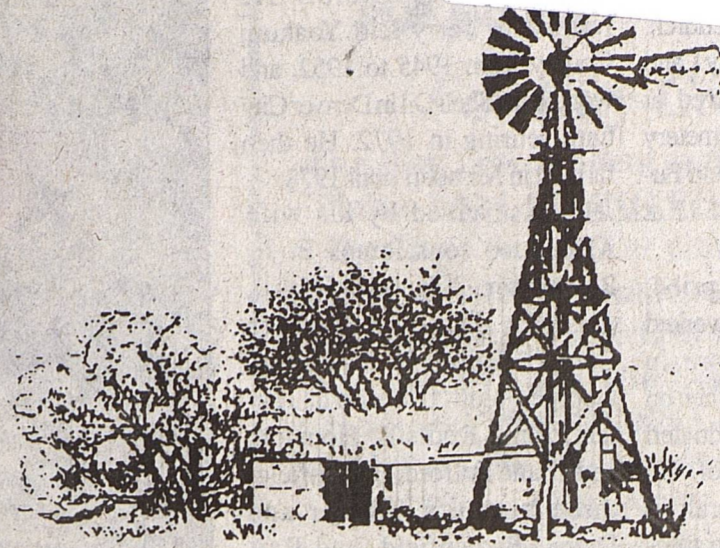


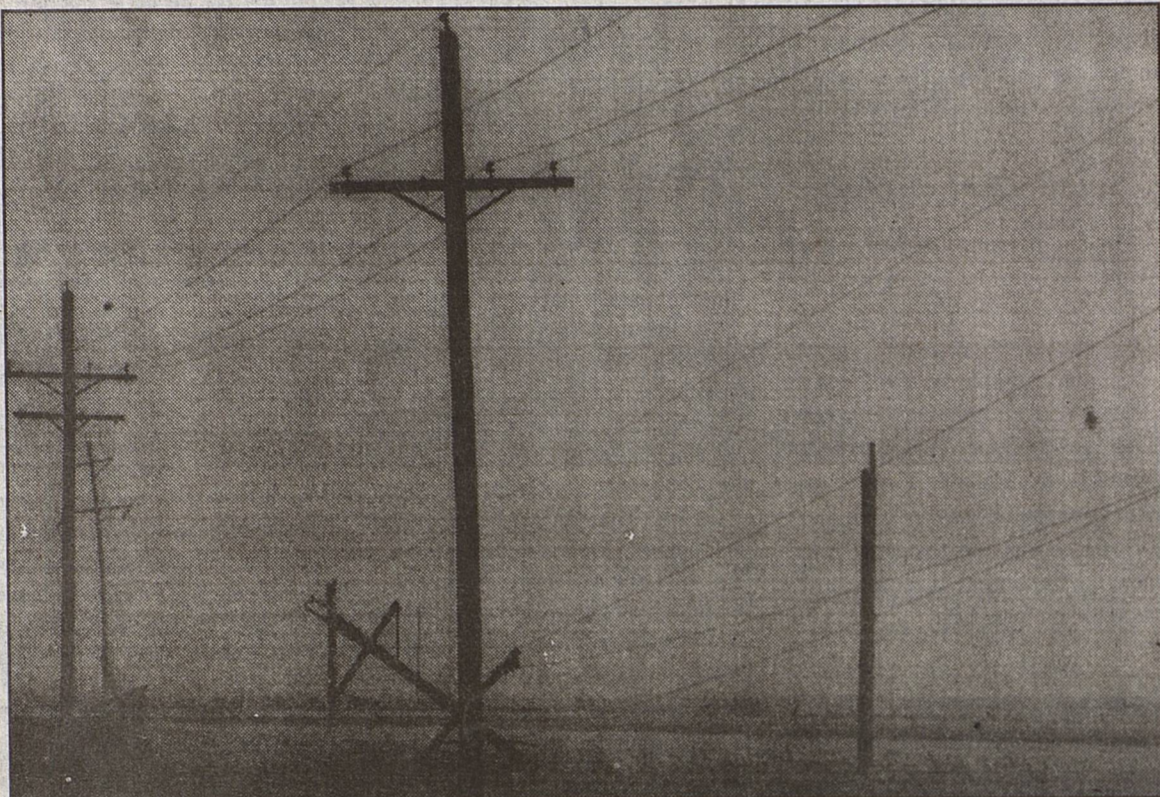
Cowboy Country News

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

Volume IX, Issue 32, April 23, 2003



Windstorm Hammers CO-OP System



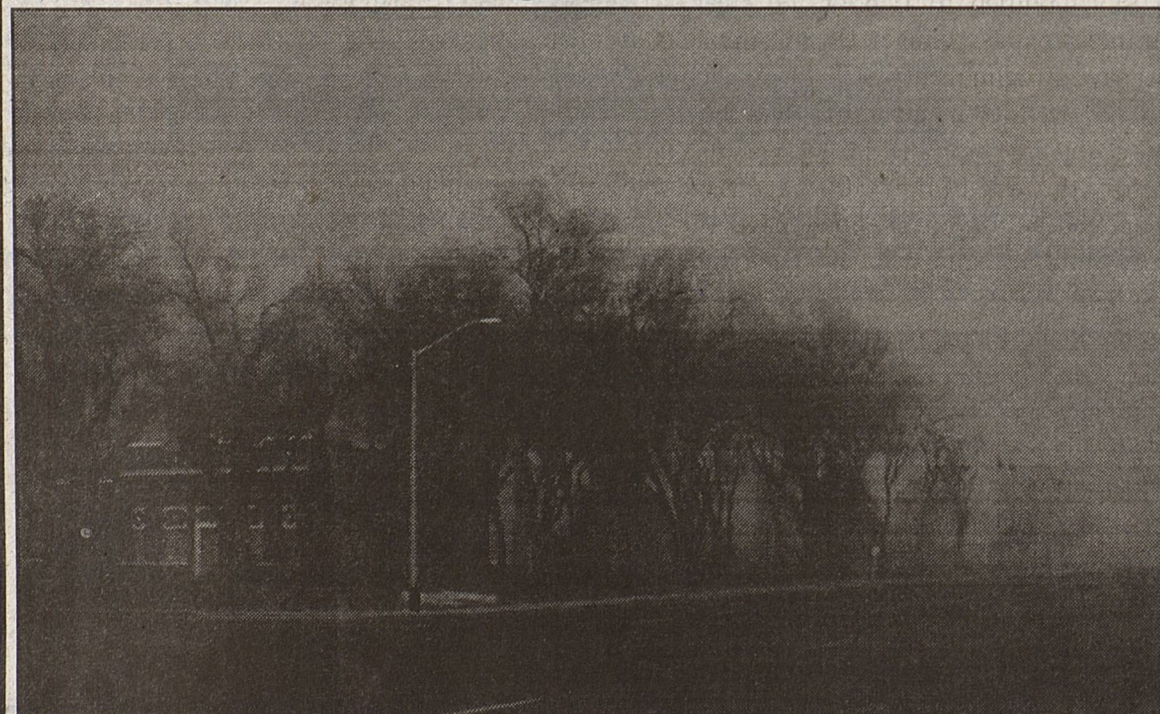
Strong, sustained winds toppled 14 transmission structures and another 10 distribution poles across Lea County Electric Cooperative system last Tuesday afternoon as service crews and system operations personnel scrambled to re-route power to affected areas.

At around 5:15 Tuesday, approximately 700 accounts located in an area west of the Saunders field to the caprock and north to the Tatum-Roswell highway were without power. "The majority of these accounts are related to oilfield production, but there are a number of ranches in there, too," said Greg Faith, Supervisor of

System Operations. Crews worked into the early morning Wednesday to replace six 69,000 volt transmission structures, re-establishing power there just before 2 AM.

"In the space of an hour, we lost about 25% of our system load", according to Michael Sarkis, Manager of System Operations. "When winds like these come through, our entire system gets exposed to some brutal forces - and all at once. There were numerous isolated or brief outages throughout the LCEC system, but our ability to feed our power system from alternative sources kept them to a minimum."

A foggy morning scene of downtown?



Not hardly. This photo of the two building courthouse square was shot about 5:30 PM last Tuesday, in the peak of the sandstorm which whipped through here and most of the South Plains. The old courthouse is visible, the new building next door could not be seen in the storm. At the SOAR aircraft hangar at the airport, windgusts were pegged at 70 miles per hour. The National Weather Service in Hobbs, NM recorded winds of 88 miles per hour. The CNN website reported things were much worse in the Las Cruces-White Sands areas, with winds clocked at over 130 miles per hour

Early voting numbers show more interest in local races

Early voting for the City Council, PISD Board of Trustees and Bond election, and for the 19th District U.S. Congressman started Wednesday, April 16. A quick tour of the three voting sites Monday afternoon just prior to closing clearly indicates county voters are more concerned with local issues than the statewide congressional race.

The County Clerk's office reported at shortly before five PM

28 voters had cast ballots in the U.S. Congress race, with only 27 voting in Denver City.

In the local race for three City Council members, 50 votes had been cast, according to Secretary Pam Rowe. She said the count is similar to those in the last election at this time. The crucial School Board and Bond issue has to date drawn 67 voters.

If you haven't voted in these important races, early voting continues until 5PM, April 29

After handily winning the Area District UIL Academic meet last month, Plains High School students continued to display academic excellence by winning the big Regional meet held at South Plains College last week., scoring an impressive 155 points in the challenging contest. Plains One-Act Play, "Opal", directed by Gary Davis and Ray Portillo, was chosen as an Alternate to the State competition, behind Channing and

Criminal cases in County Court

Three criminal cases were heard in County Court April 16, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Jesus Rios Franco pled guilty to possession of marijuana, less than two ounces. He was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred. He will be under community supervision six months, was fined \$350, must pay \$211 court costs and \$140 restitution. He will serve 24 hours community service, complete the TAIP program, and spend 36 hours in jail with credit for 16 hours served. Brad Taylor, DPS, was investigating officer. James William Dowdey Jr. pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI conviction. He will spend 180 days in jail with credit for 70 days served.

Jesus Manuel Corral III had conditions of community supervision modified from a prior criminal trespass cause. He must pay \$40 delinquent CSCD fees, \$9 delinquent attorney fees, complete the TAIP program, pay additional \$300 appointed attorney fees, and testify truthfully against Ruben Mauricio.

Joe Raymond Flores pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI. He must serve 165 days in jail with credit for 142 days served. Paul Mansur served as his attorney

PUBLIC MEETING
Thursday, April 24, 8 PM,
Plains School Auditorium:

*Your Last
Opportunity To
Hear And See
A Presentation
Explaining The
Plains ISD Bond
Proposal !!*

Financial woes facing state legislative session a major worry for Judge Brewer



County Judge Dallas Brewer, guest speaker at the April 17 meeting of the Plains Lions Club, sees major trouble brewing for Texas counties as state legislators face monumental problems preparing a balanced budget, while faced with an almost \$ 10 billion shortage of funds.

The Judge reported, "I have attended four sessions since the Legislature convened, and in my opinion there is chaos in Austin. The Governor, Lt. Governor and Speaker of the House have vowed to create no new taxes, and they appear determined to keep their vows. The Legislature is being pressured from every side not to abolish many state funded programs, yet the money for everyone's pet program simply isn't there."

Brewer last visited Austin and the Capitol during the April 9 County Government Day. "Most of the county officials I spoke with, judges, county treasurers, county and district clerks, all had the same opinion; Texas counties are about to be asked to pick up a large portion of the bill for a variety of state programs. Texas counties mean people like you at this meeting, county tax payers."

He cited a number of bills being introduced in the house and senate which would create major increases in fees for any and everything, including filing fees, county court fees, fines in county and JP Court, and virtually all of the dollar increases would be sent to Austin. "I think it unrealistic to add \$500 to a DWI fine. The majority of DWI offenders here can't even pay the present \$250 to \$350 fine, much less an additional \$500."

Judge Brewer stated many now state funded health programs face drastic cuts, and if they are continued, the county will pay for those services. "In Yoakum County we have a surprising number of adults and teens under treatment or medicines from the local MH/MR organization. If the state pulls out of the program we will be expected to step in. Many of these people can live meaningful, productive lives with proper medication and treatment. Without this help, we're going to see a sizable number of them in our county jail, and it already stays at maximum capacity."

The Judge concluded by saying, "It appears to me the Legislature is trying to make Texas counties the collection agency for the State of Texas. I urge all of you to let your representatives and senators know Texas county folks don't want to become state money collectors."

Plains High wins Regional UIL Academic meet

Whiteface. In the Play contest, Payton Bean was named to the All Star Cast, while Mandi Rogers, Brant Huerta and Carmen Ponce were selected for All Star Cast Honorable Mention. In the team academic competition, the PHS Calculator Team captured the first place trophy, as did the Mathematics Team. Representing the calculator team were Jill Gray, Brandon Hise, Jordan Bean and Allison Friesen. The same four students

make up the mathematics team. The school's computer Science team, Jordan, Bean, Jill Gray, Nolan Newsom, and Ryan Swann captured second place. The Science team, Nolan Newsom, Jordan Bean, Evan Cain and Brandon Hise also won second place honors. Individual Performances: News Writing- 4th, Liz Wilmeth Feature Writing- 1st, Mandi Rogers Calculator Applications- 1st, Jill Gray, 5th Allison Friesen.

Computer Science- 3rd, Jordan Bean Mathematics- 1st, Brandon Hise, 2nd, Jill Gray Number Sense- 5th, Brandon Hise. Science- 6th, Nolan Newsom The State Meet will be held in Austin May 2 and 3. Qualifying will be the first place Calculator and Math teams, second place Computer Science team as a wild card winner, and individuals Mandi Rogers, Jill Gray, Jordan Bean, and Brandon Hise.

Services held for Jim Bearden

Services were held for James E. "Jim" Bearden, 91, Monday, April 21, 2003, at First Baptist Church, Brownfield, with Rev Randy Land officiating. Interment followed at Terry County Memorial Cemetery under direction of Brownfield Funeral Home. He died April 17 at Brownfield.

Mr. Bearden was born April 4, 1912 at Peacock, Texas. He worked in his uncle's drug store in Aspermont for eight years, then on his parents farm. He graduated from Becton High School. He worked for Douglas Aircraft in California in 1942, riveting fuselages of P-38 aircraft during WWII. He enlisted in the Navy in 1943.

He married Jane Terry Schneider in 1943. She preceded him in death September 3, 1977. He married Allie Mae

Owens Fugitt December 29, 1979 in Brownfield. He farmed in Terry and Yoakum County from 1945 to 1952, and worked for Shell Oil in Denver City until retiring in 1972. He then farmed in Missouri until 1978.

He is survived by his wife Allie; two sons, James E. Jr, Rochester, NY, and David, Austin; a daughter, Barbara Cornell, Ballinger; a step son, George Fugitt; two step daughters, Janie Rudisill, Houston, and Diane Fulford, Brownfield; three brothers, Homer and Daine, Brownfield, and Ray, Tokio; one sister, Kathyleen Walsler, Lake Wales, FL.; five grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, three great great grandchildren.

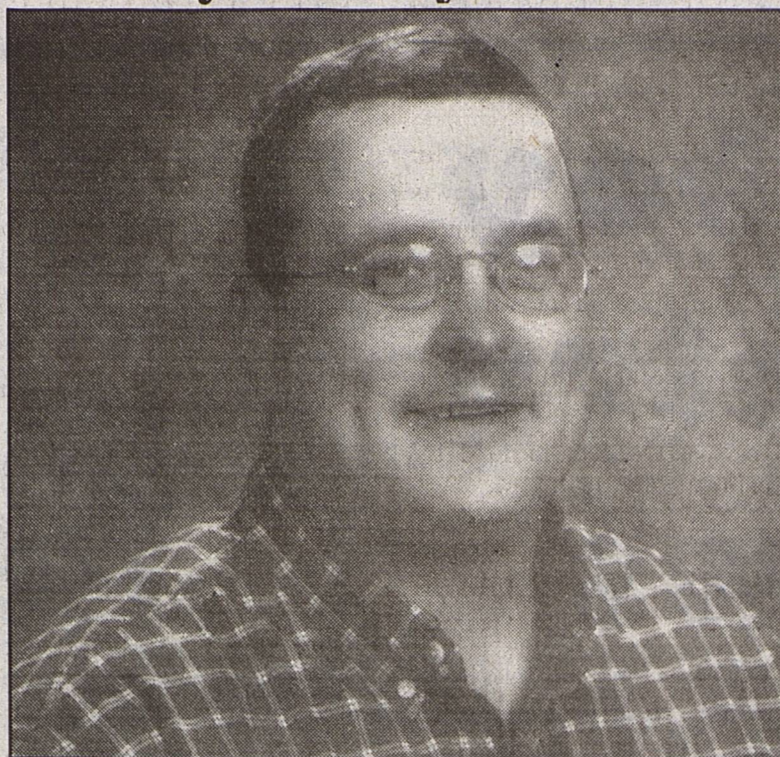
Marguerite Sherrin services held

Graveside services for Marguerite Sherrin, 85, were held at 4 PM Friday, April 18 at the Terry County Memorial Cemetery in Brownfield, with Rev, Randy Land officiating. Interment followed under direction of Brownfield Funeral Home. She was born August 17, 1917 in Callahan County. She attended Tokio schools. She moved to Yoakum County in 1924 with her parents. She married J.W. 'Stubby' Sherrin December 9, 1934 in Tahoka.

They lived and farmed in the Tokio area until moving to Brownfield in 1964. Her husband preceded her in death in 1987. She was also preceded in death by a daughter in 1934, Billie Dale Sherrin. She was a member of the First Baptist Church.

She is survived by a son, Jimmie Sherrin and wife Sherlyn of Brownfield, and a grand daughter, McDawn Sherrin of Amarillo

Dusty Rafferty Honored



Dusty Rafferty, formerly of Plains, was recently named Class 3-A Coach of the Year for Girls Powerlifting. He has had a great deal of success the past several years as head powerlifting coach for both girls and boys team at Iowa Park High School. This year his girls team won the State Championship title, and one of his senior boys won state as an individual competitor. Dusty is the son of Dene Rafferty and the grandson of Billie McDonnell of Plains.

One Act Play Dinner Theater Scheduled

The One Act Play cast and crew will perform the award winning "OPAL" for the public on April 28, 2003, after a BEAN AND CORNBREAD supper. The supper will begin at 5:30 P.M. in the foyer of the boys gym, and the performance will start at 7 P.M. in the auditorium.

Tickets will be \$5, which will include both the meal and the performance. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or from any of the following cast and crew members; Kelly Bowers,

Isamari Guzman, Carmen Ponce, Mandi Rogers, Allison Friesen, Manuel Ramoz, Brant Huerta, Blake O'Quinn, Jordan Bean, Breck Hamm, Payton Bean, Ashley Vantine, Moriah Traweck, Stacie Alldredge, JoAnna Diaz, Liz Wilmeth, LaShonda Diamond, Joseph Martinez, Kerry Sisson, B.J. Lester and Elizabeth Rodriguez.

The play was selected as an Alternate for the State UIL competition, reported on Page One.



CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Tax Relief for Texans

April is a special time in Texas. It brings bluebonnets, warm weather and the season opener of baseball. But it also gives rise to the most dreaded time of year - tax day. Each April 15, millions of Texans dutifully organize their paperwork, fill out their forms, sign on the dotted line, and send their tax returns to the Internal Revenue Service. Some merit a check from Uncle Sam, others end up owing money. But no matter what the outcome, one thing is certain: Texans are singled out for double taxation.

State and local governments raise revenue in a variety of ways. Some levy income taxes, some impose sales taxes and others use a combination of the two. Citizens who pay state and local income taxes can offset some of what they pay by taking a deduction on their federal tax. But those without an income tax - like Texas - cannot deduct the sales taxes paid to support state and local government.

The philosophy behind these deductions is simple and straightforward: people should not have to pay taxes on their taxes. The money given to one level of government should not be taxed by another level.

In 1986, a landmark tax reform law eliminated the deduction for state and local sales tax, but not the deduction for income tax. As a result, 23 million taxpayers from states like Texas, who pay sales tax but no income tax, have been penalized ever since.

This discrepancy has a significant impact on our state. According to the Texas Comptroller, if taxpayers could deduct their sales taxes, more than \$700 million would stay in the hands of Texans. This could add almost \$900 million in economic stimulus.

In February, I introduced legislation to correct this inequity. My bill would give all taxpayers the option of deducting state and local sales taxes or income taxes when calculating their federal taxes.

Additionally, Congress is working to accelerate the 2001 tax relief and make it permanent. Currently, because of the procedure we were forced to use to pass the tax cuts in 2001, it will sunset in 2011 and the relief will disappear. It is imperative to have stability in our tax code. Americans must be able to plan for the future, and make work, investment and retirement decisions based on consistency. An ever-changing tide of tax laws makes that impossible.

This April as you file your taxes, you can do so with the certainty that in Congress, we are working to relieve Americans from excessive taxation. We want to make sure our tax code is fundamentally fair. At a time when our economy is lagging and many people find themselves coming up short, it is more important than ever to allow Americans to keep more of their hard-earned money.

Notice of Regular Election (Aviso de Eleccion Regular)

To the Registered Voters of Plains, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados del Plains, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2003 for voting in a school election to elect three trustees and a proposition for the issuance of school bonds.
(Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 3 de Mayo de 2003 para votar en la Eleccion para elegir tres consiados y el proposito por la emision de los bonos.)

Location of Polling Places - Foyer of Plains ISD Auditorium at 1000 Tenth Street, Plains, Texas
(Direccion(es) de las Casillas Electorales - En el vestibulo dela sala de especta cu los en la escuela de Plains, 1000 calle 10, Plains, Tejas)

Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Plains ISD Administration Offices at 1000 Tenth Street, Plains, Texas between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning on April 16th and ending on April 29th.
(La votacion en adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de Lunes a Viernes en entre las 8:00 de la manana las 4:30 de la tarde empezando el 16 de Abril y terminando el 29 de Abril.)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a:)

Gail Holley
Plains ISD
P.O. Box 479
Plains, Texas 79355

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 25, 2003.
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el.)

Public Meeting to be held to discuss the proposed sale of Bonds by Plains Independent School District at 8 P.M. Thursday, April 24, in the school auditorium. Every resident in the school district should have an interest in this issue, and the continued success of our schools. Please plan to attend this last meeting before the May 3 election!

G.B. AERIAL APPLICATION, INC.



As the time to start a new crop this year rapidly approaches, it is obvious that agriculture in West Texas faces many challenges. The need for producing a crop with input costs held to a minimum is a must for most producers. Please keep the following in mind as you make your management decisions. We offer the following at very competitive prices:

- **All brands of yellow herbicides
- ** All major brands of cotton seed, both genetic and conventional
- ** Liquid fertilizer
- **Quality aerial application

If you have any questions feel free to stop by the office or you can contact us by phone at:
Office 456-6300, David Guetersloh Mobile # (806) 535-0065,
Dain Guetersloh Mobile # (806) 632-5375

TPA MEMBER 2003
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Driven to Success
CFI is now Hiring
COMPANY * OWNER OPERATORS
SINGLES AND TEAMS
Loads with miles available immediately!
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Call 800-CFI-DRIVE
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ASBESTOS NO FEE FOR FIRST VISIT
Diseases may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial workers and spouses (washing clothes) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, throat cancer, or lung cancer. Call us for professional insight.
Ryan A. Krebs, MD, JD (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
1-800-460-0606
www.asbestoslaw.com

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For All Your Pharmacy Needs!!
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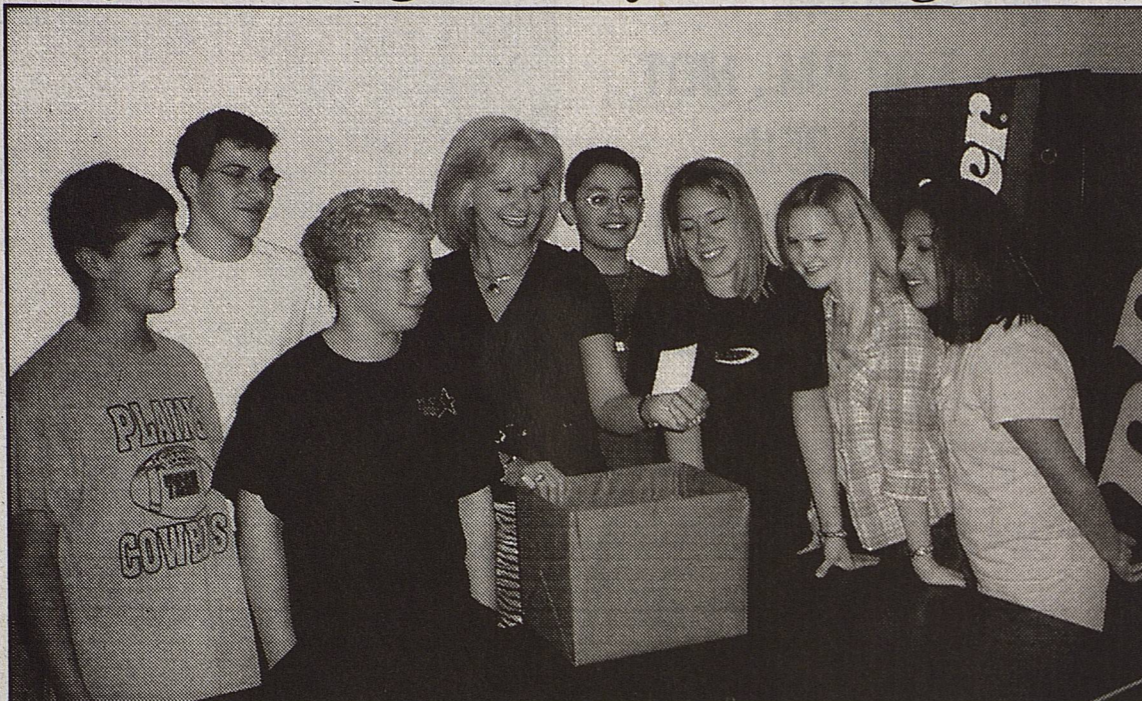
Services held for Leland Ellison

Graveside services for Leland Ellison, 72, were held Tuesday morning, April 21 at Plains Cemetery with Rev. Bill Wright officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors and Plains Memorial Chapel. He died Sunday, April 20, 2003 in Denver City.

Leland was born April 12, 1931 in the southeast corner of Yoakum County. He served in the Marines during the Korean War, a Sergeant and anti-tank assault infantry unit leader. He was a lifelong resident of Plains. He married Sandra Smith on March 17, 1956 in Lovington, New Mexico. He referred to himself as a "Steward of the land". He used to pass out peas and watermelons to widowed women, as well as taking care of their lawns. He also took care of his

church. He worked at the Shell gasoline plant in Denver City from 1955 to 1961, but remained a farmer all his life. Survivors include his wife; Two daughters, Leann Lewis and Lisa Duran, both of Plains; two brothers, Joe B. and Frank of Plains; Four grandsons, Andrew Duran, Forrest Lewis, Trevor Lewis and Brandon Lewis, all of Plains. He was preceded in death in 1961 by his brother Willie.

They're working their way to Washington D.C.



Judge Melba Crutcher, holding raffle ticket, is surrounded by Middle School students Douglas Conway, Steven Dominguez, Colby Wilmeth, Jose Luis Gallegos, Nicole Culwell, Caitlin Carter and Meghan Garcia, seven of eleven Jr. High students still working hard to pay their way to a "See It All" visit to the nations Capitol City June 2. The raffle netted a healthy sum of travel funds, to go with money the students earned manning concession stands at baseball games and the UIL meet here, and their recent sale of thousands of Krispy Kreme Donuts. The Washington D.C. Trip was organized by Tom and Mary Pettigrew, conducted by World Strides Travel. Frankie Walker's raffle ticket was drawn for the top \$500 Savings Bond prize, Sandra Ramos won an original painting by Evertt McAdams, and Adam Vasquez won dinner for four at Lalito's. The students appreciate the community's support of their program. Their fund raising efforts will continue until travel time.

Whitetail, Mule deer permit program coming up

Texas Parks and Wildlife will hold public hearings in West Texas and the Panhandle to take public comments on a proposed wildlife regulation change expanding the Managed Lands Deer (MLD) permit program for white tail deer to include mule deer. The habitat focused, incentive based MLD program is designed to facilitate management goals of landowners and land managers. The program requires an approved wildlife management plan for deer permit issuance. Requirements of the plan include 3 years population data, 2 years harvest data, 3 habitat management practices, and harvest quotas for antlerless and antlered mule deer. The incentive is an extended hunting season to begin one week prior to the general mule deer season, and extend through December 31. The public hearing for the western southern High Plains is scheduled for April 28, 7 P.M. in the County Room in Morton, Texas. Texas Parks and Wildlife staff encourage everyone interested in knowing more about the meeting or proposed wildlife regulation change to attend the hearing. Questions about the meeting or proposed regulation changes can be directed to TPWD staff at the District Office in Canyon, 806-655-3782 or your local biologist.

JP Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases heard and bonds set in Justice of Peace Court, Pct. One, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding. Cases filed: 67 traffic cases, two open container of alcohol in vehicle, one drug paraphernalia, 2 cases filed by Yoakum County Sanitarian. Bonds Set: Driving while license suspended-\$500 Failure to appear, Jim Hogg County- \$5000 DWI, first-\$1000 Failure to identify- \$500 Escape causes bodily injury-\$5000 Assault of public servant-\$5000 Criminal mischief, over \$50, undr \$500- \$500

Six Cowboy runners going to Regional meet

The PHS Cowboy tracksters had an impressive showing at the big Area meet last Friday at Canyon Randall.

Six Cowboy runners accounted for first place honors in the 800 Relay, the 1600 Relay team placed second, and the 400 sprint relay team finished with points for their third place finish. Coach Blake McWhirter reported the small team finished fourth overall in the track meet.

Individual results:
800 Run- Patrick Cotton 3rd, 2:07
110 Hurdles- Nick Hays 1st, 14.57 (Nick should have the fastest time in the region for this event. His time was just three tenths of a second off the school record set by Billy Curtis.)
400 Relay- Nick Hays, Kevin Bartley, Arnold Cordova, Chase Howell, 3rd, 45.6
800 Relay- Nick Hays, Kevin Bartley, Arnold Cordova, Chase Howell, 1st
1600 Relay- Chase Howell, Kevin Bartley, Richard Diaz, Patrick Cotton, 2nd.

GREAT JOB !

ELECT Dan Wall For City Council

As a long time resident and business man of Plains, I AM ASKING FOR YOUR VOTE for City Council. The citizens and future business of our community are top priorities to me. My family consists of my wife LINDA; sons, RONNY and wife JALYN of Lubbock; CHAD and wife JO LENA of Plains; and the lights of my life, the grandkids, ZANE, ADDI, JENTRY and TRENITY. Thirty years of business experience, my community activities and my integrity qualify me to serve Plains as a City Council Member. Please vote May 3. Early voting ends April 29. THANKS..... DAN

*** County Job Opening ***
Position for County Librarian over Plains and Denver City. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS A COUNTY LIBRARIAN: Completion of 39 semester credit hours from an accredited college or university OR Graduation from high school or passing GED and 1,000 hours of paid or voluntary work experience in a library in the past five years OR An equivalent combination of semester credit hours from an accredited college or university AND experience

where one semester credit hour may substitute for 33 1/3 hours of experience. OR Three additional semester credit hours at an accredited college or university OR Participation in 20 hours of continuing education during the two years immediately preceding an application for renewal COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE BY 5:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 12, 2003

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION ESPECIAL)

To the registered voters of the County of Yoakum, Texas:

(a los votantes registrados del Condado de Yoakum, Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on **May 3, 2003**, for voting in a special election to **fill the vacancy in the office of U.S. Representative, District 19.**

(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales citadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 3 de Mayo de 2003 para votar en la Eleccion Especial para **fill the vacancy in the office of U. S. Representative, District 19.**)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

#101 Precinct 1 Building, 139 E. Broadway, Denver City, TX
#202 Community Building, West 15th Street, Denver City, TX
#303 Yoakum County Library, 901 Avenue E. Plains, TX
#305 Denver City Library, 205 E. 4th Street, Denver City, TX
#404 Corral Youth Center, 911 Avenue G, Plains, TX
#406 Tax Office (Branch), 122 West 4th Street, Denver City, TX

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, Plains, TX & Yoakum County Tax Office, Denver City, TX

(location) (sitio)

EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.** beginning on **April 16, 2003.**

(entre las **8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde** empezando el **dia 16 de Abril, 2003.**)

and ending on **April 29, 2003.** (y terminando el **dia 29 de Abril, 2003.**)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan enviarse a:)

Deborah L. Rushing
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario de la Votacion Adelantada)

P.O. Box 309
(Address) (Direccion)

Plains **79355**
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el:)

Friday, April 25, 2003.
(date) (fecha)



I Am

Bud Forbus,



And I want to be your new City Councilman. I want to play a role in ensuring the fiscal soundness of our town, encouraging economic growth, and providing the best in city services at the lowest possible cost. My business background includes experience in water issues, the petroleum industry and dairy business. I am a Marine Corps veteran of WWII, and currently manage a vineyard and ranch operation.

Your Vote and Support In The May 3 Election Will Be Greatly Appreciated!

Political Advertisement Paid For By Bud Forbus

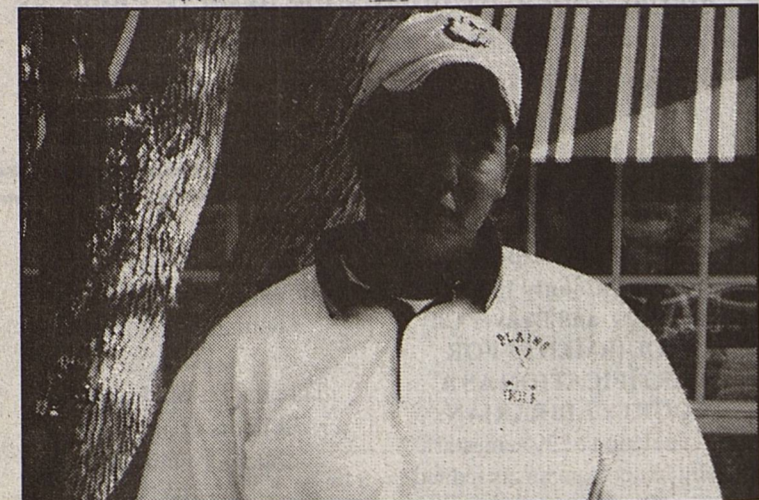


YOAKUM COUNTY WATERMELON ROUND-UP
August 30, 2003
Plains, Texas

Help Boost Our 8th Round-up!! Get your free & colorful bumper stickers from our local merchants!!



Coach Foster holds District Champ trophy won by Cowgirl golfers Li Wilmeth, Jill Gray, Marli Diaz and Mandi Rogers



Isaac Ramon will compete in Regional Golf Tourney this week

PISD Honor Rolls

Middle School:	7th- All A's
5th Grade - All A's	Kurt Alldredge
Brock Carter	Ryan Crump
Brandon Craft	Lauren Hise
Emilia Gallegos	Zachary Ramos
Brett Hawthorne	John Tyson
Abby Hernandez	All A's, 1 B
Nathan McCravey	Maria Andazola
All A - 1B	Douglas Conway
Natalie Haynes	Lauren Davis
Troy Parrish	Amber Friesen
6th- All A's	8th All A's
Chris Addison	Caitlin Carter
Reyna Gallegos	Landon Craft
Yesenia Loya	Angelica Mendoza
All A's, 1 B	All A's, 1 B
Mari Ruiz	Erika Loewen
Holden Welch	Araceli Mendoza
	Colby Wilmeth

High School:	Nolan Newsom
9th Grade	Carmen Ponce
All A's	Manuela Villegas
Allison Friesen	April Wilmeth
B J Lester	All A's, 1 B
Ramiro Martinez	Moriah Traweck
All A's, 1 B	12th All A's
Skylar Keesee	Kevin Bartley
Blake O'Quinn	Jordan Bean
Abel Ramos	Chelsea Blount
10th- All A's	Mario Bonilla
Evan Cain	Kelly Bowers
Marlie Diaz	Elda Fierro
Mayra Flores	Sandra Gallegos
Breck Hamm	Jill Gray
Brandon Hise	Nick Hays
Kerry Sisson	Ryan Swann
All A's, 1 B	Liz Wilmeth
Patrick Cotton	All A's, 1 B
Kristian Morales	Megan Allsup
11th All A's	David Garza
Stacie Alldredge	Isamari Guzman
Cendy Lopez	Chisum Justus
Sarah Martinez	Kim Martinez
Grady McNabb	Mandi Rogers
Helen Neufeld	

Lea County Electric Cooperative

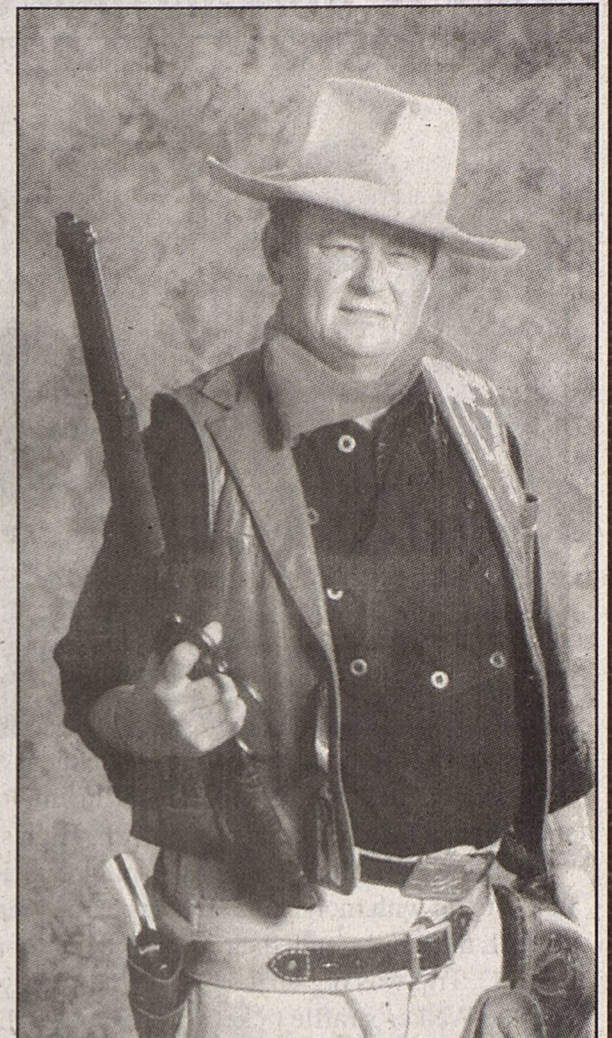
"Owned By Those We Serve"

54TH ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS Friday, April 25th ~ 7:30 pm

at
Pannell Auditorium

Registration:
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., MDT
Friday, April 25th,
at Lea County Electric Co-op in Lovington
OR
6:30 p.m.~7:30 p.m. MDT
AT
Pannell Auditorium, Lovington High School

Featured Entertainment
John Wayne
Impersonator
Dr. Gene Howard*
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Pre-Program Entertainment
provided by
Bluegrass Band
"Flatland"



*Neither Gene Howard nor his performances are in any way associated with the John Wayne Estate, John Wayne Family, or the John Wayne Foundation.

2003 ANNUAL MEETING DOOR PRIZES

- | | |
|--|---|
| Dell Computer System
(Dell Dimension 2350 Series, Intel Celeron Processor @ 1.8 GHz, 128MB Ram, 20GB Hard Drive, 56K Data/Fax Modem, 17 inch Monitor, Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition, Microsoft Office XP Small Business, Dell Jukebox powered by MUSICMATCH and more!) | Twin Window Fan
Presto Cool-Touch Electric Griddle
Black & Decker 1/3 sheet Finishing Sander
Black & Decker 3/8 inch Variable Speed Drill
Skil 2.3 hp 7 1/4 inch Skilsaw
WeedEater Snap & Go string trimmer
Toro Electric Rake & Vacuum
Black & Decker Variable Speed Jigsaw
Shop Vac 5 Gallon Wet/Dry Vacuum
Black & Decker 16 inch Electric Hedge Trimmer
RCA Surround Sound with DVD Player
Ionizer Air Purifier
Radio Shack Telephone with Answering Machine
CD/Radio Boom Box
Solar/Wind-up Radio
Tiffany Style Lamp
Gourmet Food Basket from Marshall's
Waterfowl Lamp from Poor Boy Metal Art
Metal Welcome Sign from WestCraft Metal Art, Inc.
Jigsaw
Quick-start Booster
Finish Sander and Portable Work Bench
Curling Iron with Shampoo & Conditioner
Bread Basket with Six Placemats
Table Runner with Six Placemats |
| Palm Pilot
Hand held computer system
Original Water Color Art Work by Suzy Pal
"Wash Day"
"Tokio Baptist Church"
Original Oil Painting by Linda Powell
"Run for Red"
RCA 19 inch Color Television
Rival 3.5 Quart Crock Pot
MVP 5 Gallon Air Tank
Proctor Silex Coffee Maker
5 inch Portable B&W Television
Presto Optimum Multi Cooker/Steamer
Black & Decker Quick & Easy Iron
Home Designs Clock Radio—Telephone
Hamilton Beach 200 watt hand held Mixer
Twin Motion Lamp
Toastermaster Extra-wide Toaster | |

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Student Greenhouse Project
It's planting time! We have bedding plants and vegetables at the Plains School Greenhouse.
NEW HOURS
effective Wednesday April 23
WED. 2:00 - 3:30 Thurs. - 8:30 - 11:30 & 1:00 - 4:30
Fri. - 8:30 - 11:30 and 1:00 - 3:30
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Annual Watermelon Round Up T-Shirt Contest Announced

The Denver City Art Association is now accepting entries for the Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up T-shirt contest, with the deadline for entries at 4:30 p.m. May 2nd. Design must be an original design no larger than 8 1/2" x 11" and must have "Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up" on it. Yoakum County Connection is awarding \$100 cash for the top design selected by the judges. For more information call Sue Holder at (806) 592-2960, after 5:00 p.m. Mail unfolded entries to Denver City Art Association at Box 854, Denver City, Texas 79323, or hand deliver to Bayer Lumber in Plains or the Chamber of Commerce in Denver City.

Tsa Mo Ga Club celebrates Federation Day

As part of GFWC Federation Day Celebration, Caprock District President Gerald Deane Wood addressed Tsa Mo Ga members at their April 14 salad supper meeting. Wood, a member of Tahoka's Phoebe K. Warner Chapter, was introduced by program coordinator Zareta Winn. The former educator, who retired after 27 years as a second and fifth grade instructor, used her teaching skills to guide members through a 'working' program. She involved members in simple craft projects individually and in groups. Her message - one person can do a great job working alone, but working as a group, members

can achieve outstanding results. She remarked, "Look waht you can accomplish working together. You are a member of the largest volunteer group in the world." Wood presented members with statewide and district wide statistics and figures from Texas Federation of Women's Club to show how many hours and dollars are donated each year in programs ranging from the arts to conservation and public affairs. "I appreciate all you do as a club. You always stand out in our district." She was accompanied to the meeting with her mother, Lahrué Tippitt.

"Look what the Easter Bunny left!"



More than a dozen pre-school kids enjoyed an Easter Egg hunt last week, staged by the Library staff, and under the watchful eyes of Moms and Grandmoms

Grant benefits computer students

The South Plains Tech Prep organization recently awarded the Plains High School Business Department a grant in the amount of \$800, to be used to purchase 14 copies of Office XP Progrtams and Office XP Books, which will be used by students in high school BCIS I and BCIS II classes. Plains ISD agreed to match this grant. Office XP's program and books have been in use since January of this year. The grant was made possible by the Carl Perkins Legislation. Instructor Brenda Canada expressed her gratitude to the South Plains Tech Prep organization and Plains ISD for providing students with the newest software packages being utilized in business and education today.

4th annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby results



Twenty one Cub Scouts competed in the 4th Pinewood Derby races at the local Scout hut last month. Dare Walker was Finish Judge, and received a gift certificate to Johnnie's for his services. The overall Grand Champ was Jaston Brink, winner of a \$50 savings bond donated by Plains State Bank. Other winners included; Matthew Ramos, Wolfs; Andrew Conway, Bears; Kevin John Gass, Weeblos I; Jacob Brink, Weeblos II; Aaron Ramos, Cub Buddy. All contestants received a patch and trophy. The youngsters appreciate all of the donors and supporters.

I think all this talk about age is foolish. Every time I'm one year older, everyone else is too.

Floria Swanson

Have You Voted Yet ???

Think you're pretty brainy, huh? Take this little quiz and prove it!

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. How long did the Hundred Years War last? | 6. The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? |
| 2. Which country makes Panama hats? | 7. What was King George VI's first name? |
| 3. From which animal do we get cat gut? | 8. What color is a purple finch? |
| 4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? | 9. Where are Chinese gooseberries from? |
| 5. What is a camel's hair brush made of? | (Answers Page 6) |

City Council Early Voting

Early voting by personal appearance for the May, 3 2003 City of Plains General Election will be conducted at Plains City Hall located at 1015 Avenue F, Plains, Texas. Early voting will be held each weekday during regular business hours from 8:00 to 5:00 p.m. Beginning on Wednesday, April 16, 2002 and ending Tuesday, April 29, 2003.

The purpose of the General Election is to elect three (3) Council members.

Las Noticias Liberan

Votar temprano por la apariencia personal la eleccion general se conducira en municipalidad de Plains localizado en 1015 Avda. F, el Plains, Tejas. Votar Temprano se tendra cada dia laborable duante horas regulares de negocio de 8:00 de la manana. A 5:00 dela tarde comenzar el miercoles, el 16 de Abril de 2003, y martes que finaliza, el 29 de Abril de 2003. El proposito de eleccion general debera elegir a tres (3) miembros del concilio.

Christy D. Brink
Incumbent
Plains City Council
Your Vote And Support
Will Be Greatly
Appreciated!

Political ad paid for by Christy D. Brink

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456-3727



Sunday Schedule
Children's Choir - 9:45 am
followed by Sunday School
Adult Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

**Running low on faith?
Stop in for a fill-up!**

VOTE in the MAY 3 Election

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

From The Hack

I can hear it all now. "There's nothing in this paper except the front page and election ads!" That's about 74 percent correct, and the Bride and I recently agreed on something - Ain't it grand! My personal thought on reforming our stumbling government - **ELECT EVERYONE EACH YEAR!** It does make us a bit more money, undeniably needed.

It is an interesting experience, receiving calls from political candidates inquiring about ad rates. In the 17 person race for the Congressional seat in our 19th District, those whom I consider leaders in the crowd of candidates have their campaign managers or advertising agencies call, fax or e-mail instructions for an ad, usually with check enclosed as the "pol. ad pd. for by xxx" statement implies.

Analyzing all the above, I have consulted my crystal ball and conclude there are five serious candidates among the 17. Further close inspection of the crystal ball convinces me I am not at all sure which of the five are the strongest. The brilliant thinking which led me to this conclusion: The other candi-

dates have not submitted ads, their managers have not called asking for ad rates, and the sure losers, the ones who never made a campaign meeting or even called us for a big discount rate. One candidate, to my knowledge, hasn't spent a dime on anything except his filing fee. A born loser.

What elates me about all this is... There is SURE to be a run-off election. I Love Politics!

I mentioned all the above to the Bride, and she glared at me. She has not been too well, and I advised her, "Dear, please remember... a run-off election means there will be money coming from at least two more camps for a month or so."

I swear her color brightened, I could visibly see a ray of sunshine light her eyes, her temperature dropped, and she whispered, "Thank you, Lord. for our Democratic process!"

KEEP THOSE ADS AND CHECKS COMING!

Puzzle Answers:

1. 116 years.
2. Ecuador
3. Sheep & horses.
4. November
5. Squirrel fur
6. Dogs
7. Albert
8. Crimson
9. New Zealand

SO THERE !!!

Grand Entry



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Facts you need to know about the PISD Bond Election

PROBLEM:

According to the Texas Education Agency, which is the regulatory body for school districts in Texas, Plains Independent School District is considered a "property wealthy" district. Under the state's current funding program, this means that Plains ISD must give the state a percentage (projected at 42.5% for 2003-2004) of their Maintenance and Operations ("M&O") tax collections, which is then redistributed to "property poor" districts. This equalization of all Texas School Districts is known as "Robin Hood" and the payment to the state is known as "recapture". As the taxable value of the District increases, the percentage of local M&O tax revenue paid as "recapture" increases.

SOLUTION:

In 1997, the State Legislature passed a bill that allows property-wealthy districts to lessen the payment of recapture to the state by issuing bonds. Plains ISD can avoid the payment of recapture for taxes that are levied to pay off voted debt. This means that ALL LOCAL TAX DOLLARS RAISED FOR THE REPAYMENT OF THIS BOND ISSUE WILL BE KEPT LOCALLY IN OUR DISTRICT. In other words, by issuing bonds, citizens are assured that more of their tax dollars will stay in the District to enhance and improve the education of their students rather than flowing out of Plains ISD in the form of recapture.

BENEFITS OF RECAPTURE SAVINGS

By paying for \$2.1 million capital expenditures from proceeds of the bond issue, Plains ISD will save funds that would otherwise have to be paid to the State or other districts.

Projects to be Completed with Bond Funds

- ✦ Facility/Equipment Upgrades (normal upgrading of facilities and replacement of equipment during the next three years, including roof repairs)
- ✦ Capital Expenditures/Equipment and Vehicles (includes buses and items with a useful life of more than one year)

BOND ISSUE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q-I thought bond issues were for building projects.

A-Normally they are, however, Plains ISD is not planning on any building projects.

Q-What are the factors that determine Robin Hood payments?

A-The number of students in the district and the local property tax valuation. Robin Hood payments increase when student enrollment declines or local property tax values increase.

Q-Are Robin Hood payments part of the school district budget?

A-Yes. In 2002-2003 Robin Hood payments are \$2.7 million. It is projected that the Robin Hood amount for 2003-2004 will be between \$2.5 and \$2.8 million. Robin Hood payments are the second highest budget item after salaries.

Q-How will the bond issue affect the school district budget?

A-Plains ISD will be able to use bond proceeds to pay for normal capital expenditures, thus lowering the amount of revenue needed to fund the remaining Maintenance and Operating budget items. This savings would be used to decrease the amount of money that must be taken from the District's fund balance (savings account).

Q-What will be the savings for Plains ISD as result of the bond issue?

A-Over the next three years Plains ISD will save some of the money used for Robin Hood payments based on local property values and student enrollment.

Q-How will the bond issue affect my taxes?

A-The goal of Plains ISD is to set a total tax rate no higher than \$1.50 which is the current tax rate. This amount cannot be guaranteed because of the changes that sometimes occur with student enrollment and property values.

Q-What other school districts have used bond issues to reduce Robin Hood payments?

A-Loop ISD, Amarillo Highland Park ISD, Denver City ISD, Lefors ISD, Jayton-Girard ISD, Plemmons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD, and Trent ISD are among other "property wealthy" districts that have had bond issues in the past few years and each bond election passed with substantial voter approval.

Q-Is Plains ISD short of money?

A-Yes. Because of a large drop in student population, Plains ISD has had to spend money out of our fund balance this year to maintain our programs as they currently exist. We cannot continue to do this. This bond issue is just one of several strategies we are using to help solve our budget problems. You will still see money spent for the items listed above under "Projects to be completed with bond funds." Other strategies will include personnel cuts and cuts in spending on every program area of the district budget.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Even if the District has to raise its tax rate, the values of residential homesteads for persons 65 and over are frozen—Taxes paid by persons 65 and over WILL NOT INCREASE.

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