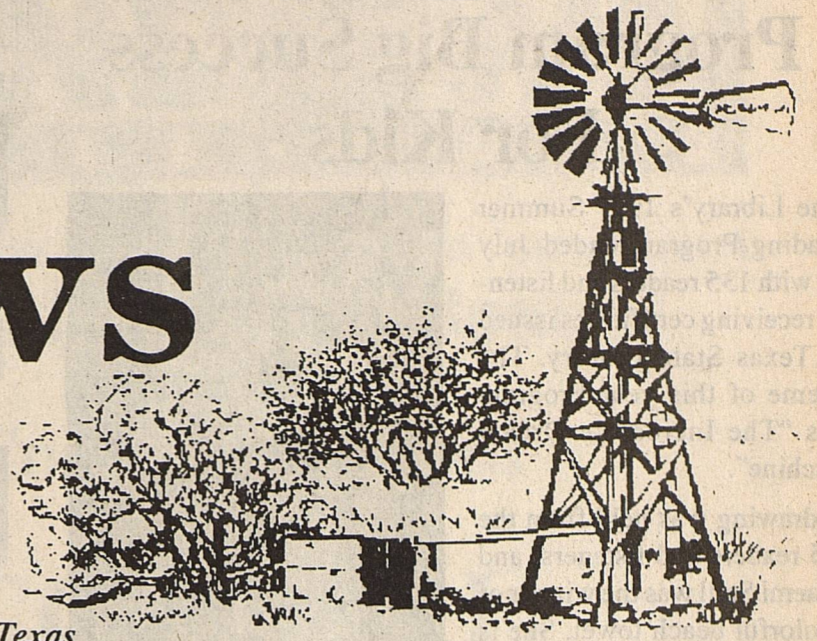
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Cowboy Country News
P. O. Box 179
Plains, Texas 79355
Address Correction Requested

Cowboy Country News

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



Volume III, Issue 50, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1997

'Homestead Exemption' amendment passes in election despite very light turnout

Local eligible voters stayed away from the polls in droves last Saturday in the special Constitutional Amendment election, which handed an additional \$10,000 exemption to eligible homesteaders in the state. The same lack of interest was exhibited at polling places across the state, but nevertheless, the measure easily passed. In Yoakum County, only 451 voters entered polling booths to cast ballots, and 428 favored the measure, to 23 voting in opposition.

This type of statewide election, with only one issue at stake, seldom draws great interest or participation, despite state lawmakers making last minute pitches

for or against the amendment. A great majority of Texas citizens were more than mildly disappointed when the amendment was the only property tax relief measure to emerge from the recent 75th Legislative session. The amendment agreement between the House and Senate was then only possible because of the appropriation of over \$1 billion in state funds earmarked for public school financing, to make up for the reduced tax values imposed by the amendment. Passage of the amendment automatically triggers a six percent raise in minimum teacher salaries across the state, which the surplus funds will cover for 1998 and 1999.

Critics of the plan pointed out the \$1 billion dollar in property tax savings benefit only homeowners, and is taken from all taxpayers. Other questions remain unanswered about future school funding plans after 1999, in the event no treasury surplus is available then to replace the reduced property tax values.

Another problem area sure to confront future legislative sessions is the increase in new home construction. It has been estimated if the economy continues to thrive in the state, new home construction would increase the homestead exemption costs by \$20 million each year.

Peanut storage, shipping and grading operation slated here

According to figures obtained from the Farm Services office here, 11,723 acres of Yoakum County farm land have been planted to peanuts this year, an increase of 5,332 acres over last years planted crop of 6,391 acres. Hoping to capitalize on this significant increase in peanut production, West Texas Peanut Handlers has finalized plans to utilize the Terra International, Inc. grain warehouse here as a storage facility for the 1997 crop.

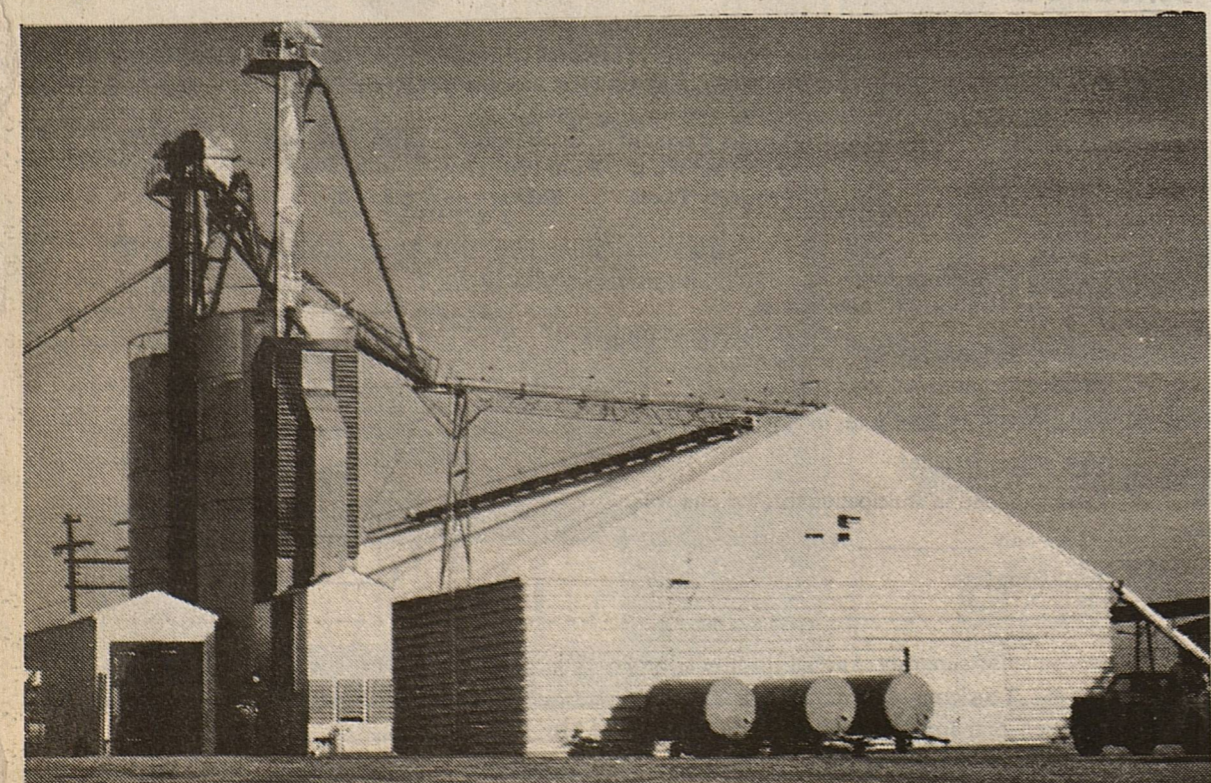
A spokesman for that organization, Rusty Andrews of Loop, explained the firm has been actively contracting peanuts for Cargill Peanut Products, Inc., a subsidiary of Cargill, Inc., the large grain firm.

Andrews said the warehouse here has a capacity for about 5,000 tons of peanuts. Only Runner varieties will be stored here, although other varieties, including local Virginias, will also be contracted, but stored in other area facilities. The warehouse here will serve both Yoakum and Terry County producers. Andrews said this year approximately 125,000 acres of area High Plains land will be planted to the nuts, compared to some 78,000 acres in 1996. He said, "Cargill Peanut Products, of Dawson, Georgia, is aware of the dramatic shift in acreage to our West Texas area, and the facility in Plains is an example of the investment of time and money the company is willing

to make to follow the growing area of production".

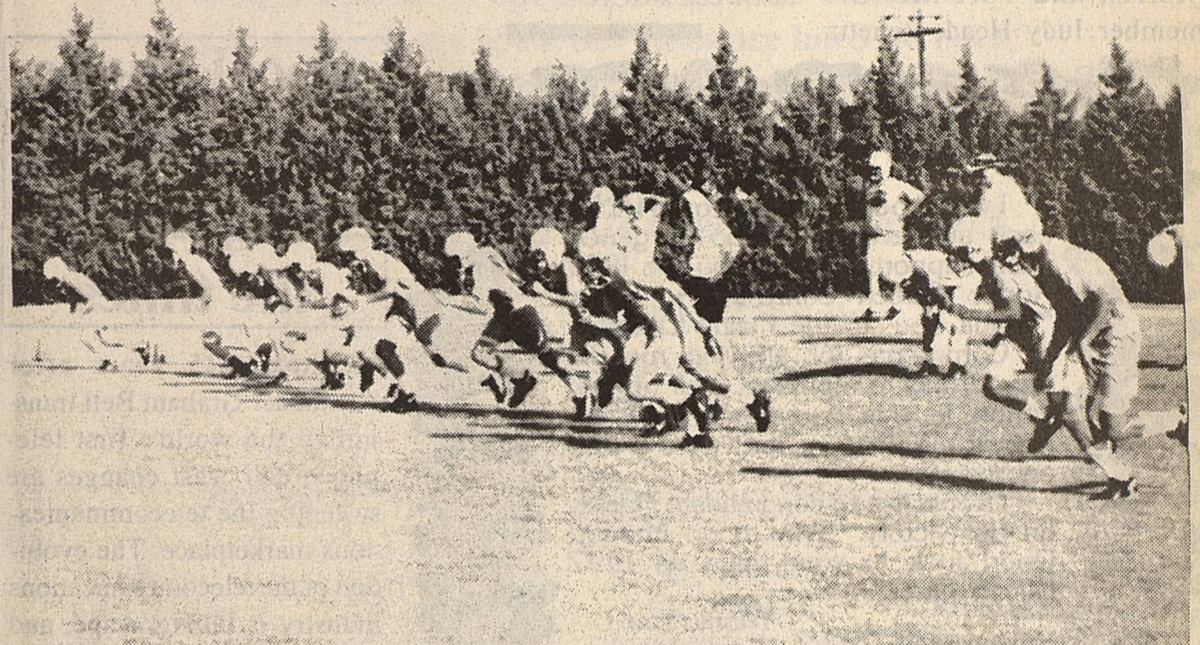
Andrews said a government grading station will operate here, but there are no plans for a drying facility this year. He said a future shelling plant here is a distinct possibility. Current plans call for local Terra employees to be utilized in storing the peanuts, with additional personnel from West Texas Peanut Handlers. The peanuts will be unloaded outside the warehouse on conveyor belts, and mounded up inside with a 'potato piler' machine.

Andrews said the warehouse would be filled with the two county crop of runner peanuts, and expects the harvest to start around October 1.



The Terra International grain warehouse here, which will be used this year to store the greatly expanded Terry and Yoakum County peanut crop, almost double the 1996 acreage.

Football Season is just around the corner PHS athletes, coaches excited and working hard



A very easy to understand conditioning drill during two-a-day workouts was called Run, Run, Run.

Two things were in great abundance during last week's Two-a-Day pre season football workouts; The PHS varsity players ran and sweated, almost in equal amounts, in the August heat. Head Coach Larry McMinn said only 26 players were on hand for the grueling workout sessions, but more players would be out when school starts August 13. An official roster has not been prepared for the season, but Coach McMinn reported the Cowboys will have more size and weight than last years' team, especially in the linemen.

Other coaches working the Cowboys last week, including Edwin Brink, Evertt McAdams, David Williams and Michael Davis, had common words of praise for the efforts and work ethics this years' Cowboys are showing in the tough pre-season conditioning sessions. Two out of town scrimmages are set for the team, at Sudan and New Deal, and the season opening regulation game



Sports Med athletic trainer Dean Easter examines knee of Cowboy Chris Willett, diagnoses injury as tendonitis from last year's knee surgery, and not expected to cause serious problems. See related article on Easter page 3

Ag Field Trip Planned

The Yoakum County Office of the Agricultural Extension Service wishes to invite all interested persons to attend an Agricultural Field Day on Monday, August 18, 1997. The event will start at 9 a.m. and will conclude with a complimentary noon meal.

Several Agricultural Extension Service Specialists will be on hand to discuss the current situation and management strategies to bring the 1997 crop into harvest. Dr. Randy Boman, Area Extension Agronomist, will be discussing the current

cotton crop situation, including irrigation strategies for the remainder of the growing season. Dr. Harold Kaufman, Extension Plant Pathologist, will be discussing the disease situation and the effects disease has had on this year's crop. The current and predicted insect situation will be discussed by Phillip Kidd, Extension Agent-IPM for Terry and Yoakum counties. Tadd Knight, Yoakum County Extension Agent, will present county-wide plant mapping data and discuss the overall situation. Finally, Dr. Mike

Schubert, Extension Peanut Specialist, will discuss the peanut crop, including disease control and water management strategies to mature this year's crop.

As of press time, field site stops had not been finalized; County Extension Agent Knight, however, said the group will depart from the Community Building in Plains at 9:30 a.m. Two CEU's will be given to all licensed private applicators in attendance.

Summer Reading Program Big Success For Kids

The Library's 1997 Summer Reading Program ended July 31, with 135 readers and listeners receiving certificates issued by Texas State Library. The Theme of this year Program was "The Incredible Dream Machine".

A drawing was held from the 135 readers and listeners, and Rhaemi Stall was the winner of a colorful beach towel. She is the young daughter of Nancy and Scotty Stall. She is shown with the towel, and Rosie Gallardo, manager of the local Dairy Queen, which awarded the youngsters with free ice cream.

The library staff expressed their appreciation to all the volunteers who made the summer reading program so successful, including PISD teacher Melody Morris, and TSA MO GA member Judy Head, Renetta

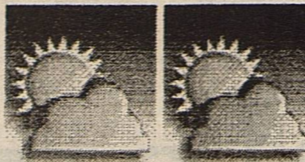


O'Quinn, Carolyn Culwell, and Elouise St. Romain.

Librarian Lattrell McDonnell also announced the winners of the Clown Contest in the Rodeo were Ross Rogers, and Dustin & Stetson Sellers, and an unnamed and unhappy sheep bearing a saddle, pictured in last week's CCN.

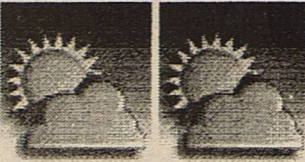
Four Day Forecast

WEDNESDAY THURSDAY



80s 90s

FRIDAY SATURDAY



90s 90s

WEDNESDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 89, overnight low of 65 degrees.
THURSDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 90, overnight low of 67 degrees.
FRIDAY: Partly cloudy skies, periods of sunshine, high of 91, overnight low of 68 degrees.
SATURDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 93, overnight low of 67 degrees.

Local phone companies changing with the times

Almost 125 years after Alexander Graham Bell transmitted the world's first telephone call, vast changes are sweeping the telecommunications marketplace. The evolution of the telecommunications industry is taking shape, and with this movement, the dynamics of your local telephone carrier may be different from what they used to be.

"The traditional look of a local telephone carrier has changed dramatically during the past few years," said Ken Barnes, area manager for AllTel. "Not only are more and more local carriers able to handle a customer's long distance calling, but they are also expanding into new markets to compete with other local carriers."

Local carriers that expand into competitive, or 'out-of-territory', markets are known as Competitive Local Exchange Carriers, or CLECs and compete with other companies for local telephone customers throughout the nation.

Last year, ALLTEL introduced long distance service into areas where the company has local telephone service. Additionally, ALLTEL has announced that it will become a CLEC, initiating limited local service in Little Rock, Ark., and Charlotte, N.C., by year-end.

The traditional lines between a local telephone company and a long distance provider are beginning to blur. Today, one telecommunications company can offer local, long distance, wireless, and 'specialty' services like Internet access and PCS (personal Communications Services).

ALLTEL is the first major telecommunications company in the nation to implement such a 'convergence' of products and services. This year, ALLTEL combined its wireless and wireline operations, forming one company to offer a broad array of services to its customers.

City Council suspends action on electricity rate reduction

In Monday afternoons City Council meeting, one of the prominent agenda items up for discussion was the proposal by Lea County Electric Cooperative to lower 'in city' electric rates for the cooperatives customers to 'Texas Rates', which their rural customers now pay for service.

The Council was presented with a list of options available for consideration, prepared with advice of the City's Attorneys.

The options included (a) Deny Lea County's proposed rates, leaving Lea County the option to file an appeal with the Public Utility Commission (PUC); (b) Approve the proposed rates, adjust city rates to match, subsidize the electric system with revenue from other departments and taxes; (c) Approve

proposed rates, leave city rates at current level, increase other department rates and/or raise taxes to offset electric department losses; (d) Approve rate request, leave city rates at present level, offer full service status' to customers remaining on city electric system, and offer discounted gas rates to these customers; (e) Approve a reduced rate for Lea County somewhere between the proposed rates and current rates; (f) Suspend Lea County proposal for up to 90 days to conduct a rate study. Suspension order must be made prior to 30 days following effective date, Sept. 1.

(g) Issue another Request For Proposal from wholesale suppliers; (h) Approve Lea County rates, offer them a proposal to purchase city system for a determined amount, negotiate new franchise with 4% fees and other requirements; (i) Approve rate proposal, offer proposal to Lea County to purchase city system for determined amount, paid out over period of time, allow payments to be included in rate structure, negotiate new franchise with 4% fees; (j) Take no action - Lea County proposed rates will become effective September 1, 1997.

During the meeting, only option item (f) was actually discussed and acted on. The rate proposal from Lea County was suspended, and another Council meeting was scheduled for Friday at 7:30 p.m. At that time, the Council will consider suspending the rate proposal request for a period of up to ninety days, to allow a further rate study to be completed, and the present the study at a public hearing.

Negotiations between the Lea County Cooperative and the City of Plains surfaced in February of the year when the Cooperative tendered an offer to purchase the city electrical system. That offer was rejected by the Council.

I would personally like to "THANK" each and every one who so generously supported me during the 1997 Rodeo Queen Contest. A special "Thank You" to the Plains Chamber of Commerce for allowing me the opportunity to represent their organization in this community-wide endeavor. Your donations were greatly appreciated.

I would like to congratulate Marcey on her victory. Way to go Marcey! Good luck in your reign as 1997 Rodeo Queen.

Thank You,
Tandi Jones

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50-240-R (Rev. 6-97/8)

1997 Property Tax Rates in Plains I S D

This notice concerns 1997 property tax rates for Plains I S D. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the school district used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the school district can set before it must hold a rollback election. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes and state funds by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 5,853,378.00
Last year's debt taxes	\$.00
Last year's total taxes	\$ 5,853,378.00
Last year's tax base	\$ 390,225,253
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 1.50 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 5,805,356.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 476,623,420
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 1.22 /\$100
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless the school district publishes notices and holds hearing	\$ 1.26 /\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:	
Amount of local taxes needed based on state funding formulas and 1997-98 student enrollment	\$ 6,030,928.00
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 476,623,420
= This year's local maintenance and operation rate OR 1996 maintenance and operation rate	\$ 1.26 /\$100
- This year's maintenance and operation rate (use greater of 2 rates above)	\$ 1.50 /\$100
+ \$0.08	\$ 1.58 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$.00 /\$100
+ Rate to recoup loss certified by commissioner of education	\$.00 /\$100
= This year's rollback rate	\$ 1.58 /\$100

50-179 (Rev. 6-97/8)

Schedule A Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
General Fund	\$ 682,054.00

Schedule B 1997 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
<i>(expand as needed)</i>				
Total required for 1997 debt service		\$.00		\$.00
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A		\$.00		\$.00
- Excess collections last year		\$.00		\$.00
- Total to be paid from taxes in 1997		\$.00		\$.00
- State aid for facilities		\$.00		\$.00
- Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only _____ % of its taxes in 1997		\$.00		\$.00
- Total Debt Levy		\$.00		\$.00

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the calculations at: Yoakum County Tax Office
 Name of person preparing this notice: Wanda Smith
 Title: Yoakum County Tax Assessor Collector
 Date prepared: August 11, 1997

Medical Man with a Mission

For fans attending PHS football games here or on the road, one of the more familiar figures working on the sidelines with our Cowboys is Licensed Athletic Trainer Dean Easter. He has been assisting Plains High athletes since 1993, when his employer, Sports Med of Lubbock, contracted with the PISD to cover athletic programs including football, basketball and track.

Easter, 32, is a native of Seminole, and attended college and underwent a four year sports medicine internship program at New Mexico Junior College and Lubbock Christian University. He is currently the Supervisor of Sports Medicine with Sports Med.

Asked what he enjoys most about his work, Easter didn't hesitate when answering "I thoroughly enjoy working with the student athletes, both male and female. I am involved with the kids in a one on one relationship, and I think over the years they have come to know me, but more importantly, to trust me. I know they respond to me, and I think I've had some positive influence on many of them. It's a good feeling."

Sports Med has contracts with school athletic departments here, and Tahoka, Spring Lake Earth, New Deal, Hale Center, Lockney, Abernathy, Lorenzo, Spur, Wayland Baptist University, Lubbock Christian High School and University, as well as the Lubbock Cricket baseball club. The company was originally started by Dr. Robert Yost, who in years past attended all the Cowboy football games.

Asked what he thought of the PHS athletic pro-

gram, Easter said he thought it was excellent. "They have the very best facilities, plenty of supplies, and some great, dedicated and hard work-

ing coaches, and I have always been impressed by the kids here. I think the community has every right to be proud of the entire school system, and I hope they appreciate their good fortune. Compared to many of the other schools we work with, Plains is extremely fortunate."

Easter's contract calls for him to spend at least two days a week with the football program and each varsity game, all the varsity boys and girls varsity basketball games, and one day per week with track athletes and all varsity track meets.

In the event an athlete is injured in one of the sports, Easter can usually take care of the problem. It is his decision to send a boy or girl to an emergency room for examination and possible treatment by a Physician.

Working on the sidelines of a PHS sporting event alongside Easter reveals what is probably his greatest asset; He knows what he is doing, and he cares about the youngsters, and is probably one of their greatest fans.



The Cowboys most popular part of workout sessions was water breaks

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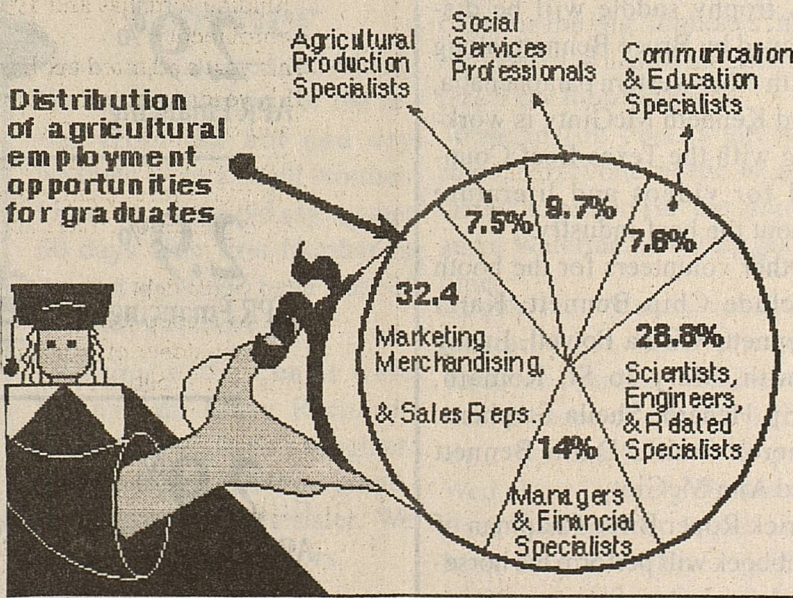
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Art Show winners of door prizes were Alice Bearden and Gena Wilmeth.

Agricultural job market has shortage of graduates

The annual employment opportunities in food, agriculture and natural resources exceed the number of qualified new graduates by more than 10%. For 1993, there were 48,800 job opportunities and only 43,500 graduates for those positions.



Associated Farmers Delinting, Inc.



Thanks to all our friends and customers for another good year. We appreciate you!

EXPLORER

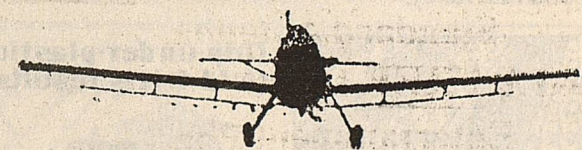
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More Art Association Results

- STUDENTS:**
BEST IN SHOW;
 First:
 Joshua Horn-'Cays gone by'
 Liz Wilmeth-'Lonely road'
 Joshua Horn-'Summer morn'
 Amy Davidson-'Meadow field'
 Joel Horn-'First snow'
 Second:
 Blake O'Quinn-'A country house'
 Sharla Vantine-'Rural mail'
 Joel Horn-'Grandpa's barn'
 Mariah Traweck-'River cabin'
 Third:
 Amber Davidson-'Hawaii mail boxes'
 Joshue Horn-'Sparrows garden'
 Staci Tuggle-'Prairie view'
 Lindsey Welborn-'Lindsey's birdhouse'
 Blake Parrish-'Snowy river'
 Honorable Mention; Liz Wilmeth, Joel Horn, Scott Addison, Sarah Horn, Jeremy Horn, Amy (Nicci) Davidson, Staci Tuggle, Sharla Vantine, Scott Addison(2),
Stillife;
 First;
 Kelly Bowers-'Let's Go'
 Miniatures;
 First;
 Christopher Addison-'The little red mailbox'
 Stephanie Addison-'Rainbow house'
 Second;
 Staci Tuggle-'Baby block'
 Scott Addison-'Cabin on the prairie'
 Third; Christopher Addison-'El Capital mountains'
Wildlife;
 First;
 Paige Phillip-'OK, I'm listening'
 Second;
 Amber Davidson-'Playful dolphin'
Pottery;
 First;
 Lauren Davis-'Blue bowl'
 Blake Parrish-'Airplane'
 Second;
 Scott Addison-'Airplane'
 Lauren Davis-'Houtus the horse'
 Third;
 Sara Horn-'Glazed pot'
 Blake Parrish-'Texas Tech emblem'
 Honorable Mention-Lauren Davis, Sara Horn (2)
Crafts;
 Best in Show;
 Helen Hunter-'Mother's wedding ring quilt'
 First;
 Deborah Brown-'Southwest flower pot'
 Second;
 Marlene Gibson-'Pottery'
 Third;
 Marlene Gibson-'Old crow welcome'
 Honorable Mention-James Melendez, Jeanette head (2)

State child support program going electronic

The office of State Attorney General Dan Morales has been busy announcing to thousands of involved people, county state and federal officials, the media and over 60,000 government employees, of sweeping changes in the state's child support enforcement system.

Attorney General Morales announced recently, by October 1, 1997, Texas will become the first state to implement the federal mandated automated computer system which will enhance child support enforcement activities.

Known as Texas Child Support Enforcement System (TXCSES), the new electronic program will track progress in each child support case and automatically inform staff of any required action. It will coordinate and apply information to the cases such as whether or not paternity has been established, a court order has been obtained, and the location and employment of non-custodial parents.

Attorney General Morales said the conversion to the new system will take place between Thursday, August 28 and September 7, 1997, and will involve over 900,000 cases. His office is expecting some 150,000 calls from customers about the new program during the conversion, including limited information about support payments received prior to August 28. Customers may contact local field offices, or call 1-800-252-8014, but may experience delays when calling.

Support payments processed prior to August 28 will be mailed as usual, but payments received between August 28 and September 5 will be distributed no earlier than September 10.

The State of Texas is one of the largest in number of child support offenders, and the automated computer should enable more timely collections, and apprehension of non paying parents.

BOOTH PLANNED FOR ROUGHNECK RODEO AND FARM BOY JAMBOREE

The Ranching Heritage Committee met July 24 to plan a booth for the Roughneck Rodeo and Farm Boy Jamboree to be held in October at the Yoakum County Park. Chairperson Linda Powell said the events are sponsored by the Denver City Chamber of Commerce

The booth will offer "Cow Patty" bingo tickets for the Chamber, and a special 'branding event' is planned. Gas heated branding irons will be furnished by Linda Powell, and Dusty Bennet will furnish wood shingles for youngsters to try their hand 'branding'.

A trophy saddle will be displayed by Bruce Bennett, along with other western paraphernalia, and Kenneth McGinty is working with the Texas Beef Council for videos and literature about the beef industry.

Other volunteers for the booth include Chip Bennett, Karla Bennett, Wilma Powell, Lanny Smith, Mary Jo St. Romain, Crip Henard, Sheila Stephens, Sheron Smith, Darla Bennett and Ann McGinty.

Trick Roper Brice Chapman of Lubbock will perform his horseback roping performance twice during the day long event.

Linda Powell said, "Yoakum County was founded by the cattle ranching industry, and we are pleased to share our heritage with the public."

What's Going On Here ?



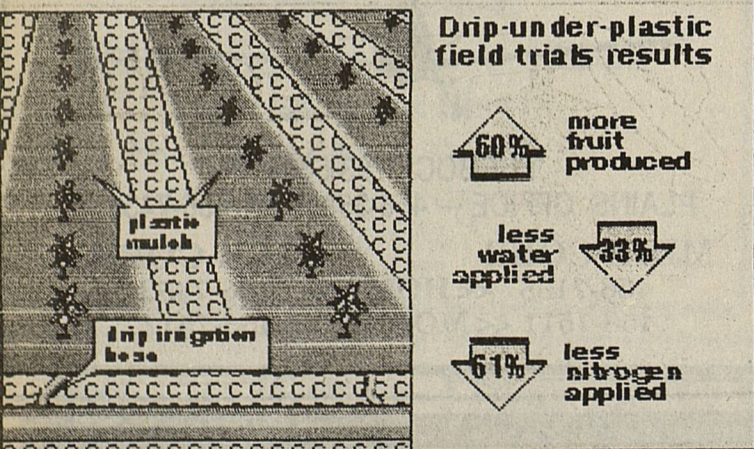
These young kittens belonging to the Wayne Sisson family obviously should have enrolled in the Library's summer reading program for youngsters. You just don't bed down in Rover's Cafeteria !

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Home 592-3490 **Home 456-3195**

Drip-under-plastic conserves water

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service is testing the use of drip irrigation under plastic mulch with vegetables and melons. More than half of the cantaloupes and three-quarters of the honeydew melons are already grown with this method in the lower Rio Grande Valley.



Field trials were conducted on 35- to 40-acre plots by the Extension Service at Starr Produce Co., near Rio Grande City in Starr County.

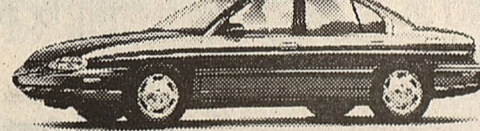
NOTICE OF RATE DECREASE REQUEST

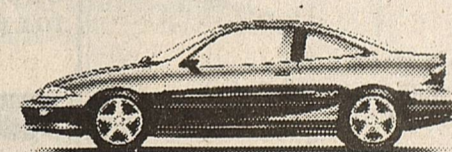
July 22, 1997


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

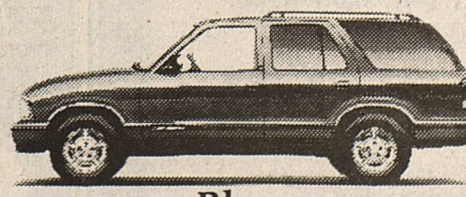
Rate Classification	# Customers	Annual Revenue Decrease	Annual % Decrease
Current 02 Residential (change to Texas 01 Residential)	220	\$26,507	18.11%
Current 08A Residential All-Electric (change to Texas 01 Residential)	20	\$ 2,960	11.97%
Current 11 Commercial (change to Texas 10 Commercial)	37	\$10,653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

There Will Never Be A Better Time To Buy A '97 Chevy Than Right Now.

2.9% APR Financing  **OR \$750 Cash Back**

2.9% APR Financing  **OR \$500 Cash Back**

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2.9% APR Financing  **OR \$1500 Cash Back**

It's true. You will never be able to get a better deal on a '97 Chevy car or truck than right now. It's the Chevy Big Value Big Savings Event. And we've got low financing or cash back on a whole bunch of Chevy cars and trucks. Chevy really



wants to clear everything out for the new model year. It doesn't get any better than this, America. Get over to your Chevy dealer soon and get while the getting's good. Hurry. Finance rate offer ends September 30, 1997.

Available to qualified customers. Length of financing may affect finance rate. Special low rate GMAC financing. Cash Back, SmartLease and SmartBuy programs may not be combined. Must take retail delivery from stock by Sept. 30, 1997. Not available to residents of CA, ID, OR, and WA. See your participating dealer for details. ©1997 GM Corp. Buckle up, America!



397-2411

http://autoconnect.net/watson_truck

1501 N. Grimes



Femme Friends



HOWDY!

By: *Kathy Adair*



Handling Commercially Canned Food Safely

Consumers generally think of food safety as it relates to perishable food such as meats and poultry, but precautions should be taken with all food even if it is in a can.

When it comes to canned food, people want to know:

Where should I store canned goods? Store canned foods in an area that is dry, dark and moderately cool. Avoid storage near heat sources - steam pipes, radiators, furnaces and kitchen ranges.

How long can I store canned foods? For best quality, a year is suggested. However, the type of food canned, the processing, how it has been handled and stored are all factors to consider. If the can itself is normal in appearance, the food inside should still be wholesome.

What effect does freezing have on canned foods? While a single freezing and thawing may not affect the safety of canned foods, there may be some texture changes. During freezing, the contents of a can expand, put strain on can seams, and cause the ends to bulge. Check previously frozen containers carefully after thawing to be sure that the ends return to their normal flat appearance. If they do not, air may have entered the can, and the can should be discarded.

Are metal fragments in canned foods harmful? Investigations by government agencies and industry scientists have shown that metal slivers which get into food cans when they are opened by can openers are not injurious to health. However, metal fragments are not desirable, and every effort should be made to keep them out of foods. The best prevention strategy is to keep can openers sharp, clean and in good working order.

What does discoloration in the food or in the liner of the can mean? The Food Additive Amendment of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act prohibits the use of food containers which would transfer a poisonous or harmful substance to the food in the can. However, sometimes discoloration occurs on the inside of the can due to the release of sulfur by certain foods during processing, which causes an unsightly brown, blue or black mottling. The stains are not harmful to the contents. An especially those with fruit juices. This does not indicate that contents have been harmed.

Thank You !

With the generous help of all those listed here, Yoakum County Connection was able to offer 25 workshops for the youths of Denver City and Plains this summer, with 235 students participating in the Summer Youth Project. The program was chaired by Elva Lozano and Linda Powell.

Texas Commission on the Arts * Yoakum County Extension Service * Denver City Press-Clinton Bowman * Cowboy Country News-Gary Dyer * Denver City Youth Center-Vickee Faught, Linda Horton * Commissioner J.R. Slentz, Pct. 2 * Commissioner Macky McWhirter, Pct. 4 * Janice Grandon, U.S. Cable * Cecil Bickley Library * Plains Library * Canterbury Villa residents * Senior Citizens of Yoakum County * Bayer Lumber & Hardware * Plains Youth Center-Bobbie Payne * Yoakum County Art Association * Danny's Service Company * Yoakum County Abstract * Clarence Reed * CJR Contractors * Mustang Country * Linda's Collections * Production Fishing & Rental Tools * Lea County Electric * Prevent Drug & Alcohol Abuse Awareness Committee.

Instructors In The Program Included; Pat McNabb * Bob McClellan * Jimmie Bayer * Margaret Williams * June Hanneman * Nadine Madden * Debbie Hernandez * David Mitchell * Kathy Adair * Ann Hartman * Kenneth Bell * Norman Frankfather * Bonnie Earnest*

'The Connection' appreciates each and everyone of you!

Cowboy Country News
PO Box 179, Plains, Tx 79355
806-456-8451 Fax 806-456-2010
Gary and Holly Dyer, Publishers. Subscription rate for 793 & 794 Zip Codes \$15 per year. Other Zip Codes \$18. Published each Wednesday. Call for advertising rates

E-Mail us at
ccn@hiplains.net

A Pastor's Forum

Wow Is Me !

Wow is me ! It's been exactly four weeks since my beautiful and precious wife walked out the door and left me to fend for myself. Oh, Wow is me !, this reads like the first line of a country-western song about Broken Relationships, but it's not! Nancy, my wife, just left me to fend for myself, Wow is me!

For the next five summers this experience will be repeated for Nancy is enrolled in the United Methodist Conference Course of Study Schools in Dallas. It is requirement that she will have to fulfill. Oh, Wow is me!

I can remember when we were dating and how I was so self reliant, how dependent I was, and what a good protector and provider I could be. I can remember, those days. When we married I found out just how independent I was. Then, Nancy became Momma and I became helpless. Wow is me! Upon her leaving, I had to recall some survival skills, techniques, I learned in the army and college.

I redeemed my self esteem in remembering that dark colors don't wash with whites, though I did manage to change the colors of a couple of tee shirts. I reclaimed my self reliance by not over cooking my T.V. dinners. I found my independence in the selection of frozen pizzas.

The thing I can say, her leaving was just as hard for her as it was for me. She calls me everynight with a kiss and a wish, she wishes that I could be with her, and that she could finish her schooling at home. Being alone and being lonely are two different things. The roots of loneliness were founded in the separation of man, humanity from God. It is a condition of the heart. Being alone is a condition of choice and circumstance, an external condition, though being alone can produce a sense or feeling of loneliness, this is not always the case. Many people live alone but are not lonely and there are those that live in homes full of people with many friends but they are the loneliest people in the world. Its a condition of the heart. I believe all human beings have been created with a condition like unto a hole in their hearts, an emptiness, a void. I call it the God Hole. People try to fill it with everything except for what goes in it. Only one thing can fill it in it, only one thing can fill it, and only one thing can make a person complete. People, places and things can't fill it. Only God can fill it, it was made for Him.

For every Christian, the presence of the Lord is in their lives, and though they may be alone they don't have to be lonely. If they will let God's presence enter into their lives, he will take away the loneliness. Truly the spiritual hymn is a fact, "No never alone, no never alone." One day the believer will see that loved one again. One day that relationship they once knew will be restored, even to greater dimensions than before, and this next time it will be permanent. In the here and now God's presence can fill the void, heal the hurt, console the grieving, and even give a new purpose and meaning to life. It pays to know Jesus and it costs too much to be without Him. As for me, soon Nancy's coming home. No longer will be 'Wow is me', Yea ! Mommas coming home !

James Moore,
First United Methodist Church

Senior Citizens Corner

Wow ! It thundered and rained. We are all thankful for the relief from the hot and dry weather, even a small Norther. I have heard the old saying that 60 days after first Norther in August we would have frost. If so, winter is close by.

Visiting at the Center were Sonny and Mary Richards niece, Louise Green's daughter, Sam and Fay Brutons grandson, Jimmie Steels sister. We are happy to see visitors.

Marcene and Claude Beattie are back after staying home and visiting with relatives a few days.

Bess Veazy back after a few weeks home with an injury. Ed And Elsie home from a trip.

Carl Fulbright in Methodist Hospital, having tests. Wanda and Layne Black were

in East Texas to attend the funeral of Wanda's niece. Our deepest Sympathy to them.

Remember next Wednesday (13th) is the Big Jamboree Day for Seniors in Lubbock. Call the office for information.

Watermelon Fest is getting close. Everyone needs to get things together for the booth and a Watermelon eating good time.

August 11 - 15, activities at the Center; Mon. Line Dancing 10:00 am.; Birthday/Anniversaries, Senior of Month 11:30 am.; Games/Pool 6:30 pm. Wed.; Line Dancing 10:00 am.; Pool Tournament 10:00 am.; Med. Arts B/P check 11:00 - 11:30 am. Thur.; Gale Ballau (Insurance help) 11:00 am. Fri.; Line Dancing, 10:00 am.

Lunch everyday 11:30 am. Come join in for all the activities offered at the Center. We have games, crafts, exercise, and a nice meal everyday.

See you next week,
Smitty

Brownfield Funeral Home

Collier's Since 1920
P.O. Box 507
120 W. Tate
Brownfield, Texas 79316



MEMBER NFDA, TFDA
PRE-ARRANGMENTS — CREMATION

Telephone 806 637-3555

The Yoakum County Art Association

Wishes to sincerely thank each of the following firms and individuals taking part in our purchase awards, and making our 1997 Art Show and Sale a success!

PURCHASERS;

L.J. & Virginia Sanders* G&B Aerial* Linda Wall* Lea County Electric CoOp, Inc.* Leann Lewis* Norman & Judy Head* Plains State Bank*Melba Crutcher* Martha Palmer*Sundown State Bank*Sarah Jane Shelton*Brad & Charlotte Palmer*Jerry Corbin*Dallas Brewer* Richard Clark*Ag Insurance Plus*Pam Redman*T.J. & Lois Miller*Dolores Davis*Sarah Kay Burrus*Gena Wilmeth*Sonny Stephens*Norwest Bank*Images by Bonnie*Marlene Gibson*Production Fishing & Tools Rental, Inc.*Pay 'n Save*Sellers Ag Supply*Helen Hunter*Zareta Winn*Harrison Well Service*Yoakum County CoOp Gin Inc.*Gary & Frankei Walker*Carpenter Oil Field Construction* Texas Equipment*Debbie Rushing*Sheila Ashburn* Lorraine Walker*Macky & Connie McWhirter*Bev's Nursery*Sheri McGinty*Liberty Drug*Karen Williams City of Plains*Linda Lowrey*Dottie Mays*Jack Spears Drilling*Hazel Lowrey*First National Bank, Denver City*Mary Wilmeth*Renaissance Productions*Lone Star Machine*Pool Well Service*Kay and Kompany.

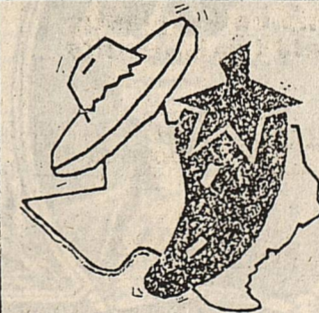
PATRON MEMBERS;

Richard Clark*Sarah K. Burrus*Flowers Out West* Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co.*Bayer Lumber* Ron & Sandi Craft*Mattie Field*Nelson Pharmacy* Warren New*Richardson Insurance*Newell Squyres* Mary Jo St. Romain*Johnnie & Melba Fitzgerald* Lattrell McDonnell*Boston Tea Room & Sandi Debord* Wilma Powell.

Our Special Thanks also to the following individuals and firms for your help with our badly needed air conditioning!

Mustang Country*Lea County Electric*Manuel Estrada*Jeff Redman*Hicks Air & Appliance*L.J. Sanders*Steve Brown*

And a big thank you to *Cowboy Country News* and *Denver City Press!*



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MEXICAN FOOD
Our new dining
room is
NOW OPEN!

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For All Your Pharmacy Needs Please Call Our
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Larry C. Boyd, M.D.

Family Practice & OB

Yoakum County Clinic
Each Thursday

Office Hours 1-4 PM

Appointments Are Preferred !
Please Call 456-6365 or 592-9501

Evangelist Couple To Appear Here



Donnie and Madeline Jones are full time Evangelists from Longview, Texas. This couple has scheduled over 40 Revivals and concerts each year for the past 12 years in the United States and 17 foreign countries, testifying and singing for their Lord. Donnie and Madeline have touching testimonies how God called them out of the peak of their careers into full time service for Him. They have been featured at numerous state conventions and Christian television programs, including The Southern Methodist Conference in Baton Rouge, (United Methodist), and The Baptist World

Alliance in Korea. In Bristol, England they have sung in Wesley's Chapel, Broadmead and stood in John Wesley's Pulpit. Madeline was the featured soloist for a tour of England, Scotland, and Wales singing in over 20 Methodist Churches. They traveled to Israel where they walked where Jesus walked and even walked the road to Emmaus and have sung at that very spot.

They will appear at the First United Methodist Church here during Sunday 11:00 am. services. All denominations are encouraged to attend the service.

Lindsey named to Task Force to study possible training school

In the regular monthly session of Commissioners Court August 11, Precinct 1 Commissioner Woody Lindsey was appointed by Judge Dallas Brewer to a special Task Force working on obtaining a training school for juvenile delinquents in the county. The school, or juvenile detention center, is a project the Denver City Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Board of Denver City are jointly trying to attract to the area. The proposed facility could house up to 600 juveniles, and would provide a very large local payroll if located in the county.

Tax/Assessor Collector Wanda Smith reported tax collections of \$21,834 during the month of July.

Judge Brewer told the court he had received a letter from District Judge Kelly G. Moore asking the Commissioners Court of Terry and Yoakum to adopt a plan which would appoint his office coordinator to handle and hear from prospective jurors asking to be excused from jury duty, and in his coordinators absence, appoint the District Clerk from each county to act in that capacity. The request was unanimously approved.

Cowboy secondary working on pass defense in two-a-days



1997 Property Tax Rates for the Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District

This notice concerns 1997 property tax rates for the SANDY LAND UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 144,667.62
Last year's debt taxes	0.00
Last year's total taxes	144,667.62
Last year's tax base	1,466,676,150.00
Last year's total tax rate	0.01/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 144,480.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	1,712,595,180.00
= This year's effective tax rate	0.0084/\$100
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	0.0087/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 144,480.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base	1,712,595,180.00
= This year's effective operating rate	0.0084/\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	0.0091/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	/ \$100
= This year's rollback rate	0.0091/\$100

Schedule A Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following balances will probably be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
GENERAL FUND	\$165,000.00

Schedule B 1997 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

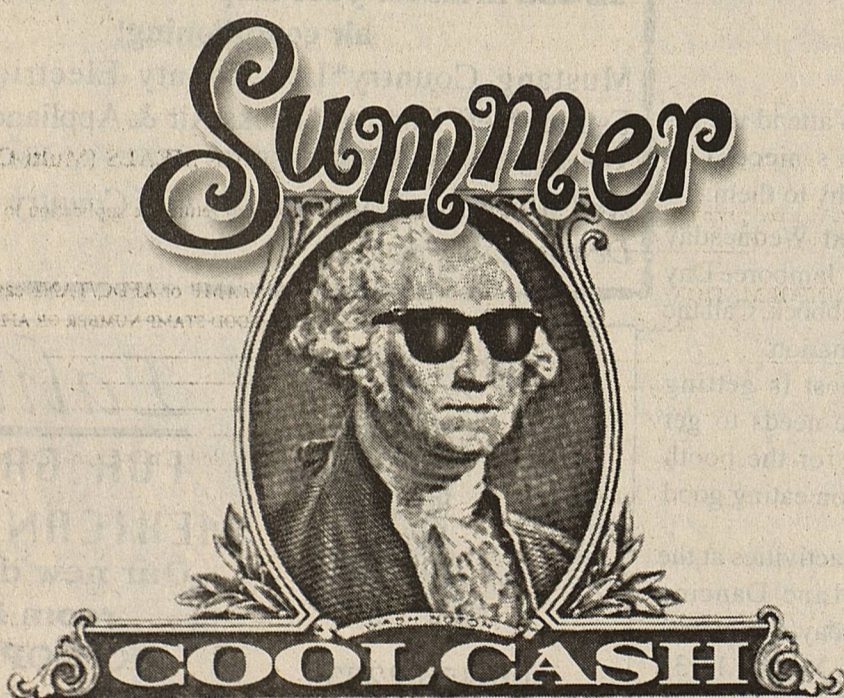
Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Total required for 1997 debt service				\$0.00
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				0.00
- Excess collections last year				0.00
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1997				\$0.00
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect 100% of its taxes in 1997				\$0.00
= Total Debt Levy				\$0.00

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at: SANDY LAND UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, 1012 Ave. F., Plains, Texas 79355.

Name of person preparing this notice: WANDA SMITH
Title: YOAKUM COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR
Date Prepared: July 29, 1997

Yoakum County 4-H Awards Banquet, Mustang Cafeteria - Denver City, Saturday, August 16, 1997 7:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker for the banquet is Tommy Seay a junior at Eastland High School. He is the current State 4-H Comedian/Poet Champion, and has won many 4-H and FFA contests and has spoken at banquets all over the state.



The future is so bright we've gotta wear shades (with a Norwest Summer Cool Cash CD)

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To The Nth Degree®
Denver City
221 North Avenue B
592-2181

*Annual Percentage Yield, \$25,000 opening minimum and deposit. This offer is good August 1-31, 1997. 11 month term. Available to individuals only. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal.

Th'ars Gold in Them Th'ar Deals!

Summer Deals Help You Strike It Lucky!

*** Interest Free!**

Take Delivery now and skip the interest payments 'till March 1, 1998!

OR

*** Rebates!**

Take Delivery now and get up to a \$300.00 per tower rebate!



South Plains College Offering Courses In Brownfield

Levelland - South Plains College will be offering three courses in Brownfield during the fall semester through its Division of Continuing Education.

Open to all area residents, course in criminal justice, microcomputer applications, and beginning Spanish will be held during the evening at Brownfield High School.

Registration will be conducted by Jim Walker, associate dean of technical and continuing education at South Plains College, on Thursday, August 21, from 5 pm. to 7 pm. inside the west entrance at Brownfield High School. Textbooks also can be purchased at the time of registration.

"Introduction to Criminal Justice" will be offered from 6:30pm. to 9:30 pm. each Mon-

day. "Microcomputer Applications" will be offered from 6:30 pm. to 9:30 pm. each Tuesday, while "Beginning Spanish" will be offered from 6:30 pm. to 9:30 pm. each Wednesday.

High school juniors and seniors may apply for early admission and take the courses with permission from their parents and school principal. Other persons interested in enrolling in a course must be high school graduates or possess a GED certificate.

To enroll for a course, individuals must complete an application for admission to South Plains College. Official transcripts from high school or college also must be submitted, along with proof of Texas residency for the previous 12-month period.

All courses will begin during the week of Sept. 2. A minimum enrollment of 10 students is required for a course to be held. The cost for each three-semester-hour course is \$125.00,

which does not include the course of a textbook. For additional information, contact the Division of Continuing Education at South Plains College at (806) 894-9611, ext. 2340.

J P Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases filed and bonds set in Justice of Peace Precinct One, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

Cases filed: 25 traffic, 1 disorderly conduct, 1 issuance of bad check.

Bonds and Fines Set: Issuance of bad check, \$4362.53 fine and restitution.

Public intoxication: \$165.00 fine.

Driving while intoxicated: held for Border Patrol.

Motion to revoke probation: held until hearing.

Assault causing bodily injury: \$2,000.00 bond.

Driving while intoxicated: 2 cases, \$1500.00 bond, plus interlock device installed

Parole violation: held until transported.

Assault causing bodily injury, \$1000.00 cash bond.

Assault causing bodily injury: \$5000.00 bond.

Display fictitious license plate: \$500.00 bond.

Disorderly conduct: \$232.00 fine.

Public intoxication: \$267.00 fine.

Issuance of bad check: \$400.00 bond.

DPS Warrants: \$200.00 bond and \$200.00 bond.

Assault causing bodily injury: \$10,000.00 bond.

Issuance of bad check, 2 cases \$300.00 bond.

Both the Denver City and Plains County Tax Offices will be closed Thursday, Aug. 14 for our registration & title system inventory

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

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM/SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

July 31, 1997

Parent/Guardian:

The Plains Independent School District takes part in the National School Lunch Program/Breakfast Program. Meals are served every school day and all Plains ISD students receive free meals from our cafeterias. However, Plains ISD may be reimbursed for meals served to children from families who qualify under the stated guidelines.

In order to claim reimbursement for these meals, a completed application form must be on file for each ELIGIBLE child. If your child/children would qualify for free or reduced price meals, please complete the application form and return it to the school as soon as possible.

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THE APPLICATION FORM. An application that does not contain COMPLETE information on household members and income cannot be used by the school.

HOW TO APPLY

If you new get food stamps or AFDC/TANF for the child you are applying for, the application must have the child's name, a food stamp or AFDC/TANF case number for that child, and the signature of an adult household member. If you are applying for a foster child, the application must have the child's name, the child's "personal use" income, and an adult signature. If you do not list a food stamp or AFDC/TANF case number for the child you are applying for, then the application must have the child's name, the names of all household members, the amount of income each person got last month and where it came from, the signature of an adult household member, and that adult's social security number or the word "none" if the adult does not have a social security number.

INCOME CHART

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1	14,597	1,217	281
2	19,629	1,636	378
3	24,661	2,056	475
4	29,693	2,475	572
5	34,725	2,894	668
6	39,757	3,314	765
7	44,789	3,733	862
8	49,821	4,152	959
For each add'l member	+5,032	+420	+97

Verification: Your eligibility may be checked at any time during the school year. School officials may ask you to send papers showing that your child should get free or reduced-price meals.

Fair Hearing: You may talk to school officials if you do not agree with the school's decision on your application or the results of verification. You may also ask for a fair hearing. You may do this by calling or writing:

Name James Haynes Phone (806) 456-7401

Address P.O. Box 479 Plains, TX 79355

Reporting Changes: If your child gets free or reduced-price meals because of your income, you must tell the school if your household size decreases or your income increases by more than \$50 per month or \$600 per year. If your child gets meals because you get food stamps or AFDC/TANF, you must tell the school when you are not getting AFDC/TANF or food stamps for them. You may then fill out another application giving income information.

Confidentiality: School officials use the information on the application only to decide if your child should get free or reduced-price meals. Free and reduced-price eligibility information may be subject to release to other federal, state and local education, health, or other means-tested programs. Some programs already identified are the National Assessment of Educational Progress and officials collecting data for Title I allocation and evaluation purposes.

Reapplication: You may apply for meals anytime during the school year. If you are not eligible now but have a change in status, like a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, become unemployed or get food stamps or AFDC/TANF for your child, you may then complete an application.

Handicapped: Meal substitutions at no additional cost for children who meet the definition of "handicapped" will be served, provided a physician has submitted a statement attesting to this fact and prescribing a substitute.

IN THE OPERATION OF THE CHILD FEEDING PROGRAMS, NO CHILD WILL BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF RACE, SEX, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE OR HANDICAP. IF YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, WRITE IMMEDIATELY TO THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250.

We will let you know when your application is approved or denied.

APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS (Multi-Child)

To apply for free and reduced-price meals, complete this application, sign your name and return the application to the school. Call the school if you need help. #456-5485 for Pat Curtis

1 Print STUDENT INFORMATION. 2 List the child's FOOD STAMP or AFDC/TANF case number, if any.

NAME	GRADE	NAME OF SCHOOL	FOOD STAMP NUMBER OR AFDC/TANF NUMBER

3 FOSTER CHILD: List the child's monthly personal use income. Write "0" if the child has no personal use income. \$ _____

4 HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AND MONTHLY INCOME: If you gave a food stamp or AFDC/TANF case number for the child, skip to PART 5.

NAMES OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS	Gross MONTHLY Earnings (Before Deductions)		MONTHLY Welfare Payments, Child Support, Alimony	MONTHLY Payments from Pensions, Retirement, Social Security	MONTHLY Any Other Income
	Job 1	Job 2			
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

5 SIGNATURE AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: I certify that all of the above is true and correct and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is being given for the receipt of federal funds; that school officials may verify the information on the application; and that deliberate misrepresentation of the information may subject me to prosecution under applicable state and federal laws.

X _____ Signature of Adult Household Member X _____ Social Security Number*
HOME TELEPHONE NO. _____ WORK TELEPHONE NO. _____ PRINTED NAME _____

STREET/APT. NO. _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ DATE _____

6 RACE: Please check the racial or ethnic identity of your child(ren). You are not required to answer this question.
 White, not Hispanic Black, not Hispanic Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander American Indian/Alaskan Native

* PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: SECTION 9 OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT REQUIRES THAT, UNLESS YOUR CHILD'S FOOD STAMP OR AFDC/TANF CASE NUMBER IS PROVIDED, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF THE ADULT HOUSEHOLD MEMBER SIGNING THE APPLICATION OR INDICATE THAT THE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER DOES NOT HAVE A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER. PROVISION OF A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER IS NOT MANDATORY, BUT IF A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER IS NOT GIVEN OR AN INDICATION IS NOT MADE THAT THE SIGNER DOES NOT HAVE SUCH A NUMBER, THE APPLICATION CANNOT BE APPROVED. THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER MAY BE USED TO IDENTIFY THE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER IN CARRYING OUT EFFORTS TO VERIFY THE CORRECTNESS OF INFORMATION STATED ON THE APPLICATION. THESE VERIFICATION EFFORTS MAY BE CARRIED OUT THROUGH PROGRAM REVIEWS, AUDITS, AND INVESTIGATIONS AND MAY INCLUDE CONTACTING EMPLOYERS TO DETERMINE INCOME, CONTACTING A FOOD STAMP OR WELFARE OFFICE TO DETERMINE CURRENT CERTIFICATION FOR RECEIPT OF FOOD STAMPS OR AFDC/TANF BENEFITS, CONTACTING THE STATE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY OFFICE TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF BENEFITS RECEIVED AND CHECKING THE DOCUMENTATION PRODUCED BY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TO PROVE THE AMOUNT OF INCOME RECEIVED. THESE EFFORTS MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OR REDUCTION OF BENEFITS, ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMS OR LEGAL ACTIONS IF INCORRECT INFORMATION IS REPORTED.

FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

MONTHLY INCOME CONVERSION: WEEKLY X 4.33 EVERY 2 WEEKS X 2.15 TWICE A MONTH X 2

TOTAL HOUSEHOLD SIZE _____ MONTHLY INCOME _____ FOOD STAMP _____ AFDC/TANF _____

ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION: APPROVED FREE _____ APPROVED REDUCED-PRICE _____ DENIED _____ TEMPORARY UNTIL _____ UNTIL _____ UNTIL _____

REASON FOR DENIAL: INCOME TOO HIGH _____ INCOMPLETE APPLICATION _____ OTHER _____

CHANGE IN STATUS _____ REASON _____ DATE _____ DATE WITHDRAWN _____

SIGNATURE OF DETERMINING OFFICIAL _____ DATE _____

DATE VERIFICATION NOTICE SENT: _____ RESPONSE DUE FROM HOUSEHOLD _____ SECOND NOTICE SENT _____

VERIFICATION RESULT: NO CHANGE _____ FREE TO REDUCED-PRICE _____ FREE TO PAID _____ REDUCED TO FREE _____ REDUCED-PRICE TO PAID _____

REASON FOR ELIGIBILITY CHANGE: INCOME _____ HOUSEHOLD SIZE _____ REFUSED TO COOPERATE _____ OTHER _____ CHANGE IN FOOD STAMP/AFDC/TANF _____

DATE NOTICE OF CHANGE SENT TO PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____ SIGNATURE OF VERIFYING OFFICIAL: _____ DATE: _____

I would like to thank everyone for their support as I represented The Yoakum County Roping Club in the Rodeo Queen's contest. It is greatly appreciated and I will enjoy serving as your queen for the next year.

Sincerely,
Marcy House

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Yoakum County Hospital

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Denver City, TX 79323
(806) 592-2121

From The Hack



School starts today (if you're reading this Wednesday) and this always brings mixed emotion; Kids shriek, "I don't care if it starts. I don't want to go", while mommas shriek, "Thank God, they're out of my hair a few hours!"

I remember it well. Heaven (summer vacation) was always rudely ended with those dread words, school's starting. It was time to buy crayolas, pencils, Red Chief Tablets, gum rubber erasers, a ruler you didn't understand, a bunch of new clothes which soon wouldn't fit your growing body, all of which you despised the thought of using after almost three months of idledom.

Moms would excitedly tell their offsprings, "Oh Honey, you're going to have so much fun in school", furiously shoving them out the door towards the school bus while planning the shopping trip, without brats, she'd dreamed of for months. She could pass the ice cream stands, the coke machines, the guy holding an accordion while some dumb monkey plunked away on it, without some little dumpling screaming, "Mom, Mom, I'm hungry. I'm thirsty, I wanta give the monkey a dime!" without feeling instant remorse when she said NO.

Moms can now shop for a nice bra without ten year old junior asking "Where does that go", or baby sister insisting "I'm gonna get a training one of them next year".

For almost nine months, Moms, and even old Dads, won't have to be at the Little League baseball parks. Instead, they will be at show and tell mornings, pumpkin growing contests, map coloring contests, all thrilling events, according to their school teachers and offsprings.

The first week, maybe even two, will be blissful for the Moms, and then it settles in... "Oh, Lord, what did I ever do when little Paul, Samantha, or Drake, or Petunia wasn't here right with me? How am I going to survive until 3:30?" Life does go on, you know.

I am indebted to State representative Gary Walker for the following material, a collection of rather infamous quotes by current and former Texas politicians. I asked Walker if he had ever publicly made similar oratorical boobos, and he said "Yes, I have, but I'm not going to tell you about them, and I'm sure not going to put them in print for you".

Texas House Speaker Gib once addressed a group of handicapped in wheel chairs, "And now will y'all stand and be recognized?"

"Ain't nothing in the middle of the road but yellow stripes and dead armadillos", former Ag Commissioner Jim Hightower once told an audience.

Former Governor Bill Clements was once asked if he had been born again and replied, "No thanks, once was enough."

Jim Hightower also said "Oh, good, now he'll be bi-ignorant" when told Governor Clements had been studying Spanish.

Hightower also commented on President George Bush; "If ignorance ever goes to \$40 a barrel, I want drilling rights on that man's head."

And President Bush, discussing a Walter Mondale comment he didn't have the manhood to apologize for an assertion, once said, "Well, on the manhood thing, I'll put mine up against his any time."

Gib Lewis once said during a budget hearing, "I move we recess to go outside and throw up." He also once said, "There's a lot of uncertainty that's not clear in my mind." He also contributed "This is unparalyzed in the state's history!"

Another House Speaker, Wayne Clayton, once said, "Let's do this in one foul sweep", and another time announced "It's the sediment of the House that we adjourn."

An anonymous legislator once announced "I can explain it for you, but I can't understand it for you."

Former would be Governor Clayton Williams once ex-

plained how he had voted on the only proposition on a Texas ballot, "Which one is that? I just voted the way my wife told me to. She knew what it was."

Speaker Gib Lewis really had a way with words. He once announced "We'll run it up the flagpole and see who salutes that booger!"

Perhaps my personal favorite was from a House Representative who explained, "There are still places where people think that the function of the media is to provide information."

Via the internet, I recently read where a couple of new bronze busts were added to the collection of Texas political shakers and movers in the state Capitol. The metallic likenesses of Lieutenant Governor Bob Bullock and House Speaker Pete Laney will now draw the gaze of throngs of visitors.

It's reported the soon to retire Lt. Governor wanted his bust to be displayed for a special future event. His wife Jan is 20 years his junior, and Bullock said when he was long gone, and she had remarried, he hoped she would pass by the bronze and tell her new husband, "I once knew that guy pretty well".

Speaker Laney, on the other hand, is not so excited about the sculptured likeness. He has no immediate plans for retirement, and said while he was very honored, "I'm not going anywhere soon."

Did you hear this? A Native American Brave decided he wanted to change his name, a procedure only the Tribal Chief could okay. He said, "Chief, I think I need to change my name." The old Chief looked at him in surprise, then asked, "Why in the world would you want to change your name, Purple Pregnant Possum?"

Aug. 17, 1931; Gov. Ross Sterling orders National Guard to East Texas oil fields to enforce production, martial law declared

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1997 PROPERTY TAX RATES IN CITY OF PLAINS

This notice concerns 1997 property tax rates for City of Plains. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100.00 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$ 96,864.34
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 0.00
Last year's total taxes	\$ 96,864.34
Last year's tax base	\$18,808,610.00
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 0.515 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes	\$ 96,327.00
(After subtracting taxes on lost property)	
This year's adjusted taxes	\$20,291,900.00
(After subtracting value of new property)	
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 0.4749 /\$100
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	\$ 0.4891 /\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last years adjusted operating taxes	
(After subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function)	\$ 96,317.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base	\$20,281,900.00
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ 0.4749 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ 0.5129 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0 /\$100
= This year's rollback rate	\$ 0.5129 /\$100

Schedule A: Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Property Tax Account	\$ 0.00

NO UNENCUMBERED FUND BALANCES

Schedule B: 1197 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amount for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenue, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment To be Paid	Interest To be Paid	Other Amounts To be Paid	Total Payment
	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total required for 1997 Debt Service				\$ 0.00
Amount (if any) paid from fund listed in Schedule A				\$ 0.00
Excess collection last year				\$ 0.00
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1997				\$ 0.00
Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect 100% of its taxes in 1997				\$ 0.00
= Total Debt Levy				\$ 0.00

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback rate calculation. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at YOAKUM COUNTY TAX OFFICE, PLAINS COURTHOUSE, PLAINS TEXAS.

Name of person preparing this notice: WANDA SMITH
Title: YOAKUM TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR
Date Prepared: July 29, 1997

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is hiring individuals to work on a spray crew. Experience helpful but not required. For further information, please contact Carolyn at 1-800-692-4221 or 1-800-THE SEED.

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