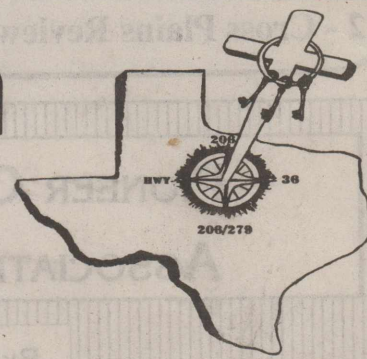


Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, February 17, 2005



Keys to our Past,
Present and Future
Hinge on the Cross

Rich in Agriculture
Abundant in Wildlife

Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

96TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 48

DOWN HOME

"The End of An Era"

By Vanda Anderson
Editor

I'm sure all the local residents are aware of the fact that the red blinker light at the cross section of Highway 36, Highway 279 and Highway 206 has been removed, but I thought all you ex-students and ex-residents might be interested. I wonder how many times I drove past and didn't even notice. However, one night coming in from Abilene, it was very apparent that the old blinker light was indeed GONE!!! No longer a beacon in the night to indicate our city.

As long as I can remember it has been there, kind of like a landmark, etc. It has been used in giving directions for many years. Individuals often referred to the blinker light when they wrote classified ads for the newspaper. What will we say now? The four-way stop????? I guess so.

I don't know the reason for the change, but I wonder if it had anything to do with the huge cylinders that travel through our city via 18-wheelers on a weekly basis. They probably had to lift the light out of the way on some of those gigantic ones.

It brings to mind when the Pioneer Drive-In was torn down. Just last week Tom Melton gave me some photos of the Pioneer Drive-In and it brought back a rush of memories. He said a drive-in theatre was opening in San Saba. Just think about it, some young people have never been to an outside theatre. Talk about a "big screen", they don't know what they have missed.

Oh well, life is all about change, so our routines will proceed on. I just hope travelers read the signs warning of an approaching 4-way stop. I've heard tales of vehicles flying through the intersection without even touching their brakes.

Guess what? There is already a petition to get the blinker light back at Jean's Feed Barn if you are interested in signing. There may be a chance that we will get it back. I guess time will tell!!!!

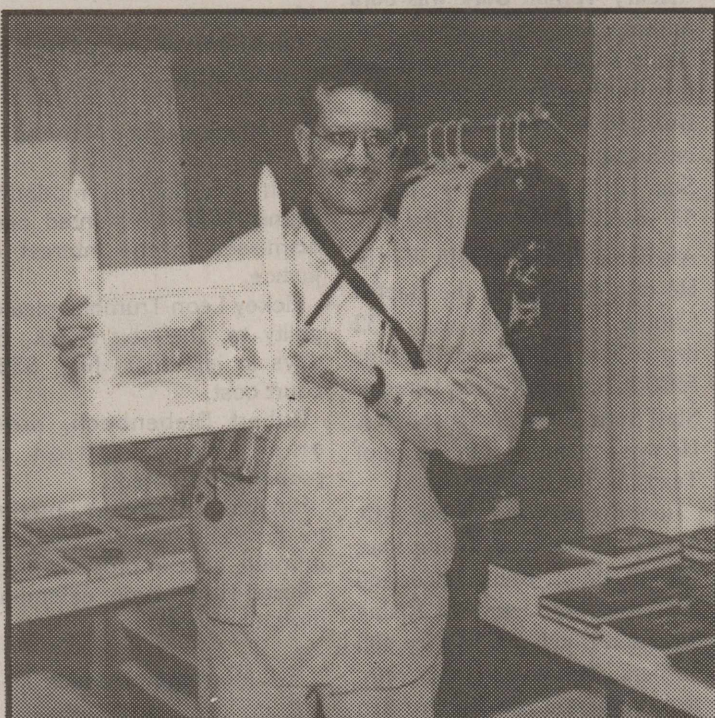
Cross Plains Kiwanis Annual Pancake Supper Set for March 10

The Kiwanis Club of Cross Plains announces "EARLY NOTICE" of the date for their annual Pancake Supper - Thursday night, March 10. In case you have not attended a Kiwanis Pancake Supper before, you are in for a real treat — you will want to mark your calendar NOW!! "All the pancakes you can eat for one price."

More details will be shared at later dates but be sure and mark your calendar now for Thursday night, March 10 — and don't miss it!

P.S. Did you get the date — March 10?

Submitted by, Bob Pipes



HOWARD MUSEUM — Pete Woody, a journalist from Las Vegas, Nevada, was a recent guest at the Robert E. Howard Museum and is shown admiring a picture of young Howard that was framed with strips of picket from the original front yard fence.

Old Pickets Find New Homes

In 1994 a devastating storm came through Cross Plains causing extensive damage to most all buildings and plants. The historic Robert E. Howard home at 625 W. Highway 36 suffered, but the original picket fence surrounding the front yard was damaged beyond repair and had to be replaced. Part of the old fence was rolled up and put in the storage building.

A couple of years ago a visitor at the museum noticed the old pickets and asked to purchase enough to build a frame for a poster he was buying. The transaction was negotiated and a sale was made. From this an idea was born. Alton McCowen, a Project Pride member, suggested that he salvage more strips of pickets and build frames for copies of a popular picture of young Robert that Project Pride

has the rights to. The photograph, made in about 1925, shows Robert and his dog, Patches, standing at the front gate. The first few were made and placed in the gift shop. They sold quickly and Alton had to rush to get more made. Then mail orders came in from all over the United States. In December a request came from California for two of them to be shipped in time for Christmas gifts. To date, 43 have been built and only three are left in the gift shop.

If you have appreciation for Howard's writings or would just like to tour the home where he lived and wrote from 1919 until 1936 you are invited to contact a member of Project Pride. A number of books containing Howard works and other items of interest are for sale in the gift shop.

Ribbon Cutting to be held for New Business

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce will be welcoming Mexico City Cafe to the community with a Ribbon Cutting on Monday, February 21, at 12 noon.

David Mendieta, owner of Mexico City Cafe, cordially invites everyone to attend the ceremony at 124 S.W. 5th Street and get acquainted.

City of Cross Plains Clean-up Efforts Continue to Progress

Cross Plains will be continuing in the effort to clean-up the city, issuing junk vehicle abatements and dirty lot abatements. This will continue through 2005. There has been a lot of hard work done in the past year to clean up lots and junk vehicles in the city limits. It's a great start, but there are still more to be accomplished.

The City of Cross Plains will be

writing more citations this year in the continued effort to make the community a nicer place to live and work.

This project is a result of city ordinances which state that junk vehicles in the city must be kept out of view by a privacy fence or placed in a closed garage, and lots are to be kept clean of rubbish, trash, dead tree limbs and other clutter so the

appearance of the neighborhood is not compromised.

During the last year there has been 8 vacant run-down houses razed and 42 junk vehicles removed from the city limits.

Failure to comply with the city ordinances could result in fines from \$500 to \$2,000.

Submitted by
James Nichols
City Councilman

Filings Announced for City and School Board Election

Five candidates have already announced their intentions to seek a place on the Cross Plains City Council. Incumbents James Nichols and Gene Dillard will be seeking re-election, while David Reed, Gary Fulcher and Scarlett Koettel are asking for first terms.

The two-year terms of Nichols, Dillard and Edwin Weiss are expiring.

Burlie Taylor and George Mathews have signed up for the 1-year term of Donnie Dillard. Frankie Hyles, Bewel Neff Rickey Thomas and Tony Wyatt have signed up for the 3-year terms of Bryan Bennett and Monty Richards.

March 7th at 5:00 p.m. is the last day to file an application for

both elections. City applications may be filed at the City Hall during their regular working hours. Applications for school board trustee may be filed at the superintendent's office from 8:00 am. to 12 noon and 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

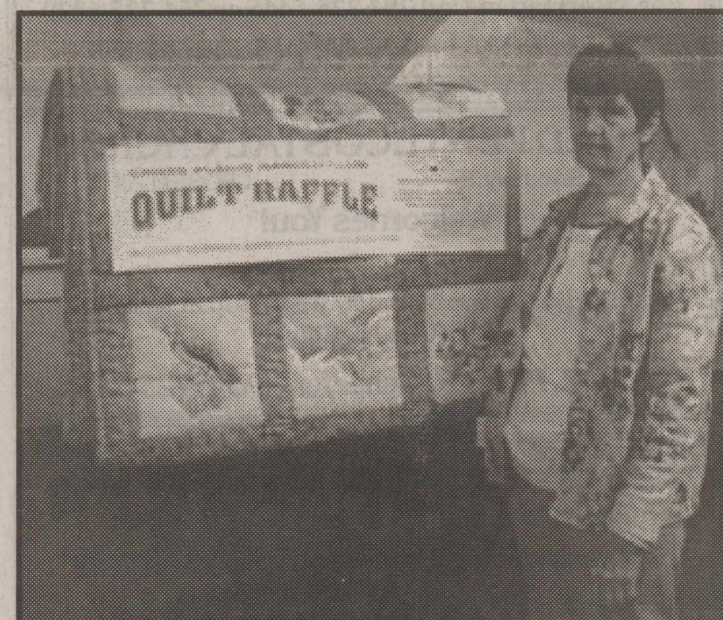
The elections will be held May 1, 2005.

Mid-Week Services Changed at Living Water Ministries

Living Water Ministries is changing its Wednesday night service to Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m.

The focus of the meetings will be PRAYER; for individuals as well as for the city, region and nation.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Living Water Ministries is located on West Highway 36 in Cross Plains.



QUILT WINNER ANNOUNCED—Bernice Payne of Rising Star purchased the winning ticket for the State Bird and Flower Quilt sponsored by Cross Plains Garden Club. Eva Fleming, garden club president, is pictured with the beautiful quilt. (See C.P. Garden Club News on page 3 for details.)

West Texas Classified to be Published March 24 (Carol Walt the Author)

The fictional West Texas town of "Rosewood" is the subject of a collection of short stories written by Carol Walt who lives in the area of Cross Plains/Rising Star. These stories are populated with aging cowboys, feisty little girls, born-again Christians and other local folk whose lives are related. The stories range from the amusing to the tragic, but all take a wry twist along the way. Each story ends with an item from a local newspaper such as a classified ad, obituary or news item that further tells the tale.

Carol has written articles for nationally published travel magazines and also for major market newspapers. This is her first work of fiction.

Publish America has just announced that the book will be released on March 24, 2005. Copies will be available for purchase at the Cross Plains Public Library. Keep an eye on the Cross Plains Review for

further details about the book and how you can obtain a copy.

Texas
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"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

MEMBER
FDIC

Presents:
"What's Inside"

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Courthouse News Page 2
Library News Page 3
Obits Page 2
Pioneer Cemetery News Page 2
Quips, Clips & Comments Page 3
Student Review Page 4



MEMORIAL PLAQUE RECIPIENTS—The Dusty Hargrove Traveling Senior Showmanship Award Plaque for Market Swine in 2005 went to Jamie Cooley (back, center) of Eula and the Market Steer for 2005 to Kandi Anders (back, right) of Clyde. Mykea Douglass (back, left), the 2004 Market Swine Senior Showmanship recipient, presented the award to Cooley, while Tristan Hargrove (front), son of the late Dusty Hargrove, presented the award to Anders. The award plaques were provided through donations to the Cross Plains Livestock Association in memory of Dusty by Dick and Sharon Koenig, Bob and Linda Golson, Alice Roby, Glenn and Ruthie Lawrence, Cameron Gulley, Buster and Sandra Harris, and Kay May. The Hargrove family would like to express their appreciation to those who donated.

