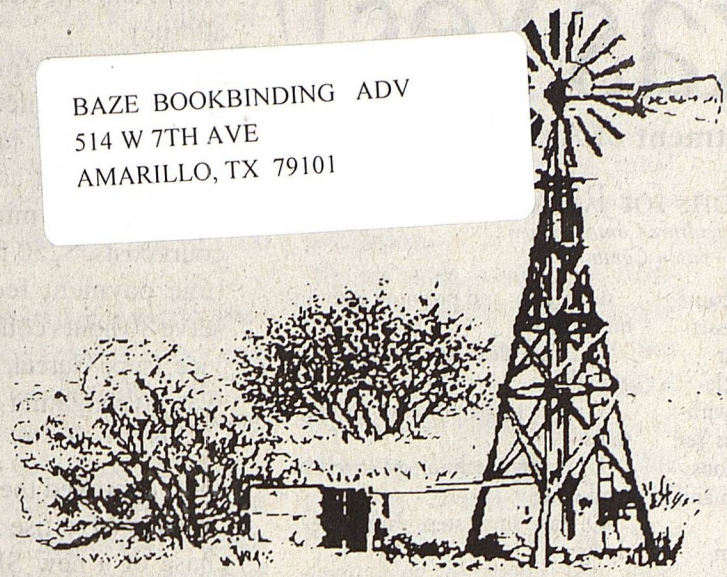


50 Cents

Cowboy Country News

Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas Volume XII, Issue 21, February 8, 2006

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Criminal cases heard in County Court

Eight criminal cases were heard in County Court January 25, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Jaime Hernandez pled guilty to a subsequent DWI, b.t. .247/.240. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$600, must pay \$331 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will spend 10 days in jail with credit for two served, serve 80 hours community service, must complete the DWI repeat offender program, attend weekly AA meetings, complete an outpatient treatment program and surrender his license 90 days. His attorney was Bill Helwig and investigating officer was Patricia Valdez, Denver City Police.

Humberto Villalobos Olivias pled true to modifying supervision from a prior DWI conviction. Supervision will be extended six months with \$50 monthly supervision fees, and serve an additional 25 hours community service.

Inez Villa Silva pled guilty to an accident causing damage to other vehicle. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended 12 months. She must pay \$296 court costs and \$25 time payment fee, plus \$1303 restitution to Joshua Taylor and \$250 appointed attorney fees. Investigating officer was Patricia Valdez, D.C. Police, and Bill Helwig was her attorney.

Adán Vaquera pled guilty to purchase/furnish alcohol to a minor. A one year jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$600, must pay \$265 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 80 hours community service, serve 10 days in jail with 5 days credit. Investigating officer was Officer Valdez, and David Martinez was his attorney.

Michael Orouke Boyd pled guilty to DWI, b.t. refusal/open container. An 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$600, pay \$326 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will spend six days in jail with two days served. He must complete the DWI first offender program and attend weekly AA meetings.

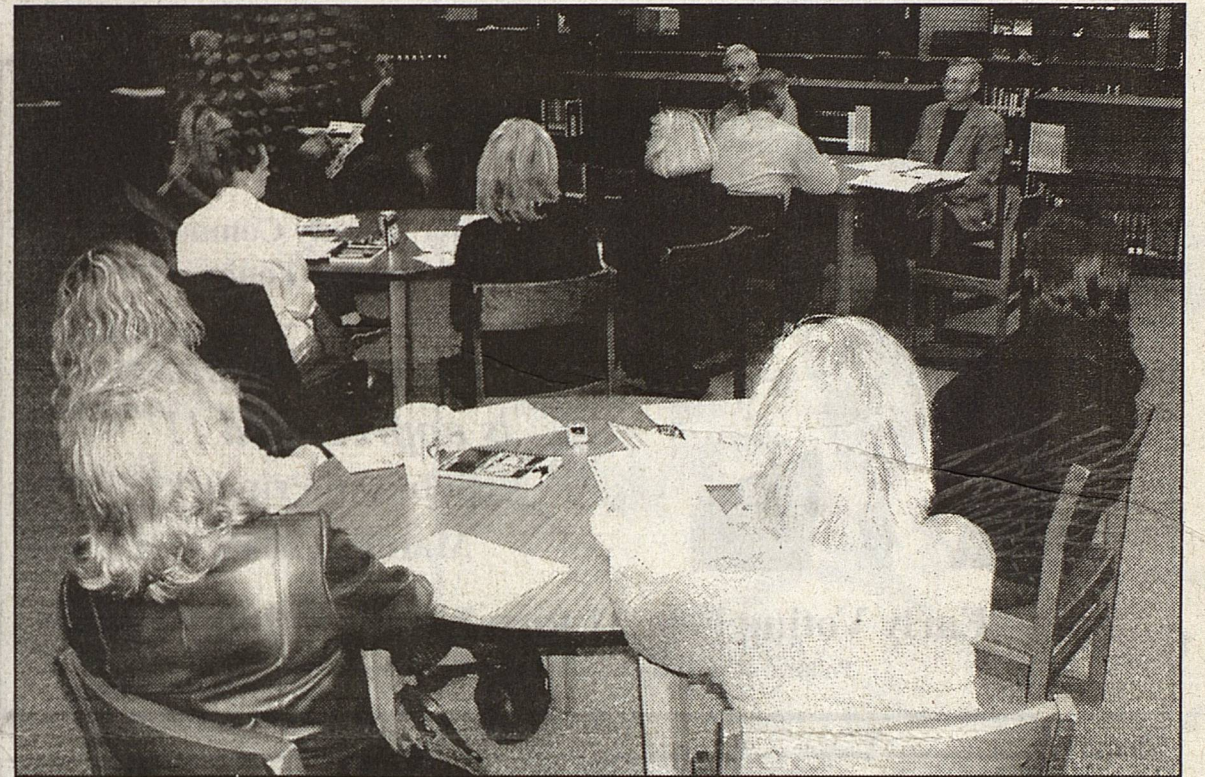
David Aaron Diaz pled guilty to unlawfully carrying a weapon. A 30 day jail sentence was suspended and probated. He was fined \$250 and paid \$211 court costs. He will serve 80 hours community service, and he forfeited two butterfly knives.

Jose Eduardo Perez pled guilty to racing on highway. A 30 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$100, must pay \$250 court costs, \$250 appointed attorney fees and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 24 hours community service. Lt. Charles Higgs,

Fifteen volunteers on the PISD Site-Based Decision Making Commission met February 2 for review of school issues and recommend a school calendar for the 2006-2007 school year. Superintendent James Haynes reported there is a strong movement in Austin to adopt a standard start date of the first day following Labor Day. He said the local Board of trustees thinks an earlier starting date is more realistic and beneficial for students, and are considering an August 14 start. "This would make equal 90 day semesters, and would allow us much more effective test dates. We think a scheduling of mid-term exams following a long Christmas Holiday is a hardship on many students, most of whom would benefit from a review session after the Christmas season". The commission members unanimously recommended the August 14 start. Haynes reported over 70 percent of districts have chosen waivers to allow the earlier starts.

The superintendent reviewed a 17 page Academic Excellence Indicator System document prepared by the Texas Education Agency, covering the 2004-05 school year. Plains ISD is again rated a Recognized District. Haynes reported, "There are areas in all three of our campuses we

School's 'Site-Based' Group hear update on performance, new school calendar, views on special legislative session



would like to see improvements in, and our staff are working on achieving those goals. Like most small, rural districts in Texas, particularly in West Texas, we have numbers of migrant students, students having problems with English proficiency. They face harder learning tasks than most other students not facing these problems. We do our best to overcome these obstacles."

Haynes said the District has suffered financially in recent years with declining numbers of students. "Under the current "Robin Hood" method of financing public schools, each student we lose means a considerable loss of funding. Last year we were required to

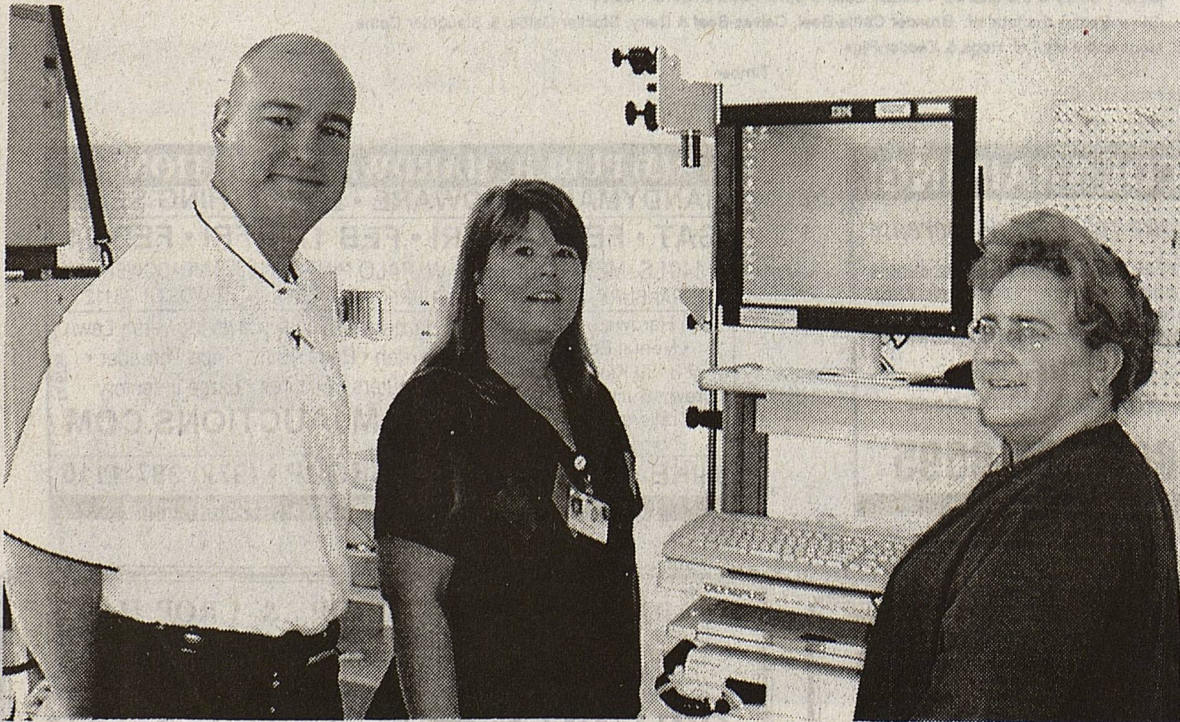
send \$3.9 million to Austin for other districts use." He added the district had given up almost \$21 million in tax money since Robin Hood became law.

Haynes reviewed recent developments and rumors concerning the Texas Supreme Court decision declaring the Robin Hood method of financing public schools to be unconstitutional. Consensus of opinion indicates Governor Perry will announce his call for a special session of the legislature. "Predictions are he will call the thirty day session for April 1. If an acceptable solution is not reached, he can call a second session to meet the Court's June 1 deadline for a workable plan. "There are

concens some members of the legislature may push for a dual funding and school reform session, which could cause serious problems in a 60 day period."

A report of the Site-Commission meeting and recommendations will be presented at a future Board of Trustees meeting. Members of the Commission include Haynes, Chairman Jack Cobb, Jim Barron, Joe Pierce, Tim DeBusk, Richie Cullins, Amber McWhirter, Kim Wilkins, Melba Crutcher, Dolores Davis, Pam Burgess, Pam Bean, Dana Hamm, Cindy Conway, Rennetta O'Quinn, and Gary Dyer.

YCH acquires new equipment



Shown with newest endoscopy video equipment are Scott Huskey, Olympus America Inc. Rep, and Yoakum County Hospital Nurses Janet Stoffer and Korina Pate.

Yoakum County Hospital is now equipped with a new, state-of-the-art Endoscopy GI video system. This new system, manufactured by Olympus America Inc, provides excellent optics for viewing the GI tract of patients. The new system consists of four colonoscopies, two gastroscopes, and the Olympus CV-180 video processor and light source. The video system has a new, innovative feature called "Nar-

row Band Imaging". (NBI). NBI is an optical enhancement technology that enhances vessels in the surface of the mucosa, or inner lining of the GI tract, by employing the light absorption characteristics of hemoglobin at a specific wave length of light. Yoakum County Hospital is the first in West Texas to have the new product.

Court eases supervised burn-ban, OK's financial audit

Local ag-producer Jerry Hartman, again accompanied by Attorney Bill Helwig, renewed his request to be allowed to burn mesquite grubs and other debris from recently broken out ground. Helwig said he and Hartman had been in contact with the area disaster management office to explain the proposed controlled burn. They had also discussed the matter with county emergency responders to explain their proposal.

Hartman proposed conducting four night time burns, but only after area emergency response organizations in a wide area had been notified of the burn. Helwig stated, "We certainly don't want an aircraft passing through to spot the flames and notify authorities a Homeland Security threat was

taking place". Judge Brewer related he too had been in contact with disaster authorities, who told him, "As long as they use common sense and have taken all possible precautions, but especially only all surrounding law officials have been advised of their plans."

Hartman also signed and had notarized an "Hold Harmless" agreement with the county. He would be the only person responsible for any harmful situation from the fires. The request was approved.

Yoakum County Hospital Administrator Clay Taylor told the court "We have finally caught up with the Nurse shortage which is plaguing hospitals virtually everywhere" He reported they have three future RN's in line for employment but their schooling

is not yet complete. They will finish school in a little over three months. The hospital had a number of open shifts at the facility during February. Taylor said at a recent board meeting using a nurse procurement agency was discussed, versus using currently hired nurses on double duty shifts. A nurse shortage covers most of the surrounding area.

Taylor said "crunching some numbers from our pay levels, we could double shift until the three new nurses are available actually cheaper than we could import contract help." Using currently hired nurses on double shifts would cost the hospital about \$102 per hour, where a contract RN would cost considerably more. The

Texas Yes!

Texas Department of Agriculture

Resolutions for Rural Texas

By Agriculture Commissioner
Susan Combs

As the New Year begins, we pause not only to reflect on the successes of the past but recommit to our goals for the future. And the celebration wouldn't be complete without some resolutions. The Texas Yes! program presents these resolutions for rural Texas growth for 2006 and beyond.

Based on the best advice from other rural communities and hometown heroes, we hope these inspire you and your community to keep rural Texas growing.

1. Preserve the past, invest in the present and plan for the future.
2. Engage the community and local businesses in a continuous dialogue.
3. Celebrate, promote and preserve your community's natural resources.
4. Seek out expertise and funding.
5. Attract and retain diverse populations.

6. Identify and promote community assets.

7. Create clear strategies for growth.

8. Harness the power of partnerships.

9. Leverage technology, invest in marketing.

10. Take small steps - do something!

Texas Yes! is a member-based program sponsored by the Texas Department of Agriculture for rural communities, businesses and organizations to promote business development, job growth and tourism in rural Texas. There is no cost to join and the application is simple. For details, program information, guidelines and applications, call our toll-free line at (877) 428-7848. Information is also available at our Web site, www.TexasYes.org.

D.C. Police was investigating officer and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Steven Hurtado pled guilty to possession of alcohol in dry area. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay \$256 court costs, \$250 fine and \$25 time payment fee. He must serve 80 hours community service. Lupe Garcia, D.C. Police, was investigating officer.

court approved the request

Bids to advertise for the purchase of a new SUV for the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, with or without trade-in or sale of a 2001 Chevrolet Impala and a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria were approved.

Teresa Howard, Human Resource Director, was approved to attend a Human Resource Management Certification Program at Texas Tech. The SHRM program covers in

depth all areas of human resources Howard currently administers.

The auditing firm of Duff, Myatt and Blume gave a brief report on the county's financial condition. Following a sum-

mation of the very thick document, spokesman Fipps Blume told the court in his closing. "Last year when I reviewed our audit for you. I spoke a little more than an hour. This year I have taken about 15

minutes, which you might consider as a pretty good rating for your financial condition and operations." He reported the county had assets, including the county hospital, of \$24,518,101.



ELECT

Kreg Keesee

Candidate for County Commissioner, Precinct Four

I would appreciate your vote and support in the Republican Primary,

March 7, 2006

Early voting February 21-March 3, 2006

Political Advertisement Paid For By Kreg Keesee

Annual County Ag Commodity Report

Ext. Agent - Ag Arlan Gentry, Texas Cooperative Extension

Commodity	Estimated 2002	Estimated 2003	Estimated 2004	Estimated 2005	Projected 2006
Crops					
Rye	0.0	0.0	94.5		
Wheat	2,190.0	215.0	495.0	900.00	1,200.00
Hay	826.0	831.0	620.0	360.80	360.00
Sorghum	1,227.0	435.0	1,339.0	425.60	1,050.00
Cotton	40,613.0	28,350.0	45,341.0	60,304.70	30,000.00
Cottonseed	7,798.0	5,750.0	9,068.0	9,102.60	4,800.00
Peanuts	13,509.0	13,293.0	17,070.0	21,053.50	12,000.00
Soybeans	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Sunflowers	28.0	94.0	0.0	256.00	
Food Corn	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Meions	466.0	400.0	642.0	328.80	240.00
Vegetables	647.0	251.0	1,012.5		
Watermelon	7,942.0	3,714.0	5,862.0	3,118.00	2,250.00
Pecans	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Alfalfa	215.0	109.0	392.0	387.40	364.00
Cowpeas	82.0	0.0	0.0		
Guar	99.0	59.0	76.5		
Other Crop	0.0	0.0	0.0	336.00	195.00
Livestock totals					
Milk Total	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other Beef	1,525.0	1,910.0	2,482.0	2,331.80	1,770.00
Goats	35.0	30.0	52.5	28.00	24.00
Hogs	45.0	0.0	0.0		
Other Ag					
Horses	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Hunting	6.0	5.0	10.0	10.00	10.00
Other Ag. Related	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Subtotal	77,253.00	55,446.00	84,755.00	98,943.20	54,263.00
Gov't Payment (CRP)	2,567.00	2,559.00	2,304.00	2,475.90	2,500.00
Other Gov't Payment	14,231.00	30,095.00	18,236.00	25,182.50	25,000.00
Total w/Government	94,051.00	88,100.00	105,295.00	126,601.60	81,763.00

Please add additional commodities not listed on this page with receipts over one thousand dollars.

Other Crop is the total of Other crop, Sprigs, Legume Seeds, and Grass Seed.

Other Poultry is the total of: Pullets, Quail and other Fowl, & Other Poultry

Other Beef is the total of: Breeder Cattle-Beef, Calves-Beef & Dairy, Stocker Cattle, & Slaughter Cattle

Hogs is the total of: Hogs & Feeder Pigs

Timber



Tim Addison

Candidate for County Commissioner of Precinct Four

Your vote and support is appreciated !!

Republican Primary

March 7, 2006

Early Voting Feb. 21 thru March 3, 2006

Political advertisement paid for by Tim Addison

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Governor Rick Perry awards \$3.8 million to beef up border security

Gov. Perry announced last week an additional \$3.8 million to detect and deter border related criminal activities, bringing to almost \$10 million the total amount dedicated to border security since December. The funds will sustain and support Operation Linebacker, an initiative developed by the 16 member Texas Border Sheriff's Association to increase law enforcement presence along the Texas-Mexico border, particularly between legal points of entry.

"Operation Linebacker is increasing our law enforcement presence on the border, making life more difficult for those trying to smuggle drugs, weapons and people into Texas," Perry said. "It has never been clearer increasing security along our 1,200 mile border is a public safety and homeland security imperative."

He noted Operation Linebacker recently in thwarting an attempt by drug smugglers to bring three SUV's loaded with illicit drugs across the border in Hudspeth County, Sierra Blanca the county seat. Counties that receive Linebacker funds are Brewster, Cameron, Culberson, Dimmit, El Paso, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Kinney, Maverick, Presidio, Starr, Terrell, Val Verde, Webb and Zapata. Each county received \$376,500 in December, and will receive an additional \$223,000 each. The funds provide manpower, specialized equipment and planning resources; the funds also support Citizen Police Academies to train local volunteers and strengthen community involvement in border protection.

"Although border security is a federal responsibility, we have no choice but to take aggressive steps at the state and local level to secure our borders and protect Texans," Perry added. "By funding additional patrol hours, new technology tools, and rapid deployment teams of state troopers, we will make Texas and the nation more secure."

The Linebacker funds will be distributed in coming weeks through the Governor's Criminal Justice Division, after each county's Commissioners Court approves the grant contracts.

Farm Bureau takes hard look at drought

Facing the grim possibilities that ranchers will have to continue culling herds and farmers will have little to harvest in Texas this year, agricultural producers from across the state gathered in San Antonio at a drought summit to discuss ideas and offer solutions to the effects of the devastating drought gripping the state of Texas.

Texas Farm Bureau President Kenneth Dierschke, whose organization sponsored the forum, said the economic impact of the drought will more than match the affects of Hurricane Rita on the agricultural industry. "Drought is a slow motion disaster-it's a slow and creeping death for plant and animal life and potentially for the agricultural industry," Dierschke said. "Each day without rainfall deepens the crisis for the farm and ranch families in Texas."

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs noted that 2005 was the 12th driest year on record in Texas, with estimates of agricultural losses in the state of \$1.5 billion. Most of those losses are livestock related, she said.

"The big question is, what happens in the next 15 to 100 days?"

Dan Dierschke, a cattle producer from Travis County and a Texas Farm Bureau state director, said the drought's impact goes far beyond the immediate needs of farmers and ranchers. "I have a real concern we're going to lose a portion of rural Texas," Dierschke said, noting that many of the younger generation of farm families have little interest in farming. "If we lose the generation of people we have out there now, Texas agriculture and rural Texas will

suffer tremendously." TFB President Kenneth Dierschke said it was proper the federal government stepped in last year to help hurricane victims in their rebuilding efforts. He said ideas and possible solutions surfaced at the summit will be discussed with the Texas Congressional delegation.

"In our view, what our government has done in responding to hurricane victims is right, but now Congress and USDA should take proactive steps to alleviate the effects of this drought," Dierschke said. "We hope that we can salvage enough of this year's crop year with various forms of assistance and aid so that there can be another year beyond the dismal conditions we face right now."

Sophomores
Kurt Alldredge-2nd
Amber Friesen-10th
Lauren Davis-6th

Seniors
David Alldredge-6th
Blake O'Quinn-9th
Adam McCravey-7th
Allison Friesen-2nd
BJ Lester-5th

Science
Freshmen
Chris Addison-8th

Sophomores
Kurt Alldredge-5th
Amber Friesen-10th
Lauren Davis-8th

Seniors
David Alldredge-7th
Blake O'Quinn-3rd
Adam McCravey-3rd
Allison Friesen-8th
BJ Lester-10th
Michael Crump-4th,
Top Physics

U.I.L. Report

Three PHS Seniors earned a total of \$1,125 by taking a test February 4. David Alldredge was the top senior in Number Sense, Allison Friesen was top senior in Calculator, and Adam McCravey was top senior in Computer sense.

At Midland Lee Plains competed against 1A-3A schools, placing 2nd in Sweepstakes. The Numbers Sense, Calculator and Computer Science teams all placed second. The Math team was third, and science team was 5th

Spelling
Maria Andazola - 4th

Ready Writing
Joe Luis Gallegos - 6th

Poetry
Lauren Hise - 1st
Jordan Williams - 3rd

Number Sense
Freshmen
Chris Addison - 3rd

Sophomores
Kurt Alldredge - 2nd
Amber Friesen-6th

Seniors
David Alldredge - 1st
Blake O'Quinn - 5th
Adam McCravey-7th

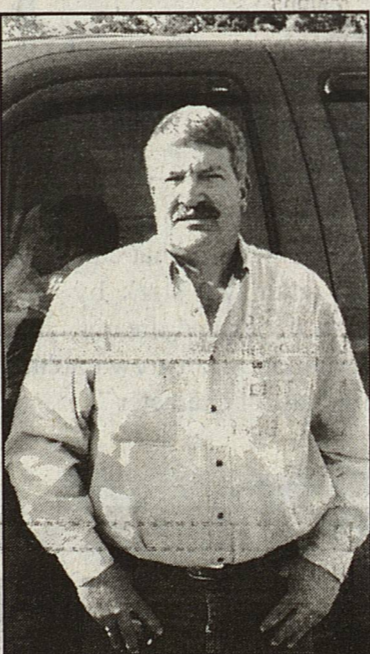
Calculator
Freshmen
Chris Addison - 8th

Sophomores
Lauren Davis- 5th
Amber Friesen - 2nd

Seniors
BJ Lester-3rd
Blake O'Quinn - 5th
Allison Friesen-1st
Mathematics
Freshmen
Chris Addison-2nd

Elect Steve Jones, candidate for a **Full Time** Commissioner in Precinct Four

I will make every effort to be unselfish in dedicated service to the needs of this county in coming years. Your vote and support will be greatly appreciated. Early voting February 21 thru March 3, 2006
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Plan to silence the rumors about the company's future.

LPCinc, formerly known as Lamesa Printing Company is poised for the future. The company has recently received State of Texas and Federal Hubzone recognition to promote job opportunity and growth in the West Texas area. A company spokesman says, "LPCinc is committed to bring better pricing and services to the surrounding counties. Contacts with several major manufacturers and business will allow LPCinc to enhance its product line and services to the community."

"The people of West Texas deserve the very best in product quality, costs, and service. Unfortunately, not everyone understands this principle of good business. When companies and workers place customers wants and needs secondary, business relationships will suffer."

Flor M. Cabanilla, President of LPCinc says, "LPCinc has been grossly mismanaged by several managers who lacked vision, innovation and the ability to follow corporate directives. In a changing environment, high technology can be your friend if you let it. It's definitely here to stay whether we like it or not. Getting on board is definitely a journey, but you can enjoy the ride when you feel comfortable with it."

The mismanagement of the company in the last 2 years prompted the corporate office in Hawaii to take central control of operations.

"We aim to rectify the erroneous perception developed over the past year. To set the record straight, Paul Brock will over-see day to day operations of the company. Gina Jones, will help with administrative solutions for the company. Renee Van Kirk, will provide customers solutions with the State and Federal Hubzone contract bids." Raul Sanchez



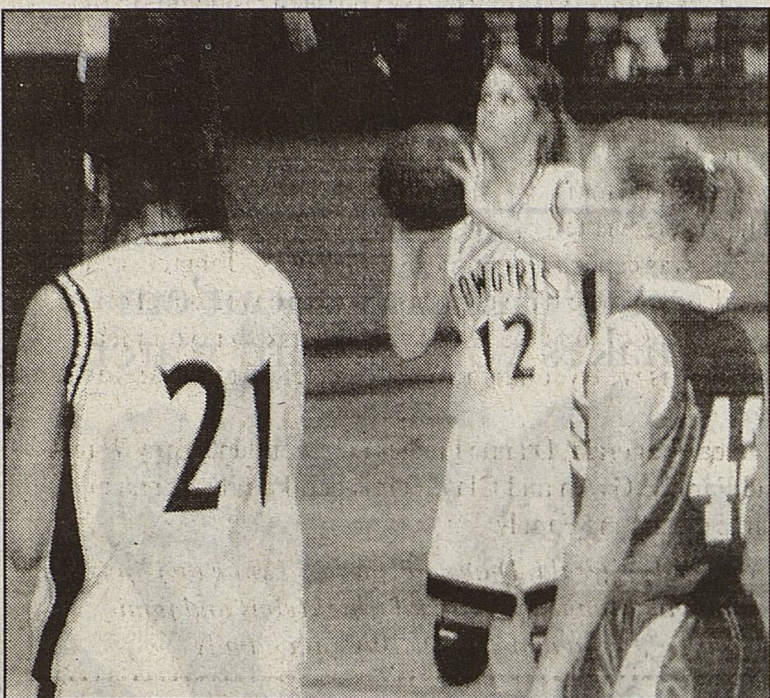
will assist you with outside sales. "They will see to it personally, that all our LPCinc customers are happy customers.

Don P. Hazzard, Vice President of LPCinc, says-"We hope to have all our long term customers on board with us for a more prosperous future."

Flor M Cabanilla, President of LPCinc says- "We are poised for the future. The people in West Texas will benefit greatly with newer and innovative ways of service. The quality of product and service, along with a dedicated staff will certainly make a difference. Stay tuned."

Both Mr Cabanilla and Mr Hazzard would like to thank all of the people who helped LPCinc become better this past year. They look forward to meeting the needs of their customers for many years to come.

Cowgirls vs Whiteface Action Scenes



PHS HAPPENINGS

COWGIRLS JV:

Cowgirls lost to Seagraves 36-26. Katie and Mari had 7 points, Brianna 6, Yesenia 3, Lauren 2, Heather 1. They next fell to Whiteface 47-25. Mari had 8 points, Yesenia 6, Brianna 4, Katie 3, Heather and Kimber 2 each.

COWGIRL VARSITY:

On January 31 the Cowgirls lost to Seagraves 67-65. Desiraye Broome had 29 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals. Joani Bell had 15 points, 14 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block, 1 steal. Regina Morales had 8 points, 4 rebounds, 8 assists, 1 block. Lauren Davis had 5 points and 3 rebounds. Meghan Garcia had 4 points, 2 assists, 2 rebounds. Reyna Gallegos had 2 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists. Liz Perez had 2 points, 2 assists. On February 3 the Cowgirls lost to Whiteface 56-54. Desiraye had 21 points, 11 rebounds and 4 steals. Lauren had 10 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist. Joani had 8 points, 22 rebounds, 1 assist. Regina had 8 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists and 1 steal. Meghan had 2 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists. The Cowgirls have an overall record of 13-14 and district record of 1-8.

JV COWBOYS

The young Cowboys edged Seagraves 53-46. Rudy Gonzales had 17 points, Chris Gonzales 15, AJ Martinez and Chris Addison 8 each, Kurt Alldredge 5. They next topped Whiteface 52-41, with Gonzales scoring 20 points, Addison 14, Rudy 5, Derek Garza 4, Alldredge 3, Martinez, Elias Carrillo and Skylar Sainz 2 each.

COWBOY VARSITY:

The Cowboys eased by Sundown 44-42 in district play January 31. They were outscored 13 points the first half but came back to outscore the Roughnecks by 15. BJ Lester topped scoring with 14, Landon Craft had 12, TJ Cordova 6, Casson Curtis 5, Blake O'Quinn 4, Abel Ramos 3. They next downed Whiteface 62-34 in what Coach Davis called one of the best efforts of the season. O'Quinn led scoring with 18, Parrish 12, Cordova 11, Curtis 7, Craft 5, Lester 4, Ramos 3, Zach Ramos 2.

Student of the Week

PHS Student of the Week is Abel Ramos, a senior and the son of Freddy and Yvette Ramos. He was nominated by Greg Reinhart who said, "Character has been defined as 'the total

of things a person does, feels and thinks by which he is judged as being good or bad, strong or weak, etc..." Abel has demonstrated, not on any one day or one week but on a daily and continuous basis he has grown into a person of character. He is a pleasure to be around on the field of competition or in the classroom. I have bragged on his determination to work hard in athletic competition and the same grit and determination in class. He has demonstrated what it



means to have goals, ideas and principles, and what can happen when we stick by our ideas, hopes and dreams, and how all of us can grow into individuals of character."



ATTENTION

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Lea County Electric Education Foundation is currently accepting applications for scholarships to be awarded for the Fall 2006 semester. The Scholarships are renewable up to 8 consecutive semesters, for a total of \$5,000.00!

Eligibility criteria are as follows:

Available only to active members (and immediate family) receiving service from LCEC.

Applicant must maintain a 2.50 GPA on a 4.00 scale and be considered a full-time student.

Applicant must submit two letters of reference (see application for important details) and demonstrate a coherent degree plan.

Applications must be received no later than February 10, 2006.

For more information contact Suzie Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631. Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office.

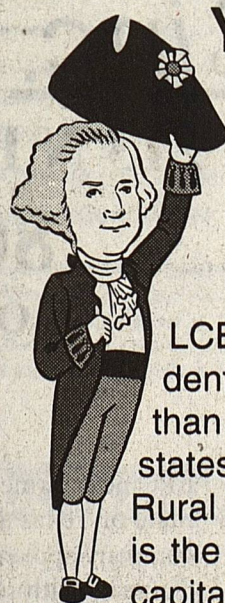
Hey High School Students!

Where will you be this summer?

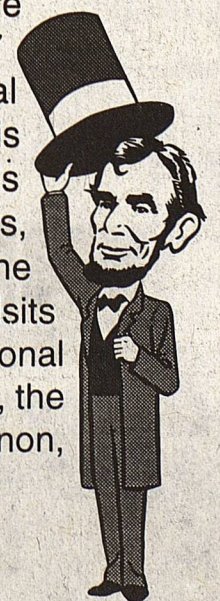
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Lea County

Electric Cooperative, Inc.!



LCEC will be sending two local high school students on an all-expense-paid trip to join more than 1,400 high school students from 37 states in Washington, D.C. for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 8-15, 2006. This is the chance of a lifetime to tour our nation's capital, visit personally with legislative leaders, and see where history has been made. The Government-in-Action Youth Tour includes visits to the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mount Vernon, all the National Monuments and more!



For more information contact Suzie Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631 or (800) 510-5232.

Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office.
Applications due by February 10, 2006.

Lifelines & Styles

Yoakum County Extension Education Clubs..... New Name, Same Mission

Our organization has undergone several name changes but the mission has remained the same: Strengthen families through educational programs. We are not just a social organization. We are not just homemakers learning new ways of doing things for our families and homes, though we do that. We have a wide variety of programs. We help in our community. We help with reading programs and provide books to kindergarten students. We provide newborn babies in our hospital with blankets and gowns. We send care kits to soldiers overseas. We work at the Watermelon Roundup, donate funds to help our local emergency services, and are in the community doing many things in the name of *Texas Extension Education Clubs*, but most people are not aware that we exist.

In 1917, women in home demonstration clubs (What we now call Extension Education clubs) held meetings demonstrating canning and drying fruits and vegetables, making bread and other related subjects. During the depression, women learned to save money on food and clothing when programs focused on gardening and canning and clothing construction and the clubs provided much needed social contacts. In the 1930's and 40's programs were taught on meat canning and making mattresses. WWII rationing

brought a need for new recipes, food budgets, sound nutrition and clothing. Each era has seen a change in the focus of the clubs. From the early programs focusing on family needs to today's programs on health, computers, and public issues, such as mentoring children and care for the elderly, our mission is still vital. This year we have scheduled programs on Exercise for the elderly, Meetings Made in Heaven, Recycling Denim, Aroma Therapy, Massage Therapy, Getting a Good Night's Sleep, Building Self Esteem, One Dish Meals, Fast Food With Slow Cookers, Organizing Your Wardrobe, and The Dirt On Household Cleaners.

We would like to issue you an invitation to come and visit us at one of our meetings and decide if this is an organization in which you would like to belong. The Turner Club meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 2:30 p.m. in the Yoakum County Extension Meeting Room (901 N. Ave. G in Plains) or you can contact Pat Curtis at (806) 456-5485. The Stateline Club meets the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Yoakum County Extension Meeting Room (901 N. Ave G in Plains) or you can contact Debbie Pollard in the Extension Office at (806) 456-2263.

The following poem was e-mailed to us, obviously from a female reader... the language used in describing the game of golf is far too pristine to be from any male golfer

*In my hand I hold a ball, white and dimpled, rather small...
Oh, how bland it does appear, this harmless looking little sphere...
By its size I could not guess, the awesome strength it does possess...
But since I fell beneath its spell, I've wandered through the fires of hell...
My life has not been quite the same!, Since I chose to play this stupid game...
It rules my mind for hours on end, A fortune it has made me spend...
It has made me swear and yell and cry, I hate myself and want to die...
It promises a thing called par, If I can hit straight and far...
To master such a tiny ball, Should not be very hard at all...
But my desires the ball refuses, and does exactly like it chooses...
It hooks and slices, dribbles and dies, and even disappears before my eyes...
Often it will take a whim, to hit a tree or take a swim...
With miles of grass on which to land, it finds a tiny patch of sand...
Then has me offering up my soul, If only it would find the hole...
It's made me whimper like a pup, and swear that I will give it up...
And take a drink to ease my sorrow, but the ball knows...
I'll be back tomorrow!!!*

INFORMATION PLEASE PROGRAM AT THE YOAKUM COUNTY LIBRARY

The Yoakum County Library will present the February INFORMATION PLEASE program on Thursday, February 9 at 2 p.m. in the Heritage Room. The program will be presented by County Clerk, Debbie Rushing, who will demonstrate and explain the use of the new Voting Machines which will be used in the Primary Election scheduled for Tuesday, March 7. Those attending will have opportunity to ask questions and actually use the voting machine. Anyone who is interested is invited and encouraged to attend the program.

Bella Cosa

@ Marjorie's
604 11th Street
Plains, Texas
M,T, Friday 4:00-6:00
W,Th 10:00-6:00

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Doctor-Lawyer in full time Law Practice
Richard A. Dodd, L.C.
Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.
Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law & Civil Trial Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization
Cameron, Texas

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To All Of Our Many Friends Everywhere

My family and I would like to express our sincere thanks for all of the different ways you have helped lift our spirits during the time of Johnnie's illness, and his passing.

The recognitions from the Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, the Rodeo Association and the Livestock Show were so meaningful to us.

The article written by Gary Dyer after Johnnie's memorial service was especially appreciated. He knew Johnnie well. To all of you who have given us hugs, kind words and other expressions of love we thank you and ask that you please continue as we try to fill this large hole left in our hearts and lives.

Melba Fitzgerald, Dianne Fitzgerald, Lynne and Tony Winn and Family, Gwen and Clay Helms and Family, Johna and Tim DeBusk and Family

Melba Fitzgerald, Diane Fitzgerald, Lynne and Tony Winn and family, Gwen and Clay Helms and family, Johna and Tim De Busk and family

We were asked to add two names to the relatives listed last week in A.C. Carl Jones obituary;

Tandy Moore and husband Matt of Marshall, Texas, and Kimberlee Jones of Guthrie, Texas.

Thank You !

To all who came by to visit, for the phone calls, food, flowers, and personal thoughts, thanks for your small town love and support

The Family Of
A.C. Carl Jones

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Plains, Texas

Sunday School
9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Evening Program
6:00 P.M.

NOTICE! If you have a MORTGAGE with World Mortgage or Irwin Mortgage- Market Research Co. is seeking customers to participate in an independent study of customer service levels in the aforementioned mortgage cos. telephone call center. Earn \$\$ for each completed evaluation- **Absolutely No Selling! Absolutely NO Account Information collected!** Call Toll Free: 1.866.451.5020 or Email: banksurvey1@yahoo.com State: Name, Address, Telephone number and Mortgage Co. affiliation to receive your information packet. (Mortgage company employees and their families are excluded.)

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May occur 15 to 50 years after exposure. **MESOTHELIOMA or LUNG CANCER** may be caused by asbestos exposure, **ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA** by Benzene exposure and **MELANOMA, KIDNEY or BLADDER CANCER** by coal tar pitch exposure. Family members may also be exposed by dirty clothes. Call us for professional insight.

Ryan A. Krebs, M.D., J.D.
Doctor-Lawyer in Full-time Law Practice
Richard A. Dodd, L.C.
Craig W. Brown, P.L.L.C.
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 "Its hard to stop a TRANE"

From The Hack

As evidenced by the political ads in this issue of CCN, the primary elections are just around the corner, with early voting starting February 21. I have no doubts the Fabulous Five running for the the Pct 4 Commish job are getting a bit antsy by now, while trying their best to be casually cool.....

"Who, me nervous? What...? why are my finger nails gnawed off to the quick? Man, they ain't gnawed, my manicurist had a little too much Jose Cuervo yesterday, that's all. I'm cool about it, man. What... why am I twitching? Nothing to worry about, just cut myself shaving, must have whacked a facial nerve. I'm cool, man. No, I ain't scared about it at all. I'm just running because I want to do my civic duty, contribute to my fellow man, serve my county. What? How do I know how much the job pays.. I ain't in it for the money! Benefits? What benefits, I didn't know they get any. I'm just eager to serve my fellow man!"

YEAH.

The above brief journey into politics led to another, mainly because I still have a ton of white space to fill.

A wealthy widow in Dallas' Oak Cliff years ago was campaigning ardently against an attempt to make the suburb in Dallas 'wet'. "I had rather commit ADULTERY than

have liquor being served in Oak Cliff." A slightly tipsy guy in the crowd loudly whispered "So would I if I was already tight!"

Think Texas

by Agriculture Commissioner
SUSAN COMBS

Give the gift of good health and excellent flavor this holiday season with a box of Texas-grown citrus fruit. Oranges and grapefruit are a refreshing way to brighten winter days and support healthy bodies and a healthy Texas economy.

The Texas citrus industry is located almost totally in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Most of the acreage - about 80 percent - is in Hidalgo County. Oranges and grapefruit dominate the industry, and our production is widely known for its high quality. Texas grapefruit production for the 2005-2006 season is forecast at 5.4 million boxes while orange production is estimated at 1.5 million boxes.

Besides packing an economic punch, citrus fruit is an excellent way to get the vitamins families need each day. Fruit like oranges and grapefruit are loaded with vitamins, fiber and antioxidants for a well-rounded diet. One medium orange has about 60 calories, 3 grams of fiber, 70 milligrams of vitamin C, 237 milligrams of potassium and 39 micrograms of folate.

A gift box or basket of citrus fruit also makes a great gift idea. There are a number of fruit shippers in Texas, and the TexaSweet Web site has a list that includes phone numbers and Web site links. Just go to www.texasweet.com and click on the "Find Out About Ordering Texas Grapefruit Here!" link.

NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4 PM, Thursday, February 23, 2006, for the SALE of one (1) Chevrolet and the SALE of one (1) 2003 Crown Victoria. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, February 27, 2006

For more information, please contact Darinda McWhirter, County Auditor, 806/456-7491 Ext. 292 or P.O. Box 516, Plains, Texas

79355. To see the vehicles, please contact Estefana Mendoza, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, 806/592 8027

Sealed bids should be marked, "SALE OF JPO VEHICLE" 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.

NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4 PM Thursday, February 23, 2006, for the PURCHASE of one (1) 2006 SUV with or without trade in of a 2001 Chevrolet Impala and a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, February 27, 2006.

For more information, please contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-7491 Ext. 292 or PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355. To see the vehicles please contact Estefana Mendoza, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, 806/592-8027.

Sealed bids should be marked "JPO VEHICLE" 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

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GUADALUPE SOLIS DURAN, DECEASED

Notice is now given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **Guadalupe Solis Duran**, were issued on February 6, 2006, in Cause No. 1488, pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas to: **Lupe Brown**

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

Lupe Brown
307 N. Washington
Denver City, Texas 79323

All persons having claims against this Estate which is 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: February 6, 2006**

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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Public Notice

Pursuant to Article 258.002(c) of the Texas Transportation Code, the Commissioners Court of Yoakum County, Texas provides this notice to the public of its intention to convene a public meeting to receive comment upon the adoption of a County Road Map including each road in which the County claims the continued existence of a public interest and a right of access and egress for maintenance of an existing County Road. The roads in which the County claims a public interest have been maintained for many years, beginning some time prior to 1981, have previously been listed in a notice included in the 2005-06 Ad Valorem Tax statement. A proposed County Road Map depicting each road in which the County claims a public interest is available for inspection by the public at the office of the County Judge in the County Courthouse, during business hours, commencing December 1, 2005.

The Commissioners Court will conduct a public hearing on February 27, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Yoakum County Courthouse. At this time, pursuant to Article 258.002(b), Texas Transportation Code, any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may appear before the Commissioners Court to object or protest the County's claim of its right to continue maintenance of the public roads depicted on the County Road Map. Any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may also file a written protest with the County Judge at any time before the time and date of the scheduled public hearing. By way of this procedure, the County makes no claim affecting title, acreage, or ownership of the land, but seeks merely to establish and document the right of the County to continue maintenance of the existing county road in its present location and dimension.

Dolores L. Rushing
County Clerk

Advertisement For Management and/or Professional Services

The City of Plains has recently received a contract award #1000457 from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Owner Occupied Home Rehabilitation through the HOME Investment Partnership Program. The award includes \$170,564 for hard and soft costs and \$6,823 in administrative costs. Accordingly, the Contract Administrator is seeking to contract with a qualified professional management consultant to implement and administer the HOME contract activities.

Please submit your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for these proposed services to Attn: Pam Rowe, PO Box 550, Plains, TX 79355. A copy of the proposal format is available at 1015 Ave. F, Plains, TX 79355.

The Contract Administrator must receive proposals no later than **March 13, 2006** to be considered. The Contract Administrator reserves the right to negotiate with any and all firms that submit proposals, per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-102.

The City of Plains is an Affirmative marketing/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages Historically Underutilized Businesses to submit proposals.

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