Cowboy Country News

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

BAZE BOOKBINDING ADV 514 W 7TH AVE AMARILLO, TX 79101 Volume XI, Issue 8, November 3, 2004

Superintendent clarifies **PISD Rollback Election**

" Plains ISD abides by state law when developing a budget for their district, adopting that budget and setting a tax rate. The law is outlined in a document entitled "Truth-in-Taxathe district's budget be developed by August 20th and adopted no later than August 31st. The law also requires that the district tax rate must be adopted no later than the 60th day after receiving the certified appraisal roll, or September 30th. The district set the tax rate on September 13th, 2004. At that time the district also called 30th, 2004, a date that was dein-Taxation Guide provided to support the district."

'After the October 30th date James Havnes. was set, the district was con- Plains ISD Superintendent by the State

"Plains ISD will be holding a Comptroller's office to tell us tax rollback election on De- the information about setting cember 2, 2004. There sems to rollback election dates had be some confusion about why changed. After a conversation the district is having this elec- with the Secretary of State's office concerning the new law, the district set the new date for the election to take place on December 2, 2004, which was the earliest date the new law

would allow. "The Plains ISD school board tion Guide for Setting Tax and administration are working Rates 2004." The law requires . extremely hard to provide an excellent education for our students. As one taxpayer recently said, their heartfelt desire is that the present students of Plains ISD will have the same opportunities her children had as students years ago.

"The Plains ISD board, administration and staff appreciate the support the community has shown in the past, through a rollback election for October the payment of taxes and the backing of our programs, stutermined by following the dents and staff. We feel sure the guidelines set out in the Truth- community will continue to

Criminal Cases In **District** Court

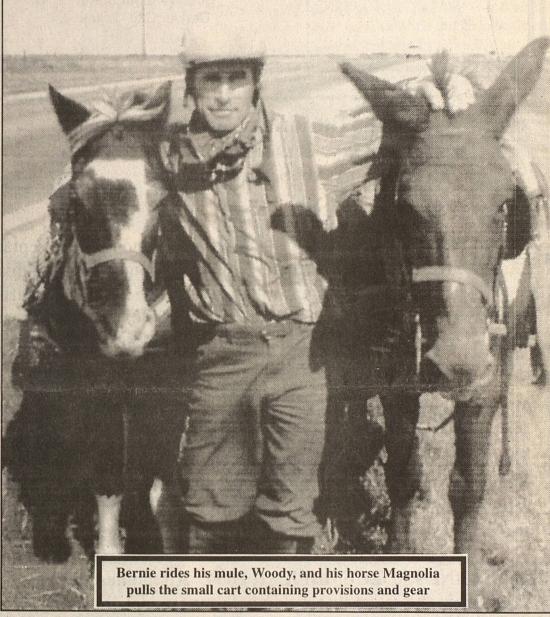
Four criminal cases were heard in District Court October 20, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

In a cause of theft, more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000, Carie Jo Luther pled guilty and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred. She will be under community supervision five years, was fined \$2,500, must pay \$293 court, restitution of \$4,711, and \$300 court appointed attorney fees. She will serve 120 hours community service, pay \$50 monthly supervision fees, and must truthfully testify against Linda Mendoza. She must return a 1995 Dodge van in good condition to the Criminal District Attorney's office by November 19, the sale proceeds of which will be credited to restitution. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy David Bryant, and

> Turn To Page 4, DISTRICT COURT

ADVENTURE IS NOT DEAD

North Carolinian logs amazing travel record



By John Graham, Publisher, Lovington Leader

Bernie Herberts, 35, brought his dog and pony show through Lovington last week. But his best friend isn't a dog - it's a mule - a mule named Woody. Man, mule and pony made their way into Lovington last week at the top speed of two miles per-hour. Harberts rides Woody, the 15 year old mule, and Magnolia, a 10 year old pony, pulls a light cart with all their camping gear and belongings. But, what brings a man from Statesville, North Carolina to the point of looking at the world on the shoulder of a highway while the rest of mankind speeds by at 70

Harberts is a tree farmer and former steeplechase rider by trade, who has a way with horses and animals. He has a four year engineering degree in paper and wood, but, at age 30, decided to re-evaluate his life. "I decided to take a look at where I was going."

He had earlier thought of sailing around the world 15-20 years ago, and in 1987 spotted the boat that would carry him, "Sea Bird", sitting in muddy water, semi-abandoned. He decided at that moment he would take his trip around the globe by water.

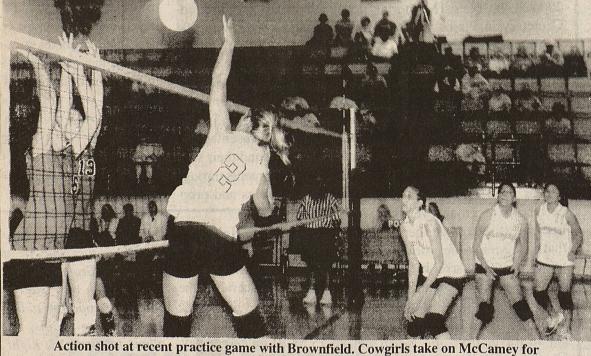
He had spent very little time in a sail boat before his trip, but never the less, he left Oriental Marina in North Carolina November, 1988 in a 34 foot Colvis steel cutter he bought for \$12,000, and spent the next 4 1/2 years making his way around the globe on earth's oceans.

He burned up the transmission on the engine just out of St. Thomas in the Caribbean and ended up spending time there training horses and giving clinics to raise money to repair his boat and continue on his way. Buying and training horses became his on and off again jobthe next few years. He would leave the boat in a port and fly back to St. Thomas to train horses to finance his trip.

Harberts spent a year and half in New Zealand working with herders and absorbing some of the local accent which he still has today. At one point in his trip he spent 65 days at sea, from South Africa to St. Johns in the Caribbean, without contact with the outside world - no radio and no satellite connections. He watched three full moons come and go. On June 1, 2003 he arrived back at Oriental Marina, where he started more than four years before.

TURN TO PAGE 2, ADVENTURE

Cowgirls claim district championship



Cowboys fall to Eagles 35 - 6

bi-district crown in Andrews Thursday night, Nov. 4, 7:30 PM. Full team photo inside.

foe Seagraves Eagles last Friday, and despite a good effort and virtual standoff first half resulting in a tight 7-6 Eagle lead. were outgunned the final two periods.

Taking the opening kickoff. the Cowboy offensive line blocked effectively to allow Evan Cain to complete a 15 yard pass to Tyler Caffey for a first, followed by a quick burst up the middle by Todd Williams for 36 yards and another first down with the ball on the Eagles 17. A fumble would give the ball to Seagraves on

on the ground for three consecutive first downs, and a final 35 yard dash for the goal line, and the kick gave them a 7-0 lead.

Midway through the quarter the Cowboys started a drive from their 35. Cowboy linemen opened holes off right tackle and left end for Caffey to get a first down, who then tossed a 11 yard pass to Blake O'Quinn for another first. Cowboy line- next play dashed hopes for anmen blocked very effectively other score. At the half for backs Caffey, Williams and Seagraves led 14-6. Ramiro Martinez to grind down the field, with Williams circling

The Cowboys visited their old their 29, and the Eagles stayed his left end for the final 6 yards and the score. T.J. Cordova's extra point kick was blocked, But the Cowboys were back in the hunt, 7 - 6.

Three minutes into the second period, Seagraves would score again to go up 14-6. With the ball again, the Cowboys showed life with a first down run by Williams, a dash by Cain moved the ball to the Eagles 25, but a fumble on the

Turn To Page 4, **COWBOYS**

New Early Vote Record By County Voters

As an illustration of the importance Yoakum County voters placed on this year's election, a new county record was set for early votes cast here and in Denver City from November 18 until 5 PM Friday, November 29.

County Clerk Debbie Rushing reported the old early vote participation record was established in 2000 during the previous Presedential election, when 1,15 4 votes were cast. When the early vote polls here and in Denver City closed at 5 PM Friday, November 29, a total of 1,614 votes had been cast.

CCN debated delaying our print day to Wednesday morning to report election results, but because of reports of election day problems and irregularities in ominous numbers, we considered it possible if not probable the election final outcome would not be available for who knows how long.

Dialysis Services of West Texas

Fulltime Board Certified Nephrologist Caring, Experienced Staff State-of-the-art Dialysis Machines, which have the capability to modify treatment to each patient's needs Television with earphones provided for each patient. Oversized chairs Low patient to staff ratio





Services

held for

Beth Pippin

Beth Pippin of San Antonio

passed away October 25, 2004

her grandmothers, Ruth Pipin

of Denver City and Mildred

two brothers, Timothy Pippin

of Tampa, Florida and Carson

Graveside services were held

at 2 PM Saturday, October 30,

2004 at the Plains Memorial

Personal services are being

provided by Mark A. Jones

Funeral Directors, Plains Me-

FROM PAGE ONE,

ADVENTURE

It seems Harberts likes the

slower pace in life, and had

been home less than a year be-

that time seeing the world but

but never really seen his own

On March 15, 2004, Harberts

launched a new mission - sim-

ply to travel from the North

Carolina seashore to the moun-

tains. His only transportaion

and companionship - his mule

and pony. But, when Bernie got

to the Carolina mountains, he

didn't stop. He longed to see

where his grandfather home-

steaded in Chickasha, Okla-

homa. After spending Septem-

ber in Oklahoma, he has now

set his sights on the west coast,

where he will meet up with a

buddy and take on another sail-

ing adventure, destination yet

country, the United States.

Bob Fred officiating.

morial Chapel.

Pippin of Douglas, Georgia.

man Catholic.

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PLAINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE P. O. BOX 364 PLAINS, TEXAS 79355

Plains Chamber of Commerce is initiating a fund raiser to replace the marquee sign that is located south of the courthouse. At this time we are taking orders for bricks that will be used at the base of the new sign. The price of a brick will be \$50.00. The brick can have up to three lines with a maximum of 16 letters and spaces per line.

Please complete the form below and return to the address above with your check in the amount of \$50.00 for each brick ordered. This is not a war memorial, but you can honor a veteran if you wish. We would like family names, clubs and businesses (with the date of establishment), events, in memory of, and anything that might be a part of the history of our town.

DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 31, 2004. All monies will be refunded in the event that we do not receive enough money to complete this project. Any donation will also be appreciated.

PLEASE PRINT YOUR INFORMATION.

Line 1	
Line 2	
Line 3	
ORDERED BY	DATE
CHECK NUMBER	CASH

Cowboy Country News

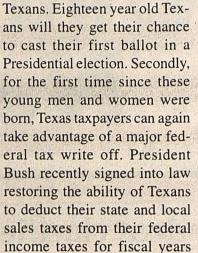
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MEMBER 2004

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



2004 and 2005.

The year 2004 marks two im-

portant milestones for young

Simply put, the law reinstates the sales tax deduction, which has been dropped in a 1986 overhaul of the tax code. The entitled. These estimates will 1986 legislation allowed residents of states with income taxes to deduct the taxes they paid to support their state governments, while Texans were denied a similar deduction for government. The reason was solely because Texas and six other states did not levy an income tax and relied primarily upon the sales tax.

The result of that change eighteen years ago was to force 55 million Americans, or nearly in San Antonio. Ms. Pippin was their far share of federal taxes. born October 17, 1972, to John This measure costs Texas famiand Judy Pippin in Akron, lies itemizing their deductions House of Representatives. Ohio. Mrs. Pippin was a Ro- an average of \$408 per year.

Since I came to the Senate, I Those left to cherish her have worked with my colmemoroes include her father, leagues and sponsored legisla-John and wife Sue Pippin of tion to restore the state sales tax Cincinatti, Ohio, and her deduction. Today, I am pleased mother Judy of San Antonio; to announce this victory for tax crats who understood this was equity.

The American Jobs Creation Rice of San Antonio; A son, Act of 2004 (HR 4520/S. 1637) Evan Pippin of San Antonio; includes language to allow a state tax deduction. This will give Texas taxpayers and those living in the six other states without a state income tax the option of deducting state and local sales taxes on their fed-Cemetery in Plains with Mr. eral income tax returns in 2004 and 2005.

to those citizens living in states which do not levy income taxes. Local voters, through their elected representatives, have chosen to fund their state and local governments through income taxes, sales and prop-

erty taxes, or some combination of these systems. It is simply not right for the federal government to provide favorable treatment to one system of taxation and not the others;

CARITO

ATTEX HUTCHISON

The change was wrong for another reason: Texans should not be taxed on our taxes.

The restoration of the sales tax deduction will not force Texas taxpayers to keep a shoebox filled with a year's worth of sales receipts, unless they choose to do a full itemization. Instead, they will be able to use sales tax tables compiled by the Secretary of the Treasury to determine the amount of the deduction to which they are take into account the taxpayer's state of residence, filing status, number of dependents, adjusted gross income, and state and local sales tax rates. It is important to note that Texans taxes paid to support their state ' will want to hang onto receipts for big ticket items such as boats, cars, or trucks. The new law allows a taxpayer to write off the taxes on those large items in addition to the amount they derive from the sales tax

This relief for Texas taxpayers one in five, to pay more than took a lot of work, and was the result of bipartisan cooperation in both the Senate and the Congressman Kevin Brady (R-Woodlands) and House Majority leader Tom DeLay (R-Sugar Land) led the effort in the House. In the Senate, I found many Republicans and Demoa matter of tax fairness.

The Texas economy will also benefit from fixing this flaw in our federal tax system. The average family of four will save \$928 in federal taxes each year. This means, according to the Texas Comptroller, more than \$974 million will stay in the hands of Lone Star State taxpayers and will lead to; 21,798 new jobs, an increase in state The 1986 change was not fair sales tax income of about \$49.7 million, and an increase of \$1.2 billion in state gross product, including \$819 million in new investment. That positive impact explains why I am com mitted to making this deduction permanent.

fore he realized he had spent all to be determined. He's now over halfway across America and in a few days will be crossing another mountain range, the Rockies.

Bernie and his animals can make 15 to 20 miles per day, and he says he can get by on about \$130 per week. "It's not about how much money you have, it's really about how much you can cut back."

He relies on the hospitality of folks along the way for a place to set up camp every night. He carries a five pound teepee and a three pound wood burning stove to survive the elements. He says he likes the slow pace and really doesn't get lonely. He describes himself as "very self contained, very comfortable being in solitude without being lonely. I've felt a lot more alone at the office Christmas party."

Harberts has a web site where you can read more about his

travels at www.riverearth.com. * CCN Editors Note. We appreciate John Graham sharing this article with our readers. We had been tipped off to Bernie's approaching Plains, and his plans to spend the night her in Stamford Park, where I intended to interview him Monday morning. A lengthy phone call and other plan changes made me miss him and he journeyed as far as New Tex Gin to spend the night. Tuesday morning, I passed Bernie, Woody and Magnolia on my way to Lovington to print last week issue. We appreciate calls about Bernie's journey.

The oldest Texas cattle brand still in use is the Crossed W, brought to Liberty and Chambers counties in the 1820's by Taylor White, the first American cattle king in Texas. His descendants still use it

TDA Endorsements Needed

Western High Plains producers who recently sold cotton and were given a check with the Texas Department of Agriculture named as a joint payee must obtain an endorsement from TDA before cashing or depositing the check.

Endorsements may be obtained at the TDA and foundation locations listed below. For other office locations that may be nearer to you, call Abilene Headquarters at (866) 672-2800.

In general, assessments must be paid before an endorsement will be given, but if other parties are named on the check, producers should call one of the offices listed below to find out what producers to follow.

TDA and the foundation will make every attempt to be as accessible as possible, but producers are highly encouraged to call before going to any office. This will help ensure someone is available to assist them and that their visit can be handled efficiently.

TDA staff will be available Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon and at other times with an appointment.

West Texas Regional Office, Lubbock, (806) 799-8555 Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Offices: Western High Plains Zone Office, Plains (806) 456-4113

Western High Plains District Office, Brownfield, (806) 755-2617 Western High Plains District Office, Seminole, (432) 758-1261

DA warns, Beware Of **Super Bowl Scams**

With the approach of the annual Super Bowl, it has come to the attention of the Yoakum County Criminal District Attorney Office several persons are plannong 'Super Bowl Boards' with an item or items to be awarded to the winner. This, however fun and harmless as it may seem, actually constitutes Gambling Promotion, a violation of Section 47.03 of the Texas Penal Code, a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/ or fine of up to \$4000.

Last year a resident of Yoakum County offered a pickup truck in a similar contest. Before the winner could claim his prize, however, the pickup had been sold by the contest promoter. He was arrested and jailed. The penal code does make alowances for similar contests operated by registered non-profit organiza-

The common office football board is usually not illegal if no one person promoting the contest receives a benefit from the outcome. It's a winner take all game. For example, if the squares are fifty cents each then the winner or winners will receive \$50. The promoter receives nothing. You are encouraged not to participate in the illegal contests and make sure the board you sign up for is just for fun and no one person will receive gain for the game. Besides, participation in illegal gambling is also a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$500.

From Page 1, DISTRICT COURT

Warren New served as her attorney.

Manuel Ramos Castruita in a plea bargain and order modifying supervision from a third or more DWI had community supervision extended for five years. He will stay in jail 180 days or until space is available in the Ray D. Anderson corrections facility at Brownfield, where he shall remain not less than one month or more than 24 months. All provisions of the January 2002 original order will remain in effect. David Martinez served as his attorney. Tracy Lynn McClellan pled guilty to possession of controlled substance, more than one gram, less than four. A 10 year prison sentence was

supended and probated 10 years. He was fined \$1500, must pay \$498 appointed attorney fees, \$140 restitution to DPS and \$25 time payment fee. He must serve 160 hours community service, surrender his driver license 180 days, remain in jail up to 180 days or until space is available in a Substance Abuse Treatment Facility for no less than 90 days or more than one year. Investigating officer was Investigator Lisa Switzer for the Criminal District Attorney office. His attorney was Hammons.



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Halloween Night Of Horrors



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He was proud of FANGS, she thought he was WEIRD

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UIL Math/Science Team Results

The Plains Math and Science team traveled to Sweetwater October 30 and competed in the Texas State Technical College Practice Meet. Plains competed with 7 other A - AAA schools. The Number Sense team placed 2nd. The Calculator team placed 1st. The Science team placed 3rd. Plains finished as the second place Sweepstakes team behind AA Ballinger. The following students competed; Kurt Alldredge, Lauren Davis, Amber Friesen, Douglas Conway, Joe Luis Gallegos, Allison Friesen, B.J. Lester, Adam McCravey, Blake O'Quinn, Evan Cain, Breck Hamm, Brandon Hise and Kerry Sisson.

Individual performances:

Freshmen:

Kurt Alldredge 6th NS, 2nd Sci. Douglas Conway 9th Science Lauren Davis 6th Math, 7th Science Amber Friesen 5th Cal, 2nd Math, 1st Sci.

Sophomores:

Joe Luis Gallegos 2nd Math, 1st Science

Juniors:

Allison Friesen 9th NS, 1st Cal, 7th Math, 5th Sci. B.J. Lester 6th Cal, 9th Math, Adam McCravey 9th Science, Blake O'Quinn 7th NS, 8th Cal, 8th Math

Evan Cain 3rd Cal, 6th Science Breck Hamm 8th Math, 7th Sci. Brandon Hise 1st NS, 1st Cal, 1st Math, 1st Science. Kerry Sisson 3rd NS, 6th Math, 4th Science.

In A - AAA Brandon Hise had the top Number Sense, Calculatorand Math score and the 3rd highest Science score. Allison Friesen had the 2nd highest score in Calculator.



An entire FAMILY of treaters



Two more Ghouls, and a lovely Princess

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defenders Michael Crump. Cain to Patrick Cotton, but had played tough to stall the Eagle Eagles when a fourth down Bruton punt. Another Eagle four quick first downs, and a drive started at their 37, and three yard run produced their seven plays later a one yard plunge up the middle and two up 22-6.

opened holes for Cain, Caffey and Williams to gain two first the Eagle 35. They quickly passed and rushed downfield to the start of the final period.

In the second half, Cowboy Caffey, and a 11 yard pass from Scott Bruton and Martinez to give the ball over to the attack, but the Cowboy offense rush failed. The Eagles had the was bogged down, forcing a ball on their 37 and reeled off score in the final 35-6 game.

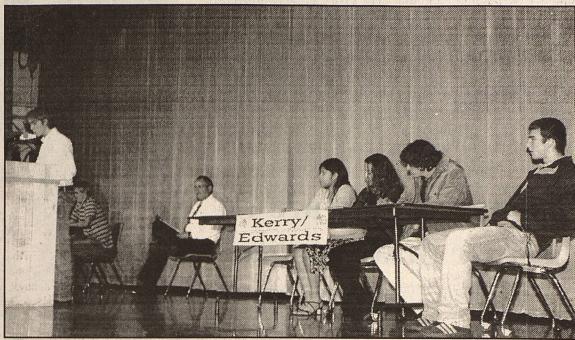
The Cowboys had 248 yards ground. Caffey had 87 yards With 5 minutes left in the third in 17 carries, Williams 88 in 12 quarter. The Cowboy line runs, Cain 45 in 7 carries. The stat sheet showed leading Cowboy tacklers were Cain, Isaac downs, but the drive stalled at Ramon. Caffey, Bruton, Martinez and Crump.

The Cowboys end their 2004 another score and 29-6 lead at season here against O'Donnell Friday at 7:30 PM. They could The Cowboys would manage use your presence to show your a couple of first downs in their appreciation for their efforts possession on runs by Cain and throughout this tough schedule!

The PHS Great Debate

PHS students participated in a government debate over the 2004 Presidential election this Monday. Participants in Mr. Brink's Government class consisted of; Democrat party, point conversion put Seagraves total offense. 205 on the Breck Hamm, chairman, Daniela Lazos, Mayra Flores, Patrick Cotton and Tyler Caffey. Republicam party, Evan Cain, chairman, Cody Flores, Kristian Morales, Jesenia Susarez and Whitney Caffey. The debate involved topics including defense, war on terrorism, economy and taxes, education, and in addition, the 19th Congressional race between Republican Randy Neugebauer and Democrat Charlie Stenholm. After the debate, ballots were sent to each class to vote for the president and congressman. When the votes were counted, George W. Bush received 103 votes, John Kerry 18. Randy Neugebauer drew 82 votes, Charlie Stenholm 39 votes. An interesting experiment in good citizenship.







Student of the Week

Student of the Week is Colby Wilmeth, a sophomore and the son of Jet and Gay Wilmeth. He was nominated by Coach Eddleman, who said, "Colby is a great young man who portrays the six pillars of character each and every day. He is an excellent studnt, always does his best. and he believes in hard work and perseverance."

> 'A' Honor Roll 9th Grade Kurt Alldredge

Maria Anazola Ryan Crump Amber Friesen Lauren Hise Zachary Ramos John Tyson

10th Grade Scott Addison Landon Craft Jose Gallegos Erika Loewen Nancy Lozano

Araceli Mendoza

Lisa Neufeld Adriana Ponce Colby Wilmeth 11th Grade David Alldredge Michael Crump Casson Curtis Allison Friesen

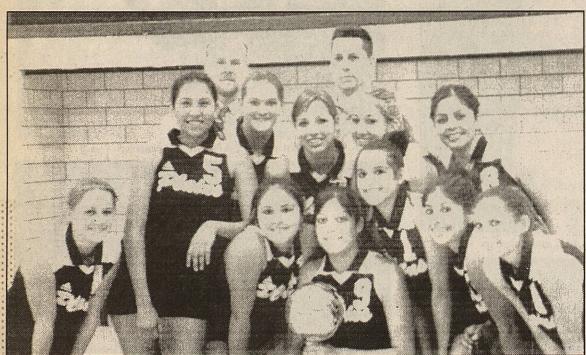
Reagan Haynes Skylar Keesee B. J. Lester Ramiro Martinez Adam McCravey Blake O'Ouinn Blake Parrish Abel Ramos

Todd Williams 12th Grade Payton Bean Evan Cain Patrick Cotton Cody Flores Mayra Flores Breck Hamm Brandon Hise Brant Huerta Kerry Sisson Micaela Villegas 'A-B Honor Roll

9th Grade Joani Bell Jordan Williams

10th Grade Chandon Loya Angelica Mendoza Mario Ruvalcaba 11th Grade 12th Grade Tyler Caffey

Lela Coronado Daniela Lazos Kristian Morales Prisma Ortiz Isaac Ramon Claudia Reyna



District winning Cowgirls include, front, kneeling, Katie Winn, Prisma Ortiz, Kristian Morales, Jamie Covarrubias, Daniela Lazos, Sandra Gandara; Standing, Jesenia Suarez, Joani Bell, Desiraye Broome, Skylar Keesee and Micaela Villegas, and Coaches John Harris and Blake Eddleman.

AFAP **Instructor Training Workshop**

(Re-certification also offered)

Course Description:

AFAP/AFYAP - Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Program and Arthritis Foundation YMCA Aquatic Program

This course trains and certifies participants to organize, teach and conduct a water exercise program for people with arthritis according to the guidelines and procedures set forth by the YMCA and the National Arthritis Foundation.

Class Date and Time: AFAP

Saturday, November 20th Re-certification:

8:00am -5:00pm 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Location:

West Texas Lifestyle and Rehab Center 608 West 4th St.

Denver City, TX 79323

For Directions Call: (806) 592-9280

Fee: \$70.00

\$50.00 for re-cert

Contact: Jeff Savage (214) 818-0366 Arthritis Foundation, North Texas Chapter Prerequisites: See attached application

*************NO WALK-INS WILL BE ALLOWED********

West Texas Medical Center

announces **Extended Clinic Hours**

8 A.M. UNTIL 12 NOON

EVERY SATURDAY

Larry Boyd, M.D., Christopher Cotton, M.D., Bodindr Thepchatri, M.D., Andria Carter, PA-C and Kara Wilson, PA-C are nere to serve your medical needs.

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> > 806-592-9501

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Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

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Senior Citizens Corner

SPRING FORWARD-FALL BACK! It's that time again! Be sure to set those clocks back on Saturday night so you won't oversleep on Sunday morning. VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! You hear those words everywhere you turn these days. Most of us are beginning to sigh with relief when we think of a week from now when it will all be a thing of the past once more. I have wondered if the preliminary weeks before election time have always been as they are now? If history serves me correctly, it appears that they slipped George Washington into place back there in 1789 without much ado and apparently he did a pretty good job of serving our country. We took advantage of the early voting privilege this year so it is done, but if you haven't been to the polls yet, be sure to exercise this opportunity (and responsibility) that accompanies our American way of government. Next on our list of 'biggies' for the week is Halloween! Regardless of tis pagan origins, this holiday has become a very special time for our children. Through careful planning over the years it has developed from a sometimes destructive and mischievous night to one of fun for everyone, we older ones as well as the youngsters. We enjoy the moment as we see the excitement in the eyes of the little, unidentified Halloween visitors. We used to look for ghosts, goblins, witches, and pumpkins when the doorbell rang, but now it is a never ending parade of unbelievable and mysterious beings who hold out their sacks for 'trick or treats.'

We were all delighted this week to see Mola Morehead, from Oklahoma; and Ruby Kennedy, from Brownfield, come into the Center for lunch and to touch base with old friends. They both looked well and assured us that they are doing well where they are now.

MULTI-PERIL

Office 456-3521

STATE

Other visitor's names appearing on our list were Loy Smith, Joe and Imogene Deaton, and Juanita Wright who is getting out again after a time of illness. Darwin Hobbs was accompanied by his lovely wife, Lela Mae, at lunchtime one day. Each of these people is welcome anytime.

On another day Bob and Robbie Sturdivant along with Rev. Steve Brooks, were guests of Moray Clark at lunchtime. On that day Mary Newman and her son visited us from Seminole, and from Denver City the Schusters (W.H., Jr. and Diane) joined us for lunch. Do come again, folks.

Gladys Thomason and Billie McDonnell were the winners in the '42' tournament on Tuesday afternoon. There is always room for more players. If you enjoy playing dominoes, come join us.

I must share this bit of wisdom with you that I am sure all seniors can appreciate and maybe our younger contemporaries need to think about: A Parallel on Aging. Do houses age like people do? Sometimes I think they may, for they, like us, appear to change with every passing day. As fleeting years go rolling by and paint begins to peel, the chips of wood start breaking off. I know just how they feel. When plumbing lines all start to clog and water won't go through, I feel I can sympathize for I have been there too. When sagging walls begin to bulge, the rafters creak and groan; I tell the aging, aching house it dose not stand alone. Whoever said time heals all things most clearly failed to see. Instead of healer, could not time the source of our problems

Thought for Today: When you worry and hurry through your day, it is like an unopened gift, thrown away. Life is not a race. Take it slower. Hear the music before the song is over.

CROP & CROP HAIL



On September 11th, the fourth grade students at Plains Elementary had a special lesson about 9/11. They also made a 44-meter long paper chain to help remember the events of that day. Coach McAdams allowed them to observe some paintings that he had done as a tribute to the thousands of heroes from that day.

Storytime At The Yoakum **County Library**

The weekly Storytime was held on Halloween. There was a short dis-Wednesday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting started with Toddlerobics followed by the pledges to the United and Texas flags. The group then sang several songs, Kim Gass read the book, The Pumpkin Blanket. Each girls and boy then made their own pumpkin blanket to cover a pumpkin which they received as favors. Ghost cookies and milk were served while the boys and girls watched a video: Clifford's Big

What about? Beth and I took the grandson, Byron to the South Plains Fair. We had a wonderful time seeing him attempt to feed the elephants without them touching his hand, the rides, exhibits, and all the other fun things

like FOOD to enjoy. As we walked through some of the buildings, we began to see people's name we know.

People like Pat McNabb had won an Honorable Mention, 3rd place and a 2nd place and Dolores Davis.

We also saw Treon Ortega and Elsa Moya with 2nd place ribbons, Colby Ortega and Sara Horn also with ribbons and all of them from Plains. Also from Plains we saw the work

of Kevin and Clayton Gass each getting 3rd place.

We saw Cooper Carlisle had earned a 1st and 3rd place ribbons, Barrett Carlisle with a 1st and Mrs. Maxine Cato got a 1st, all from Meadow.

And of course Alecia McCulough got a 1st with L.H. Clark a 2nd, and M.C Bearden got a 3rd all from Den-

Then a lady from Brownfield who several people were talking about her

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cussion about Halloween and safety rules one should follow when going Trick or Treating. Austin Robertson celebrated his fourth birthday. Everyone enjoyed singing 'Happy Birthday' to Austin.

Those attending were Trenity Wall, Ivey Davis, Allie Williams, Austin & Kaitlyn Ward, Joshua Hoecker, Austin Robertson and Yairah Garcia. Adults also present were Jimmy Robertson, April Ward and Kim Gass.

ting 4-1st places and 2-2nd places, and Mrs. Leota Hinson got several 1st places along with Freide Meeks getting 2-1st and 2-2nd, Emeline Crutcher got 2-3rd places and an Honorable Mention, Carol A. Corett got many first place ribbons, Rayron Barron gat a 1st and 2nd place. Then the Barron family with Seth in the Youth Division for Seagraves getting a 1st place with biscuits, his mom Monetta got at least two 1st for her cooking, his granddad Ray Johnson got a 2nd for his biscuits and Ray's wife Linda got 2nd and an Honorable Mention for their cooking.

And we saw Meghan O'Rourke in the Youth Division with her sewing item getting Best of Show.

I know we could not have seen all the items and I am sorry we don't have space to name all the categories, but these people did a wonderful job and put in lots of hard work to earn these honors! People who are involved in the arts or any other creative activity is to be held in high esteem as a wonderfully God given talent.

Congratulations to all we saw and those we have missed! Until Next Time!

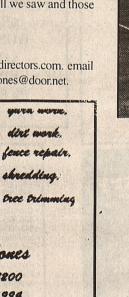
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WPS Mission

It is the mission of WPS to reduce and prevent the incidents of family violence in West Texas by providing emergency shelter to women and their dependent children. It is also the mission of WPS to help clients build healthy and promising futures by providing them with the emotional support and life skills to overcome the pattern of violence that has dominated their lives.

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- Legal Advocacy
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- Counseling
- Children's Programs
- Case Management
- Community Education

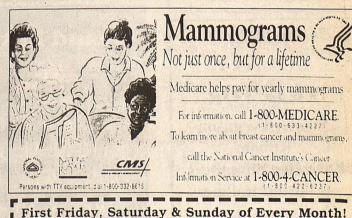
WPS Territory WPS serves a primarily rural, 10,500 square-mile region comprising the 12 West Texas counties of Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Garza, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Terry, and Yoakum.

We hope you will continue to assist us in our commitment to battered women and their children with a gift of \$25. \$50, or MORE to 2004 Operation Lifeline and help us continue to keep our program strong during these complex times.

Fritzi Moreman, Executive Director PO Box 54089 Lubbock, TX 79453



This ANGEL outshone her collector for Spiderman



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From The Hack

I somehow found myself embroiled in a serious endeavor last Sunday morning at FBC, which had all the trappings of an old black and white Keystone Kops movie; About two dozen menfolk turned loose in the church's huge and mystifying kitchen, preparing breakfast for the entire church. Think of some of the Baptist men you know, and you can imagine what a bizarre scene.

Now, I'm not talking donuts and coffee here - I mean a BREAKFAST-BREAKFAST, featuring scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits, juice, milk, the entire shmear. I was immediately detailed to the incredibly complex job of laying strips of bacon in huge trays which when full were shoved in a really large multilayer oven - yep, oven fried bacon. I don't recall exactly how many strips of the greasy stuff could be laid in precisely laid out rows, but I do know when it became too boring to stand I really created some artistic arrangements with the pig meat until the kitchen Major-Domo called me down.

I was a bit resentful with my menial work assignment until it was time to do the biscuits. Two very large crates of Mrs. Pilsbury's finest frozen product. The biscuit volunteers were not quite so happy with their assignment when they read on the boxes, "Biscuits must be placed on baking sheet, touching one another, taking extreme care to place floury side up, smooth side down." These in-

credibly complex instructions almost caused a fist fight or two when some of the 'doughboys' began heatedly debating which side was the flour side, which was the smooth side. 432 frozen biscuits caused lengthy discussions, and more than a few times I heard a doughboy muttering "What a jerk! You can't tell the difference from smooth and flour? And yours aren't really, truly TOUCHING each other. You gotta make'em TOUCH like they really mean it! Kinda like INTIMATE bis-

Actually, the work wasn't all that bad. I did have a sickening spell, however, when we got it all cooked, and I learned we had to clean up the kitchen. I whined as loudly as I could we should ask the women to handle it because they were of course much more familiar with cleaning kitchens, but I was quickly informed the entire female congregation had signed an agreement explaining their sanitation skills would only be available for two hundred bucks of Mall Money each. I suspect the preacher voted with them, too.

How women REALLY view

Men are just like....

- Copiers. You need them in
- reproduction but that's about it. * Bike helmets. Handy in emergencies but usually just look silly.
- * Placemats. They only show up when food's on the table.

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* Mascara. They usually run at the first sign of emotion. * Government Bonds. They take SO long to mature.

* Lava Lamps. Sort of fun to look at but not all that bright. * High heels. Easy to walk on once you really get the hang of

A proven statistic; Married men have been confirmed to change their underwear more often than single men.

BID NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS **COUNTY OF YOAKUM**

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4:00 PM Friday, November 12, 2004 for the sale of a single scrub sink and physical therapy equipment owned by the Yoakum County Hospital

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, November 15, 2004.

For a more detailed list of the equipment and more information, please contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-2422 or PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355. Sealed bids should be marked " HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT" on. the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/ Cowboy Way and Ave. G, Plains, Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE AC-

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

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Something In The Water

New Federal Water Guidelines Worry Texas Town's

Pure but pricey

Drinking water systems across the country have until January 2006 to comply with new federal standards for the amount of arsenic and radionuclides (RN) in drinking water.

While the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says the standards will help save lives. some Texas town's are confounded by the costs of com-

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TECQ) has until December 2004 to adopt the EPA standard on RN and January 2005 on arsenic. If TCEQ fails to act, the state could lose the ability to enforce water standards in Texas.

But level reduction won't come cheap, the technology necessary is expensive. Some officials in Texas communities feel their water is just fine and want more proof of health risks before implementing changes. Preliminary studies show changes to water systems could cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

\$400 million is what it's going systems to come into compli- Fleming said. ance, (for arsenic)," said Tony Bennett of TCEQ's Water Supply Division. "We're looking at \$50 million for radionuclides." In January 2001, the EPA renant level (MCL) for arsenic from 50 parts per billion (PPB) to 10 PPB in more than 74,000 water systems across the country. Reducing arsenic levels in drinking water could help prevent as many as 31 cases of bladder cancer and as many as 25 cases of lung cancer and as many as 30 deaths per year, according to the EPA.

About 4,000 U.S. water systems will have to install treatalternate water source, to meet the standard. The compliance deadline for compliance was September 2004, Bennett said. "We are estimating that about 220 water systems have at least one source that would exceed the arsenic MCL," he said.

Arsenic is colorless, tasteless and occurs naturally. It is used in many insecticides, herbicides and paints. It is present in many rocks in the Texas soil and, through years of erosion, managed to seep into water

supplies. Bur arsenic's effect on drinking water is a major point of contention for affected water systems that want more proof, according to Larry Fleming, director of public works for the city of Andrews.

"This is all naturally occurring

Meeting water standards for arsenic will not come cheap for Texas water systems. It could cost as much as \$112 million for El Paso's Water Utilities Public Service and \$1.6 million for Tahoka's.

System	Customers	Projected cost in millions
City of Houston		
Public Works Department	2.7 million	\$339.0
El Paso Water Utilities		
Public Service	620,000	112.0
City of Midland	98,045	24.6
City of Lamesa	9,942	6:1
City of Andrews	9,652	4.1
Malcomson Road Utility Distric	t 5,823	2.7
Tahoka Public Water System	2,910	1.6
City of Hamlin	2,235	1.6

and we've been drinking it for Eden's Water tested at 5.8 years," Fleming said. "We're picocurries per liter, slightly talking about parts per billion, more than the allowed level. which is so minute that science That was enough to tie up a has only gotten down to that significant portion of the city's point recently. If it is proven \$2 million annual budget for harmful, then yes, we're all for studying potential solutions, it. But until then, we'd like to said Mayor Charlie Rodgers Jr. see more studying done."

"I'm pretty comfortable saying the cost for getting Andrews' waste," he said. "We've spent current water supply in compli- \$50,000 to study this (probto cost to get all Texas water ance would be enormous, lem) and gone nowhere. We

"We're looking at \$1.3 to \$1.7 million, with operating ex- pliance." penses of \$200,000 to \$500,000 RO is one solution Eden offijust to run it," he said. "The fis- cials have looked into, but, in cal impact would be astronomiduced the maximum contami- cal on our small community." City officials have asked for Manager Ed Medders. proposals on different types of water treatment, including reverse osmosis (RO) and chemical treatment, but are currently in a holding pattern.

> "Right now we're waiting to see what TCEQ tells us," Fleming said. "What we'd like to see is TCEQ sit down at the table and hear our proposal and then tell us what we're expected

ment facilities or take some Fleming represented Andrews live here because we want to. other measure, like finding an in Austin at a June meeting of The quality of life is wonderthe Texas Water Advisory ful here and no one glows in Council (TWAC) and said he came away feeling like the EPA and TCEQ would be willing to work with them.

> "A favorable thing we heard that day was that (the EPA and (TCEQ) would deal with each individual entity," he said. "We were very encouraged by that."

The city of Eden is also prepared to find solutions to its own water problem, radionuclides. Radionuclides, like arsenic, are naturally occurring elements that get into water supplies. Considered heavy metals, uranium and radium are the two radionuclides TCEQ is most concerned with.

"Radionuclides are a group of different chemical contaminants that have ionizing radiation," said TCEQ's Bennett. "They're naturally occurring in different depths. Because they're heavy metals, there are concerns over contact with them."

for ways to bring water quality into compliance with the RN standards. As is the case in Andrews, city officials want more proof.

"We're not concerned about the quality of our water," said Genora Young, Eden's community development director. "We're concerned about staying alive as a city long enough to drink it."

The RN standard for drinking water is five picocurries per liter for radium and 30 micrograms per liter for uranium.

"Thirty five % of our budget Early studies have revealed that already foes to water and want to be in compliance; we just can't afford to be in com-

> the end, the price of an RO facility is too high, said City

"An RO system at best would cost \$1 million and that's for the system itself," he said. "Then you have to think about

maintenance and hiring at least two more employees." Young said the EPA has not

provided proof that drinking with Eden's content level is harmful. "Show us the data that

(shows) that," she said. "We the dark (from the water)."

Texas communities are looking for answers, and their questions are getting louder.

"The squeaky wheel gets the grease," Medders said. "And we need to do a whole lot of squeaking."

State Sen. Robert Duncan, chair of TWAC, heard the noise at the June meeting and said the representatives in attendance from Eden, Andrews, Midland and Seminole definitely were heard.

"I think the affected communities did a good job of raising the issue and identifying their particular problems, which I'm sure are problems being felt all over the state," Duncan said. "These standards are so stringent, you worry about people having confidence in their drinking water."

The Texas Radiation Advisory Board also concluded that the Like Andrews, Eden is looking standards are too stringent and that Texas' water supply is in good shape.

> "If you look at our current water system, 97% of the population gets water from public drinking water systems that meet federal and state standards," Bennett said.

"Right now we're kind of between a rock and a hard place," he said. "You would hope financial help will be available both at the federal and state level, but also that help will also be available in the form of time (to comply)."

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