

Cowboy Country

God Bless America!
News

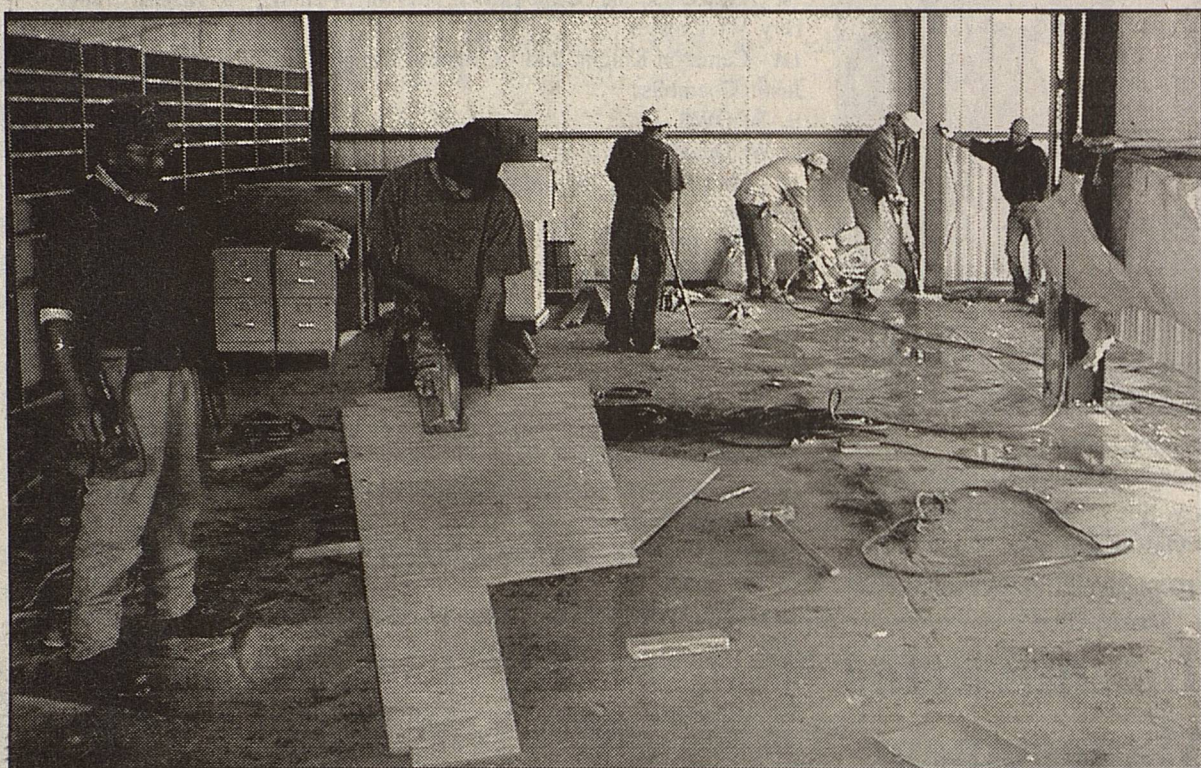


Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume VIII, Issue 22, February 13, 2002

New Ag Firm Schedules Opening

West Texas Agri - Plex to serve area producers with multiple services



Workers busy cleaning up and remodeling new quarters for Agriplex firm

In a memorable year 2001, the local economy took multi-whammy hits; agricultural commodity prices seriously eroded, while ag-producers suffered financially from Mother Nature's lack of cooperation, reducing yields of almost all local crops. A multiple closing of ag-related retail firms here, and around the South Plains exacerbated the economic down turn.

There could be an up-beat scenario in store, however, for Plains, Yoakum County and the immediate surrounding area.

After repeated failed negotiations to purchase the bankruptcy court controlled former Texas Equipment dealership here West of town, a West Texas Agriplex crew is hard at work cleaning, remodeling and expanding the site for their opening of a new ag service outlet.

David Hicks, a Gaines county grower and agri-business owner, is in the process of re-

vamping the former Jack Spears Drilling site and building assets to house his newly created West Texas Agriplex operation.

Hicks, owner of West Gaines County Seed & Delinting, plans to convert the former irrigation business site into a general farm supply operation. The Agriplex facility will feature parts and supplies for all major manufacturers of tractors and field equipment, other related accessory items, and both liquid and dry fertilizer sales.

General Manager Robert Armstrong reported, "We are doing a major overhaul of the site and facility. The main building will contain offices on the west side, with the remainder of the large building housing farm and ranch supplies, tillage equipment, and irrigation parts and equipment.

Armstrong also said a complete dry fertilizer facility would be based in the large

barn on the east side of the site, and a new, state of the art liquid fertilizer station would be constructed nearby.

Armstrong told CCN, "We will have a loosely managed departmental organization when we open. Derek Lamar, formerly with Texas Equipment just across the highway, will handle our farm equipment and parts department, with assistance from Steve Barnes in irrigation and fertilizer equipment, and Butch Mack, former manager of Agro in Plains will head up our fertilizer sales."

Andrews said, "Our initial goal was to be able to be open and be in business by February 20. It could be as late as March 1, but with the progress we're making, I feel we could be serving our Plains and Yoakum County customers by the target date. We are looking forward to working with the many good producers in Yoakum County."

District Court Criminal Case Heard

In District Court February 4, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, Larry Lynn Black pled guilty to possession of methamphetamine. A two years sentence to Texas Department of Criminal Justice was suspended and probated five years. He will make time payments on \$222 court costs, and must pay \$8784 restitution to Rudy Lozano dba Ranger Electric. charges of burglary of a building, resist search or transport and unlawfully carrying a weapon were adjudicated. He will remain in jail up to 180 days or until space is available in a substance abuse treatment facility for at least six months but not more than one year. He must also complete the Texas Drug Offender Education Program, and surrender his license 180 days. His attorney was Paul Mansur, and Sheriff Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Cowboys Clinch Playoff Spot



Jared Bell soars for two point layup shot

The Plains Cowboys convincing 57-44 victory over the Stanton Buffaloes last Friday earned them a top spot in District 3AA ranks and an eight and one record in district action. They faced number two Coahoma Tuesday evening, too late for CCN press time. Coach Johnson said a win over Coahoma would give them the outright district championship, but if they fell to Coahoma, they would probably play them again this Friday for the championship trophy.

Dogs won't bite 'The Turtle'

automation comes to reading electric meters

Material for this article courtesy Ginger Granath, staff writer for the Lovington Leader

In the latter part of January 2001, Lea County Electric Cooperative started installation of new automated meters in Lovington. According to John Benard, Manager of Distribution Engineering, the five to six month project should see some 4,500 meters in place by mid-summer.

The new meters look and work the same as the current meters in the field, with one exception; they will be equipped with a small electric device, called a Turtle, which allows the meters to automatically download readings to the Cooperative.

Marketing Manager Allan Brown explains, when meter readers go into the field, because in most cases a meter is mounted on the house in the backyard, the readers have to go onto the property, and there's always fear of a dog get-

ting out, or someone getting hurt. It can be an inconvenience for the customer and "It is not the most cost-effective way to get that information," he says.

The Turtle, by contrast, constantly reports a meter's reading to a substation receiver, eliminating the need for a monthly manual reading. The good news, says Brown, is switching to the Turtle will not cost anyone their job or increase rates.

In the installation now taking place in Lovington, customers are advised changing the meters to Turtles may cause a momentary interruption of power, usually just a few minutes

While the Cooperative has been researching automated meters the past four years, the decision to do it this year was based on the expectation

Turn To Page 2, "Turtles"

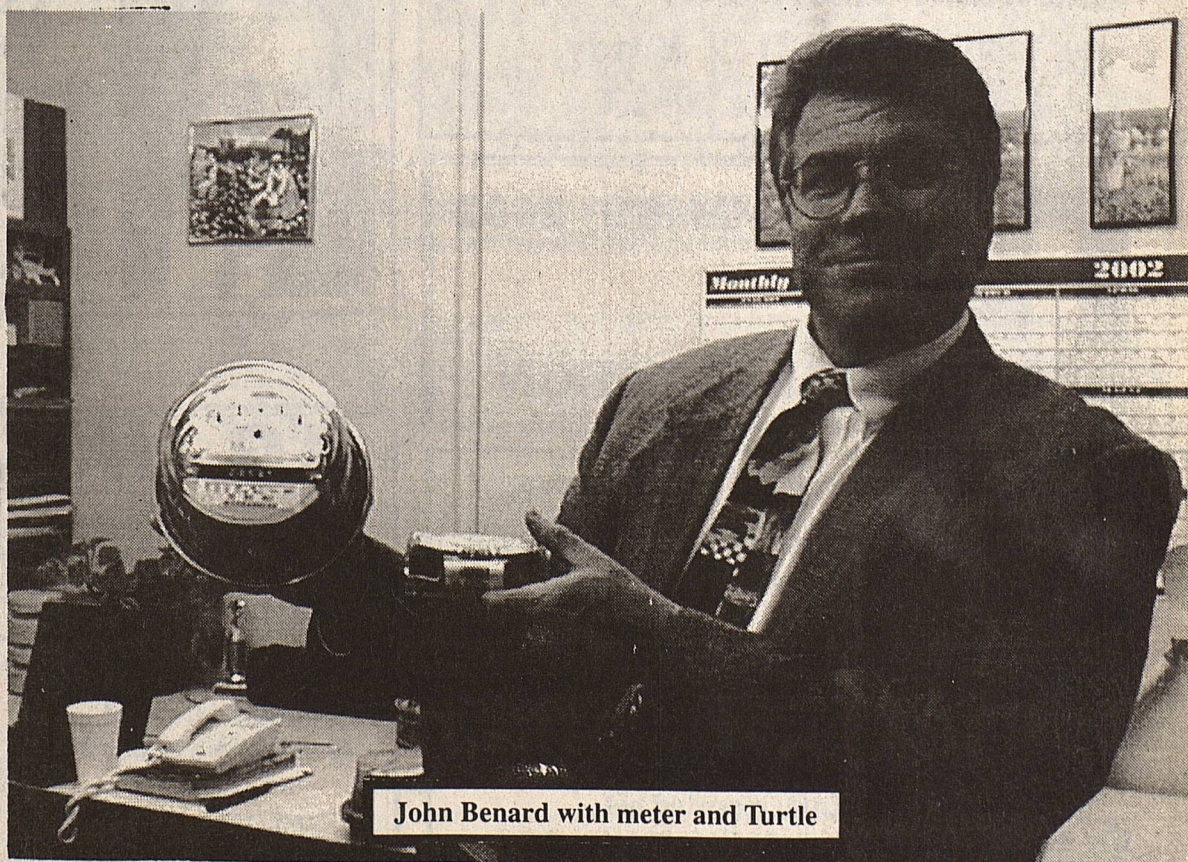
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Schedules Antelope Meeting

Texas Parks and Wildlife would like to invite all interested parties to a meeting concerning pronghorn antelope permit issuance in Cochran and Yoakum Counties. The meeting is set for February 19th at 7:00 pm. in the Cochran County Auditorium.

Currently the demand for pronghorn antelope permits has outgrown the number of animals that can be harvested and the department would like to receive your input on this matter. Antelope season in both counties was opened in 1994

and 11 landowners were issued 11 permits. By 2001 the number of landowners requesting permits had increased to 86. "Sure we have more landowners requesting permits but the land base has not increased as much," according to Duane Lucia. "In 1994 the 11 landowners represented 40,974 acres, average 3,724. In 2001 the 86 landowners requesting permits represents a total of 186,981 acres, average 2,174. Our average landowner size has decreased by about 1500 acres. Landowners are being sent let-

ters asking them to attend the meeting with some possible solutions, "We want to work with the landowners and hunters not dictate to them what is going to happen" Lucia says. Some of the possible solutions could include a lottery, rotating permits and coops. "We need to come up with some sort of equitable way that will help all landowners, no matter what size of property that are managing," Lucia states, "there are some other areas in the Panhandle District that are experiencing similar situations."



John Benard with meter and Turtle

**From Page One,
"TURTLES"**

of two meter readers' upcoming retirement. The Coop does not plan to fill those positions. "We have some personnel who are going to retire anyway, and rather than replace high cost positions, this is a way to avoid those costs and provide greater accuracy and reliability," Brown explained.

According to the Cooperative's projections, the upgrade to the Turtle should pay for itself in saved wages and expenses within five years. After that, any additional savings that add to their bottom line could potentially be returned to the Coop member in the form of capital credits.

Not only does the Turtle cut costs, it is very accurate. It is simply an electronic panel with an optical eye that counts and records the number of revolutions the meter disc makes. Each revolution measures one kilowatt hour. The Turtle records the kilowatt hours used, and transmits the signal onto the power line. About 3,000 Turtles can inject their frequency on any one common power line.

To ensure the Turtle program is properly recording power usage, meter readers will take readings, and compare them to what the Turtles have recorded.

Brown said after the electronic recorders had undergone a successful trial run, the Turtle program would be installed in both Plains and Tatum marketing areas.

4-H Shooting Sports

The Yoakum County 4-H Clubs are in the process of starting a 4-H Shooting Sports program-Trap (shotgun) and Light Rifle (.22). Volunteer leaders are needed to become Certified Coaches by attending a workshop. The workshop is being held at the State 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood, March 8-10. Applications are due at the County Extension office in Plains by February 25. For more information, contact Arlan Gentry, CEA-Ag at 456-2263.

We plan to meet with all Certified Coaches in late March to plan our shooting activities and practices. Safety classes will start in April. All interested youth 3rd grade - 12th grade are welcome to participate provided they will qualify by enrollment in the 4-H program and attending the required safety meetings.

Burrus makes Dean's List

Southwestern University has announced students named to the 2001 Fall Dean's List for academic achievements. To be selected, students must have at least a 3.6 grade point average with at least 12 hours. Named to the prestigious list is Clint Field Burrus, a PHS graduate and the son of Tommy and Sarah Kay Burrus.

PHS student takes first place in stock show

Elizabeth Clanahan, a senior and member of Plains' 4-H Club, recently took first place in the 106th annual Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show. She was one of more than 9,000 entries by young people competing for over \$62,000 junior premiums.

The stock show drew more than 25,000 head of cattle, sheep, swine, horses, mules, donkeys, llamas, goats, poultry,

pigeons and rabbits

Kelton Mason places in meat contests

Former resident Kelton Mason competed in the American Meat Science Association (AMSA) National Western Intercollegiate Judging Contest January 20 at ConAgra Beef Company's Greeley, Colorado facility and placed third in the SR. Individual category.

He competed February 2 in AMSA's Southwestern Intercollegiate Judging Contest at Dallas and placed ninth in the SR individual group.

Retirement party for Kay McClure



Teresa Howard, Freda Bruton, Kay McClure, Hazel Lowrey
Fellow courthouse employees and officials recently honored Kay McClure with a going away retirement party. She would have had 25 years employment time with the county in May of this year. She was first assistant Auditor at the time of her retirement. Her fellow workers served refreshments and presented her with a "Money Card".

USFWS Offer Incentives for Rare Species Management

Landowners interested in developing habitat for the lesser prairie chicken and other south plains wildlife now have some new tools at their disposal. According to John Hughes, a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Canadian, private landowners may now take advantage of a voluntary incentives program aimed at rare species conservation. "The High Plains Partnership for Species at Risk is a program designed to assist private landowners with habitat development and enhancement for declining wildlife such as the lesser prairie chicken, swift fox, and burrowing owl. While these species are not listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, the USFWS wishes to provide technical assistance for landowners interested in developing habitat for these species. We feel that a non-regulatory, incentive-based approach is the best way to ensure the contin-

ued survival of rare species, as well as more common species such as pronghorn antelope, mule deer, bobwhite quail." Incentives come in the form of cost-share payments for range-land habitat improvements such as cross-fencing, water development, prescribed burning, brush management, and native prairie restoration. Landowners can also receive written assurances that they will not be subject to future governmental regulations if they agree to maintain or improve habitat. "We want to assist landowners in managing for rare species habitat while eliminating their fears of future restrictions on land use," say Hughes. "Private property rights are of paramount importance to us. We believe we can protect those rights and still keep rare species from becoming threatened or endangered."

Interested landowners may contact Hughes at 806-323-6636.

2002 Livestock Show Results

Here are first 4 places in divisions of the 2002 Livestock Show:

- GUILTS**
Lt. Wt. Durocs
1st - Chris Addison, 2nd - Ivan Parra, 3rd - Randon Lance, 4th - Joel Horn
Med. Wt. Durocs
1st - Harley Ranney, 2nd - Rebecca Coronel, 3rd - Jeffrey Lollar, 4th - Reagan Haynes
Hvy. Wt. Durics
1st - Hannah Sutton, 2nd - Dylan Hunter, 3rd - Mallore Coston, 4th - Harley Ranney
Lt. Wt. Hampshires
1st - Elias Carrillo, 2nd - Stetson Sellers, 3rd - Forrest Booth
Med. Wt. Hampshires
1st - Cameron Knight, 2nd - Randon Lance, 3rd Matthew Merritt
Hvy. Wt. Hampshires
1st - Hannah Sutton, 2nd - Austin Bachman
Lt. Wt. Spots
1st - Cheyenne Durham, 2nd - Harley Ranney, 3rd Kevin Gass, 4th - Kerry Sisson
Hvy. Wt. Spots
1st - Elias Carrillo, 2nd Cassidy Moore, 3rd - Randon Lance, 4th - Rowdy Brumley
Lt. Wt. Yorkshires
1st - Sierra Harrel, 2nd - Amy Clark, 3rd - Randon Lance, 4th Chelsea Blount
Hvy. Wt. Yorkshires
1st - Megan Lewis, 2nd - Kristen Knight, 3rd - Justin Chambliss, 4th - Michael Therwhanger
Lt. OPB
1st - Richard Nevarez, 2nd - Briana Buffington
Lt. Wt. Crosses
1st - Cameron Knight, 2nd - Chelsea Blount, 3rd - Michael Therwhanger, 4th - Austin Bachman
Med. Wt. Crosses
1st - Kallie Clark, 2nd - Callie Howell, 3rd - Merrit Crump, 4th - Hannah Crump
Hvy. Wt. Crosses
1st - Cameron Knight, 2nd - Cameron Knoght, 3rd - Kristen Knight, 4th - Justin Chambliss
BARROWS
Lt. Wt. Durocs
1st - Chris Addison, 2nd - Mareta Walker, 3rd - Jessica Knight, 4th - Stephanie Addison
Med. Wt. Durocs
1st - Elizabeth Clanahan, 2nd - Zach Mansch, 3rd - Megan Lewis, 4th - Trey Cleveland
Hvy. Wt. Durocs
1st - Joel Horn, 2nd - Chase Gibson, 3rd - Jeffrey Lollar, 4th - Forrest Booth
Lt. Wt. Hampshires
1st - Megan Allsup, 2nd - Kaitlyn Moore, 3rd - Jeffrey Lollar, 4th - Tiffany Mullins
Med. Wt. Hampshires
1st - Callie Howell, 2nd - Chelsea Blount, 3rd - Kerry Sisson, 4th - Cody Mayes
Hvy. Wt. Hampshires
1st - Justin Chambliss, 2nd - Amanda Hiller, 3rd - Scott Addison, 4th - Trey Cleveland
Lt. Wt. Spots
1st - Jeffrey Lollar, 2nd - Trey Cleveland, 3rd - Cheyenne Durham, 4th - Trey Cleveland
Hvy. Wt. Spots
1st - Elizabeth Clanahan, 2nd - Kaitlyn Moore, 3rd - Megan Allsup, 4th Cassidy Moore
Lt. Wt. Yorkshires
1st - Pete Esquivel, 2nd - Bronson Lester, 3rd - Elias Carrillo, 4th - Elias Carrillo
Med. Wt. Yorkshires
1st - Elizabeth Clanahan, 2nd - Mallore Coston, 3rd - Megan Lewis
Hvy. Wt. Yorkshires
1st - Michael Therwhanger, 2nd - Michael Therwhanger, 3rd - Scott Addison
Lt. Wt. Crosses
1st - Chris Addison, 2nd - Jessica Knight, 3rd - Richard Nevarez, 4th - Chase Gibson
Med. Wt. Crosses
1st - Kristen Knight, 2nd - Fristen Knight, 3rd - Chelsea Blount, 4th - Mallore Coston
Hvy. Wt. Crosses
1st - Chase Howell, 2nd - Justin Chanbliss, 3rd - Elizabeth Clanahan, 4th - Rebecca Coronel
LAMBS
Finewool Crosses
1st - Mallore Coston, 2nd - Mallore Coston, 3rd Chelsey-Anne Bearden, 4th - Jennifer Lewis
Lt. Wt. Med. Wools
1st - Tadd Coston, 2nd - Chelsey-Anne Bearden, 3rd - Macy Roberts, 4th - Marty Roberts
Med. Wt. Med. Wools
1st - Marty Roberts, 2nd - Tadd Coston, 3rd - Tadd Coston, 4th - Marty Roberts
Hvy. Wt. Med. Wool
1st - Chelsey-Anne Beardeb, 2nd - Stetson Sellers, 3rd - Stetson Sellers
GOATS
Class 1
1st - Cody Mayes, 2nd - Kelli Sellers, 3rd - Kelli Sellers, 4th - Kelli Sellers
Class 2
1st - Ragan McGinty, 2nd - Ragan McGinty, 3rd - Sierra Herrel, 4th - Sierra Harrel
Class 3
1st - Chance Kitchens, 2nd - Joel Horn, 3rd - Kallie Clark, 4th - Matthew Merritt
Class 4
1st - Sara Horn, 2nd - Ragan McGinty, 3rd - Amy Clark, 4th - Amanda Perry
Class 5
1st - Logan Wood, 2nd - Sara Horn, 3rd - Logan Wood, 4th - Landra Wood
Class 6
1st - Logan Wood, 2nd - Chance Kitchens, 3rd - Landra Wood, 4th - Chance Kitchens
Class 7
1st - Chance Kitchens, 2nd - T.J. Kitchens, 3rd - T.J. Kitchens, 4th - T.J. Kitchens
RABBITS
Class 1
1st - Joseph Horn, 2nd - Justin Gonzales, 3rd - Lydia Whitzel
Class 2
1st - Micah Horn, 2nd - Forrest Booth, 3rd - Kevin Gass, 4th - Kimber Williams
Class 3 - 1st - Callie Howell
Class 4 - 1st - Kevin Gass
Class 5 - 1st - Grady McNabb
Class 6
1st - Callie Howell, 2nd - Cody Mayes, 3rd - Sara Horn, 4th - Kameran Loya
Class 7 - 1st - Callie Howell
Class 8
1st - Grady McNabb, 2nd - Grady McNabb, 3rd Cody Mayes, 4th - Cody Mayes

State funds solid for the long run

2001 was a tough year for investors. The slow down in the economy which started in late 2000 culminated with a plunge in October after the September 2001 terrorist attacks.

Many of the Yoakum County tax funds are invested in fund management groups until needed for county budgets. Treasurer Toni Jones told CNN the bulk of these tax monies are temporarily deposited in two investment management groups, Tex Pool, and Funds Management Group, with Tex Pool handling some sixty percent of the investments over an average year.

A recent report from the State Comptroller indicated Tex Pool and other state and local government used investment sources remain solid. "Tex Pool funds are not in danger from the slow market. This state sponsored investment fund for local governments invests funds conservatively, but enables investors to withdraw money within 24 hours without penalty if needed in an emergency. Susan Anderson, the chief investment officer for the Comptroller's office, says "this kind of liquidity provides a safety net. If an investment begins to perform poorly it can be sold quickly. You're going to have up years and down years, and typically we look at these funds on a ten year basis."

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New Sheep and Goat Scrapie Regulations in Effect April 1

San Angelo-Sheep and goat industry folks owning one head or thousands need to remember that on April 1, 2002, all sheep and goats must be in compliance with the new USDA state and federal scrapie management regulations.

"These new regulations require sheep and goats to be wearing a premises identification ear tag before they are removed from your premises," says Dr. Frank Craddock, Texas Cooperative Extension state sheep and goat specialist here. "It makes no difference if that place is a ranch or someone's back yard, if the animals fall within the required regulation guidelines, they must be tagged."

Information from the Texas Animal Health Commission and other government authorities indicate that scrapie as a fatal degenerative brain disease, Craddock explained. The malady develops slowly, and infected animals usually don't show symptoms until they are at least 18 months old. Symptoms include weight loss, tremors, coordination loss, swaying and wool pulling.

Past eradication efforts haven't been successful, he said. The new premises identification system will allow diseased animals to be tracked back to their point of origin. Knowing the

origination point is a key element in the successful eradication of the disease.

Craddock described these five sheep and goat classes that require tagging: (1) All sheep 18 months of age or older; (2) all breeding sheep regardless of age; (3) sexually intact show or exhibition sheep and goats; (4) all goats 18 months of age or older that are or have been commingled with sheep, and (5) all breeding goats that are or have been commingled with sheep.

Wethers from either species and commercial goats that have never had contact with sheep are the only two exemptions to the tagging rule.

"To be absolutely safe and to cut down on confusion, my recommendation is to tag all female sheep and goats regardless of age and all intact males over 18 months old when they leave your place," said Craddock. "After April 1, if you take animals to an auction without tags, the auction will tag them with their premises tags, for a fee."

Craddock added that sales transactions must be kept and recorded for five years. This can be as easy as writing the date of sale, the premises number and the sold animal's individual numbers on the side of the tag box. The premises num-

ber should also appear on all sales documents including auction check in slips, vouchers, canceled checks and bills of sale.

The ear tags will carry the owner's premises number on one side along with a sequential number on the reverse side that owners may use for maintaining individual animal records.

"To get your premises identification number and order your free ear tags, call toll free 1-866-873-2824," said Craddock. "White metal or white plastic tags along with a free pair of tag Pliers will be provided at no cost to the producer. It is important to remember that turn around time on tag orders is slow; from four to eight weeks, so to meet the April 1 deadline place your order as soon as possible.

"It is very important to realize that these new regulations have been put in place for the benefit of the U.S. sheep and goat producer. Industry leaders have been wholeheartedly behind this effort. We want to wipe this disease out of the U.S. With a scrapie free designation, our producers can freely sell breeding stock on the world market with minimal restrictions as Australia and New Zealand now do."

Water Conservation District's Annual Scholarship

The Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District is again sponsoring an essay writing contest for senior students at Plains and Denver City High Schools. All senior students are eligible to enter the essay contest. The contest winner from each school will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for 1st place and a \$500 scholarship for 2nd place to the college(s) of their choice.

The topic of the essay should relate to an evaluation of the water situation in our area at the present time and contain proposals for future conservation of that water. The criteria for the contest is: 1. A minimum of 1000 words. 2. Typed and double-spaced with footnotes or endnotes. 3. References must accompany paper in the form of a bibliography page. Reference material may be acquired from Sandy Land U.W.C.D. office located in Plains. 4. Cover sheet containing: student's name, essay title, local high school, and date. 5. The essays are due no later than March 19, 2002.

For further information, please contact the District office at 806-456-2155.

Services Held For Beatrice Chambliss

Beatrice Chambliss, 96, of Seminole, Texas were held at 2:00 pm., February 9, 2002 at Brownfield Funeral Home Memorial Chapel with Dr. Bob Webb, Denver City, Texas Officiating.

Interment was at Terry County Memorial Cemetery in Brownfield under the direction of Brownfield Funeral Home.

She died February 7, 2002 at Seminole. She was born November 1, 1905 at Gainesville, Texas. She moved to Brownfield with her parents in 1924. She married Loyd H.

Chambliss May 15, 1926 in Brownfield. He preceded her in death on March 15, 1976. She is also preceded in death by a son L.G. Chambliss, June 6, 1957, and two sisters. She was a member of Ladies Home Demonstration Club and an active member of her Sunday School Class at First Baptist Church.

Survivors include: 2 sons, Lewis Chambliss, Denver City and J.C. Chambliss, Plains. 2 daughters, Virginia Johnson, Denver City and Margaret Ann Moore, Seminole. 1

sister Lucille Chambliss of Brownfield, 1 brother N.C. Ward of TN. 8 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild.

JP Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases filed and bonds set in Pct. 1 Justice of Peace Court, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

- 89 traffic cases
- One minor in consumption of alcohol
- One open container
- Bonds set at jail:
- Motion of surety/aggravated assault - \$3000
- Two cases possession of marijuana - \$500
- DWI, second- \$1500 bond, interlock device ordered
- Three cases motion to revoke probation- no bond.
- Two cases evading arrest- \$1500
- DWI, third or more- \$2500
- False report- \$500
- Assault causing bodily injury to family member- \$1500
- Hindering apprehension or prosecution- \$1000
- Bond forfeiture/theft of service- bond denied

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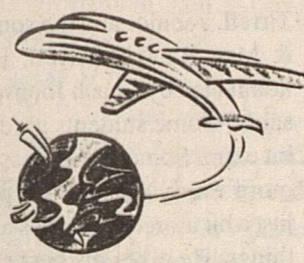
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vicki Blundell, District Clerk
Courthouse, Second Floor
Cowboy Way and Avenue G
Plains, Texas
Phone (806) 456 - 7453

NEWS RELEASE

The City Council for the City of Plains has called for a General Election to be held in The City of Plains on Saturday, May 4, 2002. The election will be held at the **Yoakum County Community Building located at 1006 Ave G in Plains, Texas.** The purpose of this election will be to elect one (1) Mayor and two (2) Council -members.

Those with expiring terms are Mayor T. J. Miller and Councilmembers Shane McKinzie and Pam Redman

First day for filing an application for a place on the ballot is **Tuesday, February 19, 2002 and the filing deadline is 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, 2002** Applications for a place on the ballot can be picked up at the Plains City Hall during regular working hours.



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Moises Gonzales drives ball inside



Joseph Rodriguez goes for jump shot



Kelly Bowers works ball inside for layup

PISD Basketball Summary

Junior High:

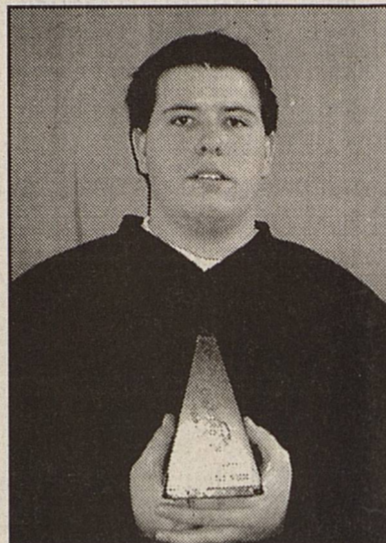
7th Girls- The young Lady Wranglers ended their season with a 9 and 6 record, averaging 34 points on offense, and allowing only 27 points on defense. Their last outing was a 34-22 win over Forsan, with Desiraye Broome scoring 15 points, Meghan Garcia 8, Alice Curtis and Lisa Neufeld 4 each, Angelica Mendoza 2, Nicole Culwell 1.

8th Wranglers- the 8th boys ended their season with a 40-24 victory over Forsan. Blake O'Quinn and T.J. Cordova each had 11 points, Todd Williams 6, David Alldredge and Casson Curtis 4 each, Blake Parrish and B.J. Lester 2 each. Coach Brink said they improved throughout the season, and finished third in district with a 5 and 4 record.

JV Cowgirls- The young Cowgirls ended their season with a close and tough 34-32 loss to Forsan. Sandra Gandara managed 9 points, Jesenia Suarez 7 and Sandra Gallegos 6. Coach Lusk commended their improvement, hard work and hustle.

Varsity Cowboys- On February 5 the Cowboys downed Forsan 67-58. Leading scorers were Jared Bell with 19, Jarod Newland 15, Tanner Hamm 14, Moises Gonzales 13. On February 8 they beat Colorado 57-44, with a strong second half performance. Bell had 13 points, Hamm 11, Newland 8 and Gonzales 8.

PHS Student of the Week



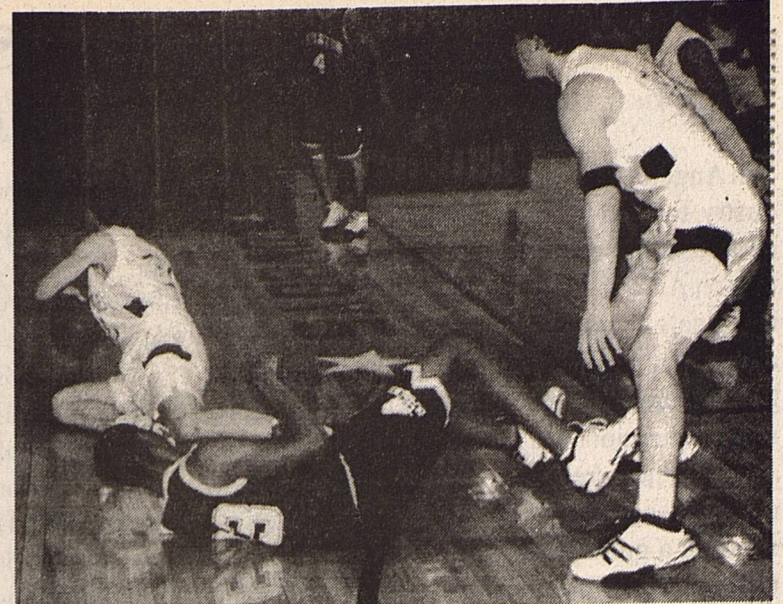
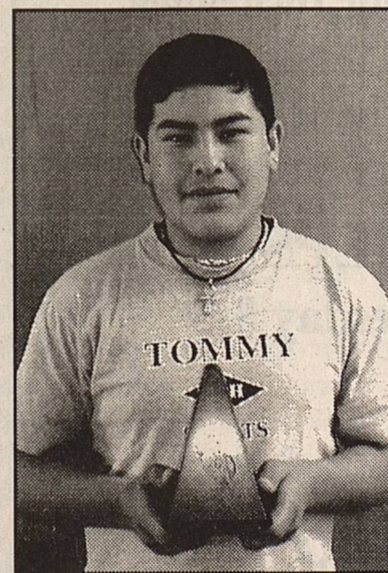
PHS Student of the Week is Scott Tirrell, a senior and the son of Mr. & Mrs. Randall Tirrell. He was nominated by Coach Johnson who said, "Some students give a little bit extra. Some make class a little more enjoyable. Some prepare just a bit more. Scott does all these things. He gives his best effort at each task, and enriches the learning experience for fellow students. These attributes make Scott Student of the Week."

Third student of the week is Noe Martinez, a sophomore and the son of Mr. & Mrs. Francisco Martinez. He was nominated by Mrs. O'Quinn, who said, "Noe doesn't allow a language barrier to become an excuse for not learning. Each day Noe faces an uphill battle in comprehending material in a language not written in his native tongue. He spends more

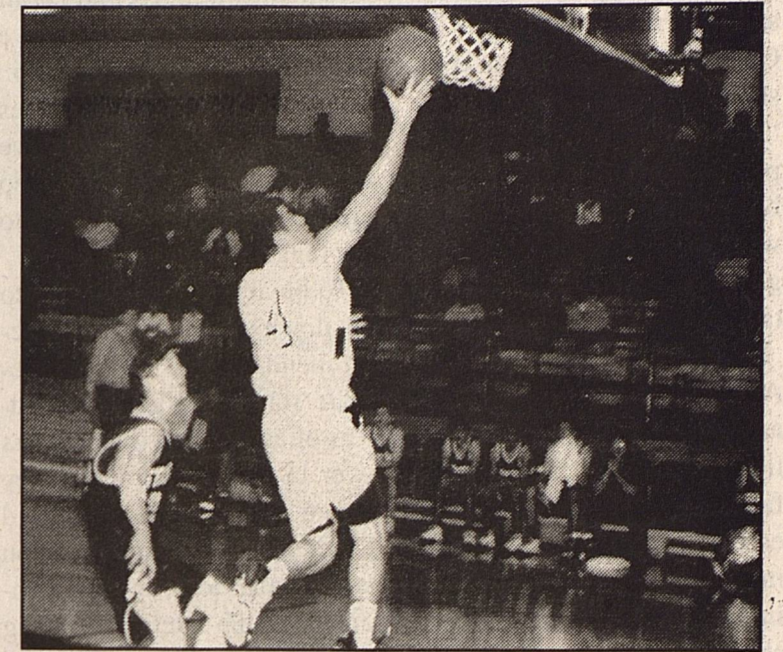
Second Student of the Week is Manuela Villegas, a sophomore and daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Frederico Villegas. She was nominated by Mrs. Lusk, who said, "Manuela is a very hard worker. She gives 110% all the time. She has a great attitude and excels in class and on the court. She has improved 110% since the beginning of basketball. I would take ten more just like this student."



than one class per day learning to read and understand English. He works hard everyday, and I appreciate the spirit in which he approaches work. I know his efforts will be reward with success.



Jarod Newland scrambles for loose ball



Moises Gonzales made this shot



JV's Angel Ruiz fights for loose ball

**Way To Go,
Cowboys -
Great Season!**

-5-

EXHIBIT A-2

PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Plains, Texas

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
Year Ended August 31, 2001

Data Control Codes	Governmental Fund Types	Totals (Memorandum Only)			
		100-199	200-499	98	97
	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	August 31, 2001	August 31, 2000	
REVENUES:					
5700	Local, Intermediate, and Out-of-State	\$ 5,451,572	\$ 384	\$ 5,451,956	\$ 5,103,684
5800	State Program Revenues	346,787	134,713	481,500	429,543
5900	Federal Program Revenues	156,987	273,037	430,024	442,301
5030	Total Revenues	5,955,346	408,134	6,363,480	5,975,528
EXPENDITURES:					
0010	Instruction and Instruction-Related Services	3,044,139	444,513	3,488,652	3,180,420
0020	Instruction and School Leadership	319,259	-	319,259	290,856
0030	Support Services - Student (Pupil)	861,696	5,581	867,277	1,063,626
0040	Administrative Support Services	312,384	-	312,384	284,504
0050	Support Services - Nonstudent Based	909,521	-	909,521	882,841
0060	Ancillary Services	5,090	-	5,090	3,758
0070	Debt Service	-	24,420	24,420	-
0080	Capital Outlay	223,127	-	223,127	19,788
0090	Intergovernmental Charges	226,132	-	226,132	195,143
6030	Total Expenditures	5,901,348	474,514	6,375,862	5,920,936
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	53,998	(66,380)	(12,382)	54,592
7020	Other Resources	339,075	66,380	405,455	15,028
8030	Other (Uses)	(351,407)	-	(351,407)	(14,448)
1200	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over Expenditures and Other	41,666	-	41,666	55,172
0100	Fund Balance-September 1 (Beginning)	2,968,948	-	2,968,948	2,913,776
3000	Fund Balance-August 31 (Ending)	\$ 3,010,614	\$ -	\$ 3,010,614	\$ 2,968,948

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Vote For
Jimmy Maynard

CANDIDATE FOR
YOAKUM COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 2
Subject to action of the March 12
Republican Primary

- * 61 year resident of D.C.
- * Graduate of DCHS
- * U.S. Navy Veteran
- * D.C.I.S.D. Trustee for 12 years
- * Over 30 years in business in D.C.

'I feel because of my past experience, I can do a good job in helping Yoakum County become yet a better place to work and live.'

Pol. Ad paid for by Jimmy Maynard

the Magnolia

114 N. Main, Denver City, Texas
806-592-7044

For a Unique and Long Lasting Gift, Call or Come By.

We will deliver on Valentine Day

Hours: M-W 10:00-6:00
Th 12:00-6:00
F 10:00-6:00

(jewelry, flowers, candles & candy)

Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

We can all see that the weather really turned different from what we expected. We send our condolences, love and prayers to the Marcell Dorothy Family, and also to family of Oneta McAdams.

We are so glad to see our attendance up again, we usually have our clients out this time of year due to cold weather, or illness, or just up and go to be with family.

The Yoakum County Senior Center would like to take this opportunity to let the community know, about what all goes on during the day here at the center. We open the doors at 8:00 am. when Linda arrives, but the office hours are from 9:00 am. to 3:00 pm.

We have many people come in to do their morning walking in the halls, browse the garage sale room. We have also added a Craft Corner in the ceramic room which consist of flower arrangements, many other items that have been donated to our center. We also welcome donations of crafts, crocheting, lap robes, Afghans, ceramics, paintings, (anything really) to sell here at the center to help with the center's finances. For the ones who like to read we have books, in hardback and paperback; we are on the honor system; you just take one and bring it back when you have finished.

Our center serves people of all economic and ethnic background. We are very proud of this. Every senior and their guest are welcome. Every senior needs to come by and have a balanced meal, and enjoy the fellowship, then you can do some walking in the halls, use the treadmills, and it keeps you out of the cold or just come by to shoot the breeze.

We also have a Site Council committee that plans fund raisers, welcomes new members,

calls to check on people if they are ill; and maybe just a phone call to let them know they are thought of.

If you would like to know more about the center, please feel free to come by. We are always glad to see the younger people come too.

Our center also provides transportation to the Senior Citizens who are no longer able to drive. We have transportation available for the senior citizens of Plains. We also deliver meals to the home bound senior citizens in Plains. If you need more information please feel free to call the office @ 806-592-8000.

So get your glad rags on and come over we're looking forward to seeing you.

We would also like to say thank you, to a dear lady Ida Brown; for preparing our Organization Exempt Income Tax Form 990 this year.

Visitors last week were: Victor Gayle & his wife Kimberly & baby. They were with Walter & Melba Gayle. This weeks visitors were: Denman Pate, Mandi Anderson, Angie Mendez, Frank & Jean Shrum, Rita Fannin Naomi Goodman.

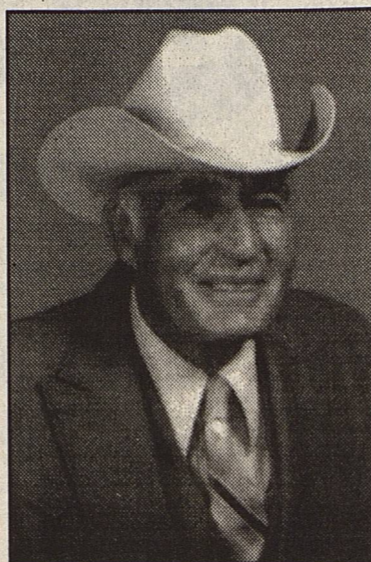
Birthday Attendance were: Claudia Sue Ferguson, Maurine Wehrend, Jack Sessions, Frank Guerrero, Dorothy Anderson, Joe Leija Jr.

We didn't have any anniversaries for this month. Every first Monday of each month we honor all the ones who have a birthday or anniversary.

We have changed our Pot Luck & Jamborees to every other month, this month it will be on February 14 at 6:30 pm. So gather up a little something in a covered dish and come have a great time.

Will guess this is all for now. God Bless America & Everyone
Wanda B.

Birthday Reception For Marvin Powell



Marvin Powell, longtime resident of Lovington and Lea

County, New Mexico, celebrates his 90th birthday in February. Friends are invited to come by for refreshments and conversation on Sunday, February 17th between 2 and 4 pm. at the First United Methodist Church in Lovington. Gifts are not necessary, your presence is enough. This birthday reception is given by his children, Ben Robert Powell of McDonald, New Mexico, Marvanette Sowell of Espinola, New Mexico, Marlene Tatchio of Floresville, Texas and Kenny Fort Powell of Brownfield, Texas.

Clerks Attend County and District Clerks' Seminar

Vickie Blundell, District Clerk, and Deborah Rushing, County Clerk, joined 400 County Clerks, District Clerks and Combination Clerks for the 30th Annual County and District Clerks' Continuing Education Seminar at the Hilton College Station and Conference Center on January 14-17, 2002. The annual continuing education seminar at College Station is sponsored by the V.G. Young Institute of County Government, which is part of the Texas Cooperative Extension, The Texas A&M University System. The V.G. Young Institute of County Government pro-

vides information, education and technical assistance to elected county officials to help them complete their state mandated, minimum continuing education requirements.

The theme of this year's seminar was: "Unconditional Respect Through Education and Professionalism!" Included were workshops on web page designs and development, preparing for the 2002 elections, customer service, courtroom responsibilities, records management, conflict resolution, routes to new jury systems, update on the Legislative Session and child support resolutions.

Tsa Mo Ga Club hears Global Volunteers

Five local ladies presented a program to the Tsa Mo Ga Club January 28 detailing their November trip to Africa as members of a 148 Global Volunteers team crusade to Kenya.

Lattrell McDonnell described the flight from Lubbock to Houston, and from there to Amsterdam and Nairobi, Kenya. Jo Ann Barron showed a slide presentation of the crusade, as did Wadonna Davis, dressed in safari attire she purchased there.

Mary Wilmeth and Karen Bearden spoke of their experiences in spreading "the plan of Salvation" in Kenya. The Global Volunteer group were in Africa 17 days.

The program members displayed many African culture artifacts, and one African item was won by Valeria Winn as a door prize. Renetta O'Quinn was hostess for the evening. All Plains High seniors will be special guests at a celebration dinner February 11.

SPC Set For Senior Sneak Preview

South Plains College's annual Senior Sneak Preview, offering area high school seniors a glimpse into college life and careers, will have a faster paced format when it returns to the Levelland campus on February 15.

The event is scheduled 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and includes registration and opening assembly in Texas Dome, information sessions, campus tours, an information session for parents in the Student Services Building, open house in the Student Center and a picnic lunch in the Women's Gym.

"This will be a fast paced day in which the students will be able to get all the information they need," said Kimbra Quinn, director of new student relations. "It will be an opportunity

for students and parents to see what is available at SPC in terms of educational offerings and career options."

Up to 700 students from 80 high schools in Eastern New Mexico, Texas Panhandle and the South Plains are expected to be on hand, said Quinn.

Programs to be showcased are those in Allied Health, Behavioral Sciences, Business Administration, Communications, Creative Arts, Fine Arts, Industrial Technology, Mathematics, Physical Education, Professional Services, Sciences, Social Sciences and Teacher Education.

For more information, contact the SPC New Student Relations Office at 894-9611, ext. 2213 or ext. 2113.

Concert Announced

Gospel Comedian Aaron Wilburn from the Bill Gaither Concert & Video Series will be in concert Saturday, February 16th, 7:00 p.m. at the New Beginnings Family Church, 4234 Boston in Lubbock. Opening the concert will be Southern Gospel group King's Ransom. Tickets can be purchased at all Select-A Seat locations, or charge by phone 770-2000, for more information call 806-766-7019. Event sponsored by New Beginnings Family Church.

Did you take Fen-Phen?

If you took Pondimin (fenfluramine), Fen-Phen Combo or Redux and you have heart problems, valve leakage, murmurs, regurgitation, shortness of breath, racing heart, palpitations, swelling in ankles or feet, or primary pulmonary hypertension (PPH), call us for a FREE CONSULTATION to discuss your legal rights for monetary damages against these drug manufacturers and for your eligibility for echocardiographic (echo) testing.

David P. Willis - Willis Law Firm
Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

1 (800) 883-9858 or 1 (800) 468-4878

Other attorneys are likely to be associated in the handling of this matter

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If you have Medicare or Private insurance, you may be eligible to receive your, **DIABETIC SUPPLIES & RESPIRATORY MEDS,** nebulizers, albuterol & ipartropium **AT NO COST TO YOU!!**
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1-888-466-2678
(no HMO patients, please)

Take Care of Your Sweetheart February is National Heart Month

Hearts and flowers are all part of Valentines Day, but for many Texans hearts fail. Heart disease is the number one killer of Texans, and stroke is number three. Things you can change that put you at risk for a heart attack or stroke are being a smoker, having high blood pressure, having a high blood cholesterol level, being overweight and being physically inactive.

Heart attack warning signs, uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or goes away and comes back; pain that spreads to the shoulder, neck or arms; chest discomfort with light-headedness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath.

Stroke warning signs, sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; sudden severe headache with no known cause.

Not all these warning signs occur in every stroke or heart attack. If some start to occur, don't wait. Get help immediately! These are medical emergencies, call 911.

To learn more about being heart healthy call the South Plains Public Health District.

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Now We Offer You Something You Can Really Smile About!
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* This is a discount card program and not an insurance. (Not available in VT.)

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Plains, Texas

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

Wednesday

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Supper
6:00 pm. Zombies
7:00 pm. - RA's, GA's, Mission Friends,
Sanctuary Choir Practice

First United Methodist Church 1202 Avenue G - Plains, Tx. 456-3727

Experiencing God's Love
Transforming Lives



Sunday Schedule
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 5:00 pm
Wednesday Connections
Food, Fellowship & Study
5:30-7:30 pm

Other Opportunities
Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays

**God loves you and so do we!
Come grow in Christ with us!**

From The Hack

Lots of time recently spent on the road between here and Lubbock has provided me lots of gab on a number of talk radio shows. I recently heard this bit of statistics; The average American (I seriously doubt such a creature actually exists, and is probably terminology dreamed up by folks who deal in stats) consumed exactly 470 pounds of vegetables in 2001. That's really not too mind boggling. I suppose it would be fairly easy to determine the to-

tal tonnage of all veggies sold during the year, then divide that figure by the recent census figure. The second part of the radio blurb stated vegetable consumption was expected to drop to 463 pounds per person in 2002.

My burning thought and question is, WHY? Is there going to be a shortage of rutabagas? Are turnip greens now passe? Is acreage for planting green peas going to be devoted to millet?

Perhaps the prediction is not based on supply, but demand; Is advertising and sales promotions for Big Macs and Weinerschnitzel Dogs more alluring than promos for squash, okra and romaine lettuce?

These are burning questions which often keep me tossing and turning at night, sometimes

as long as 63 seconds. And please do not send any letters to the editor on the subject. It's already received far more time than deserved. Besides, I bet you don't know the answer, either.

As do most state newspapers large and small, we belong to the Texas Press Association, an organization I am grateful for. They send us stuff every week we can stick in CCN and don't have to irritate other newspaper Moguls by stealing their stuff. The volume of our mail from Texas Press containing political news releases seems to increase daily, with the March Primary elections looming, and those leading to the General Election in November.

One week we will get releases from Democrat Party officials shouting Shame, Shame on Republican candidates, the next week caustic words from the Republican side about scurilous Democrat hopefuls.

I told the Bride I was going to be cautious about some of the harsher releases, regardless of which party was either the Hammerer or the Hammeree. I am familiar with a few people in the community who get absolutely rabid when their chosen political party and candidates are the subject of harsh criticism. I suspicion a few of them actually start carrying guns or other lethal weapons when election time nears. I don't intend to get shot over a crooked politician.

* Legal Notice *

The Plains Independent School District, Plains, Texas, is accepting bids for the following: **Year 2002 Improvements (Roof Repair) for Plains ISD.**

All bids must be submitted by 3:00 PM local time, 7 March 2002 at the Superintendents office, or sealed bids may be mailed directly to:

James Haynes, Superintendent
Plains ISD
PO Box 479
Plains, Texas 79355

Plans and Specifications are available and may be acquired from:

Grimes and Associates, Consulting Engineers
PO Box 65
Wolfforth, Texas 79382
806-863-2462

A pre-bid conference will be held at 3:00 pm, local time, 28 February 2002. All interested parties should meet at the Superintendents Office, Plains, Texas. The Plains Independent School District Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and waive all formalities.

Immediate Opening Maintenance Manager

Directs and supervises the activities involved in maintaining hospital buildings and equipment, minor construction, and the maintenance of hospital grounds. Supervises the duties of department employees. High school graduate or equivalent, knowledge of plant operations, maintenance and construction methods. Supervisory ability and effective oral and written communication skills required. A minimum of two years experience in plant operations, supervisory experience preferred. Excellent working conditions with full time benefits. Apply at Yoakum County Hospital, 415 Mustang, Denver City, Texas or fax resume to 806-592-2891 Attn: Clay Taylor.

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Heating bills putting the freeze on winter funds?
Time to replace your old heating system, but don't know how to pay for it? We've got the answer! Lea County Electric has Energy Resource Conservation (ERC) loan funds available at 5% interest!

With our ERC loan program, members can borrow money at a low, low 5% for up to 7 years for a **NEW HEAT PUMP - INCLUDING DUAL-FUEL UNITS!**

Don't settle for your old, high-cost, low-efficiency heating system! Stop by Lea County Electric at 18 W. Washington in Lovington or give us a call at 396-3631. Funds are limited, so call today!

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

Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Poppin' Wheelies

If you think you've seen a preponderance of leather-clad ladies and gentlemen cruising Texas highways on Harleys, Hondas and every other kind of motorcycle lately, you're absolutely right. Texans are buying and riding motorcycles in record numbers. In 2000, new motorcycle sales reached 39,500 in Texas, more than double the 17,000 or so purchased just five years before. And while sales figures are not available for 2000, in 1999, Texans spent a whopping \$250 million to purchase new motorcycles, second only to free-wheeling Californians. That left third- and fourth-ranked Florida and Pennsylvania in the dust.

In millions of dollars
CA \$487
TX \$250
FL \$240
PA \$217
OH \$214
NY \$205
IL \$199
MI \$187
NC \$147
WI \$145

Top ten states in new motorcycle retail sales, 1999

SOURCE: Motorcycle Industry Council
GRAPHIC: Gilbert Gammeter

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