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10/2003 10/2004 2

Cowboy Country News

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

Volume X, Issue 26, March 10, 2004



This Pct. 4 Caterpillar loader appeared to be 'eating' this old, empty house on the northwest corner of Moreland and Copeland last week. The County was asked by the city to demolish the structure after it was condemned by health and sanitation officials.

Grand Jury delivers 21 indictments to 13 defendants

The Yoakum County Grand Jury met February 20, and handed down 21 indictments on 13 defendants. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state. District Judge Kelly G. Moore set all bond amounts.

Carlos Joseph Lopez was indicted for indecency with a child, sexual contact, a second degree felony. He was also indicted for indecency with a child, exposure, also a second degree felony, and \$25,000 and \$2,500 bonds were set and met by Action Bonds

Ruby Melendez Lopez was indicted for forgery of a financial instrument, state jail felony. No bond set.

Luz Manuel Garcia was indicted on four marijuana delivery charges; 5 pounds or more, less than 50 pounds, in drug free zone, second degree felony enhanced, \$25,000 bond: 1/4 ounce or more, less than 5 pounds, drug free zone, state jail felony, \$25,000 bond: 50 pounds or more, less than 2,000 pounds, drug free zone, 1st degree felony, \$20,000 bond, Jerome Head:

Juan Pablo Garcia was indicted on delivery of marijuana, 50 pounds or more, less than 2,000, in drug free zone, first degree felony enhanced, \$20,000, Jerome Head. Thomas Alarcon Calvillo, delivery 50 pounds or more marijuana, less than 2,000 pounds, drug free zone, first degree felony enhanced, \$25,000 bond.

Tracilynn McClellan, possession controlled substance, more than one gram, less than four, third degree felony, \$10,000 bond, Jerome Head.

Noel Ruth Beasley, possession of less than one gram methamphetamine, state jail felony, \$5000 bond, Jerome Head.

Joe Raymond Flores, injury to

child, third degree felony enhanced, \$6500 bond, Jerome Head. Also, injury to disabled, third degree felony, bond \$5000, Jerome Head.

Jerime Kyle Dossey, use of equipment/ anhydrous ammonia, third degree felony, bond \$5000, Lonnie Folmar. Also, possession/transport anhydrous ammonia with intent to manufacture controlled substance, third degree felony, bond \$7500, Lonnie Folmar.

Betty Ann Flores was indicted for

burglary of building, state jail felony. Bond \$20,000

Linda Marie Mendoza was indicted on three counts of abandoning or endangering a child, state jail felonies. Three bonds of \$2,500

Robert Reynoso, indicted for aggravated sexual assault, first degree felony. Bond set at \$50,000.

Alfredo Castillo, indicted for DWI with child under 15 years, state jail felony. Bond \$3000, Lonnie Folmar.

County Judge, Clerk attend NACO conference in Washington, D.C.

County Judge Dallas Brewer and County Clerk Debbie Rushing participated with almost 2,000 county officials at the National Association of Counties (NACo) annual Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. recently. The county officials came to Washington to meet with members of Congress on issues vital to local government, including transportation funding, homeland security and opposing unfunded mandates. They heard from Administration and Congressional leadership, including Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta and Senator Lamar Alexander.

Secretary Ridge announced the approval of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the first standardized management plan creating a chain of command for federal, state and local agencies for security incident response.

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn) received the Legislator of the Year award from NACo for his work opposing unfunded mandates and preemptions. He discussed extension of the Internet tax moratorium and a competing bill which seeks to ban any and all internet taxes, which would affect local government's abilities to collect taxes on emerging technologies.

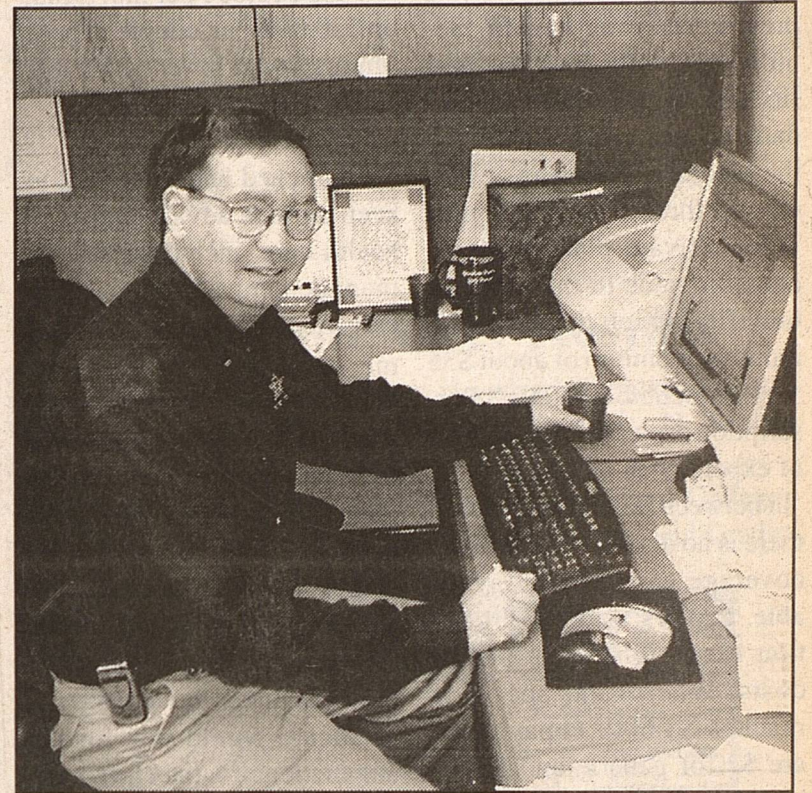
Transportation Secretary Mineta discussed the need for re-authorization of the Transportation bill. "The benefits will determine economic prosperity and jobs in your communities 10, 20 and 50 years from now," he said.

Many attending the conference visited Capitol Hill and their respective Congressional delegations, where they met with Representatives and Senators on various issues of their home county and the state and nation.

Ed Hansen to head up local Chamber

In the regular Wednesday morning Chamber of Commerce last week, President Gary Dyer suggested the first order of business should be the nomination of a new president, as he was standing down from the office after three years of service. He reported he had earlier talked to Ed Hansen about considering the office. Hansen, a long time chamber member and present City of Plains Administrator, indicated he would favorably consider the office if nominated. Dyer told the chamber members they had enjoyed a good year of cooperation with city hall, and he felt if Hansen was named president of the chamber, that mutual cooperation between the two entities would be extended and enhanced. Hansen was quickly elected by acclamation.

Hansen explained ongoing efforts by city officials to encourage voters to approve a one-half of one percent increase in the local sales tax. The modest amount of money generated by the rate increase would be used to encourage and assist economic development in the community. Hansen said over 500 Texas small towns have adopted the minor tax increase to attract business and create employment opportunities. Chamber members indicated to Hansen the chamber would help promote passage of the small tax increase.



City Administrator Ed Hansen

The balance of the meeting was spent discussing the possibility of the Chamber and City joining forces to acquire a new, electronic marquee sign to place in Pioneer Plaza across from the courthouse. The present florescent lighted billboard type sign is extremely old, and in very poor mechanical condition. It was learned Denver City is currently in the process of installing such an electronic sign on West Broadway. A phone call to their Chamber Executive Director Melissa Howell furnished more information about the possible project. She said their electronic sign has been purchased

direct from the manufacturer. It will be placed in a large wood and stone stand, to be erected by local builders and volunteers. The three by eight LED sign could show up to three lines of messages, on both sides of the sign, and the viewing time could be computer controlled and message changed from Howell's Chamber office. She said the purchase price of the sign was approximately \$25,000, but other models could be less expensive. The entire Denver City project is estimated to cost about \$30,000.

The Chamber and City officials are doing more research on the project.



"Someday... a giant Red Oak will tower above the Plains School campus, providing shade and beauty for students yet to come. That someday started the afternoon of February 27 when members of the Plains Middle School 5th grade class helped plant this ten foot Red Oak tree as one of the legacies of their class. The tree was donated by the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District as part of their continuing Conservation Education Program.

On the far left is Yoakum SWCD Director Bud Forbus. Behind the tree in the white sweater is SWCD Secretary Jackie Pate and all the fifth graders. Thanks to Middle School Principal Michael Michaelson and Robert Loya and Michael Barrientes of the school maintenance department.

The hope and message of the SWCD Board of Directors and Plains ISD is... that each and every living thing can achieve wonders if given the chance. We all know well the story of the mighty oak that came but from a tiny acorn. As this young Red Oak takes its place in the world, preparing someday to be the mighty oak, let each of us say a special prayer of promise and hope for the hands of the fifth graders who planted it. May they too have their time to grow, to show the world their splendor, their strength, to find their rightful place in life - tall, straight and strong."

By Don Haley, NRCS



CAPITOL COMMENT
U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



How Medicare Reform Benefits Texans: After years of broken promises, Congress passed and the President signed historic Medicare reform last fall. Now that the legislation is being implemented, it's important to understand just how it will affect you. This column is dedicated to explaining how the law will benefit Texans.

Prescription Drug Benefits: For the first time ever, America's seniors enrolled in the Medicare program have access to a prescription drug benefit. Seniors choose the plan that best fits their needs, either a standard benefit administered by the Medicare Program, or one offered through a private provider. Private plans must be equal in value to the standard benefit, which includes: A monthly premium of about \$35 * A deductible of \$250 * Prescription drug coverage is 75% of expenses up to \$2,250.

In between \$2,250 and \$3,600 there is no discount, but private coverage can become available. Seniors also get protection from high out of pocket costs. When total spending reaches \$3,600, copayments are \$2 for generic and \$5 for brand name drugs. Under the new law, popular drugs such as Lipitor, which helps combat high cholesterol, will now cost \$21.73 instead of \$108.65 for a 30 table prescription.

Immediate help is available to make prescription drugs more affordable through a discount card. Seniors will save 10-25 percent off the cost of most medicines through this card, which is approved by the Medicare Program. Seniors simply take the card to their local pharmacy and receive the discount. The card will be sent to seniors in the mail this June, and is active until the Medicare prescription drug benefit goes into effect.

Seniors who need the most help to pay for prescription drugs receive it under the new law. Low-income seniors receive immediate help through a \$600 subsidy on their Medicare endorsed prescription drug discount card. Once the prescription drug benefit takes effect in 2006, low income seniors receive additional help to pay for premiums and co-payments. The poorest beneficiaries - with incomes below 100 percent of poverty who are eligible for full benefits under Medicaid - will pay no premiums, no deductibles, and will

pay cost sharing of \$1 for a generic drug or \$3 for all others. Seniors pay no premiums or deductibles if they are eligible for full benefits under Medicaid or have incomes below 135 percent poverty. These seniors pay a nominal cost sharing \$2 for generic and \$5 for brand name drugs. Seniors have their premiums subsidized according to a sliding scale if they have incomes below 150 percent of poverty and assets less than \$10,000 per individual or \$20,000 per couple. These seniors have a lower deductible and lower cost sharing.

Traditional Medicare is strengthened and improved to keep up with advancements in health care, including disease management and preventive care. Seniors can have a "Welcome to Medicare" physical, which includes services such as vaccinations, cancer screening, diabetes self management, glaucoma screening, cardiovascular screening and more. Preventive care is expanded under a better Medicare, which pays for a senior to stay healthy. For example under the old system, Medicare would pay for the amputation of a diabetic's limb, but not the medicine that would have prevented such drastic surgery. Better Medicare means seniors have choices: They can choose to stay in traditional Medicare and choose a Medicare sponsored prescription drug benefit: Choose a Medicare Advantage Plan which offers the same types of health insurance available to Members of Congress and other federal employees.

While we are pleased with the important steps this legislation takes to reform the antiquated Medicare system, we know it's not perfect. There will undoubtedly be fine-tuning, but important groundwork has been laid and President Bush and this Congress have kept our word to America's seniors. Recently, the President nominated Food and Drug Administrator Mark McClellan, a Texan, to become the new head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Under new directions and with a renewed focus, Medicare will provide better care and a higher standard of living for our seniors.



Pierre St. Romain, left, is the only surviving charter member of Yoakum County Federal Credit Union. He is shown at the recent 55th Annual Banquet of the credit union with wife Mary Jo, center, and her sister, Wilma Powell.

May 15, 2004 General and Special Election Calendar
Listed below are the major dates concerning the upcoming City Council General and Special Election to be held on Saturday, May 15, 2004

PURPOSE

General Election - To elect one (1) Mayor and two (2) Councilmembers. Those with expiring terms are: Mayor Shane McKinzie and Councilmembers Bonnie Earnest and Pamela K. Redman.

Special Election

To vote for or against the adoption of sales and use tax within the city for promotion and development of new and expanded business enterprises at the rate of 1/2 of one percent.

Candidate Filing Dates

Tuesday, February 17, 2004 through Monday, March 15, 2004 at 5:00 p.m.

Last Day To Register To Vote

Thursday, April 15, 2004 is the last day to register to vote in the May 15, 2004 City Council General and Special Election. Voter Registration is at the Yoakum County Courthouse Tax Office.

Early Voting

By Personal Appearance - Wednesday, April 28, 2004 through Tuesday, May 11, 2004. At Plains City Hall located at 1015 Ave. F from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Election Day

Saturday, May 15, 2004
At Plains City Hall, 1015 Ave. F
Polls open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

AG INSURANCE PLUS

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

Jim Brown, Agent
Mobile 806-891-0449
or 891-0450
Home 592-3490

Jeff Lowery, Sales Assoc.
Mobile 806-592-1319
Home 456-3195



Florida needs teachers in math, science, reading, ESE, ESOL, foreign languages and technology education. Positions are available in urban and rural districts. The Teach-In provides a convenient, cost-effective forum for teachers seeking employment opportunities in Florida to meet with school district personnel.

For more information Call: 800-Teach-FL (800-832-2435)
e-mail: edrecruit@fldoe.org
visit: www.TeachInFlorida.com

Daffodil Day Festival - Celebration 2003

Saturday, March 1, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Round Rock Senior Center,
205 E. Main St. (across from library), Round Rock

- Food Booths
- Baked Goods
- Crafts
- Entertainment
- Auction (1:00 p.m.)
- Door Prizes

- F** For the Kids
B Coloring Books
E Candy
E Balloons
E Face Painting

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Obituaries

Barry Green services held

Graveside services for Barry Green were held at 10 AM Thursday, March 4, 2004, at Plains Memorial Cemetery, with Rev. Ray Young officiating. Services were under direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors, Plains Memorial Chapel.

Mr. Green died Monday, March 1, 2004 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

He was born to Alton and Georgia Green October 5, 1949, in Electra, Texas. He attended school in Meadow and South Plains College. He came to Plains in 1978. He worked for Eddins-Walcher 30 years, and was a branch manager. Mr. Green's favorite hobbies were hunting, fishing and cooking.

Left to cherish his memories include his wife Jonnie; a son, Douglas of Meadow; a daughter, Melissa Escobar of Plains; a brother, Larry of Fritch, and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Glorie Bowman.

Services held for Joyce R. Pullis

Hendersonville, N.C. - Graveside services for Joyce R. Pullis were held at 2 PM Friday, March 5, 2004 at Plains Memorial Cemetery, with Rev. Bill Wright, First Baptist Church, officiating. Services were under direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Pullis died Monday, March 2, 2004 in Hendersonville. She was born to Cecil and L.C. Mae Rowe March 19, 1936 in Waurika, Oklahoma. She and her husband Claude were married in Yoakum County and lived in Plains sev-

eral years. She moved to Hendersonville in 1993.

Left to cherish her memories include her sons; Walter Crane of Beaumont, Clarence Pulis and Wade Pulis of North Carolina; a daughter, Charlotte Hamilton of North Carolina; a brother, James Harvey of Ft. Stockton, and 7 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Claude, her parents, a brother, John, and a sister, Isaac.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CECEIL ALONZO BICKLEY, DECEASED
Notice is now given that original letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Cecil Alonzo Bickley were issued on March 8, 2004, in Cause No. 1448, pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to: **William Michael Bickley.**

The residence of such Executor and where claims may be presented is as follows:

William Michael Bickley
1824 Hillcrest
Ft. Worth, Texas 76107

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within four (4) months after the date of the receipt of this notice and in the manner prescribed by law or the claim will be barred if not barred by the general statutes of limitation.
DATED: March 8, 2004.

WARREN NEW
Warren New, Attorney for the Estate
PO Box 670, Denver City, Texas, 79323
Phone (806) 592-2129- Fax (806) 592-7733

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- Lettuce
- Pickles
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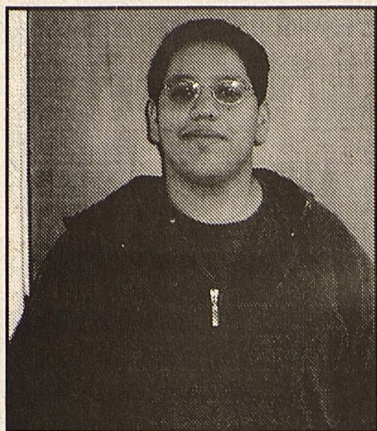
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TPA MEMBER 2004
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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E-Mail us at ccn@crosswind.net
ID# 017574 Ph. 806-456-8451 FAX 806-456-2010

Student of the Week

Student of the week is C.J. Tarango a freshman and the son of Refugio and Brenda Tarango. C.J. was nominated by Ms. Georgann Weisgerber, who said, "Life is a journey of growth and development. It's been said by many that when we stop learning and growing we might as well stop living. Through adversity and challenge we become better people. C.J. has much more growing ahead of him. Over the course of the last two years I have watched him grow and become a positive member of the Cow-



boy Band. He has shown leadership, dedication and improvement on all aspects of performance. He has qualified for state with his ensemble."

Second Student of the Week is Allison Friesen, a sophomore and daughter of Donna and Brad Friesen. She was nominated by Renetta O'Quinn, who said, "Allison has a thirst for knowledge. She reads between the lines and is ready with insight to an answer, and is always prepared. She has a vast range of talent, from music to math to working with animals, and is not afraid to try new things. She is an encour-



agement to others and sets a standard for her peers."

Plains ISD Sports

TRACK

Jr. High - Seagraves Meet;
7th Boys:
Discus- Chris Addison 4th, 68' 3"
High Jump- Dylan Hunter 6th, 4-2"
8th Boys:
\$00 relay- 4th, 51.31 - Zack Ramos, Chris Loya, Juan Lara, Cody Mayes
100 Dash- Juan Lara 5th, 13.20
200 Dash- Douglas Conway 2nd, 28.57
400 Dash- Chris Loya 1st, 56.88
800 Run- John Tyson 2nd, 2.29.81
110 Hurdles- Sergio Olivas 4th, 20.40
300 Hurdles- Cody Mayes 3rd, 51.41, Sergio Olivas 5th, 54.25
1600 relay, 2nd- 4.03.54- Juan Lara, Cody Mayes, Zack Ramon, Chris Loya
Long Jump- Cody Mayes 6th, 15.11
Triple Jump- Cody Mayes 4th, 34-1.5
Discus- Sergio Olivas 3rd, 38-10
Coach Brink was very pleased with the 8th boys 5th place finisher, competing against larger schools including Crane, Snyder, Seminole, Lamesa, and Denver City

High School- Whiteface Meet
Cowgirls:
Desiraye Broome 2nd long jump, 14' 5", 4th high jump, 4' 11"
Kim Trent 2nd pole vault, 6' 6"
Manuela Villegas, 3rd 800 run, 2:41
Moriah trawek 3rd 100, 13:43
Desiraye Broome 4th 100, 13.72
400 Relay- 3rd. 55.- Kim Trent, Micaela Villegas, Ashley Vantine, Prisma Ortiz.
800 relay 2nd, 1:59- Manuela Villegas, Moriah Trawek, Micaela Villegas, Desiraye Broome
1600 Relay- 2nd, 4:41- Manuela Villegas, Moriah Trawek, Micaela Villegas, Desiraye Broome. Coach Thaggard credited the Cowgirls "running their hearts out!"
Cowboys:
Jr. Varsity -
Shot Put- Scott Bruton 1st, Daniel Parker 3rd
Discus- Scott Bruton 1st, Daniel Parker 2nd
Long Jump- Ramiro Martinez 2nd
Triple Jump- Ramiro Martinez 2nd
200 dash- Ramiro Martinez 2nd
110 Hurdles- Blake O'Quinn 2nd
400 Relay 2nd- Michael Crump, Daniel Parker, Ramiro Martinez, Scott Bruton
800 Relay 1st- Michael Crump, Daniel Parker, Ramiro Martinez, Scott Bruton
1600 Relay- 3rd, Michael Crump, Daniel Parker, Scott Bruton, Blake O'Quinn
Varsity:
High Jump- Patrick Cotton 4th
Pole Vault- Ben Hays 1st
Long Jump- Mario Ruvalcaba 3rd
Arnold Cordova 5th
800 Meter- Patrick Cotton 1st, Brandon Davis 4th
1600 Meter- Payton Bean 3rd, Armando Ramirez 4th

3200 Meter- Payton Bean 2nd, Brandon Davis 4th
400 Relay- 2nd- Ben Hays, Mario Ruvalcaba, Arnold Cordova, Richard Diaz.
800 Relay- 1st, Ben Hays, Mario Ruvalcaba, Arnold Cordova, Richard Diaz
1600 Relay- 1st, Mario Ruvalcaba, Arnold Cordova, Richard Diaz, Patrick Cotton

BASEBALL

The Cowboys journeyed to Seminole last week for a miserably cold and wet night game against the Indians. After two innings the Cowboys were up 5-3, and scored two more runs in the

third to Seminoles one. The Cowboy bats grew as cold as the weather, and they were shut out in the fourth inning, yet going into the 5th inning they were still up 7-6, and managed another run for the 8-6 lead, but in the bottom of the inning the Indians came alive, and led 9-8 when the weather grew even worse, and the game was called, giving the Cowboys their first loss of the season, 9-8. Their next outing will be in Hobbs, and the big Ralls tournament starts there Tuesday, March 11, continuing through Saturday March 13.

TCEA Programming Contest

Six PHS students competed in the regional programming contest in Lubbock February 28. They were given two hours to solve as many programming problems as possible. They competed against 1A, 2A and 3A area schools. Both Plains teams are now qualified to advance to the TCEA state meet held at Dallas in May. Nolan Newsom is the only second year programming student from Plains, but this was his first year to compete in the JAVA programming language. The other five competitors from Plains are first year programming students.

First Place Team:

Nolan Newsom
Adam McCravey
Allison Friesen

Second Place Team:

Brandon Hise
Evan Cain
Breck Hamm

Journalism Meet Results

Plains High Journalism competitors placed in UIL practice meets the past two weeks. At the Idalou meet February 21, Blake O'Quinn placed first in news writing, and Evan Cain was second in headline writing. At the February 27 Midland College meet, Cody Flores placed second in feature writing, and Grady McNabb was in seventh place in editorial writing.

Urgent news for people who have used
WELDING RODS
Scientists report that elevated manganese exposure from welding rod fumes has been associated with Parkinsonism (like Parkinson's disease) and manganism. Symptoms include shakiness, distorted facial expression, loss of equilibrium, decreased hand agility, difficulty walking, joint pain, loss of short term memory, slurred/slow speech, stiffness in muscles and tremors. If you have experienced any of these problems, call us today toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation to evaluate your potential claim. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.
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'A' Honor Roll

1st Grade

Marisa Alvarado
William Boyles
Kristian Cueto
Riley Earnest
Clayton Gass
Karina Loya
Brock McWhirter
Iris Mejia
Micah St. Romain
Kasidee Taylor

2nd Grade

Colby Bearden
Jaston Brink
Eiliza Cabellero
Chasity Chavez
Cameron Knight
Taylor Michaleson
Brittney Roper
Herman Sawatzky
Jacob Sawatzky
Kelli Sellers
Zackery Wilkins
Bailey Winn

3rd Grade

Merrit Crump
Vanessa Cueto
Elizabeth Davila
Whitney Davis
Katie Dearing
Isaac Fehr
Autumn Friesen
Stacy Loewen
Abraham Peters
Matthew Ramos

4th Grade

Mayra Cueto
Denise Tarango

'A-B' Honor Roll

1st Grade

Perla Corrales
Ididro Fehr

2nd Grade

Jaston Brink
Brianna Coffman
Daniel Cueto

Nancy Peters

Jacob Sawatzky

Percy Sosa

3rd Grade

Marina Corrales
Gerardo Martinez
Abe Neudorf
Joseph Sainz
Haley Welch

4th Grade

Mayra Cueto
Denise Tarango

'A-B' Honor Roll

1st Grade

Perla Corrales
Ididro Fehr

2nd Grade

Jaston Brink

Brianna Coffman

Daniel Cueto

Nancy Peters

Jacob Sawatzky

Percy Sosa

3rd Grade

Marina Corrales
Gerardo Martinez
Abe Neudorf
Joseph Sainz
Haley Welch

4th Grade

Brianna Boyles
Adriana Corrales
Dakota Earnest
Zachary Lamar
Brooke Wilson

All-Tex Seed offers 100% replant program in 2004

All-Tex Seed, Inc. believes the West Texas farmer should have every advantage possible. That's why All-Tex Seed again offers its 100 percent replant program. "We live and farm in this area too," said Coady Poage, Manager of All-Tex Seed, located in Levelland. We understand how unpredictable West Texas weather can be and how important the replant program is for a farmer's peace of mind. We try to treat our customers the way we want to be treated." All-Tex offers a high quality of seed at a reasonable price. Three varieties of Roundup Ready cotton seed are available. Atlas RR is a proven high-

yielding, storm proof, moderately determinant stripper variety consistent and dependable in irrigated and dryland situations. Xpress RR is the shortest season Roundup Ready variety on the market today and works in any planting situation. Express RR is a new early-maturing variety that works great on irrigated or dryland acres. You can rely on All-Tex's integrity and over 87 years of combined experience. Make the right choice today. With All-Tex Seed's 100 percent replant program, the advantage is yours. Visit the All-Tex Seed web site, www.alltexseed.com or call 1-800-725-5839.

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Amir Memon, MD

and

Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

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NOTICE

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

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

AVISO

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

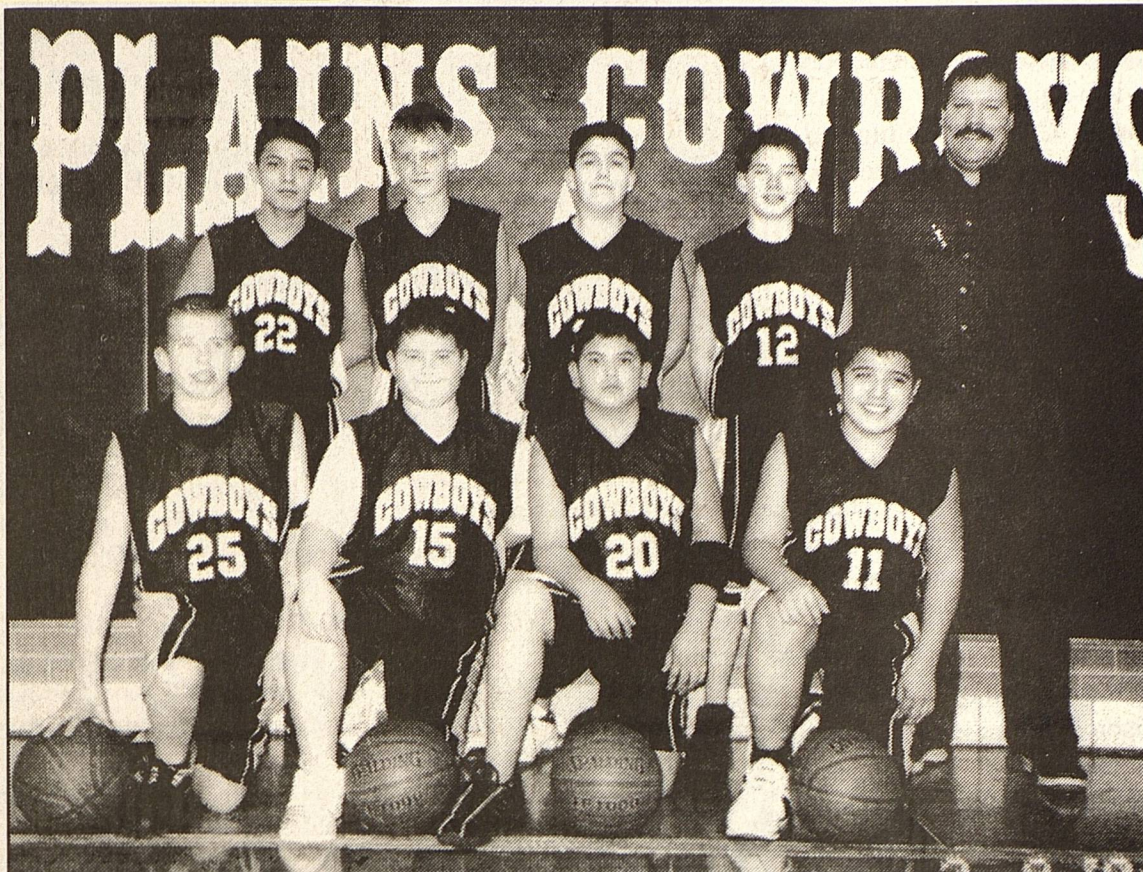
PLAINS ISD
806 - 456 - 7498
Box 479, Plains TX 79355

Padres/guardian legal o estudiantes adultos con incapacidades fisica/mentales pueden pedir copias de sus documentos en la escuela.

Plains ISD 2003 - 2004 Basketball Teams



7th Lady Wranglers: Roxanne Barrera, Lydia Whitzel, Kimber Williams, Yesenia Loya, Heather Parrot, Briana Conway, Vanessa Martinez, Mari Ruiz, Crystal Tarango



7th Wranglers: Front, Holden Welch, Skyler Sainz, A.J. Martinez, Derek Garza. Back, Zachary Ramon, Dylan Hunter, Chris Gonzales, Chris Addison, Coach Todd Davis.



8th Lady Wranglers: Front - Reyna Gallegos, Amber Friesen. Back, Lauren Davis, Katie Winn, Lauren Hise, Joani Bell



8th Wranglers: Front, Rudy Gonzales, Juan Lara, Mario Sigala, Jacob Rivera, Kurt Alldredge, Zachary Ramon. Back, John Tyson, Cody Mayes, Sergio Olivas, Elias Carrillo, Chase Guetersloh, Coach Kevin Bartley.



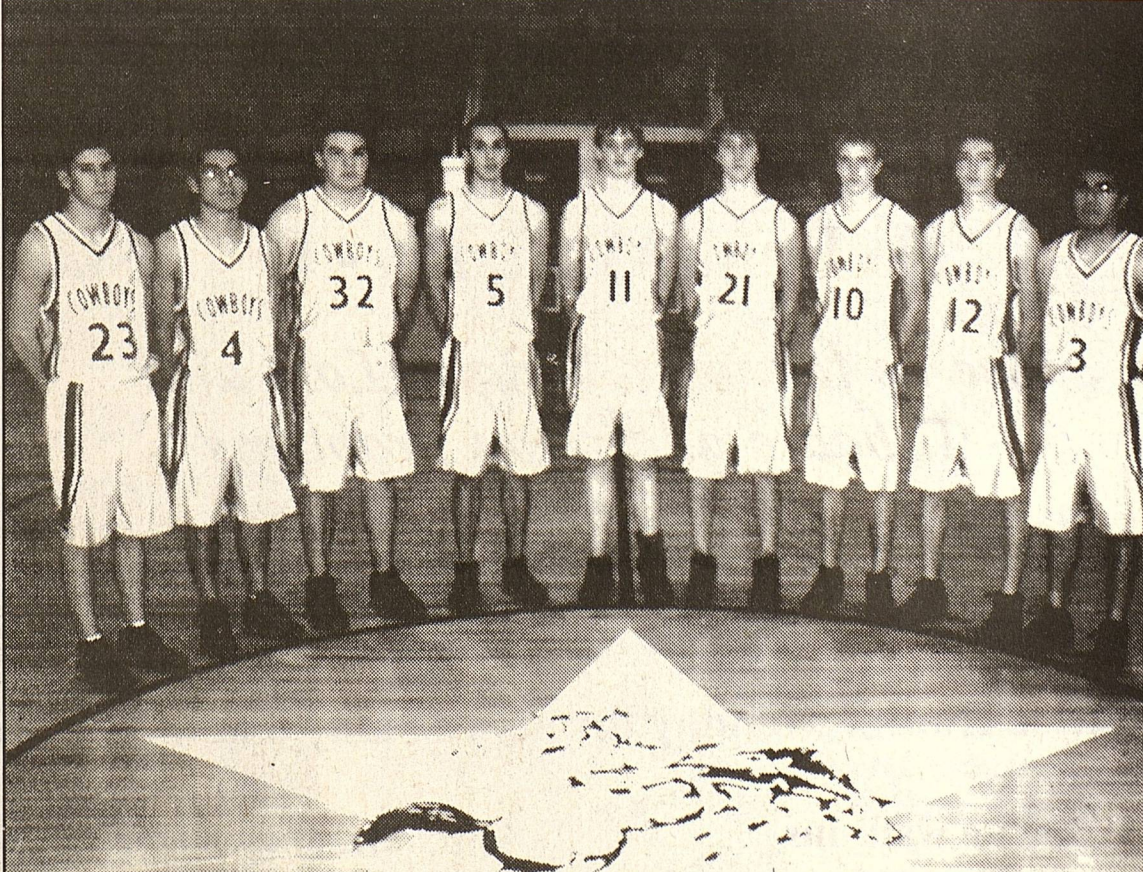
JV Cowgirls: Front, Callie Howell, Priscilla Mares. Back, Allison Friesen, Nicole Culwell, Skylar Keese, Ashli Hunter.



JV Cowboys: Front, Jarett Stell, T.J. Cordova, David Alldredge, Abel Ramos, Justin Vasquez, Breck Hamm. Back, Michael Therwhanger, Blake Parrish, Landon Craft, Blake O'Quinn, Scott Addison, Brant Huerta, B.J. Lester, Todd Williams.



Varsity Cowgirls: Front, Jamie Covarrubias, Micaela Villegas, Daniela Lazos, Meghan Garcia, Sarah Martinez, Sandra Gandara, Jesenia Suarez, Prisma Ortiz, Moriah Traweek, Stacie Alldredge. Back, Regina Morales, LaShonda Diamond, Ashley Vantine, Desiraye Broome, Kim Trent, Maribel Mendias, Mgr.

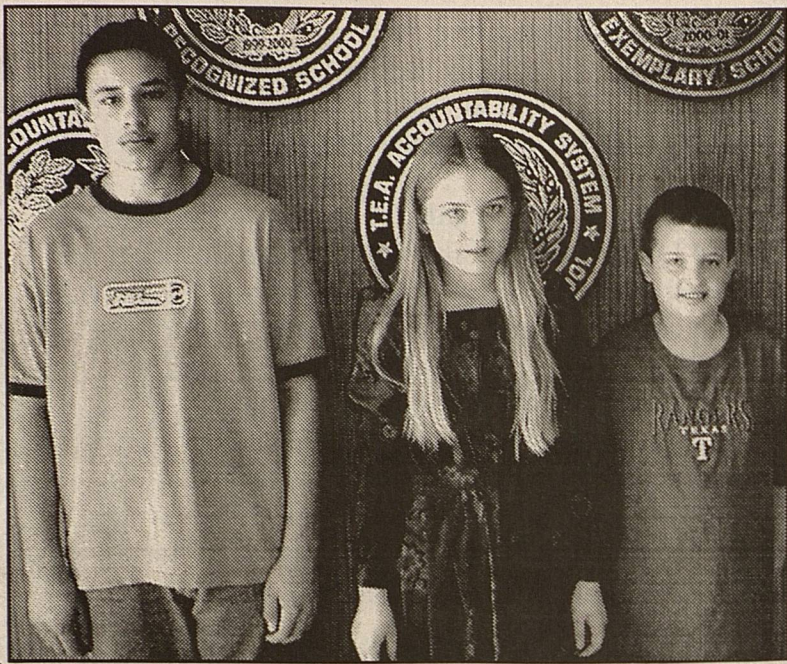


Varsity Cowboys: Brandon Davis, Arnold Cordova, Cody Flores, Zach Broome, Kerry Sisson, Brandon Hise, Evan Cain, Payton Bean, Richard Diaz.

Lifelines & Styles

PISD Middle School Students of the Week

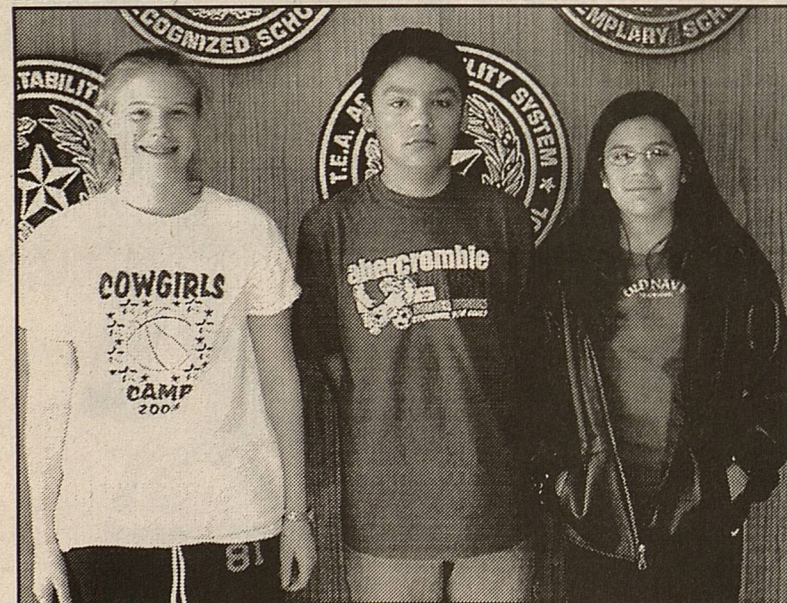
Each month Plains Middle School staff members recognize a number of students for their academic achievements, good citizenship and overall improvements. The students shown here are the most recent honorees.



DECEMBER: Sergio Olivas, Sara Neudorf, Kevin Gass.



JANUARY: Jaxon Bean, Jose Gallegos, Colby Ortega, and Holden Welch.



FEBRUARY: Amber Friesen, Arthur Ruiz, Jamsime Mares. (Natalie Haynes not present)



Marriage: Let the People Decide, Not Judicial Activists

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

Throughout history, mankind has recognized the fundamental importance of marriage and its traditional definition as the union of one man and one woman. That understanding is reflected in the laws, traditions, and customs of all 50 states. And no legislature in the nation has ever seen fit to alter this historic institution. However, the top court in Massachusetts recently eliminated traditional marriage in that state, and it is only because of this extreme judicial activism—overruling the will of the American people—that the institution of marriage has been dismantled.

In 1996, the Congress overwhelmingly passed, and then-President Bill Clinton signed, the bipartisan Defense of Marriage Act which defined for federal purposes that marriage consists of one man and one woman. Yet despite this solid support on both the state and federal level, the Massachusetts court called traditional marriage a "stain" on our laws that must be "eradicate[d]."

Most Americans instinctively support two fundamental truths: First, every individual is worthy of respect. Second, that traditional institution of marriage is worthy of protection. Some opponents of traditional marriage laws, however, have accused those who disagree with them of intolerance—even though support for traditional marriage reflects traditional values shared by most Americans. Those deeply-held values deserve more respect than that. And as Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) said in 1996, "there are strongly held religious, ethical, moral beliefs that are different from mine with regards to the issue of same-sex marriage which I respect and which are no indications of intolerance."

If anything, it is the judicial activists—in Massachusetts and across the nation—and not ordinary Americans who are intolerant. By imposing their personal political agenda on the rest of the nation, judicial activists not only demonstrate their contempt and intolerance of traditional values, they disrespect democracy, and the rule of law itself.

Last November, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts ruled that traditional marriage laws are unconstitutional. In doing so, the court recognized that "our decision marks a change in the history of our marriage law," and that "[m]any people hold deep-seated religious, moral, and ethical convictions that marriage should be limited to the union of one man and one woman."

Yet the court condemned traditional marriage, and did so in rather startling terms. After acknowledging the "deep-seated religious, moral, and ethical convictions" motivating traditional marriage supporters, the court nevertheless found "no rational reason" for such laws, and in fact it found that

traditional marriage is "rooted in persistent prejudices."

The public outcry against the insulting Massachusetts ruling, and in defense of marriage, was immediate and immense. Broad majorities of Americans again registered their support for traditional marriage. Most Americans believe that support for traditional marriage and respect for all mankind are fully consistent and not mutually exclusive. But even after the Massachusetts State Senate gave the court an opportunity to reconsider its earlier, flawed ruling, it refused to do so. In fact, the court demonstrated even greater contempt for both democratic and traditional values than did its previous ruling.

First, the Massachusetts court dismissed the values of the vast majority of Americans yet again by claiming that there is "no rational reason" to uphold traditional marriage laws. But it went even further this time, suggesting that such laws are based solely on "invidious discrimination" and "personal residual prejudice."

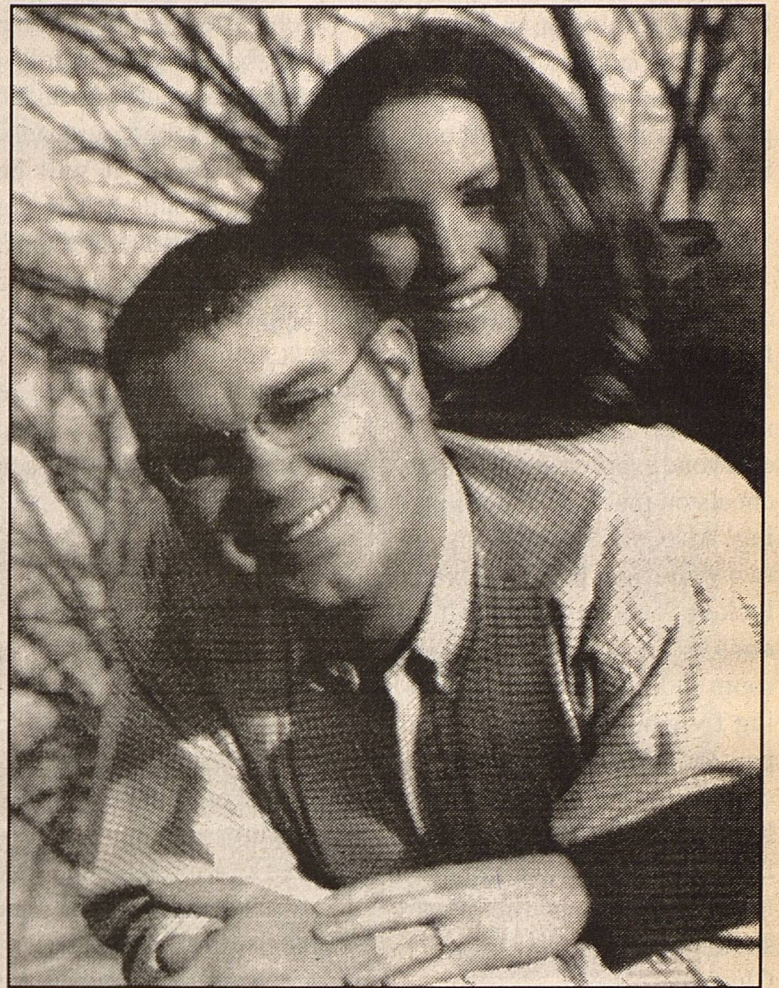
What's more, the court gave credit to the rather alarming views of the most extreme opponents of traditional marriage, when it concluded that traditional marriage laws are irrational and unconstitutional—but "[i]f ... the Legislature were to jettison the term 'marriage' altogether, it might well be rational and permissible."

Finally, the anti-marriage court ruling foreshadowed future judicial action by challenging all traditional marriage laws. The court noted the existence of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, but then expressed its unwillingness to enforce it. The court pointedly noted that "[c]ourts define what is constitutionally permissible," and reiterated its view that traditional marriage laws are irrational and impermissible. It then concluded, rather ominously, that "[w]e do not resolve, nor would we attempt to, the consequences of our holding in other jurisdictions."

The institution of marriage deserves better than this. Our institutions of democracy deserve better. And the American people deserve better. They deserve respect, and American values should not be so readily dismissed. Traditional marriage has served as the underpinning of civilized society for countless generations. Opponents of traditional marriage should demonstrate greater tolerance and respect toward others, by respecting democracy and ceasing their judicial war against marriage.

Sen. Cornyn is chairman of the Senate subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights. He held a hearing last September to examine the threat posed by judicial activism to the bipartisan Defense of Marriage Act.

Tucker - Clanahan Wed



Beth and Noel Clanahan of Plains would like to announce the marriage of their son, Chase Clark Clanahan, to Traci Le Ann Tucker of Lubbock. The couple were married January 30 here in Plains

Former PHS students in news

Texas A & M, College Station - During Fall Commencement Ceremonies, almost 3,700 graduation diplomas were awarded students. Receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Science was Cassandra Dawn Dearing, a PHS graduate and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Dearing. For the 2003 fall semester, Kristen Elaine Gray was named a Distinguished Student. The designation recognizes stu-

dents earning a 3.25 to 3.75 GPR while taking at least 15 semester hours of courses. She is a PHS graduate and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gray. At Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, former PHS graduate Cosme Casillas was among some 200 students receiving diplomas in Fall commencement exercises. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Graphic Design.

Blood Pressure Awareness

Two out of three people over the age of 65 have high blood pressure (HBP). HBP is dangerous because it can cause hardening of the arteries and increase the risk for heart disease, stroke and kidney disease. Although there is no cure for HBP, it is possible to lower blood pressure. Blood pressure is the force of blood that squeezes out of the heart and against the arteries. This force is caused by the heart contracting and squeezing blood. When the heart squeezes, blood pressure goes up. This is called systolic pressure and is the higher

of the two blood pressure numbers. When the heart relaxes, blood pressure goes down; this is called diastolic pressure. Blood pressure measurement is written as the "systolic pressure number over the diastolic pressure. Normal blood pressure is usually less than 120 Hg systolic over 9 Hg diastolic. HBP or hypertension is usually 140/90 or higher.

Preventing and treating HBP

- * Maintain healthy weight
- * Be physically active
- * Limit alcohol
- * Do not smoke

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Steve McGinty Medical Fund,
 Plains State Bank

Steve has acute myelitis leukemia and is hospitalized in Houston taking chemotherapy. Blood Drive at later date.

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"It's hard to stop a TRANE"

From The Hack

The following e-mail was sent to one of our citizens from a Denver City citizen, and wound up in my hands. I think it extremely timely, with all the pre-presidential election stuff boiling on the stove:

"Dear Abby,
My husband is a liar and a cheat. He has cheated on me from the very beginning. When I confront him about it he denies everything. What's worse, everyone everywhere knows he cheats on me. It is so humiliating! Also, since he lost his job two years ago, he has not even looked for a new one. All he does is sit around the living room in his underwear watching TV while I work so hard to pay the bills. And now since our daughter went away to college he doesn't even pretend to like me. He keeps calling me a lesbian. What in the world should I do??
Clueless"
Dear Clueless;
Dump his fat butt. You're a New York Senator now. You don't need him anymore!
Abby.

This is being penned very early Tuesday morn, almost three hours before the polls open for the long awaited Democrat-Republican Primary Elections

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Plains Motel For Sale
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Hunt Realty
Ph 806-592-3556
Fax: 806-592-8489

It's time NOW for pre-emergence application! For your home & yard it's South Plains Pest Control.
806-637-3831
806-638-7384

Country Home For Sale
1450 US Hwy 82 West 3 Bdr, 2 3/4 bath, 2 car, approx. 12.42 acres
Very nice, call for appointment
Hunt Realty
112 N. Main
Denver City, TX 79323
Ph 806-592-3556
Fax: 806-592-8489

around the state. I think I could safely wager and give odds many of the wannabe office holders are preparing to sally forth in last ditch efforts to woo a few more voters to their camps between now and closing of the polls at 7 PM.

I debated about delaying the printing schedule for this issue until early Wednesday morning, when all the election results could be reported, but that is much easier said than done. And too, knowing Plains folks, when the local returns go on the blackboard in the courthouse Tuesday evening, it will be mere nano-seconds before the entire town, plus Denver City, is fully aware of who won, who lost whatever. If our space rockets could be propelled as fast as the local grapevine works, it would take less than half the present time to reach the planet Mars.

Cheerfully stolen from a kind gentleman in Levelland; A Sunday school teacher asked her children, "What can we do for God? He's done so much for us. He gave us his son." A little girl piped up, "I'll give him my brother!" Also these quips, which immediately made me think of a lady I spent 36 years with:
-- Too many couples marry for

better or worse, but not for good.

-- If a man has enough horse sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she'll never be an old nag.

-- On anniversaries, the wise husband always forgets the past, but never the present.

NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4 PM Friday, April 2, 2004, for the purchase of Medical Furniture and Equipment for the new Yoakum County Hospital Dialysis Center, and Emergency Room Expansion.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, April 12, 2004.

For a list of the equipment and more information, please contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-2422 or PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355.

Bid price will be paid from 2004 budgeted funds.

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

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

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Beauty Shop For Sale, with or without equipment, or will sell equipment separately. Call 361-368-2262 or 456-5717

RN/LVN for 7pm-7am shift. Great benefits, great working environment. Please call Joyce Tedford 806-592-2121, Yoakum County Hospital, Denver City, Texas

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

Because we are laying new carpet the County Clerk's office will be closed for all business starting Wednesday, March 17th thru Friday, March 19th. We will re-open for business on Monday, March 22, 2004. We are sorry about any inconvenience this may cause.
Deborah L. Rushing
Yoakum County Clerk

Farm for Sale
311 acres - County Road 165 - Two Circle Systems - Six Wells - SW Yoakum County.
HUNT REALTY
806-592-3556

Grand Entry
Western Wear
110 N. Main
Denver City, TX
Boot & Shoe Repair
806-592-8198

Ag Week Is Here

Fast Facts: Texas Agriculture Packs a Punch

- ▼ Texas is the second-largest agricultural state in the United States, accounting for about 7 percent of the total U.S. agricultural income.
- ▼ The food, horticulture and floriculture industries are the largest in the state and generate \$73 billion annually. If a man has enough horse sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she'll never be an old nag.
- ▼ Eighty percent of the land is used for agricultural production. On anniversaries, the wise husband always forgets the past, but never the present.
- ▼ Ninety-two percent of farms are still run by individuals or families.
- ▼ Twenty-nine percent of agricultural producers were women in 2002; the number of women who were principal operators increased 7 percent from 1997.
- ▼ Although agriculture employs one out of every five working Texans, less than 2 percent of the population is involved in day-to-day farming or ranching.
- ▼ Texas farmers grow more than 60 different commercial fruit and vegetable crops.
- ▼ Texas ranks first in the nation in the number of cattle and calves, accounting for 15 percent of the U.S. total. The Lone Star State also is the top producer of cotton, sheep, wool, goats, mohair and horses. The state's top crops also include vegetables, citrus, corn, wheat, peanuts, pecans, grain sorghum, hay and rice.
- ▼ Besides livestock and crops, the state's agriculture industry includes timber/forestry, aquaculture, bees/honey and nursery/greenhouse.
- ▼ Texas is one of the leading exporters of agricultural commodities. Texas' top agricultural exports are live animals and meat; cotton and cottonseed; feed grains and products; hides and skins; wheat and products; and feeds and fodder.
- ▼ Each Texas farmer grows enough food and fiber for 128 people – 94.3 in the United States and 33.7 abroad.
- ▼ Texas' 1 million horses, representing approximately 15 percent of all horses nationwide, makes the state a leader in the United States. Texas also leads the nation in the number of registered American Quarter Horses, American Paint Horses, Appaloosa horses and American Miniature Horses.



New fuel taxes affect thousands

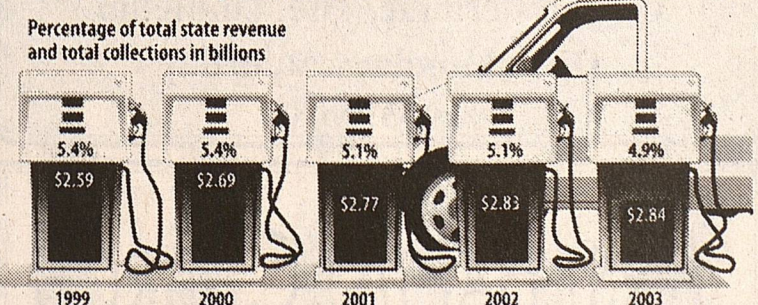
The 2003 Legislature enacted changes to Texas gasoline and diesel fuel taxation laws, which resulted in more than \$2.8 billion, or 4.9 percent of the state's total revenue in 2003. Many changes are technical but will affect thousands of Texans involved in transportation, agriculture and fuel sales.

Effective January 1, 2004 the responsibility for collecting state motor fuel taxes and sending them to the Comptroller shifted from distributors to fuel suppliers- those who deliver fuel for distribution to retail markets.

The tax will now be levied on net gallons of fuel, meaning the volume of fuel present at a standard measured temperature - fuels expand and contract with temperature, so the actual volume of fuel can vary with the time of day.

Motor fuels taxes drive state services

Taxes on gasoline and diesel fuels make up a substantial portion of Texas' state government revenues.



Those who use motor fuels for off-road machinery and equipment, such as farmers and construction companies, are affected. Until January 1, many users could buy certain types of diesel fuel tax free. Such exemptions are available now only for the purchase of dyed diesel. Federal and state governments require diesel fuel intended for tax free, non-highway use be dyed to identify it as such. Only the federal government, Texas public school districts, companies providing transportation for school districts and nonprofit utility cooperatives still can purchase undyed, or clear diesel. Now tax paid on diesel fuel is no longer eligible for a refund when used in a power take-off and auxiliary power units, such as generators and air conditioners. Taxpayers can still file claims for refunds for such uses that took place before January 2004, if postmarked within one year of the date of use.