

A Happy, Prosperous New Year To One & All



Cowboy Country

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



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State Senator Bivins speaks here

Upcoming Legislation topics reviewed in town hall meeting last Tuesday



Over three dozen citizens of Yoakum County attended a town hall meeting and heard Senator Teel Bivins, R, outline upcoming topics facing legislators when the 77th Texas Legislative session opens January 9. A resident of Ama-District of Texas.

the office of Lieutenant Governor. Present Lt. Governor Rick Perry will automatically move will then elect a new Lt. Governor from within

their ranks.

Bivins is Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, and serves on the Natural Rersources, Border Affairs and Electric Utility rillo, Sen. Bivins represents the 31st Senate Restructuring Committees. He said Texas' rapidly growing population would present redis-He told the audience his hat was in the ring, tricting challenges in both the Senate and House along with a number of other state senators for of Representatives when the legislators receive the Census Bureau official population figures. The state's population is expected to go over into the Governor's office when President-Elect 20 million, and each senate district would rep-George W. Bush resigns. The 31 State Senators resent approximately 650,000 residents. He also Please turn to page 2, "Senator"

Criminal cases in **County Court**

Three criminal cases were heard in County Court December 20, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state. Armando Antonio Nunez pled guilty to theft of more than \$50, but less than \$500. He was fined \$100, and must

pay \$210 court costs. William Ferrell Bennett pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay \$225 court costs, serve 80 hours community service, and complete the batterer's treatment program. Investigating officer in the case was Officer William Gardner, Denver City Police.

Jeremy Jason Gonzales' conditions of community supervision from an assault causing bodily injury were extended, to remain in the managed care center at Lubbock for a term of 30 days to 6 months.. All community service fees will be waived while he is confined

Christmas a little brighter for county families thanks to generous contributions



Anna Gonzales presents \$250 check to County Treasurer Toni Jones

The Community Supervision and Corrections Department, with the coordinated efforts of the Yoakum County Adult Probation office continued their aluminum can collection program this year. Prior to the Holiday season, the cans are sold and the proceeds are donated to charitable organizations benefiting the children of the county. This year, \$250 was donated to the local Christmas Assistance Program, and another \$250 was donated to Denver City's Toys Food Drive.

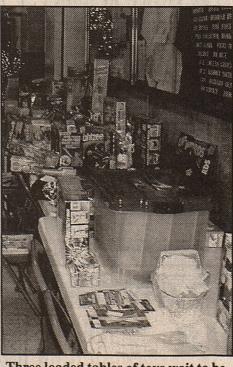
The two departments wish to thank County Precinct 4, where the cans are stored, and Depoyster Metals who assist in selling the cans at the highest price.

Spirit of Christmas is alive and well in Plains

It could be termed a Labor Of Love. Dozens of volunteers representing the county, civic groups, Plains ISD classes, and rank and file citizens worked long and hard to make the 2000 Christmas Assistance program a success, one which brought a much happier Holiday Season to 42 area families, including 85 youngsters.

Country Treasurer Toni Jones, who for many years has headed up the annual program, told CCN, "We've had so much support and help this year it will be difficult to thank everyone, and I certainly don't want to leave anyone out. The high school students did a great job collecting both food and toys, and the Junior High classes competed against one another in their canned food drive. We had a number of very generous money donors, the courthouse and county employees pitched in with food, gifts and cash. It took lots of plain old work to gather, sort and store all the food and Christmas toys, and then more work packing it all up for delivery last Friday. If you helped in anyway in this event, you have my sincere thanks, and the thanks of all those we served."

Jones said The City of Plains, Precinct 3 and Precinct 4 sent men, equipment and vehicles to help in last week's delivery. While no official records are kept of the "Help your neighbor" yearly event, Jones and other active supporters are certain the year 2000 assistance program was the largest to date.

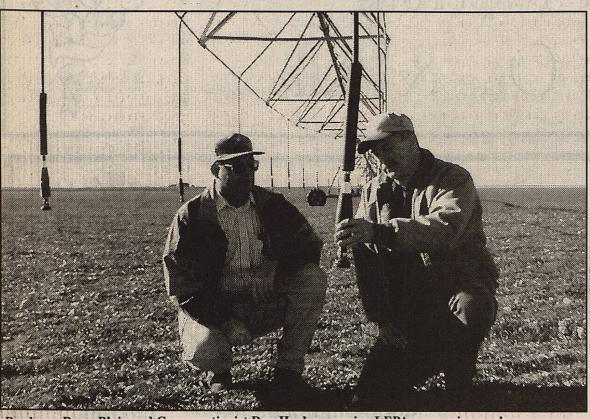


Three loaded tables of toys wait to be distributed to some 85 area youngsters. An even more impressive amount of food was also delivered in plenty of time to make Christmas Day much brighter. Weeks of effort made this Christmas Assistance program the largest and best yet



Just some of the dozens of volunteers who labored sorting, loading and delivering cheer

Cost-Share funds available to produces here for LEPA coversions



Producer RoyceBlair and Conservationist Don Hayley examine LEPA conversion package

an expensive fact if the crop

irrigation water, but some are more efficient than others. It makes sense water applied directly to the soil surface is more efficient than water applied and susceptible to wind, evaporation, etc. In other words, more Blair converted an old high water getting to the crop in exchange for the expense it takes to get it there.

realized wasting water in his operation was neither cost effective nor a good conservation method for future generations. Working with the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation Dis-

rural populations, and dramatic

growth around the state's ma-

Sen. Bivins said the state's

most precious natural resource,

water in adequate supply,

would be a continuing problem for the 77th Legislature. An

audience member asked if the

lawmakers could address the

problem of a shortage of teach-

ers in public education, and

rapid turn over of teachers. Sen.

Bivins said in the last legisla-

tive session a "Teach For Texas

" grant program had been ap-

proved, making millions of dol-

lars available to new teachers

who agree to teach at a public

school for a specified time, and

who continue their educations

and hone their teaching skills. Another topic of major concern

From page 1, 'Senator'

Valley.

Less than normal rainfall and trict and the State Soil and Waa dwindling water supply is a ter Conservation Board in a fact of life in many parts of the cost-share program, Blair con-South Plains and Yoakum verted his high pressure pivot County. If you make a living system to a low pressure LEPA producing irrigated crops, it is system (low energy precision application).

cannot get the moisture it Using quad sprays (bubblers) within eight inches of the soil There are many ways to apply surface, irrigation water is delivered accurately and efficiently. For pre-planting or getting a crop started, the bubblers can be 'popped up' for an energy efficient, low level spray application.

pressure Zimmatic system to the LEPA system, and will recover about half the expense of Local producer Royce Blair the conversion from the two conservation entity's cost-share program. Blair is using the LEPA system on a half circle of wheat, and irrigated another half circle of solid row cotton planted in circular rows. "The

facing the 77th Legislature is feels it is possible West Texas the serious deterioration of the could lose representation in the state's highway system. Sen. House because of dwindling Bivens said the amount of money available now to repair and upgrade the once vaunted jor cities and in the Rio Grande Texas highways system leaves the roads in worse condition each year. "Our booming population surge, and greatly increased trade with Mexico has put great strains on our highways, and we will have to seek other methods of financing this vital infrastructure," the Senator said.

The Senator fielded other questions from the audience concerning public education funding, problems with the TAAS test, and agricultural policy. He said Texas and other agricultural states would continue to play a secondary role to federal policies governing agriculture production and prices, but the state would continue to promote Texas ag products.

MEMBER 2000 Cowboy Country News **TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

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New Judge to Help Speed Up **Court System for Kids**

Abused and neglected children a grant from the Governor's will be closer to finding a safe Office to expand into the same and permanent home when counties. This collaborative ex-Kevin Mart is sworn in as the pansion will provide for a Associate Judge for the South CASA volunteer to be ap-Plains Cluster Court. The Hon- pointed to all the children in orable Kelly G. Moore, Admin- CPS care in the Cluster Court istrative Judge for the 9th Judiarea. Judge Kelly G. Moore cial Region, will administer the stated, "When I learned that a oath for the new associate court had been approved for judge. The swearing in will take eleven counties in this area, my place at the Lubbock County Courthouse, 72nd District Courtroom on Monday, December 18, 2000 at 1:30 pm. As associate judge, Kevin Hart's responsibility will be to hear the abuse and neglect cases involving children in Child Protective Services' (CPS) custody. This project allows for judicial specialization and more court time in Lubbock and surrounding counties. The concept has proven successful in clearing the backlog of Child Protective Services' cases.

The Supreme Court Task Force on Foster Care piloted two projects in 1997 that became known as the "Cluster Courts". These courts handle CPS cases exclusively, and utilize a traveling judge that hears cases in a cluster of counties, which intical about planting cotton in a dividually would not otherwise have enough children in CPS care to constitute a full caseload. Each cluster court is designed to meet local needs the deep tracks left by the pivot and utilize local resources.

> In conjunction with the new South Plains Cluster Court, CASA of Lubbock has received

first thought was that we might A \$2,500 bond was set. be able to facilitate the expansion of CASA into all eleven stress enough the importance of

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a nationwide program that provides volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the court was also indicted on a third or system. CASA volunteers conduct interviews and do research regarding their cases and then Kenneth Owen Gatewood was make written and verbal recommendations to the judge. They DWI, and bond was \$2,500. help ensure that the children are Pascual Nava Perez was in-

Crosby, Hale, Garza, Dawson, Swisher, and Castro.

a CASA volunteer can call felony. Bond was set at \$3,500. CASA of Lubbock at 806-763-2272 for more information.

Cameras will be allowed in the Kelly G. Moore, and Criminal courtroom for the swearing in. District Attorney Richard

Grand Jury hands down indictments

The Yoakum County Grand Jury returned true bills of indictment against seven individuals in the December 11 session.

Felipe A. Rodriguez was indicted for a third or more DWI offense, a third degree felony.

Michael Lee Stafford was indicted on a possession of methcounties in the cluster. I cannot amphetamine in a drug free zone charge, a third degree the CASA program to the chil-felony. His bond was set at \$2,500.

Sherry Williams Cleveland was indicted on a third or more DWI charge, also a third degree felony. Bond was \$2,500. Cayetano Anthony Gonzales more DWI charge. His bond was set at \$2,500.

indicted for a third or more

put in the best situation pos- dicted for assault causes bodily injury, a third degree felony The eleven counties in the enhanced by a prior causeof cluster include Lubbock, assault causes injury to a family member.

Lynn, Terry, Yoakum, Hale, Carol Marroquin Perez was indicted for possession of co-People interested in becoming caine, another third degree All bonds for felony indictments are set by District Judge Clark represented the state.

We have moved our office to 506 Cowboy Way, next door to the Cowboy Restaurant. Our mail and e-mail address, fax and phone are the same

program is February 1. Santa's Helpers

LEPA system cut my water

pumping from 500 gallons per

minute to 400, and I am con-

vinced I am using the water

much more efficiently," Blair

told CCN. In a year which has

been rather disastrous for many

cotton producers, Royce harvested 80 bales of cotton from

He reported he was very skep-

circle pattern, "But I came to

like it very much. At stripping

time, you're not faced with run-

ning your machinery over all

State Soil and Water Conser-

vationist Don Haley said addi-

tional cost-share funds are

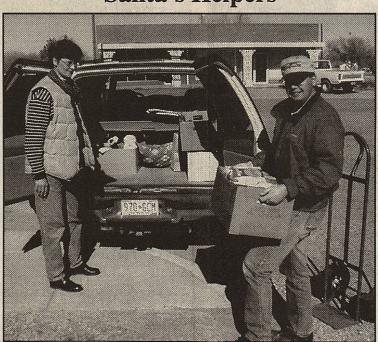
available for similar conver-

sions for producers agreeing to

a water quality plan, and the

deadline for application for the

system.



Sarah Kay Burrus and Ed Hansen delivering food and toys for the assistance program

The Yoakum County Tax Office in both Denver City and Plains will be closed for all motor vehicle transactions on December 29, 2000, due to the change in the Tax Collector's position. Both offices will accept your payment for ad valorem taxes until 12 noon. You may mail in your motor vehicle or tax transactions to PO Box 250, Plains, and they will be returned to you as soon as possible.

Thanks for your cooperation.

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Obituaries

Services for 'Bubba' Bryan

Seminole, Texas, were held Friday, December 22, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church with Rev. Gayle Perkins officiating. Burial followed in the Gaines County Cemetery South, with services under the direction of Boyer Funeral Home of Seminole. Mr. Bryan passed away Monday, December 18, 2000 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after an illness. He was born August 26, 1952 in Seminole, Texas. He was a member of the First Baptist

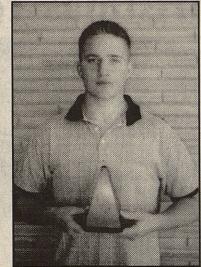
Church of Plains. He was a

Funeral services for Baron welder. He graduated from Baxter "Bubba" Bryan, 48, of Seminole Schools and earned an associates degree at New Mexico Jr. College. He was active in farming, live stock and 4-H. He was a avid Rodeo fan, and a member of the National Rodeo Association. He was preceded in death by his father, Hub Bryan in 1995.

Flora Bryan of Seminole, Tx.; a daughter: Amber Bryan of Lubbock, Tx.; a son: Dustin James Bryan of Lubbock, Tx.; a sister: Barbara Bryan of Dallas, Tx.; a brother: Barry Bryan of Houston, Tx.

PHS Student Of The Week

Student of the week is Chris McGinty, a Junior and the son of Mr. and Mrs Alton McGinty. He was nominatewd by Mr. Portillo, who said, "As a student this person excels in his classes and in his extracurricular activities. He is involved in football, track, band and numerous community activities. He is a joy to have around and always has something positive to say. He will be a great asset to the world of music education. He knows cess that sometimes never seems to end. I believe Chris



success is a step by step pro- will always strive for the high-

Legislators face full plate of perplexing issues

When the 77th Texas Legislature convenes in Austin January 9, the thorny issue of senate and house redistricting will undoubtedly be one of the major hurdles the solons must clear. There are dozens of other issues and topics to be wrestled with also. The Senate Research Center issued a publication this month offering brief overviews Survivors include his mother: of a broad range of categories and topics sure to be addressed by the 77th session, including; Formula funding for higher education; the Higher Education Coordinating Board has recommended a \$925 million increase in funding for all institutions of higher learning.

Health and Human Services; Medical information privacy, a close look at long term care in the state, child health topics including immunization, revising Medicaid for children, investigating the foster home system, possible revising rules governing restraints, seclusions and psychoactive medications used by healthfacilities, and the issue of implementing procedures ensuring people with disabilities residing in institutions have full access to information about the full range of care options available to them.

Border affairs; How to facilitate economic development and trade in the Texas-Mexico bor-

of socialized education and training in NAFTA related industries, Environmental con- cost almost \$1 billion. cerns in the Border region, in-

cluding adequate water and wastewater systems are topics

Budget and Tax items, including possible pay raises for state employees. One recommendation calls for a \$200 per month der area, possible development boost in salaries, still leaving state employees 7 percent be-

certain to be deliberated.

Criminal Justice; The legislature will assess the placement of individuals identified as or

low private workers, yet would

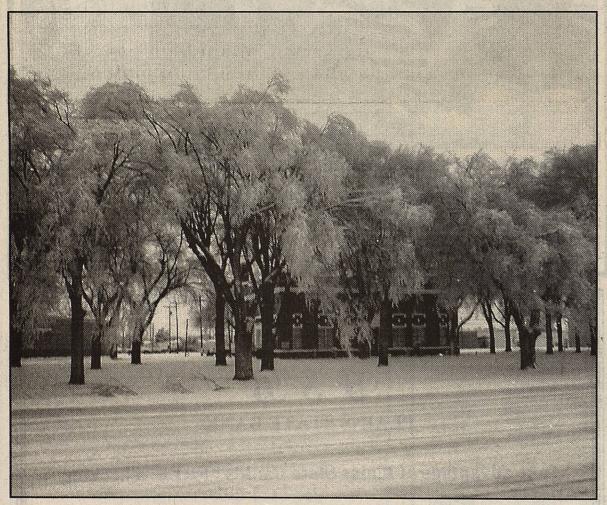
sidered a risk to public safety in the criminal justicse system.

Legislators will address additional protection against hate crimes, life without parole, execution of the mentally retarded, prison capacity concerns, and street gangs. They will closely examine the use of DNA evidence, including extending or removing statutes of limitations on the use of DNA in rape or sexual assault cases.



The per-capita calorie count undoubtedly soared last week with all the Open House feeds, private parties and the traditional Christmas Day feast. This scene shows a very small portion of a very large crowd of customers and friends attending the John Deere Day gathering at Texas Equipment last Thursday. Their buffet featured fajitas, barbecued ribs, boiled shrimp, lots of dips and desserts.

Brrrrrr It's Cold!



This wintry scene was shot Tuesday morning, the day after Christmas, and shows the large elm trees around the old courthouse building covered with ice, and a 'guess-timated' four to six inches of snow on the ground, with more snow in the forecast.

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Congratulations to the WINNERS of our **Christmas Drawing**

1st PRIZE:12 VOLT CORDLESS DRILL KIT

Le Ann Crump

2nd PRIZE: 3 1/2 QUART CROCK POT

Brian Smith

3rd PRIZE: 7 PIECE CUTLERY SET

Joe St. Romain

Wrangler Basketball Teams



7th Lady Wranglers: Connie Loya, Ashli Hunter, Priscilla Mares, Josie Cordova, Cecilia Bonilla, Skylar



8th Lady Wranglers: Jessica Henry, Mayra Flores, Jamie Covarrubias, Sandra Gandara, Marlie Diaz, Daniela Lazos, Lela Coronado, Kristian Morales



7th Wranglers: T.J. Cordova, Michael Therwanger, Todd Williams, Casson Curtis, Cade Arnett, Blake O'Quinn, David Alldredge, Abel Ramos

PHS Cowboys named to 3-2A All District Teams

District Football teams;

Jared Bell, 1st team outside linebacker, 1st team return specialist, 2nd team quarter back. Joseph Rodriguez, 1st team offensive lineman, 2nd team defensive lineman. Brett Squyres, 1st team inside linebacker. Adam Garcia,2nd team sec-

The following Cowboys were named to All ondary, 2nd team running back. Armando Luna, 2nd team offensive lineman. Tanner Hamm. 2nd team receiver.

Both Jared Bell and Joseph Rodriguez received honorable mention honors on the All-South

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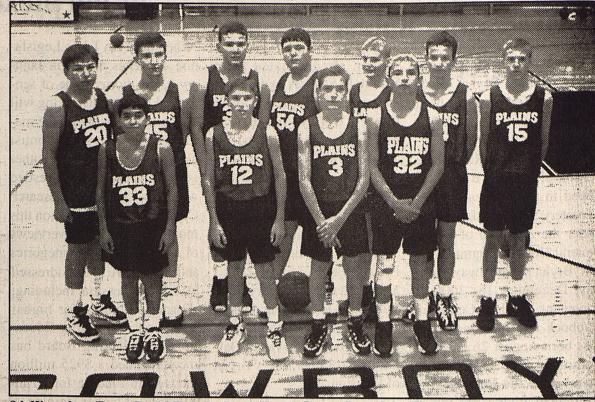
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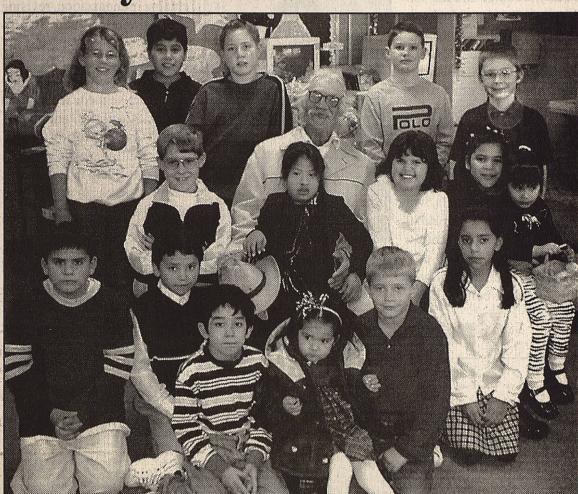
Appointments preferred.

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8th Wranglers: Front- Daniel Estrada, Breck Hamm, Payton Bean, John Wagnon, Back- Cole Krebsbach, Brandon Hise, Cody Flores, Brant Huerta, Kerry Sisson, Kelby Johnson, Evan Cain

Merry Christmas To Alonzo



Mrs. Phyllis House's third graders played Santa Claus and Host's at a special party honoring Alonzo Bearden on the last day of school last week. The kids sang Christmas Carols for Mr. Bearden and presented him with gifts, to illustrate the importance of sharing with others during the Holiday Season. The third graders were joined by a number of their younger siblings and parents, and the smile on Mr. Bearden's face during the party expressed his pleasure and enjoyment for the youngsters caring.

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Healthy party | We Get Letters tips

At parties, serve fruit wedges with chanks of reduced fat cheese. Make homemade salsa with tomatoes, mangoes, avocados, red onions, cilantro and lime. Try making spears of fruit, attatching strawberries, grapes, melon slices, or pineapple chunks onto small skewers. Use low fat or non fat yogurt for a dip. Put some punch into your party by blending 100 percent fruit juices to create a refreshing new juice. Try mixing pineapple, orange, grapefruit or other juices. Add a slice of lemon or lime as a garnish.

South Plains Health Dept.

Letter to the Editor:

In the spirit of the Christmas Season, Johnnie Wauson has been our own angel in Plains for many years. She has brought fried chicken when we have sadness in our families. She has fed the Senior Citizens at cut rate and the pastors for free for 25 years or so. We will miss Johnnie's Restaurant food, staff, and James' greeting to us when we arrived hungry for body nourishment. But the nourishment we will miss most is Johnnie's quiet spiritual care of so many without fanfare or fame. An angel has touched us.

by Linda Powell

Attention Senior's

Flu shots will be offered for senior's at Yoakum County Senior Citizen's Center in Denver City, December 28th at 10:30 am. by Seminole Memorial Home Health Care.



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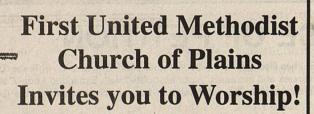
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Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 10:45 am **Evening Worship 6:15 pm** Wednesday Evening Study 6:30 pm Tuesday Afternoon Study 5:15 pm



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Across from old couthouse

Storytime Christmas Party at the Library

Santa Claus paid a special visit to the Yoakum County Library on Wednesday, December 20. Santa visited with each boy and girl about their Christmas wishes and presented each with a candy cane mouse. The group said the pledges to the United States and Texas flags followed by the singing of several Christmas carols. Special refreshments were provided by the mothers. The boys and girls enjoyed a new video entitled: Arthur's Perfect Christmas. Those attending were as follows: Micah St. Romain, Lucas Hernandez, Madison Davis, Kay'D Lamar, Colby Bearden, Amanda Dusek, Clayton Gass, Jentry Wall, Claire Carpenter, Jaydon Lira, Arista and Brandon Davis.



Madison Davis, held by Dolores Davis, was a bit apprehensive

Plains, Texas

CHURCH

Sunday School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45 Evening Worship 6:00 pm. Wednesday

After School - 4:30 pm. DBAB

5:15 - 6:30 pm. Supper 6:00 pm. Zombies

7:00 pm. - RA's, GA's, Mission Friends, Generation X, Sanctuary Choir Practice



Arista Davis displays her best Christmas smile



Little Amanda Dusek tries to figure out the guy in the red suit

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From The Hack

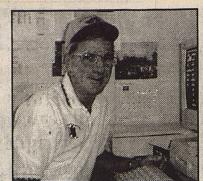
The Bride and I celebrated pre-Christmas when I presented and she slowly slid inside this her with an MRI in Lubbock last week Neither one of us her toes were visible. The guy were thrilled.

Ever had, or seen an MRI procedure? Neither had we. The this door, or I'll kill you, and technician came for her, took so will your wife, cause we her to a dressing room where she donned a one size fits all A screen on the front of the igpair of trousers, then one of loo lit up saying 'READY'. those notorious hospital gowns Moments later, I thought the Dwhich leaves your southern ex- Day Normandy invasion was posure completely exposed. He carefully explained the painless treatment, telling her she would do fine, as long as she didn't tars going off, high pitched zippanic, scream, blink her eyes, zip-zips, long series of bubbly lose control of her kidney, or sounds like my stomach makes hyperventilate.

to be with her during the 30 minute procedure. She calmly quiet. for any reason, it will destroy the scan." How comforting.

towel, just in case she happened proud she hadn't paniced. to open her eyes and ruin the She looked at me and said, scanning process.

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The techie pushed a button, narrow, round tunnel, until only walked out the door with a final, "Remember, don't open gotta do it all over again."

underway again. I heard machine guns being fired, deep thump-thumps of morduring prayer time at church. He also told her if she felt Between each series of differoverly nervous, he would sum- ent and incredibly loud bursts mon me from the waiting room of sonic Hell, there would be 20 or 30 seconds of calm and

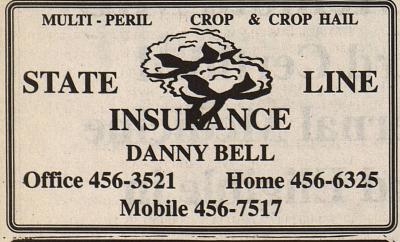
told him, "Go get him. I don't In those moments, I would want to deprive him of any of lean towards the tunnel and in this fun." I was a bit put out, my most compassionate voice having to put down my latest mumble terms of endearment, Bassmaster magazine. He es- like, "You're doing great corted me to a door, stripped me honey, just lie still and stay of all metal objects, and his last calm," or, "Good job, girl, words to me as we entered the you're handling this real well exam room were, "Once and I'm so proud of you." I will you're in here, you can't leave wager I muttered this type stuff fifty time before the tunnel of horrors finally fell silent.

I looked at the huge white ma- The technician came in beamchine, which looked suspi- ing, punched the eject button, ciously like an elongated and here came Bride sliding eskimo igloo. The Bride lay on out of the cold white igloo. I sort of a narrow track looking grabbed her hand and told her thing, her face covered with a she'd done great, and I was

"What? What are you mum-

AA/AL-ANON Meeting Alcoholic's Anonymous meeting will be held Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:00 pm. Al-Anon Mondays at 7:00 pm. Pate **Trucking Co., 214 Plains** Hwy. Denver City, Texas. Call 592-8660 or 592-3455.

Agricredit Acceptance LLC will offer the following repossessed equipment for sale to the highest bidder for cash. Equipment: LE Spider, Sprayer, s/n 4LCSEW164, and RHT-743, Dump Cart, s/n 743. Date of sale - December 27, 2000. Time of Sale - 10 AM. Place of Sale - Texas Equipment, 1/2 mile West on US Highway 82, Plains, Texas. The equipment will be sold AS IS, without warranty. We reserve the right to bid. For further information please contact Tracy Calhoun at 800-577-8504, Ext. 1487.



*Carpet *Heating *Air Conditioning *Maytag Appliances 204 N. Main, Denver City 806-592-3973 or 592-3930

" Its hard to stop a TRANE"

leaned down, and removed two long, soft rubber plugs from her ears. She repeated, "What did you say?"

Those 30 minutes of compassionate companionship on my part were utterly wasted! The technician, who had heard all my blubbering through some sort of sound system in his control room, could hardly contain his mirth at my embarassment, but did offer, "Great performance, Mr. Dyer!"

As a member of the Texas Press Association, we receive their "Messenger" publication each month, and the December issue featured an article by Mike Cox all too familiar to me; outrageous mistakes, particularly in writing headlines.

Cox wrote, "Sometimes outrageous things are not the result of pranks or hoaxes. They simply happen, the random result of chaos or the handiwork of gremlins in computers."

Some of the writers favorite screwups include these classics;

'Roommate held after arms. legs, head found '

From an AP story about a man of the cloth who brought music to the life of the faithful and playful; 'Roller Rink Pastor Fiddles With Organ'

The San Angelo Standard

Flu shots are now available for everyone at Plains Clinic. Come by or call 456-6365

TERRY COUNTY TRACTOR

Massey Ferguson Kubota **Bush Hog Shredders**, **Lilliston Rolling** Cultivators, Lorenz & Buffalo Cultivators, **Baker Disc & Switch** Plows, Spray Coupe, Wilmar Sprayer Brownfield, Tx. 806-637-4569

* House For Sale* PRICE REDUCED 4 Br., 2 Bath 1508 Ave. G For appointment to see. Call Tim 456-7195 or 662-334-4416

Large House for Sale 2-3 Br., Lg. Den, Lg. Fenced backyard on corner lot 1101 17th St. 456-7110

bling?" My heart leaped, and I Times once ran this header over thought, Oh My God they've a wedding story; 'Couple's deafened her! The techie Marriage Consumated In First Baptist Church '

That same newspaper once had a rule requirig obituaries telling where the deceased had resided, and if possible his or her age as well.Since West Texas has lots of small towns, the rule sometimes presented problems,

'Happy Man Dies'

Or, how about 'Man, 98, Bangs, Dies'. (Bangs is a small town in Brown County).

Another; 'Leakey Woman Dies in Comfort

Cox continued, "Some headlines would seem to reveal stories far bigger than the space alloted them, such as, 'Murdered Youth Found Alive"

Another header featured by Cox was pretty self-explanatory; 'Differences Seen In Men, Women '.

Cox was correct when he wrote, " Printed errors are a major staple of newspaper folklore. Get a group of newspeople together, and sooner or later, they start recalling their favorite " mistakes and misprints."

This happens every week when we take CCN to the Lovington Leader to print our weekly. That bunch across the stateline are always giggling and exaggerating about the miniscule errors my clumsy fingers pound out.

> Happy New Year !!

Yoakum County Connection

P.O. Box 117 Plains, Texas 79355

i's hard to believe the year 2000 is almost over. The 21st century is already on the count down and it's ime for YOAKUM COUNTY CONNECTION'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS. A few of the events sponsored by the Yoakum County Connection in 2000 included a Student Art Show and a successful Watermelon Round-up. Two artists from San Antonio brought StoryBook Theatre to our Denver City and Plains Elementary schools performing "The Napping House and "Amelia Bedelia". We had over 325 kids participate in our YCC Summer Youth Art Program. Some of the activities included an exhibit at the YCC Building of works created by Alfredo Ybarra, a potter from Ft. Stockton. The year 2001 offers numerous opportunities for the communities of Yoakum County and the Connection has hopes of bringing more activities, exhibits, and events to all of you. Programs already scheduled for 2001 is a Young Leadership Training Workshop. The first meeting for the workshop is scheduled at 12:00 noon January 10, 2001, at Aurerilos Restaurant in Denver City. Other events scheduled are a Student Art Show, Watermelon Round-up, and again StoryBook Theatre. So don't miss out on all of the fun!!!!!!!!

The Yoakum County Connection Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2001, a 6:30pm in the Yoakum County Connection Building (118 N. Main, Denver City, Texas). Entertainment, refreshments, and door prizes will be provided for the meeting. The agenda for the meeting includes electing seven board members. Board members whose terms are ending are Linda Powell, David Brunson, Kim Whipple, Debbie Rushing, Dennis Harrison, *Elva Lozano and *Elfida Winkler (* will not be able to complete full term). Also, we will discuss other programs for the upcoming vear and existing programs as the Watermelon Round-up and the Yoakum County Connection Summer Youth Art Program.

Please complete the form below and return with membership dues to Yoakum County Connection P.O. Box 117, Plains, Texas 79355 2001 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

CLASS 1: ANNUAL DUES \$25

Individual or Non-business Families

CLASS 2: ANNUAL DUES \$50

Businesses, Farms, Ranches with less than 5 full-time employees, Clubs, Organizations

CLASS 3: ANNUAL DUES \$100 Businesses, Farms & Ranches with more than 5 full-time employees.

Individual, Group, Business Names	The second of th
Street Address/Mailing Address	
Email addresses-	Contraction of the Contraction o
City, State, Zip-	
Voting Representative (name)	

Critique of 2000 Connection Activities & Suggestions for the Year 2001:

(Above response can also be made in person at the January 18, 2001, annual membership meeting).

NOTICE OF PETITION

Texas ALLTEL, Inc. (Texas ALLTEL) has filed a petition with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) o establish a surcharge to recover lost revenues and increased costs associated with Expanded Local Calling Service (ELCS) petitions for several Texas ALLTEL exchanges. The submission of this petition is based on the Commission's Substantive Rule 26,221

ELCS permits an exchange to expand its local calling scope to include one or more exchanges if customers approve by ballot the payment of an ELCS fee in lieu of long distance charges. The costs and lost revenues associated with this petition are those not recoverable through the ELCS fee. A portion of this surcharge is to recover ELCS costs associated with routes implemented prior to September 1, 1996, and will replace the surcharge approved in January 1999 that expires in February 2001. The remaining portion of this surcharge will recover ELCS costs associated with new routes implemented in the year 2000.

If the Texas ALLTEL petition is approved, the company's local exchange will be assessed an additional monthly surcharge of \$2.84 per business line, \$1.42 per residential line and \$0.50 per each Tel-Assistance customers per access line. The resulting total ELCS surcharge will be \$4.44 per business line, \$2.22 per residential line and \$0.78 per Tel-Assistance line. If approved by the Commission, the additional monthly surcharge will begin, on an interim basis, with the February 21, 2001, billing cycle, subject to refund all or part of the charge if the Commission does not finally approve

The net annual effect on the revenues of Texas ALLTEL will be zero since the requested surcharge replaces lost revenues and reimburses Texas ALLTEL for the direct costs of service associated with all ELCS petitions. The estimated total lost revenues and increased costs Texas ALLTEL seeks to recover through this proceeding is \$51,634 monthly. If you have questions about this charge or would like further information, please call Texas ALLTEL at -800-452-5354

The Public Utility Commission has assigned Project No. 23301 to this proceeding. Persons who wish to ntervene or comment in these proceedings should notify the Commission by January 21, 2001, the deadline for intervention. All requests to intervene should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Commission's Office of Consumer Affairs at (512) 936-7120. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

AVISO DE PETICIÓN

Texas ALLTEL, Inc. (Texas ALLTEL) ha presentado una petición oficial ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Tejas Public Utility Commission) (Comisión) para establecer un recargo para recuperar los ingresos perdidos y los costos incrementados asociados con las peticiones de Ampliación del Servicio de Llamadas Locales (ELCS) para varias de las áreas de Texas ALLTEL. Esta petición se presenta en base a la Regla Substantiva número 26.221.

La ELCS permite que un área amplíe su alcance de llamadas locales para que incluyan una o más áreas, sólo si los dientes aprueban el pago de una tasa ELCS mediante una boleta en lugar de cargos por llamadas de larga distancia. Los costos y los ingresos perdidos relacionados a esta petición son aquellos que no son recuperables mediante la tasa ELCS. Una porción de este sobrecargo es para recuperar los costos del ELCS asociados con los trayectos interrumpidos antes del 1 de septiembre de 1996 y reemplazarán al sobrecargo aprobado en enero de 1999 el cual caduca en febrero de 2001. La porción restante de este sobrecargo es para recuperar los costos de ELCS asociados con los trayectos interrumpidos en el año 2000.

Si la solicitud de Texas ALLTEL es aprobada, el área local básica de la compañía recibirá un recargo mensual adiciona de \$2.84 para clientes comerciales, \$1.42 para clientes residenciales y \$0.50 para clientes de Tel-Assist, por línea de acceso. Esto hará que el recargo total de ELCS sea \$4.44 para clientes comerciales, \$2.22 para clientes residenciales y \$0.78 para Tel-Assist. S la Comisión lo aprueba, el recargo mensual adicional comenzará, mientras tanto, con el ciclo defacturación del 21 de febrero de 2001 con un acuerdo de reembolso de la totalidad o parte del cargo si la Comisión no aprueba la tarifa.

El efecto anual neto sobre los ingresos de Texas ALLTEL será de cero ya que el sobrecargo solicitado reemplaza los ingresos perdidos y reembolsa a Texas ALLTEL por el aumento del costo directo del servicio asociado con todas las solicitudes de ELCS. La cantidad total prevista de ingresos perdidos y aumento de costos que Texas ALLTEL desea recuperar a través de este proceso es de \$51,634 por mes

Si tiene alguna pregunta con respecto a este cargo o si quisiera obtener información adicional, sírvase llamar a Texas ALLTEL al 1-800-452-5354. La Comisión de Servicios Públicos ha asignado el Número de Proyecto 23301 a este proceso. Las personas

interesadas en participar o expresar algún comentario con respecto a este proceso deben notificar a la Comisión antes del 21 de enero del año 2001. Cualquier solicitud de participación debe ser enviada por correo a la Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. Para obtener información sobre cómo participar, llame a la Comisión al (512) 936-7120. Aquellos individuos con problemas de oido o de habla que tengan teléfonos teletipo pueden contactar a la Comisión al (512) 936-7136.