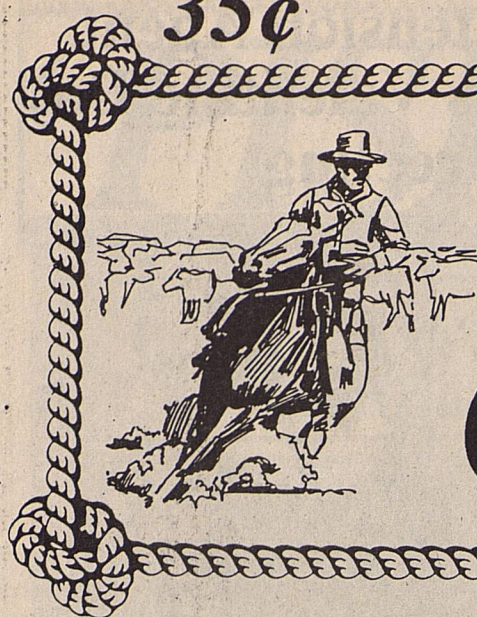


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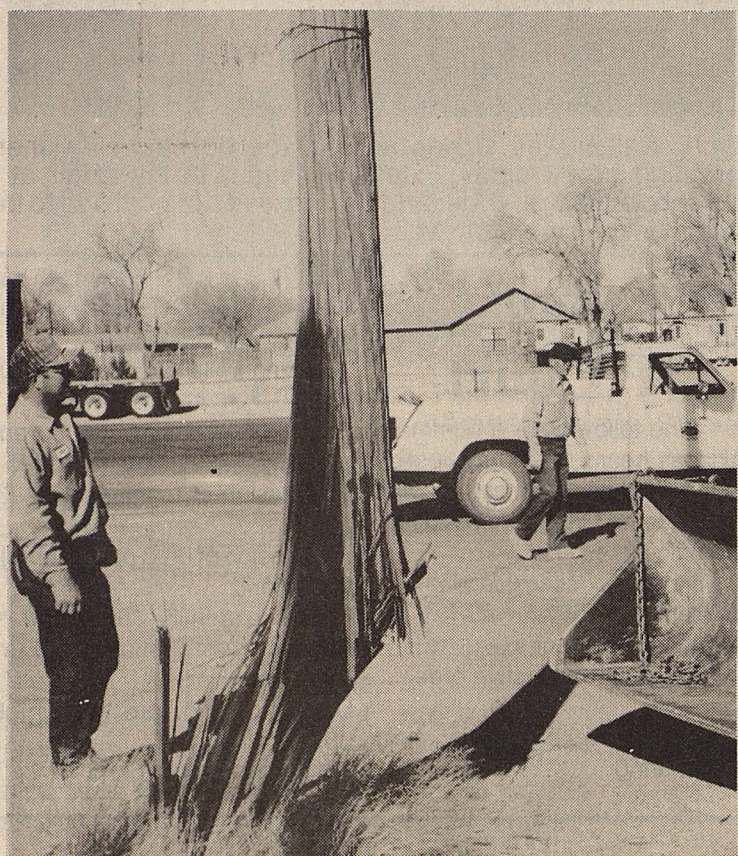


COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS



Volume 2, Issue 24, Wednesday, February 21, 1996

Splintered Pole Creates Hazard



A potentially dangerous situation was controlled last Wednesday afternoon, with possibly a bit of luck, and quick action by City employees.

Shortly after 4 PM, a fuel truck owned by Walker Sims Oil Company of Seminole arrived at the Diamond Shamrock station to deliver a load of fuel in the underground tanks. In positioning the truck, the driver backed into a main

electric utility pole, seriously splintering it a few feet above the ground.

The City was notified of the accident, and a crew of employees quickly barricaded the area around the pole, which remained standing mainly because of the very taut transmission lines stretching across Cowboy Way, or Highways 82-380.

Turn to Page 4,
'Pole Hazard'

Mayor Named to TML Post

Mayor T. J. Miller was recently invited by Jerry Dunn, President of the Texas Municipal League (TML), and Mayor of Benbrook, to serve on one of five Legislative Policy Committees. The committees will be made up of both elected and appointed municipal officials from around the State.

The committees formed to study and develop positions on legislative matters concerning Texas cities include Finance and Administration, Community and Economic Development, Personnel, Utilities and Environment, and Public Safety.

Mayor Miller has agreed to serve on the Public Safety committee, and will attend sessions in Austin on March 25 and August 2.

President Dunn stated in the letter to Miller, "The next regular session of the Legislature will convene in January, 1997. Texas cities will have a great deal at risk during that session, and it is important we initiate efforts to establish our legislative priorities very soon".

Battle For Iwo Jima Remembered

1945 Landing Led To Bloodiest Engagement In Marine Corp's History



On February 19, fifty one years ago, the U.S. Marine Corps landed two divisions on a tiny, eight square mile obscure island in the Pacific. Few Americans had ever heard of Iwo Jima until it took its place in history as the site of the bloodiest Marine Corps engagement of all time. Few Americans living at the time of World War II ever forgot Iwo, thanks in part to the immortal black and white photo of the Stars and Stripes being raised on Mt. Suribachi by five Marines and a Navy pharmacist mate. Most Marine survivors of the 35 days of carnage remember it for more somber reasons; American dead totalled 6,821, 5,453 of them Marines. Another 19,217 men were wounded.

Iwo Jima lies some 700 miles south of Tokyo. The only reason the black, volcanic sand covered tiny island became an important goal for Allied forces was its airfield, desperately needed by crippled B29 bombers returning from the day and night fire bombings of Japan. They could make emergency landings there, rather than ditching in the

sea, unable to make it back to their origin bases.

For almost eight months, our Navy tried to destroy, or at least soften up well fortified and dug-in Japanese troops defending Iwo. It was the longest, heaviest air and ship launched bombardment of the Pacific war.

When the Leathernecks stormed ashore on Feb. 19, none expected the fierce resistance which was thrown at them. The enemy, for years, had constructed elaborate tunnel defenses, dug in pill boxes, caves with alleyways connecting one another.

The Japanese numbered some 21,000 to 23,000 troops, the exact number never verified. The storming ashore Marines in the first two divisions were soon reinforced with another division when commanders realized the deadly effectiveness of the fanatical defenders and their well planned, almost impregnable defenses, and when their casualty lists began to soar.

Defensive positions which had been pounded with bombs and ship artillery for weeks, months, sprang into action, pouring artillery, mortar, grenade, machine-

gun and rifle fire into the advancing Corps ranks, with devastating casualties mounting.

The Naval bombardment was ordered to start again, and aerial sorties bombing, strafing, dropping napalm were launched. The Jap defenders continued to fight.

It was only when Marine units were ordered to engage each individual dug in pill box, concealed fox holes, fortified caves, with grenades, satchel charges of explosives, small arms fire aimed point blank, and hand held flame throwers, that the tide of battle slowly changed.

The Japanese defenders were fanatically determined to defend their tiny island to the death. They didn't succeed in holding Iwo Jima. They did achieve death. The only known survivors were 1,083 Japanese who surrendered. Over 20,000 died, many of them permanently entombed in their shelters when the Marines collapsed the tunnels and caves with explosives, bulldozers and flame throwers.

For a number of years,

Turn to Page 2,
'Iwo Jima'

Lions Celebrate 50th Anniversary

The Plains Lions Club wished themselves 'Happy Birthday' last Thursday evening, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the local club.

A large and enthusiastic crowd at the Community building enjoyed a catered barbecue dinner, and recalled some of the history and accomplishments of the club. In the absence of club President Rick Doyle, attending a ministerial conference in Atlanta, Lions L.J. Sanders and David Brunson shared master of ceremonies duties.

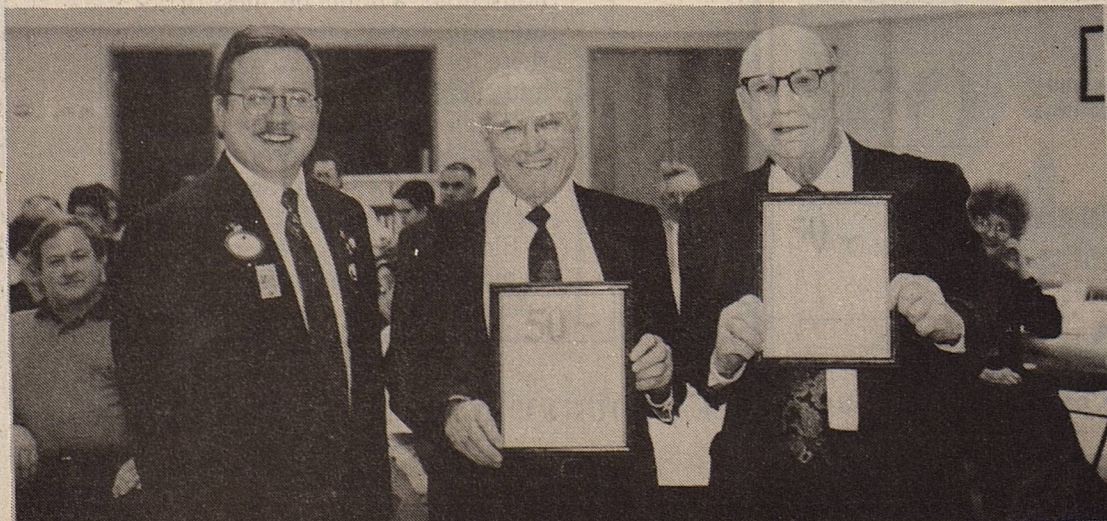
Some of the guests pre-

sent included Ty and Linda Powell, past club President Roy Edwards and wife Jeannie, Eddie Tingle, Mario and Margarita Avila, Alma Lynn McGinty, Scout leader Jas. Wright, Joe, Eloise St Romain, and Wilma Powell.

David Brunson reviewed some of the projects the club has taken part in during their 50 year history, including financial support for Girls Town, active participation in the Crippled Children's facility at Kerrville, their cooperation with the Roping Club and Chamber of Comm-

erce in staging the annual Old Settlers Reunion and Rodeo each summer. They also support the South Plains Eye Bank and the Leader Dog program, and have helped many children obtain eyeglasses. They contribute annually to the 4-H and FFA exhibitors in the Junior County Livestock show and sale. They purchased the electric score board for the Little League baseball field, and were instrumental raising funds for the three new

Turn to Page 2,
'Lions Meet'



Dist. Gov. Carmon McCain, Pierre St. Romain and Sherm Tingle

**From Page One,
'Iwo Jima'**

Japanes veterans of the war have journeyed to Iwo to recover the remains of their comrades. Over 7,000 have been recovered, while over 12,000 have not. All the Americans killed and buried on the island have been exhumed and reburied on U.S. soil.

A noted historian of WWII wrote, "The percentage of loss (on Iwo Jima) to the forces doing the fighting is what really tells you how bad the battle had been". About one of every three men engaged in the assault was either wounded or killed. Marine losses were not quite a third of the Corp's entire wartime tally in almost four years of fighting.

By the war's end, more than 2,200 B29 Super-Forts had used Iwo Jima for emergency landings, probably saving an estimated 25,000 men who almost surely would have ditched in the Pacific, and many, if not most, would have been lost.

Perhaps statistics such as these justify the assault, and the horrific Marine losses. Virtually all the surviving veterans of Iwo Jima share a universal thought of the island and the bloody 35 day campaign; They still wonder in amazement how they lived thru it.

To our knowledge, only one Yoakum County resident, and one other person with local families ties, are surviving veterans of the battle. C.B. Traweek Jr., father of Tokio Co-Op Gin Manager Marc Traweek, was a young Corporal in the 3rd Marine Division which stormed ashore in the initial amphibious landing. A Corporal rifleman, he told Marc he was one of but a handful of unwounded, surviving members of his Company. He had been in on several prior island landings in the Pacific campaign, but Iwo Jima was 'The mother of all battles' he had experienced.

Bud Forbus of Plains was a member of a Marine 81mm mortar team in the 4th Division the first day.

Bud told us, "I was one of the lucky ones. I barely lasted until the water got hot. We landed about 9 AM, and I was out of there some eight hours later. It was so bad I remember praying I would get shot and get off that Island". He wasn't shot, but was hit seriously enough with Jap shrapnel to be evacuated and a Navy Hospital ship off shore.

He and Mr. Traweek were briefly reunited last week during the County Livestock show, and their conversation must have been interesting.

(An interesting side note to the battle itself was the role the tiny, bloody Island of Iwo-Jima played during the very last days of the war. Prior to the historic flight of the Enola Gay from Tinian Island with the Hiroshima bound first atomic bomb aboard, a huge pit was dug on the island, and covered with an especially designed net. It was conceived by the US Command as an emergency measure for the relatively unknown factors of the bomb, which was armed in flight. The hole and net were to catch the jettisoned bomb in case of trouble on the Enola Gay.)

**From Page One,
'Lions Meet'**

"Welcome To Plains" signs on the outskirts of town.

Lion Debbie Rushing, Secretary to State Representative Gary Walker in his District office here, read a proclamation from Walker extolling the Lions club for the outstanding role the club plays in civic affairs.

Alma Lynn McGinty was recognized by Brunson for her many years of faithful service helping serve the club luncheon every other week.

Special recognition was paid to Lions Pierre St. Romain and Sherm Tingle, the only two remaining Charter members in the club. Both shared the podium, reminiscing about past events they had shared in the club.

St. Romain recalled an event of many years past when the club decided to



Debbie Rushing reads proclamation from Rep. Gary Walker

assist a young girl in elementary school, who had very serious dental problems. The club financed the extensive and expensive dental treatment and surgery performed in Hobbs, and local Lion members took turns driving the girl to the dental office each week. The project lasted over two years, and the youngster was able to lead a normal life when the complex dental work was completed.

Tingle recalled the work performed by members building the Scout Hut, where the club meets semi-weekly. He told of earlier years when cars were scarce and very few

county roads were paved. Many of the high school football team lived in rural areas, and some of them had no transportation home after practice. The Lions volunteered to drive the players home every afternoon, and Tingle recalled, "It seemed to me I always got the boy who lived the most miles out of town, and always on the roughest roads".

Both Charter members received certificates of appreciation for their contributions to the club and community, and were honored with a standing ovation by the audience.

Guest speaker Carmon McCain, Lion District Governor from Lubbock, brought a brief inspirational message. He spoke of the growing international spread of Lionism, saying the same needs Lions address at home exist in every nation around the world. He lauded the Plains club for accepting females in it's ranks, noting that women have always played an important role in Lions Clubs. Famed, blind Helen Keller was instrumental in getting Lion's involved in their eyesight program. He urged the local members to make the Lions' motto "We Serve" their main goal. He said all Lions should have pride in the program, and urged the local members to "Share The Pride" by seeking new club members.

**New Extension Agent
Adair Gets Valentine Day
Greeting**



Gary Walker was among some three dozen well wishers greeting new County Extension Agent Kathy Adair at a reception last week. Ms. Adair expressed her gratitude to the community for the warm welcome.

**County
JP Court**

The following is a summary of cases heard in County Justice of Peace Court, Precinct One, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding:
70 traffic cases filed
3 minors in possession
3 felony cases
2 juvenile warnings
1 emergency protective order

Theft of Service, \$1,000 cash bond
Assault family violence, \$2,000 bond
2-Driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 bond
Probation violation/Theft of rental property, held until transported
Possession of marijuana, \$1,000 bond
Possession of drug paraphernalia, \$500 bond
Failure to identify, \$500 bond
Fugitive from justice, held until transported
Unauthorized use of vehicle, \$5,000 bond
2-Forgery, \$2,500 bond

Bonds Set:
2-Motion to revoke probation, held until hearing

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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

Cowboys Win District !

Bi-District Game Thursday Night in Brownfield



L-R, Joe Luna, Eric Estrada, Tanner Blount, Chase Clanahan, Kirk Parrish, Johnny Davis, Ralph Ramirez, Abraham Garcia, Shawn Cullins, Jamie Caballero

The Cowboys avenged an earlier loss to the Smyer Bobcats last Tuesday, winning the District Championship with a 52-46 victory.

They got off to a slow start, down by 6 points at the end of the first period, but came back strong in the third and final quarter, out scoring the Bobcats by fourteen points.

Coach Baucom said Kirk Parrish played his best game of the season, pulling down 11 rebounds, shooting 5 of seven field

goals and adding 4 free throws to lead the scoring with 14 points. Tanner Blount had 12 points, Chase Clanahan 9, Ralph Ramirez 7, Johnny Davis 6, and Jason Redman, just moved up from the JV, made both of his attempts for 4 points in his first varsity game.

The Cowboys, preparing for Bi-District playoff action against Meadow in Brownfield Feb. 22, played a practice game against Claude in the West Texas

State gym at Canyon Friday, Feb. 16. They were downed by a good team 75-69.

Ralph Ramirez led the scoring with 17 points, Johnny Davis had 15, Chase Clanahan 11, Tanner Blount 9, Kirk Parrish and Jason Redman 7 each, and Shawn Cullins 3.

The Bi-District game against Meadow will start at 7 pm.

Our congratulations to the District winning Cowboys!

We Goofed!

In last week's issue, we thought we were reporting the 8th grade girls total scoring for the basketball season as furnished by Coach Haragan. Instead,

we reported their uniform numbers! Dumb! We apologize to all.

These are the correct point standings; Candace Bowers 77, Kelli Osborn 67, Shay Allsup 46, Anne

Palmer 43, Rebecca Robertson 40, Kristen Gray 38, Jessica Flores 36, Krystle Blundell 24, Staci Tuggle 20, Patty Ruiz 14, Laura Morales 10, and Elizabeth Casillas 4.

Cowgirls 2nd in District

Girls Eliminated in Playoff Action



Front, Tessa St. Romain, 2nd Row, Shyloh Winn, Robin Squyres, Kayla Redman, Mary Morales. 3rd row, Stephanie Aguilar, Sandi Warren, Jolyne Burgess, Kassie Lowe, Kyle Bearden. Back, Mgr. Valerie Blair, Lindsey Six, Mgr. Becky St. Romain

The Cowgirls tied down second place in District play with their second defeat of Anton last week. The girls nipped the Lady Dogs 42-41. Kayla Redman did a good job on the boards, pulling down 9 rebounds. She was also top scorer with 14 points, followed by Kyle Bearden 8, Robin Squyres 7, Tess St. Romain and Lindsey Six 4, Jolyne Burgess 3, and Kassie Lowe 2.

The girls qualified for a spot in post season playoff action, but unfortunately drew a State rated Whitharral team as their first opponent, and were downed 35-25. Only four Cowgirls could break into the scoring column. Tessa St. Romain had 11 points, Kayla Redman 8, Robin Squyres 4, and Sandi Warren 2. They finished the year with an 18-12 record. Coach Osborn said of the playoff game, "The girls played the best defense of any team I ever coached. Turnovers destroyed us, and Whitharral free throw shooting was the difference in the game. I am extremely proud of this team."

Notice

The Plains School indoor pool will be open to the public on Monday's from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. (The pool will not be open during school holidays.)

PHS Student Of The Week

This weeks student of the week is Stephanie Aguilar. She is Senior at PHS and is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Asebedo. She was nominated by Mrs. Deaton.

"Stephanie exhibits friendliness, cheerfulness, and a good attitude in all she does. She is a leader and sets a good example to her peers in school work, the activities she is involved in and her personal life. She has many friends, and her personality has taken her a long way, and hopefully further in the future.



Go,
Cowboys!
Beat
Meadow

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Cowboy, Cowgirl Track Calendar

Sat., March 2 - Stanton
Fri., March 8 - Whiteface
Sat., March 16 - O'Donnell
Fri., March 22 - Plains (Cowboy, Cowgirl Relays)
Fri., March 29 - Seagraves
Thurs., April 3 - Big Spring
Fri., April 12 - Dist.-Sudan
??? - April 19 or 20 - Regional qualifiers meet.
Fri.-Sat., April 26-27 - Regional, SPC, Levelland
Fri., May 3 - State qualifiers meet, Abilene
Fri.-Sat., May 10, 11 - State meet, Austin.

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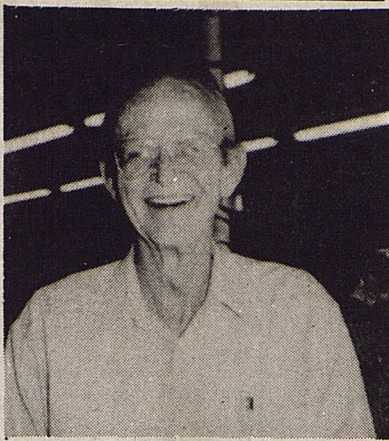
Talented Artist Good Hardwareman Also

It's difficult to picture a qualified, talented surgeon working in a lumber yard, and if you have heard Jack Harmon of Denver City play classical piano, it's equally strange watching him sell plumbing or electrical supplies from his hardware store there.

Many locals heard him perform recently when he was guest artist for a Tsai Mo Ga meeting here, where he displayed true talent.

The 60 year old hardwareman-key board artist came to Denver City in 1950, when his father purchased Denver City Electric. Born in Electra, Jack said his love for the piano and classics began at the age of 10, when his parents bought piano. He said, "I suppose it's strange, but I've never had any true interest in any music other than the classics. I remember when I was just a kid, and this tune "A Little Bird Told Me" was all the rage. I thought it was the dumbest thing I'd ever heard".

Following high school, Jack attended Eastman School of Music and earned a Bachelors degree in music, and later received his Masters degree from Indiana University, where he taught as a graduate assistant. He later taught private piano, and worked for Rhythm Ban, Inc. of Fort Worth.



He purchased the former Harris Hardware in Denver City in 1976, and gave the business its present name. While classic piano is his great artistic love, he readily admits the difficulty of prospering in the field, the tremendous odds facing one hoping to become a classical music 'superstar'. He has had no formal training on the organ, and says he plays it only passably, but all who have heard him on that instrument say he is to modest.

Asked to name his favorite pianist, he said there were dozens he admired, but would have to name the now deceased genius Horowitz as his favorite.

He is married to the former Sandra Ashmore, and they have one married daughter, Jean Connally. He is the Music Director of the First United Methodist Church in Denver City, and is a past Board member of the Odessa Symphony orchestra, and currently serves on the Board of the Southwest Symphony of

Hobbs, New Mexico.

Next time you need leaky faucet washers, or an extension cord, give Jack a visit. He will also be happy to sell you one of his many cassette recordings of his keyboard mastery. If you appreciate classical piano, you will enjoy his talent.

Funeral Services For Mary Gunter

Funeral services for Mary Gunter were held in the First United Methodist Church here at 10 am Wednesday, February 14. Reverend Ken Peterson officiated in the services, assisted by Russell Fulford. She passed away on February 11 in Saint Mary's Hospital, Lubbock, following a lengthy illness. She was 85.

Mary was born September 4, 1910, in Falls County, Texas, the daughter of O.B. and Florence Garrett. She married Wesley Edward Gunter in 1930 in Limestone County.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, and a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband in April, 1978. She is survived by two sons, Paul of Eight Mile, Alabama, and Billy of Floydada; A brother, O.B. 'Ben' Garrett Jr. of Tyler, a sister, Aylene Todd of Baytown, four grandsons and four great grand-children. Pall bear-

ers in the services were Mark Gunter, Mac Gunter, Ricky Gunter, Andy Gunter, Wayne Coffman and Donnie Simpson.

Interment was in the Morton Cemetery under direction of Ratliff Funeral Home.

Final Rites For Martin Duran Held

Martin Duran, 68, passed away in his home here on February 16, 1996.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 17 at 3 PM in the Templo Bautista Nueva Vision Church of Plains, with the Reverend Jose Rodriguez officiating. He was buried in the Plains Cemetery under direction of Ratliff Funeral Home of Denver City.

Mr. Duran was born November 11, 1927, in Torreon, Chihuahua, Mexico. He came to the U.S. in 1952, living in Fort Stockton until 1976 when he came to Plains. He was a former Minister, and had owned a construction company which helped in the building of Loop 289 in Lubbock, and Lake Allen Henry near Post.

He is survived by six sons, Joe and Armando of Post, Carlos Jr. of Clayton, NM, Ruben of Plains, Angel of Chisao, NM, and Luis of Bryan; Four daughters, Anna Gonzales, Victoria Delgado and Mary Ellen Rodriguez of Plains, and Mary Lou Ward of Post; two

step children, Victor Ramos of Bryan and Lupita brown of Lovington; two brothers, Celso and Manuel of Brownfield, a sister, Ofelia Duran of Mexico City, 24 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers for the services were Ricky Gonzales, Jesus Gonzales Jr., Jesus Gonzales Sr., Baldemar Gonzales, Luis Duran and Ruben Duran.

Election Notice

Mayor T.J. Miller has called for a general election to be held in the City of Plains on Saturday, May 4, 1996. The election will be held at the Plains City Hall, located at 601 11th St. in Plains, Texas. The purpose of this election will be to elect a mayor and two council members.

Those with expiring terms are Mayor T.J. Miller and council members Kent Welch and Pam Redman.

The filing deadline is 5 pm, Wednesday, March 20, 1996. Applications for a place on the ballot can be picked up at City Hall during regular working hours.

From Page One, 'Pole Hazard'

A City backhoe was placed against the pole for support and an emergency crew from Kay & Kompany Electric of Denver City arrived on the scene shortly. A new hole was dug for the replacement pole the company brought from Denver City, and the electricians soon had the cross arm fitted out with new hardware.

The new pole was raised under the transmission lines, and the final installation work was finished without incident.

City Administrator David Brunson said at the scene, "We got lucky. If the truck had hit the pole any harder, it could have come down, possibly on the fuel truck, maybe across the highway. We were also lucky the high winds we had earlier today had died down when this happened".

A large portion of the City in the southeast quadrant was without power a little more than an hour, in a scenario which could have been much more serious.

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March 12, 1996

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Bobby Trent Motorplex, Inc.
 400 W. Broadway
 Trent Motor Company, Inc.
 806-592-2174, 915-758-3626

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PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PLAINS, TEXAS

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE- ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
 Year Ended August 31, 1995

DATA CONTROL CODES	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES		TOTALS (MEMORANDUM ONLY)	
	100-199	200-499	98	97
	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	AUGUST 31, 1995	AUGUST 31, 1994
REVENUES:				
5700	Local, Intermediate, and Out-of-State	\$ 4,104,923	\$ 4,104,923	\$ 3,995,327
5800	State Program Revenues	190,039	200,964	172,006
5900	Federal Program Revenues	132,032	289,381	317,564
	Sub-Total Revenues Excluding Function 14	4,426,994	4,595,268	4,484,897
0014	Revenues Collected for Function 14	4,537,169	4,537,169	5,603,088
5030	Total Revenues	8,964,163	9,132,437	10,087,985
EXPENDITURES:				
0011	Instruction	-2,144,537	2,301,805	2,100,924
0021	Instructional Administration	5,004	14,711	11,858
0022	Instructional Resources and Media Services	58,297	58,297	53,360
0023	School Administration	255,544	257,630	241,779
0031	Guidance and Counseling Services	64,983	71,721	73,488
0033	Health Services	35,628	35,628	17,918
0034	Pupil Transportation	166,717	166,717	84,814
0036	Co-Curricular Activities	252,714	252,714	241,217
0037	Food Services	212,957	212,957	231,208
0041	General Administration	252,273	252,273	275,909
0051	Plant Maintenance and Operations	693,659	693,659	545,910
0052	Facilities Acquisition and Construction	77,705	77,705	16,617
0075	Data Processing Services	93,206	93,206	70,307
0081	Community Service	3,592	3,592	2,438
	Sub-Total Expenditures Excluding Function 14	4,316,816	4,492,615	3,967,747
0014	Instructional Services Between Schools	4,537,169	4,537,169	5,603,088
6050	Total Expenditures	8,853,985	9,029,784	9,570,835
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	110,178	102,653	517,150
7990	Other Resources	32,430	39,955	4,540
8990	Other (Uses)	(82)	(82)	(82)
1200	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over Expenditures and Other Uses	142,526	142,526	521,608
0100	Fund Balance—September 1 (Beginning)	1,885,393	1,885,393	1,367,401
1300	Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	-	-	(1,742)
3000	Fund Balance—August 31 (Ending)	\$ 2,027,919	\$ 2,027,919	\$ 1,887,267

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

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Femme Friends Page

March 16 Wedding Rites Planned



Julie Hanks of Clyde and George Estes of Austin announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Amber Michelle Estes, to Jason Lee Smith, son of Hershel and Debbie Smith of Plains. Amber is a 1994 graduate of Hale Center High School. She attended Angelo State University and is currently attending Texas Tech, majoring in Drama.

Jason is a 1992 graduate of Plains High School. He attended South Plains College, earning All America honors in Track and Field. He is currently

attending Texas Tech, majoring in cellular and molecular Biology.

The couple will wed on March 16 in the Hale Center Church of Christ Chapel, followed immediately by a reception there.

Following a honeymoon cruise to Baja, Mexico, the couple will reside in Lubbock.



Yoakum County Federal Credit Union will have it's annual meeting February 24, 1996, in the school cafeteria at 7 PM. Ham and drinks will be provided, and those attending are asked to bring a covered dish of their choice. All members present will be eligible to vote for 1996-97 Board of Directors, and Door Prizes will be awarded.

Art Club Meeting Held

The regular monthly meeting of the Yoakum County Art Association was held February 6 with 12 members present. Hostesses for the event were Inetta Teaff and Betty Estep.

Linda Powell discussed the upcoming February 22 meeting of the "Yoakum County Connection", an alliance of artists and clubs to encourage development of art and art programs in the county. The meeting will be at 6:30PM in the Community Building.

An upcoming workshop for artists' is planned for March 23, April 20, or May 18. For more information contact Jimmie Bayer.

Guest artist for the club's meeting was Jean Schofield Badger of Lubbock, who presented work on a pastel still life of sunflowers. She is a graduate of Texas Tech with a degree in Art. Badger teaches art both to adults and children, and plans to soon open a studio in the Depot District of Lubbock. She is also a member of the Degas Pastel Society of New Orleans.

Tsa Mo Ga Enjoys History Program

"Texas Heritage" was the theme of the Tsa Mo Ga meeting February 12, with Sarah Jane Shelton as program coordinator.

Historical quotes from Sit Jones concerning Yoakum County were read. One reviewed Aubrey McCra-vey's first horseback trip to what is now the county in 1905. When the county

was organized in 1907, he filed on section 826 under the Homestead Law, hauled lumber by wagon from the rail line at Big Spring, and built what is reported the first house in the county. Later, the late Sue Stevens family owned a small, ramshackle house on section 862, which they graciously donated to Tsa Mo Ga, and moved it to the lot here which they also donated to the club. Ms. Stevens was a charter member of Tsa Mo Ga, and the "Bonus Shack" serves as a museum and is a registered Texas Historical Building. Recognition was given Dick Payne, L.J. Sanders and the late Frances Sanders for collaborating in the taping of "Payne Family Residence In The Bonus Shack".

Wilma Powell, introduced as the county's 'genuine cowgirl', described her early life on the ranch of her father, M.W. Luna, where she worked cattle and built fence. The Community Improvement Scrapbook was displayed for members and

guests. Ann McGinty and Mary Jo St. Romain were hostesses for the evening.

Senior Citizens Corner

Last week's "Pillow Talk" came thru loud and clear, successful and fun for all. Thanks to Gwen Carter and Judy Fitzgerald for judging the pillows, Jimmy Long for auctioneering, and the D.C. Press for pictures and coverage.

Dates to remember; Line dancing each Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30 am-Livingston hearing aid Feb. 19, 9:30-10:30 am-Pool tournament Feb 21, 10am-Miracle Ear, Feb 22, 9am-Fund raising supper, Feb 21.

Visitors this week were Dixie and Leon Legard.

George Hubbard and Reba Baker are still in Lubbock hospitals, but are reported doing better. Claude and Marcene Beattie visited Arky and Flora Rice in Odessa and reported they are fine, but miss their D.C. church and senior citizens friends.

Library Filmtime

43 pre-school youngsters celebrated Valentine's Day last Wednesday.

The moms' furnished Valentine napkins, cookies and punch, and the children enjoyed a film, songs and games. Heather Penner, three, was the birthday girl. Others attending were; Troy Parrish, Kevin Gass, Kelsey Curry, Lydia Whitzel, Alfredo Martinez, Lexus Jiminez, Sherman Gressett, Christopher Addison, Landon Earnest, Merrit Crump, Cody Friesen, Holden Welch, Haley Welch, Alex Penner, Rhaela Stall, Kristen Knight, Dustin Altman, Morgan Willis, Jasmine Mares, Bret Kenney, Marnia Martinez, Mackenzie Arellano, Isaac Doyle, Taylor Banfield, Jasmine Whitzel, Elizabeth Cox, Kristie Loper, Berkleigh Gressett, Stephanie Addison, Dakota Earnest, Hannah Crump, Brandon Craft, Hunter Welch, Brett Hawthorne, Rhaemi Stall, Alex Masterson, Blaine Altman, Kimber Williams, Katelyn Young, Brooke Kenney, and Jonathan Penner.

Heather Penner



Thank You

The family of Mary Gunter wishes to express our gratitude for the many expressions of love, prayers, cards, visits, flowers and uplifting words during her illness and death. In trying times it means so much to know others care.

Paul & Mildred Gunter and family, Billy Gunter & family.

Notice

Early Voting By Personal Appearance

For the March 12, 1996 - General Primary Election Will Be Conducted At

The County Clerk's Office, Courthouse in Plains And - The Denver City Branch Tax Office
(122 West 4th Street)

Beginning: February 21, 1996 - Ending: March 8, 1996 Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM 'til 5:00 PM

Any qualified voter is eligible to vote early by personal appearance.

Early Voting By Mail

Under certain conditions (see below) a qualified voter is eligible to vote early by mail. Application forms for ballot by mail may be picked up at the Denver City Branch Tax Office, or at the County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, Plains. An application for ballot by mail must be received in the County Clerk's office on or before March 5, 1996 to be eligible to vote in General the Primary Election on March 12, 1996. Conditions for voting by mail:

- 1) Voter is or expects to be **Absent From The County** of the voter's residence on election day.
- 2) Voter has a **Sickness or Physical Disability** that prevents him/her from appearing at the polling place on election day.
- 3) Voter is **65 Years of Age or Older** on election day.
- 4) Voter is ***Confined in Jail**.

*For more information on the above conditions for voting by mail call the County Clerk's Office at 806-456-2721.

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&

Troy Fillingim

Michelle Lowe

&

Bret Baker

From The Hack



I could have made a serious mistake in this column last week, reporting on my well documented cowardice when confronted by a Dentist.

Pat McNabb dropped by the house recently, and she and the Bride got into quite a discussion about what puny things men really are, their chatter purposely loud enough for me to pick up in the office. They passionately agreed men are spineless wimps in situations of discomfort, and of course, they both had to mention the clincher, the kicker, the argument stopper, universally used by all women when male versus female pain tolerance is discussed; Women routinely have babies, and no man in history could possibly stand that anguish. Tough point to counter attack, boys.

Ms. McNabb reported on a siege of the intestinal flu bug in her family recently. She was felled first, then the two kids came down with it, followed by spouse Darryl.

"I was so sick my toe nails hurt", she said. "I would stumble to the bathroom, up chuck, come out and hear the kids moaning and Darryl whimpering, and the kids would gasp, 'I'm too sick to get up... bring me a pan to do it in!'" She said Darryl was worst of all... he would lie there whispering, "I'm dying... I'm already three fourths gone... call the preacher... read me the

will again...bring me a Great BIG pan!". She continued, obviously perturbed, "I had to tend to them hand and foot, and when I had to throw up, I'd go to the bathroom, and not one of them would even think of checking on me. I came out one time, and accused Darryl of not caring what happened to me, long as I'd bring him his GREAT BIG pan. He only whispered selfishly, 'Well, it sounded to me like you were doing alright in there by yourself. Can you bring the GREAT BIG pan again, and some more Pepto?'"

Let's face it, men. The other gender doesn't hold us in much esteem as pain handlers.

An article in a recent issue of the Dallas Morning News caught my eye. Seems a psychologist named Provine has been studying the subject of laughter for six years now. Serious, scientific study, with sound recordings, surveys, really big time research.

Among his findings; People are 30 times more prone to laugh in groups than alone. A person talking is 46 times more prone to chuckles than his listeners. Women laugh far more than men, except when they are listening to other women, then they tend to clam up.

There are other gender differences. Provine says women do most of the laughing, while men get

most of the laughs. Why? He hasn't a clue.

He does know laughter is spontaneous, infectious when people hear others laughing. He reported it can be contagious to the point of triggering epidemics of guffaws. Such an outbreak occurred in Tanzania, Africa in 1962. A group of 12 to 18 year old girls began to giggle, then weep with laughter. The giggling spread like wildfire, eventually forcing several schools to close, and the condition continued for almost six months.

I agree laughter is contagious. The multi-talented and highly intelligent regulars at the Table Of Wisdom commonly guffaw hysterically at some gem of humor. They also sober up like a swarm of clams when a female shows up unannounced. Talk about an instant wet blanket!

County Court Meets

Commissioner's Court met Monday, February 19, and discussed a number of agenda items. The following actions were taken;

Approved Tax Assessor/Collector Wanda Smith's tax report showing tax receipts of \$5,715,402 during the month of January. Approved advertising for the purchase of a new fire truck for Denver City, with bids due March 8 and action taken on the bids March 18.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark explained a \$2500 bill for the purchase of a new video camera installed in the DPS patrol car. Clark said in a recent drug case conviction part of the probation condition was the defendant forfeiting a vehicle which was sold for \$2500. These funds were subsequently

used for the video purchase. The new unit was purchased at a greatly reduced price, and features 150 degree field of view, and capability of filming both the scene in front of the car and any person arrested and placed in the rear of the vehicle. Clark said the video system is an indispensable tool in prosecuting criminal cases, and is an aid in reducing liability risks to the State and County.

The Court heard a proposal from the firm Compliance Plus, Inc. of Lubbock, offering consortium membership to the county to assist in the mandated drug and alcohol random testing of all employees with Commercial Drivers Licenses.

The mandatory program would be administered by Compliance Plus, who will work with the County in developing a new substance abuse program.

The firm has contracts with a number of area county governments and many school districts, allowing it to administer the required program more economically than individual entities. The program will cost the county approximately \$1500, depending on the exact number of CDL holding employees.

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Rash of Burglaries Prompts Rice To Seek Community Help

Burglars and vandals were active in Plains this past weekend. The residences of E.O. Winkles, Michael Davis and Steven O'Quinn were all illegally entered either Friday or Saturday nights with property loss or damage. Two were broken into, the other was entered thru an unlocked door.

Sheriff Jim Rice said Monday these burglaries, and many others reported earlier, are an indication Plains is no longer a sleepy little hamlet where everyone knows and trusts everyone. There are criminals here, just as there are in every other city in the country.

Sheriff Rice said, "Our department would first of all like to advise people to lock their houses, out buildings and vehicles. A burglar or thief has little enough trouble breaking and entering and stealing when assets are locked. It just doesn't make sense making their roles much easier".

He made an appeal to the community to work closer with his and other law enforcement agencies. "If

the public would be observant around their neighborhoods, if rural residents would watch for any questionable activity in the countryside, and if they would call us when they observe anything suspicious, it would not only make our work easier, but much more effective, and the county would be a safer place to live".

The sheriff said his department has seven deputies, which at first glance might appear adequate. He explained at any given time some of the officers are off duty, some may be miles away answering a call for help.

Considering the size of the county, almost 900 square miles, and a population of some 8,000, seven deputies is a relatively small number.

Rice would like to see some sort of volunteer watch organization here and in Denver City. One thing we can certainly do-if you know neighbors are out of town, you can keep an eye on their property. They can do the same when you're gone. Pretty basic stuff, but the Sheriff says it will work, and greatly help.

Thought for the Week

Loving God, Help us to accept ourselves and others, and not to demand perfection. Amen.



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