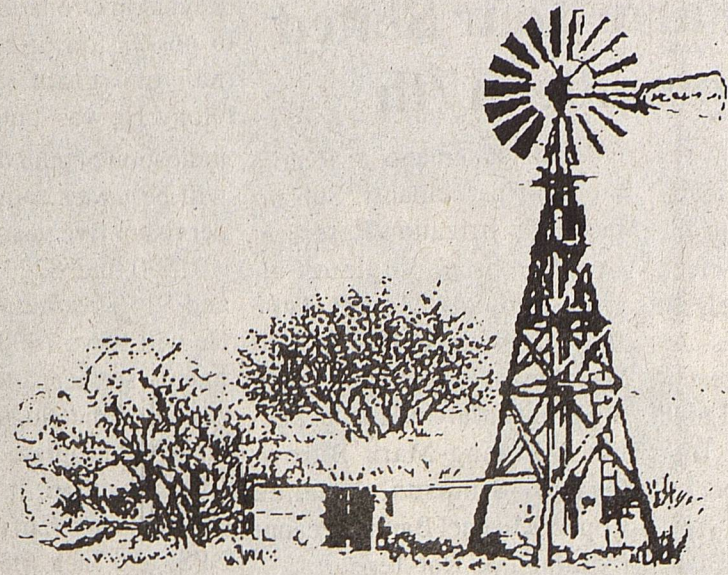


# Cowboy Country News

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

Volume IX, Issue 50, September 3, 2003



## The 8th Round Up - A Great Time Was Had By ALL!



### State Raises Fees, Adds Surcharges To Traffic Citations

As of September 1, 2003, the State of Texas has increased their fees \$30 on each traffic citation issued. This has raised the State fees to a total of \$81. These costs are in addition to the fine assessed by the court. The State has also implemented a 'point system' whereby an annual surcharge is assessed by the State of Texas each year for three years on the license of a person who has accumulated six or more points. Two points will be assessed for each speeding violation and other moving violations of this state or another state and 3 points for a moving violation that resulted in an accident. Points will not be assigned to a person's driving record if the speeding offense was less than 10 percent faster than the posted speed limit. There will be a \$100 surcharge for the first six points plus \$25 for each additional point. A surcharge will also be assessed by the State for conviction of no liability insurance in the amount of \$250 per year, and for conviction of driving without a valid license in the

amount of \$100 a year. Each surcharge will be assessed for three years. If surcharges are not paid, the State will suspend the violator's driver's license and the suspension will remain until the surcharge costs are paid. The surcharges are in addition to the court fines and state fees and will be billed directly to the offender by the State of Texas. As of September 1, an offender with a commercial driver's license is not eligible to take a defensive driving course for dismissal of a moving violation, nor is a CDL offender eligible for deferred adjudication for dismissal. This includes citations given while driving a commercial or personal vehicle. As a result of the additional State fees, the minimum fine and fees the court is allowed to assess for adults not wearing a seat belt is \$106. The minimum fine and fees for children not secured in a child safety seat or seat belt is \$181. \*This article courtesy of Judge Melba Crutcher, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1.

### Criminal cases in District Court

Eleven cases were heard in the August 25 session of 121st District Court, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state. Richard Franklin Allen pled guilty to lesser included offense, first DWI. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$600, must pay \$281 court cost, \$25 time payment fee, and \$250 court appointed attorney fees. He must complete the TAIP outpatient program, complete the DWI repeat offender program, attend weekly AA meetings, and serve 24 hours community service. Paul Mansur was his attorney, and DPS Trooper Robert Shugart was investigating officer. Jose Alejandro Loya pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI cause, third or more. He was sentenced to 7 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, with credit for 87 days jail time served. Warren New was his attorney.

Turn To Page 2, District Court

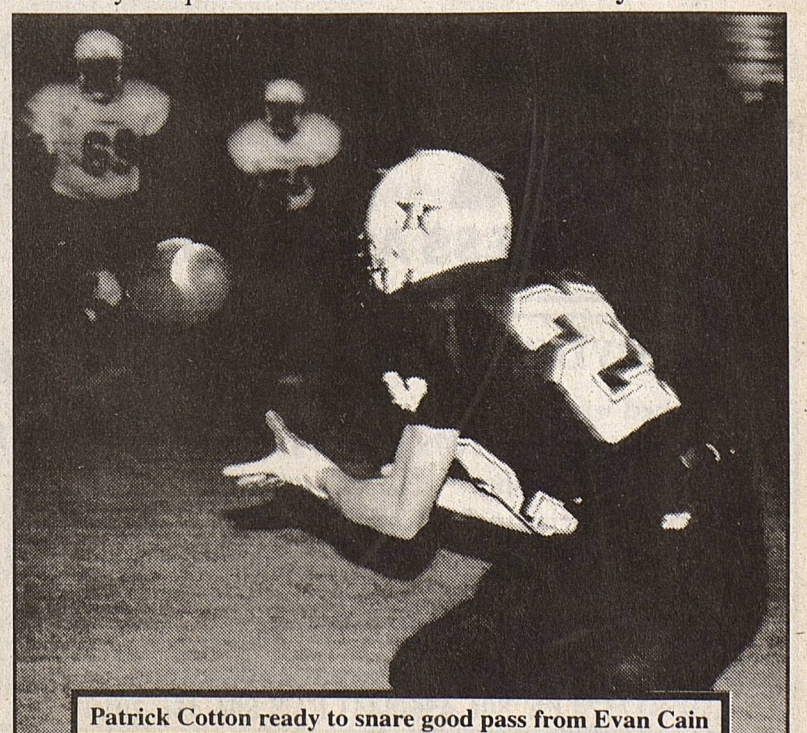
### Cowboys fall 22 - 12 in opener Farwell Steers display too much offense

In the season opener for both the Cowboys and Farwell Steers, both offensive units appeared a bit tentative and sluggish early on. Farwell had the ball over 7 minutes, but managed only two first downs and 26 yards offense. The Cowboys also managed two first downs with a bit over 4 minutes possession, on rushes by Todd Williams and Richard Diaz, and a pass completion from Evan Cain to Patrick Cotton. In the Cowboy's first possession in the second period, the Cowboys struck quickly with Cain's pass to Arnold Cordova for 24 yards, followed by another Cain toss to Richard Diaz for the touchdown. The extra point kick failed and the Cowboys were up 6-0. When the Steers got the ball, the Cowboy defenders came alive and stopped a Steer drive, but couldn't get their offense in gear. Forced to punt, Farwell's good running back Hugo Vasquez went 39 yards in three rushes to score, and the PAT gave the Steers a 7-6 lead. With only 12 seconds on the clock in the first half, Adam Guerrero recovered a Steer

fumble at the 34, where Cain first missed a toss to Zach Broome, but then connected with Richard Diaz for six points. The point after pass to Cotton failed, but the Cowboys were up 12-7 at halftime. Early in the third quarter, the Cowboys attempted a drive with rushes by Williams and T.J. Cordova, but when Cain was sacked by the Steers and a pass to Broome failed, they were forced to punt. The Steers took the ball at the 35, and big rushes by Vasquez and Mitchell

pushed the ball down field for 65 yards in six plays for the score, and Vasquez's run for the two points put the Steers up 15-12. Late in the third period, the Steers started a five play drive for 40 yards for another score when Vasquez again crossed the goal line after the start of the final quarter, and the kick put them up 22-12 for the final score. The Steers had 310 yards total

Turn To Page 3 Cowboys



Patrick Cotton ready to snare good pass from Evan Cain

## Western Peanut Growers Research Farm Tour Slated For September 17th

At the beginning of 200, Western Peanut Growers Association, Inc. (WPGA) began the operation of a 320 acre research farm located approximately 10 miles west of Seagraves. As this farm's fourth crop is reaching maturity, WPGA will hold a Peanut Research Farm Tour on September 17, 2003 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Funded by WPGA, the peanut research farm is the first of its kind, forming a unique research alliance consisting of USDA-ARS, Texas Tech University, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The research farm provides a consistent site to conduct tests that would otherwise be virtually impossible to perform on a single producer's farm year after year. Water needs and population, improved genetics, and economic analysis of production systems.

Tentative Tour Schedule and Sparkers: 8:30 am-Register for 2 CEU's (General) - WPGA Research Farm, Located 1 mile west of the intersection of County Roads 226 and 211 in Gaines County, Texas. 9:00 am-

Opening statements & Recognition of participants. Subsurface Drip Irrigation Research-Ron Sorensen. Virginia/Calcium Project: Market-Type Project; Variety Trails-Todd Baughman. Peanut Rhizobium & Fertility-Calvin Trostle. Peanut Breeding-Mark Burow, Charles Simpson, Yolanda Lopez, Michael Baring. Peanut Pythium Pod Rot-Terry Wheeler. Transgenic Cotton Research-Terry Wheeler. Weed Control Research-Peter Dotray. Irrigation & Insect Research-Dana Porter, Meg Parajulee. 11:45 am Receive CEU Certificates & Depart.

Western Peanut Growers Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization funded and governed by peanut producers primarily on the South Plains. WPGA is the only voice dedicated to the West Texas peanut producer. The main purpose of the association is to improve the West Texas peanut industry, using tools such as education, research, technology, and promotion. To learn more about WPGA or the research farm tour, contact the WPGA office in Seminole at (432) 758-2050.

**From Page 1, District Court**  
Reynaldo Orona Jr. pled guilty to possession of cocaine, less than one gram, a state jail felony. He was sentenced to ad-

judication of guilt deferred. He will be under community supervision five years, must pay a \$1500 fine, \$223 court costs and \$140 restitution to DPS. He will serve 180 hours community service, attend weekly narcotics meetings, complete the TAIP program, and spend 13 hours in jail. Investigating officer was Chris Malloy, DPS, and Jack Stern was his attorney.

Trease Thomas Young pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior possession of Methamphetamine cause. He was sentenced to two years in state jail, with credit for 130 days in jail. Russell Gunter was his attorney.

Jason Wayne Allen pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior building burglary cause. He was sentenced to 21 months in state jail with credit for 179 hours jail time served. Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Francisco Sotelo pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI, third or more. He was sentenced to nine years in the Institutional Division of the Department of Criminal Justice, with credit for 199 days served in jail. Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Diana Kay Mata pled guilty to tampering with a government record. A five year prison sentence was suspended and probated five years. She was fined \$1000, must pay \$302 court costs, \$25 time payment fee,

and \$3129 restitution to Texas Department of Human Services. She will serve 160 hours community service, and will be disqualified for food stamps and medicaid benefits for one year. Investigating officer was Larry Manley, TDHS, and Warren New was her attorney.

Grady Wilson Hart pled guilty to delivery of marijuana, more than 1/4 ounce, less than 5 pounds, a state jail felony. A two year state jail sentence was suspended and probated five years. He was fined \$1000, must pay \$237 court costs, \$25 time payment fee, \$140 restitution to DPS, and \$400 court appointed attorney fee. He will serve 120 hours community service. Paul Mansur was his attorney, and Antonio de la Cruz, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force, was investigating officer.

Bobby Joe Clark pled guilty to criminal mischief, more than \$1500, less than \$20,000. A two year state jail sentence was suspended and probated five years. He was fined \$200, must pay \$200 attorney fees, delinquent \$338 fine and \$454 community service fees. John Matus was investigating officer, and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Ernie James Hildebrand pled true and had conditions of community supervision from a prior habitation burglary modified. He will remain in jail 180 days or until space is available in a substance abuse treatment facility where he will be confined up to one year and not less than 90 days. He will pay \$200 court appointed attorney fees at \$15 per month, fine and delinquent attorney fees at \$20 per month, and \$10 per month on \$244 community supervision fees. His attorney was Bill Helwig.

**CAPITOL COMMENT**

U.S. SENATOR

**KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**

In today's fast paced world, it's easy to become absorbed in life's daily routine. Family, work, social obligations, household chores and community activities consume our schedules, leaving little, if any, free time. So why would you add another task to your "To Do" list by donating blood? The answer is simple: Your time could provide life-saving blood to help a fellow American.

Every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood and nearly every American will require blood if they live to be 72 years old. Yet only five percent of the eligible U.S. population donates in a given year. Blood banks across Texas and the U.S. are reaching out far and wide for help as the need for blood continues to outweigh blood collections.

By donating one pint of blood, you can save up to three lives. After I gave blood, I left knowing my time and donation would help a mother, daughter, brother, cousin or friend. The knowledge that, like me, millions of Texans have the power to save lives in less than an hour has inspired me to help recruit more donors by participating in public service announcements and blood drives.

Those drivers occur on a regular basis and it's likely that one will be taking place at your local church, school, shopping mall, or hospital. You can also contact your community blood center to get more information on blood donations, as well as details on where and when you can donate blood.

Your time is valuable and understanding the requirements and procedures for donating

blood will make the process easier and more effective. Blood donors need to weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, be at least 17 years old, not have donated blood in the last 56 days, and be in general good health with no recent major wounds.

Anyone donating for the first time can expect to spend approximately one hour at the blood drive where they will receive a mini-health check, which includes taking of their temperature and blood pressure as well as measuring iron levels. Donors are encouraged to eat prior to giving blood.

Blood donors will also be asked about past and present health and lifestyles. All health histories are kept confidential, and donations are collected with the utmost concern for the health and safety of the donor and recipient.

According to the American Red Cross, you can anticipate the following: The donation usually takes about 10 minutes. You will have given about a pint of blood when finished, and your body will replace the plasma (liquid part) in hours and the cells in a few weeks.

Following the donation, your blood will be tested to make sure it is healthy, and you will be confidentially notified if tests show you may have a health problem.

It's easy, convenient and, most importantly, giving blood saves lives. So open your planner, take out your "To Do" list, and schedule one hour out of your day to donate blood. Your commitment is minimal, but the rewards are priceless. A fellow American is depending on you.

### County Court Criminal Case

In County Court August 27, Gerardo Campos pled guilty to tampering with government records. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for 28 days served, and released to the U.S. Border Patrol. Judge Dallas Brewer was presiding officer and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

September 3, 1838: Mirabeau B. Lamar elected President of Republic of Texas.

September 6, 1876: Camp Del Rio established near the town of Del Rio. First called Post San Felipe, but name changed on March 18, 1881. Garrisoned until May 8, 1891.

### Cell Phone Hoax

We've received several recent calls asking us about the new ban on the use of cell phones while driving. Despite the existence of e-mails and memos on this new 'law' from such (supposedly) authoritative sources as DPS and the US Military, there is no such law, three bills to ban the use of cell phones by drivers were introduced this past session, but none of them passed (in fact, none of them even came close to passing into law). This has

been an especially difficult rumor to stamp out among the law enforcement community, so before your local officers start pulling over chatty drivers based upon a supposed violation of a fictional law, you might want to make sure they are aware of this hoax. We have also posted an article on this topic from today's Austin American Statesman on our website if you'd like more information.



Young 'Knights' in jousting battle

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**From Page 1,  
Cowboys**

offense, 243 on the ground, while the Cowboys could only generate 71 yards in 40 plays. The Steers converted five of eleven third downs into first downs, while the Cowboys managed only one of ten.

Individual stats included; Top rushers- Williams, 5 for 29 yards, Diaz, 5 for 8. Passing- Cain, 5 completions,

19 attempts, 1 interception. Pass Receiving-- Diaz 2, 11 yards, Broome, 1, 25 yards, Arnold Cordova 1, 24 yards, Cotton 1, 5 yards.

Punting- T.J. Cordova 6, 185 yards. Broome, 1, 45 yards.

Fumble recoveries, Blake O'Quinn, Adam Guerrero, 1 each.

Tackles and Assists- Grady McNabb 19, Todd Williams 5, Guerrero 7, Ryan Martinez 6,

Michael Crump 4, Isaac Ramon 6, Nolan Newsom 3, Richard Diaz 2, TJ Cordova 3, Arnold Cordova 2, Cotton 2, O'Quinn 1, Broome 2, Cody Flores 2.

QB Sacks- Arnold Cordova and Ryan Martinez shared 1 sack.

The Cowboys face old Nemesis Seagraves there next Friday at 7:30 PM - Be there to help them!



Evan Cain, 10, ball in right hand, searches for open Cowboy to throw to



Adam Guerrero, on ground at left of photo, brings down Steer runner



Todd Williams skirts left corner for good yardage

**Go Cowboys,  
Pluck The  
Seagraves Eagles!**



Coaches try to light some fire in Cowboys

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**You are invited**

to our

**50th Anniversary**

**Sunday, Sept. 7, 2003**

9:00 a.m.  
Coffee & Renewing Friendships

9:30 a.m.  
"REFLECTION, REMEMBRANCE & REUNION"  
Former Pastors to Speak  
Great Music

11:30 a.m.  
Lunch served by the church families

1:00 p.m.  
Jean Bowlin -- Founder of the Preschool at JABC to speak  
Slide show of History of JABC  
Music

1:30 p.m.

"ADORATION, CELEBRATION & DEDICATION"  
Led by Mike McGuire, Pastor  
Randy Preston, Minister of Music  
Choir to premier an Anniversary song  
(written by Randy Preston)  
Church Re-dedication  
Lord's Supper Observed

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

RECEPTION in Fellowship Hall,  
hosted by JABC Preschool

**Jackson Avenue Baptist Church  
9th and Jackson ~ Lovington, NM**

**Yoakum County Plains Clinic**

**Amir Memon, MD**

and

**Jo Lena Wall, PA - C**

*We have Meningococcal Vaccines for Meningitis. It is recommended for students entering college, and may be required for some schools. Vaccinations at the Clinic are offered only until July 2. Please come to see us by this date!*

**TEXAS HEALTH STEPS**

**Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8-5**

**Wednesday 8-5**

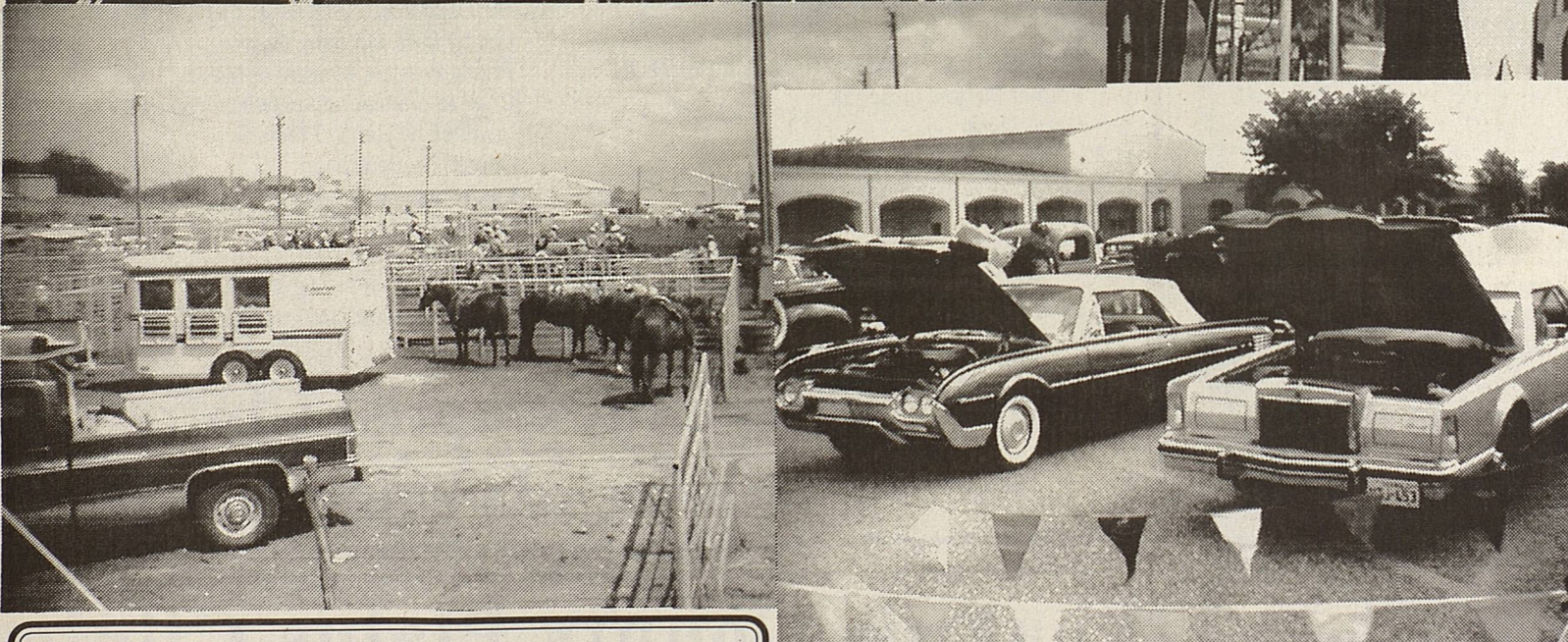
**Thursday & Friday 8-5**

**Will take walk-ins**

**Appointments preferred**

**Please call 806-456-6365**

# More Round Up Scenes



**Yoakum County Family Literacy**  
*Families Together - The Best Way To Learn!*  
**Registration Dates**  
**PLAINS**  
 Monday, Sept. 8th and  
 Tuesday, Sept. 9th, 2003  
 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
 Plains Elementary School by the office  
 Bring Social Security cards for parent and child  
 and shot record for child.  
**DENVER CITY**  
 Wednesday, Sept. 10th and  
 Thursday, Sept. 11, 2003  
 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
 The Learning Center, 500 N. Ave. C  
 Bring Social Security cards for parent and  
 child and shot record for child.

**NOTICE FOR BIDS**  
 THE STATE OF TEXAS }  
 COUNTY OF YOAKUM }  
 The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 A.M., Friday, September 12, 2003, for the sale of laboratory equipment:  
 (2) Coagulation instruments and  
 (1) Urinalysis instrument for the Yoakum County Hospital.  
 Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, September 15, 2003. For a list of the equipment and more information, please contact Clay Taylor, Hospital Administrator, 412 Mustang Ave, Denver City, Texas 79323 or call 806/592-2121.  
 Sealed bids should be marked "HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456/Cowboy Way and Avenue G., Plains, Texas 79355.  
**NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**  
 Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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## Congressman Neugebauer Speaks

Congress breaks each year for what is commonly called August 'recess'. Recess typically means break time; a vacation; an opportunity to leave the fast pace and relax. I can tell you that I did very little relaxing during August this year. I see many of you as I made the rounds in West Texas during this 'recess'. From Littlefield and Andrews to Big Spring and Stanton, I have seen your faces and heard your voices. I know what's on your mind and what you need from me. There will be several more of these visits during weekends and when Congress adjourns, but now it's time to get back to business in Washington and continue working hard for West Texas.

The next few months are going to be incredibly busy as Congress tackles issues from the economy to health care and everything in between.

One of the top issues we are dealing with is passage of a comprehensive national energy policy. The House and Senate have passed their respective versions of an Energy Bill and now we have to work out the differences in the two bills. High natural gas prices are emptying personal pocketbooks as well as doing severe harm to family farms and businesses. Many of you, like me, were shocked at the recent blackout that crippled several major cities. A country as well developed as the United States should not have an out dated an overloaded electrical grid like we do. Over the next 20 years, U.S. demand for electricity will rise by 45 percent, yet we are decades behind in power plant construction and upgrading our electrical infrastructure. I know we can use our natural resources; especially those in West Texas and at the same time protect our environment. I will discuss energy policy more with you as this process moves along.

Another historic piece of legislation I hope we can complete work on is meaningful Medicare reform. When I say 'Meaningful' I mean legislation that includes a real prescription drug benefit for seniors citizens. I feel very strongly that the Senate's version of the legislation is too expensive and I would have a very difficult time supporting a so called reform package that could cost taxpayers a TRILLION dollars. We

need market based changes to Medicare and our health care system, such as Health Savings Accounts, that will allow people to have money available in case anything bad happens, and association health plans that would make health insurance affordable for millions more Americans. I will be keeping a close eye on the progress of this crucial legislation.

We will begin debate on the final versions of the 13 annual appropriations bills. One of the most important appropriations bills provides funding for agriculture. We must be careful to protect the Farm Bill and not reverse its carefully crafted balances and commitments. I will continue to closely monitor the implementation of the Farm Bill, including new conservation, rural development and energy programs, and serious problems relating to conservation technical assistance for producers and landowners. Much of West Texas' economic strength comes from the productivity of our farms. We must maintain the programs the Farm Bill, at its promised levels, in order to maintain a healthy economy in West Texas.

We will also pass our first ever Homeland Security Appropriations Bill. While I have never been a supporter of broadening the powers and scope of our federal government, in the post-September 11th environment I believe it is important to ensure that our law enforcement officials have the ability to protect our citizens against future attacks. We must give officials the power to domestically fight terrorism while at the same time not sacrificing our personal freedoms.

I just want to say thank you for the warm reception these past few weeks in the District. It's always so good to go home and see the faces of those who are giving me opportunity to do what I am doing now. I can't repeat often enough that it is such an honor and a privilege to serve as your Congressman for the 19th District of Texas.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 1026 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-4319 or on your website at [www.house.gov/neugebauer](http://www.house.gov/neugebauer).

## Local Sailor Recognized



Local resident Jerry Lowrey recently received this photo and commendation letter from his daughter Tammy's Commanding officer; Dear Mr. Lowrey, Your daughter, Tammy, was recently awarded a Flag Letter of Commendation. She has set herself apart from other members of the command by her outstanding performance. I am proud to have presented her with this acknowledgment of a trusty professional Sailor.

Tammy is a fine warrior whose contributions at Strike Fighter Squadron 87 are of significant importance to mission accomplishment. Individual achievements such as your daughter's continue to allow our squadron to meet our operational requirements in support of national defense. You should be proud of your daughter's achievement.

Sincerely,  
D.J. Morgan  
Commander, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer  
Strike Fighter Squadron 87

## New Books At The Library

### FICTION:

Barracuda 945...Patrick Robinson, Beachcomber...Karen Robards, Hocus Croakus...Mary Daheim, Lord of Snow and Shadows...Sarah Ash, The Teeth of the Tiger...Tom Clancy, Street Dreams...Faye Kellerman, Presumption of Death...Perri O'Shaughnessy, The Footprints Of God...Greg Iles, A Place Of Hiding...Elizabeth George, The Baynes Clan: Nevada Tough...John S. McCord, The Last Gunfighter: Rescue...William W. Johnstone, Blood On The Grass...Lewis B. Patten, The Phantom Pass...William Colt MacDonald

### NON-FICTION:

Dining at the Governor's Mansion...Carl R. McQueary, The Beloved Disciple...Beth Moore, Benjamin Franklin: An American Life...Walter Isaacson, The Reagans: Portrait of a Marriage...Anne Edwards, 21 Days To Baghdad...Editors of Time

### AUDIO BOOKS

The Giver...Lois Lowry, The Carnivorous Carnival...Lemony Snicket, A Wrinkle In Time...Madeleine L'Engle, Hatchet...Gary Paulsen, The Teeth Of The Tiger...Tom Clancy



Hobbs Dance Academy Flamenco dancers

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or 891-0450  
Home 592-3490

Jeff Lowery, Sales Assoc.  
Mobile 806-592-1319  
Home 456-3195

## Hydrogen Sulfide Safety Training On Tap

The fall schedule of hydrogen sulfide safety training classes has been announced by South Plains College in Levelland.

The three hour course covers all aspects of the deadly gas, hydrogen sulfide, including detection, safety procedures and demonstration in the use of safety masks. The course meets safety training requirements for work in the oil field.

Instructor is Paul Harbin, who teaches SPC's four semester program in Electrical and

Power Transmission Technology.

Classes will meet 6-9 p.m. one Monday a month throughout the fall in the Petroleum Technology-Law Enforcement Building in Room 108. Tuition is \$10 a person.

Class dates are September 8, October 6, November 3 and December 1.

To pre-register, contact the SPC Division of Continuing and Distance Education at 806-894-9611, ext. 2341.

## Early Voting Under Way

Austin, TX - Texas Secretary of State Geoffrey S. Connor wants to remind Texans that Thursday, August 28th, 2003, begins the early voting period for September's upcoming constitutional amendment election. There will be twenty-two propositions on this year's ballot. "The early voting period ensures that all registered voters have the opportunity to have their voices heard, even if they can't participate on Election Day," said Secretary Connor.

The early voting period for Texas' constitutional amendment election extends from August 28th through September 9th. During the early voting period, voters can vote in any polling place located within their county. However, voters who wait until Election Day will be held on Saturday, September 13th.

"During this election, Texans will be making tremendously important choices which will impact the future of our state for years to come. By not voting, you are letting someone else decide your future for you. That's not the Texan way," said Secretary Connor. The Texas Secretary of State serves as the state's Chief Elections Officer.



85 immaculately restored 'Classic Autos' in show



## YCH Foundation Golf Tournament

Wednesday, September 17, 2003  
10 AM Shotgun Start  
Entry Fee: \$50 individual,  
\$200 team, includes golf, cart, lunch,  
two mulligans, non refundable  
FORMAT: Four Person Scramble

ENTRY DEADLINE: September 10, 2003  
LOCATION: Yoakum County Golf Course,  
806-592-2947  
QUESTIONS? Call 806-592-7607

Sponsored in part by Covenant Health System  
All proceeds will go to the YCH Foundation

## First United Methodist Church

1202 Avenue G - Plains, Texas  
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

If God is your co-pilot,  
You need to switch seats!

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Plains, Texas

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

# From The Hack

Three blondes walk into a bar and ask the bartender for three shots of tequila. He pours the shots, they clink glasses, shout "Fifty-one days!", then slam the shots down, looking well pleased.

They motion to the bartender for another round. He pours, they clink glasses and gleefully shout "Fifty-one days!"

The barkeep is all curiosity, and asks what fifty-one days means when they yell it out.

One of the blondes looks at him, and says very smugly, "Well, we just finished a jigsaw puzzle, and it only took us 51 days, and on the box it says two to four years!"

The ongoing saga of the missing Democrat senators camped out in Albuquerque continues to arouse rage, hysterical gaiety, or complete indifference, depending on your political views. We received an amusing news release last week from The Republican Party of Texas. (Before you leap to the wrong assumption, we also receive news releases from the Demos, too.) The Republican release, penned before the weekend and college football games, stated in part; "Texas Democrats holed up in New Mexico find themselves in another conundrum as the UT Longhorns square off with the New Mexico State Aggies in Austin this weekend. Will the Democrats be rooting for their old home team or their new home team.

"The odds on New Mexico winning the game are about the same as Democrats winning the re-districting battle", Texas GOP Chair Susan Weddington said.

"Regardless of the outcome, fans of both teams can rest assured there will be far fewer delay of game and unsportsmanlike conduct penalties than the Democrats have incurred over the past few months," said Weddington. "Plus, I doubt one of the teams will get mad and walk off the field."

Weddington also challenged the Albuquerque 11 to accept a friendly wager; If Texas wins, the Demos must come home and go back to work. If New Mexico wins, the Democrats can vacate their offices and stay in Albuquerque.

As they say, all's fair in love and politics.

I just learned because of the booming popularity of all the Survivor type TV programs, Texas is now planning to produce its own show, entitled, "Survivor - Texas Style."

The contestants will start in Dallas, travel to Waco, Austin, San Antonio, over to Houston and then down to Brownsville. From there they will proceed north to Del Rio, on to El Paso, the to Odessa, Midland. Lubbock and Amarillo. From there they will journey on to Abilene, Fort Worth, and finally back to Dallas.

Each contestant will drive a pink Volvo with bumper stickers that read; "I'm Gay.... I love the Dixie Chicks.... I'm a strict vegetarian..... I voted for Al Gore and got Chad screwed..... Hilary In 2004!.... and, I'm here to confiscate all your guns!

The first one who makes it back to Dallas alive wins what ever he/she wants.

More courtroom drama nonsense:

Q: So the date of conception of the baby was August 8th?  
A: Yes.

Q: And what were you doing at that time?  
A: I resent that question!

Q: Trooper, when you stopped the defendant, were your red and blue lights flashing?  
A: Yes they were.

Q: What did the defendant say when she got out of the car?  
A: What disco am I at?

Q: Now when I ask you a question, all your responses must be oral.  
A: OK.

Q: What was the name of the school you attended?  
A: Oral.

**What About?** The other day one of our staff members was attending a local church. She and her husband had been invited to Sunday School. She thought that would be a great way to get to know people from the community.

To her surprise, when she said she worked at Mark A Jones Funeral Directors, on the Lubbock highway, they immediately asked, "So is he Bob Jones' brother or son?"

I know it probably caught her off guard, but we get asked that all the time. Talking with Bob, he has even been accused of 'putting his brother over there to stop the competition.'

I know that in a small town such as Brownfield, Seagraves or Plains, what is the chance of two families with the same name purchasing within the same industry?

Of course we didn't know Bob was here, we only knew Collier's Funeral Home had been sold not too long before we came to Brownfield, but we sure didn't know his name was Jones.

Over the next few weeks, I'll tell you about Mark and Beth Jones, share our lives with you and who we are.

God has blessed us in so many ways, it's hard to tell it all in one place and time. From television to radio to church services of all types, God has provided time to try.

So, next week we will start with me, then to Beth and her family, and maybe other staff members so you can get to know us. We will even be sharing how we are so totally different from other funeral directors in our approach to funeral service and service to our families. Until next time...



**Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors & Plains Memorial Chapel**  
Plains 456-2152, Seagraves 546-2121, Brownfield 637-8993  
Email: markajones@door.net, Web site: www.majonesfuneraldirectors.com

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Plains Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. in The Administration Office September 15, 2003.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.50	\$ -0-	\$ 1.50	\$ 9,081	\$ 417
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.6081	\$ .179	\$ 1.7872	\$ 10,164	\$ 303
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.321	\$ .179	\$ 1.50	\$ 8,650	\$ 303


\* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 34,010	\$ 38,187
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 13,484	\$ 16,962
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.50
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 202.26	\$ 254.43
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 52.17

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.6681. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.6681.

Fund Balances	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,550,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-



### Plains Lions Club Broom & Mop Sale & Krispy Kreme Donuts

**Thursday, September 11, 2003**  
**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**  
**Courthouse Lawn**

Pre-Order your Krispy Kreme Donuts From Any Lions Club Member NOW to make sure they will be here on the above date and time!

**\* For Sale \***  
To be moved -  
14'X 32' steel workshop/  
storage building on  
skids & wood frame,  
extra large door.  
\$2,500 or best offer  
Call 456-2172

**AUCTION Vail, CO**  
America's #1 Ski & Golf Resort • Sat., Sept. 20  
**Divorce Forces Sale**  
Enjoy 270° panoramic views of the ski slopes and Vail Valley from this gated home at the top of the mountain, next to Spradille Creek. Details include hardwoods, flagstone, tumbled stone, granite, custom maple cabinetry and top-of-the-line appliances.  
**Great Estates AUCTION COMPANY**  
Call for a free color brochure: **800-552-8120**  
www.G-E-A.com  
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Western Wear  
110 N. Main  
Denver City, TX  
**BOOT & SHOE REPAIR**  
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**Going STRONG**  
**CFI is now Hiring**  
COMPANY \* OWNER OPERATORS  
SINGLES AND TEAMS  
Loads with miles available immediately!  
Ask about our spouse-training program  
**Call 800-CFI-DRIVE**  
www.cfidrive.com

**\* House For Sale \***  
4 BR, 2 Bath  
2 Car Garage  
407 3rd St.  
Call For Appointment  
Home 456-2131  
Cell 806-632-9062

**Still in business!!**  
**JACK SPEARS DRILLING**  
Call  
806-456-4925  
Or  
806-456-5005

**South Plains Pest Control**  
Charles Oswalt, owner  
**House Spraying**  
Just \$ 27.50!  
806-637-3831  
806-638-7384

**Yoakum County Hospital Home Health is seeking RN. Please contact**  
**Linda French,**  
806-592-3676

**Country Home For Sale**  
1450 US Hwy 82 West  
3 Bdr, 2 3/4 bath, 2 car,  
approx. 12.42 acres  
Very nice, call for appointment  
**Hunt Realty**  
112 N. Main  
Denver City, TX 79323  
Ph 806-592-3556  
Fax: 806-592-8489

**Need extra CASH?**  
Put your for sale items here for \$6

**YARD WORK**  
\*Mowing w/bagger  
\*Weed eating  
\*Edging  
\*Hedging  
\*Tree trimming  
call 456-2797

**TERRY COUNTY TRACTOR**  
Massey Ferguson  
Kubota  
Bush Hog Shredders,  
Lilliston Rolling Cultivators, Lorenz & Buffalo Cultivators,  
Baker Disc & Switch Plows, Spray Coupe, Wilmar Sprayer  
Brownfield, Tx.  
806-637-4569

**BAYER LUMBER & HARDWARE**  
1018 Ave. E Plains, Tx 79355  
806-456-4800 Voice & Fax

**SPECIALS !!!**  
Pro-Hoe Rogue Hoe \$24.50  
2 PC. Crescent Dura-Players \$9.95  
2 Pack Heavy Duty "C" Battery .99  
6 Foot "T" Post \$2.50  
2003 Seed 10 Packs For \$1.00  
Dutch Boy Interior Flat Latex Paint -White- \$9.95 Gallon  
Pro Plus Chrome Brass Lavatory Faucet \$16.95

*A one-more-time friendly reminder...*  
Want it in next week's CCN?  
Get it to us by noon Friday, or all bets are off!

**ROJO ELECTRIC**  
Authorized Square D Dealer  
456-7540