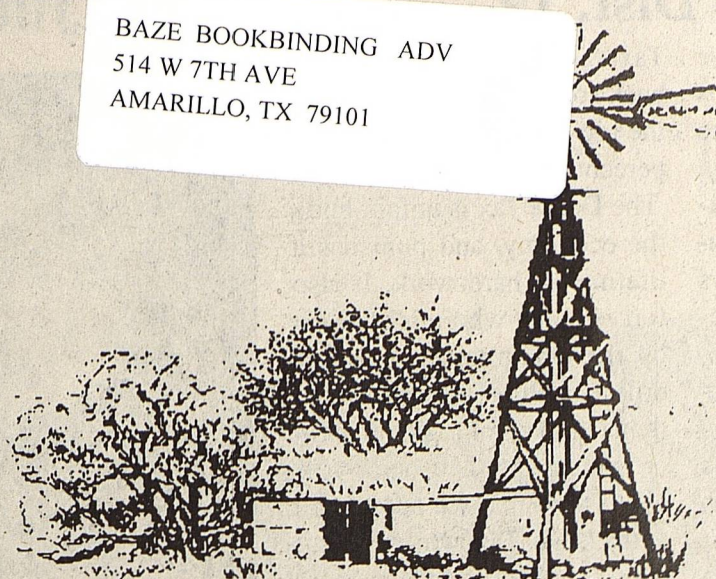


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XI, Issue 35, May 11, 2005



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Criminal cases in District and County Court

Three criminal cases were heard in the May 3 session of District Court, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Cathy Lynn Hernandez pled guilty to fraudulent use or possession of identifying information, a state jail felony. She was sentenced to serve two years in state jail with credit for nine days served in jail. She must pay \$318 court costs, \$900 restitution to Household Bank and \$178 to First premier Bank. Artie Aguilar was her attorney, and Deputy John Stephenson was investigating officer.

Rogelio Rosas pled guilty to DWI with child under 15 years of age, a state jail felony. A two year jail sentence was suspended and probated five years. The state did not seek indictment for deadly weapon finding. He will serve 120 hours community service, was fined \$1500, must pay \$338 court costs, attend weekly AA meetings, complete a 30 day outpatient treatment program at his cost, and complete the DWI first offender program, and

spend 10 days in jail. Investigating officer was DPS Trooper Robert Munsell, and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Jeremy Jason Gonzales pled true to violating terms of supervision from a prior conviction for bail jumping and failure to appear. He will remain in jail until space is available in Ray D Anderson Community Corrections Facility where he will serve a term of not less than one year and no more than 24 months as an alternative to incarceration in county jail or state prison. After release he will pay \$20 monthly on \$375 appointed attorney fees, delinquent court costs of \$318, \$332 CSCD fees, \$98 restitution, and \$224 appointed attorney fees for total of \$978. He must pay \$679 restitution to Texas Assn. of Counties and \$560 to the CDA office hot check fund.

In County Court April 27, Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, Edgar Allen Moreno pled guilty to racing on a highway. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$241 court costs. Investigating officer was Eddie Bishop, Denver City Police.

Jones says cheerleader routines an issue for parents, schools, not the state

State Rep. Delwin Jones, R-Lubbock,, Dist. 83, voted against HB 1476, which sets limits on suggestive routines by cheerleaders and drill teams because he believes "such issues should be decided by parents and local schools, not by the legislature."

The Texas House of Representatives discussed and voted on the bill May 3, and it passed 65-56. The bill would give the Texas Education Agency the responsibility to direct state and local officials to respond to complaints about routines. The bill was passed on to the Senate where it presently has no sponsor, and its future is uncertain.

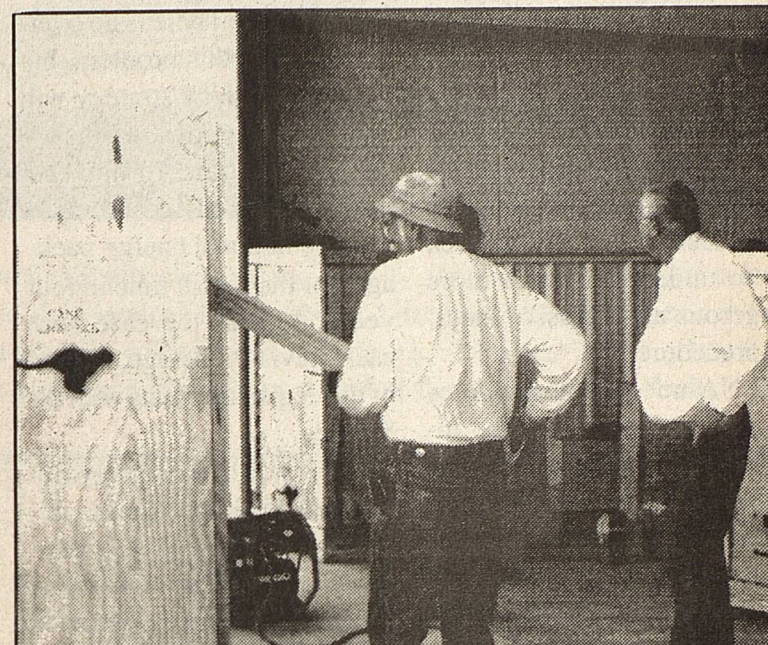
Rep. Jones serves District 83, comprised of a portion of Lubbock County and all of Cochran, Hockley, Gaines and Yoakum counties.

Local airport radar on way to India

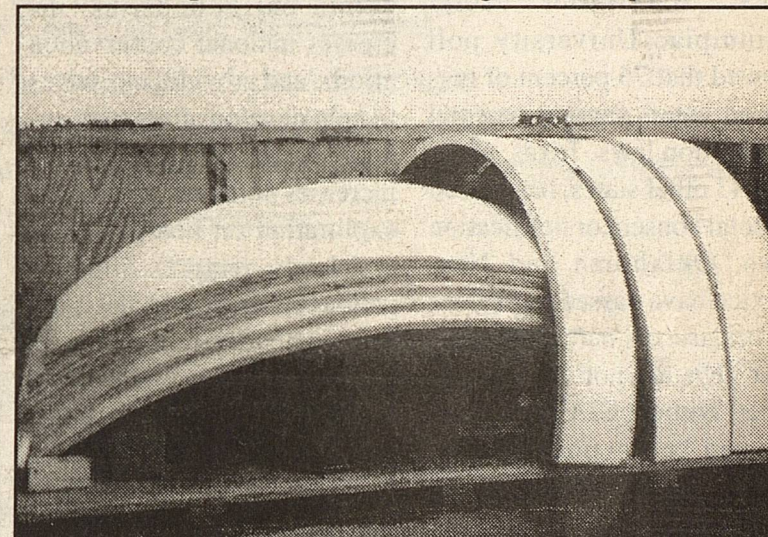
A 'sixteen wheeler rig' pulled up to the Sandy Land hangar last Friday, loaded with large special weather resistant wooden crates, and panels of the same material to build more crates. The finished crates contained a complete radar unit from Dumas, where it had been in operation in that area's weather modification cloud seeding project. When the large truck pulled out that evening, it was carrying another complete radar unit, the one formerly used by Sandy Land Water District's S.O.A.R project, also a weather modification program.

Sandy Land consultant Gary Walker, asked how the cloud seeding flights could continue to operate here without radar guidance explained, "Our old radar unit had a useful range of 75 miles, or a diameter range of 150 miles. We now have access to more powerful radar units in Lubbock and Midland, each with radius ranges of 150 miles. These National Weathers Service units give us greatly expanded range and clarity."

The old radar here, a 1975 model, was purchased by Sandy Land in 2002 for \$150,000. Maintenance and repairs costs on the unit were becoming prohibitive, and getting technicians to come to Plains was a continuing problem. "We recently contracted for the old unit's sale to a firm starting a cloud seeding program in the



Gary Walker, right, and worker assembling crate for trip to India



Sections of old radar dome before crating for trip

nation of India." He said the old radar system sold for \$100,000. "That means we were out some \$50,000 for its use here a little over two years, but these were funds allocated by the state to our district for the unit used in the seeding program." The Midland and Lubbock ra-

dar units cost approximately one million each. "We can utilize their services for \$4,000 to \$5,000 annually. It's good economics. The contracts S.O.A.R. now have with New Mexico and area Texas counties using our monitoring and seeding flights will easily cover those and our other operating costs."

County law enforcement benefits from D.A.'s Hot Check Fund



Becky Garcia, second from left, a staff member of the Yoakum County Criminal District Attorney Office is shown presenting Yoakum County Law Enforcement Agency members, L-R, Sheriff Don Corzine, Denver City Police Chief Jack Miller, and D. C. Police Officer Charles Higgs two digital cameras, representing a total of twelve of the same cameras purchased with funds collected by the CDA's Hot Check Fund. Prior to this presentation, both law enforcement agencies did not have sufficient cameras for all officers on duty, which often hindered law violation investigations. Sheriff Don Corzine, speaking for both agencies, said, "This will be an additional and needed tool for our people conducting criminal investigations. Many times before now we have had officers working a situation and having to call in to our headquarters for one of these digital tools."

Mandated voting machines delay county equipment purchases

In the May 9 session of Commissioners Court, both the District Clerk and Criminal District Attorney sought approval to replace two aging computers in their offices. Both Vicki Blundell and Richard Clark reported technicians had examined the machines recently, and advised them the computers could crash at any time. After considerable discussion Judge Dallas Brewer suggested Blundell and Clark wait on the purchases from their equipment line-items until federally mandated electronic voting machines have been delivered and paid for. He explained, "I'm not suggesting the county is out of money. The voting machines are something we have no choice but to comply with the governments order to furnish them to voters. When they are shipped we are required to send

TURN TO PAGE TWO,
COMMISSIONERS

Old marquee sign to be 'extinct breed'



The ancient marquee sign shown here will soon be history, replaced by a new computer driven electronic sign. The Plains Chamber of Commerce fund raising memorial brick sale has succeeded to the point actual construction and development will start soon. Local Bill Rowe will oversee the erection of the sign, and the Chamber is finalizing plans for the design where the engraved bricks will be laid. Over 400 bricks were sold.

Rep. Randy Neugebauer, Texas Dist. 19

The last several weeks have seen several important pieces of legislation pass through the House, often strong bipartisan support. From passing a national energy policy to strengthening parental notification laws for abortion, the House has accomplished quite a bit recently. Blow is a run down of the highlights.

Last week, the House voted to strengthen parental notification laws by passing the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act, or 'CIANA'. CIANA makes it a crime to transport a minor across state lines to have an abortion of the intent is to evade parental notification laws in the girl's home state. Parents must be notified when kids go on field trips, get their ears pierced, or simply take an aspirin while at school. It is only common sense that we respect the right of parents to be notified when their children are to undergo a much more dangerous and invasive medical procedure.

CIANA not only underscores the rights of parents to be involved in the medical decisions of their children, but also reinforces the democratic will of the American people which has been expressed at the ballot box and through their state legislatures. A March, 2005 Quinnipiac University poll showed that 75 percent of registered voters support parental notification laws. Texas, along with 43 other states, has passed parental consent or notification laws. Oklahoma and New Mexico have passed such laws, but because of court challenges, their laws are not currently in effect. Without CIANA, Texas' law can be circumvented by traveling to these neighboring states.

The House has done its part by approving this legislation. I hope the Senate can overcome the recent trend of obstruction by a minority of its members and send this widely-supported, common sense piece of legislation to President Bush.

Two days before working Americans had to send their money to the Internal Revenue Service, the House took a step toward easing the tax burden on many families and small businesses by voting to eliminate Death Tax.. permanently. Although Congress temporarily repealed the Death Tax in 2001, current law calls for it to be reinstated January 1, 2011. Death

Tax rates would then revert back to pre-2001 levels when the top rate was as high as 55 percent.

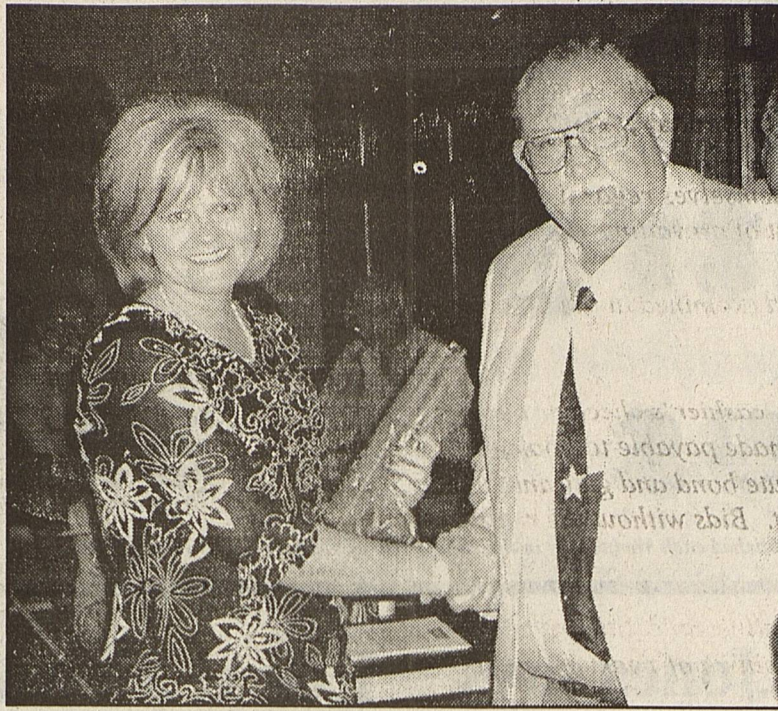
The Death Tax is unfair, hurts the economy, and punishes a lifetime of hard work. It also forces many who might be hit by the tax to spend valuable dollars trying to ensure that they can pass along their farm or business to their heirs. It is about time that we put an end to the Death Tax, which has left many farmers, small business owners, and their families in its wake. To do this, we will once again need the help of the Senate.

High prices at the gas pump are putting a strain on household pocketbooks. There is no overnight fix for this problem, but a national energy strategy will go a long way toward improving the situation. To this end, the House has passed a comprehensive national energy package, for the fourth time in four years. As was the case with each previous passage, the fate of this legislation rests with the Senate.

This version of the Energy Bill is a balanced approach to decreasing America's dependence on foreign sources of energy. It recognizes the need to find more sources of oil within our boundaries, increases national conservation efforts, and provides incentives to help develop alternative energy sources. The Energy Bill increases domestic oil and gas exploration on non-park federal lands; requires 5 billion gallons of renewable fuel, such as ethanol, to be included in all gasoline sold in the United States by 2012; provides common sense regulatory relief for domestic oil and gas producers; and streamlines the regulatory and approval process for the restart of idle refineries or the construction of new refineries. On the conservation side of the equation, it provides grants to state and local governments to acquire hybrid, alternative fueled, and fuel-cell vehicles, and it directs the U.S. Department of Transportation to continue its work on improving Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for cars and light trucks.

To reiterate a common theme of this Roundup, obstructionists in the Senate need to let the democratic process run its course and bring this bill to the floor for an up or down vote.

Judge Crutcher honored as 'Judge of the Year'



Judge Melba Crutcher was awarded with Judge of the Year for West Texas Justices of the Peace and Constable Assn. at her annual conference in Amarillo April 29. The Precinct One Judge has held the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the association since 1993. Presenting her award is Judge Art Taylor, President of the association.

Crutcher was elected to her office here in 1991. She is also a member of the State Justice of Peace and Constables Association, and is a member of the Risk Management Board of the Texas Association of Counties. She is a member of the Plains Fine Arts Club and a past president of the Plains Lions Club.

ATTENTION FIRMS OR ORGANIZATIONS

Bids are being taken for the purchase of the old marquee sign now in Pioneer Plaza Park. The sign is to be replaced with the new electronic sign purchased by the Plains Chamber of Commerce. Bids will be received until Noon Wednesday, June 1. Bid proposals should include bid amount, bidders name, address and phone number, and placed in a sealed envelope marked 'Sign Bid' and left at Plains City Hall. Winning bidder will be notified.

DIALYSIS INVESTIGATION

If you or a loved one suffered a **HIGH FEVER** requiring HOSPITALIZATION, eventually leading to a stroke, sepsis or death within 48 hours of kidney dialysis, call James Rolshouse & Associates toll free at 1-800-924-4192 or visit us online at www.rolshouselaw.com.

James Rolshouse practices law only in MN, but associates with experienced lawyers throughout the U.S. to help people across the country. **YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO MONEY DAMAGES**

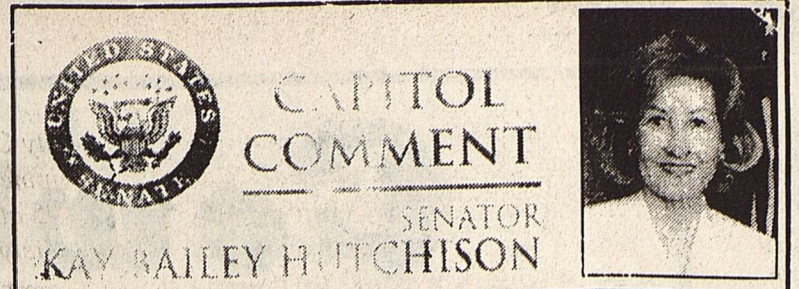
TOLL FREE 1-800-924-4192

FROM PAGE ONE, COMMISSIONERS

the money in at that time. It's true we have been approved for a government grant which will re-imburse us for the machines, but who knows when they will get around to actually re-paying us. I would just suggest we wait until this matter is out of the way before we look at other equipment purchases. We have no problem with you updating your equipment." Both Clark and Blundell indicated they understood the suggestion and would wait.

The County Depository Pledge Contract with Sundown State Bank of Denver City was unanimously approved. The contract period is May 2005 through May 2009.

A bid from John and Laura Matus in the amount of \$3800 was approved on lots 1-5, Blk. 16 South Town Addn. in Denver City, property owned in foreclosure by Yoakum County Property in Trust.



According to a recent study, 27 percent of working adults in Texas have no medical insurance coverage, the highest rate in the country. Many of them have no health coverage because they work for small business owners who want to offer their employees insurance, but are unable to provide this benefit. People who work for large corporations often a variety of health plans from which to choose. With thousands of employees in different states and other countries, big businesses are able to negotiate a cost effective plan that enables them to offer affordable health benefits to their employees.

Health care and insurance costs are increasing across the board with rate increases of up to 30 percent during the last year alone. This hits small businesses particularly hard, since they pay more for health insurance already and often operate on razor-thin profit margins.

A farmer in Uvalde who employs 21 ranch hands, or the owner of a women's clothing boutique in Salado with three employees, may want to offer this important benefit, but current costs would exceed their profits. In fact, nationwide, 60 percent of uninsured Americans are employed by small businesses that cannot afford to offer health care benefits.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel. I am co-sponsoring The Small Business Health Fairness Act, which would allow the creation of Association

Health Plans (AHPs). AHPs would permit members of bona fide associations to pool their resources to get affordable health coverage packages from insurance companies. For example, the local or national Chamber of Commerce could broker a deal with an insurance company to provide health benefits to all of its member businesses and employees whether the member is a dry cleaner or a hardware store.

AHPs would have to meet rigorous standards, even more stringent than those followed by large national corporations and labor unions. Uniform federal regulation of AHPs will help businesses lower their administrative costs. The Congressional Budget Office estimates small businesses participating in AHPs will receive insurance premium reductions ranging from 13-25 percent. By operating under federal law, these plans could avoid the complexity and cost of complying with regulations in 50 different states.

Small business provides the bulk of jobs in the United States. They also represent the entrepreneurship and innovation which creates the industries of the future. Congress should help rather than create barriers to their success.

By promoting AHPs, we will encourage more small businesses to offer this benefit, which is not only good for workers and their employees but good for Texas and our healthcare.

Yoakum County Hospital has positions available for:

Physical Therapy-must have Bachelor Degree in Physical Therapy and Texas license
Social Worker-must have Bachelor and Texas license
Radiology Technician-Certified or Registered with ARRT, or ARCRT and Texas license
Excellent benefits, great work environment.
Fax resume to Administration, 806-592-2891

TPA
MEMBER 2005
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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and

Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals, addressed to Yoakum County, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, Texas 79355, for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for Tank Battery Relocation will be received until May 20, 2005 at 4:30 P.M. in Yoakum County Courthouse, Judge's Office, at which time the bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated. Bids will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 23, 2005.

Bidders are expected to inspect the sites of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions and legislation concerning the wage rate and the payment of prevailing wage.

Plans, specifications, proposals, and contract forms may be seen and examined at the office of West Texas Consultants, Inc., 1710 W. Broadway, Andrews, Texas.

Each bidder will be required to submit with his bid a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond, in the amount of five (5%) percent of the total of the bid submitted, made payable to Yoakum County, as a guarantee that bidder will enter into contract and execute bond and guaranty in the forms provided within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract. Bids without the required check or bid bond will not be considered.

Yoakum County reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive all technicalities and to award the bid that is most advantageous to Yoakum County, in the opinion of Yoakum County.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals, addressed to Yoakum County, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, TX 79355, for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for Construction of Flow Lines, will be received May 20, 2005 at 4:30 pm in Yoakum County Court House, County Judge's office, at which time the bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated. Bids will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 23, 2005.

Bidders are expected to inspect the sites of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions and legislation concerning the wage rate and the payment of prevailing wage.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals, addressed to Yoakum County, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, TX 79355, for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for the construction of lease roads, will be received until May 20, 2005 at 4:30 pm in Yoakum Courthouse, County Judge's Office, at which time the bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated. Bids will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 23 2005.

Bidders are expected to inspect the sites of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions and legislation concerning the wage rate and the payment of prevailing wage.

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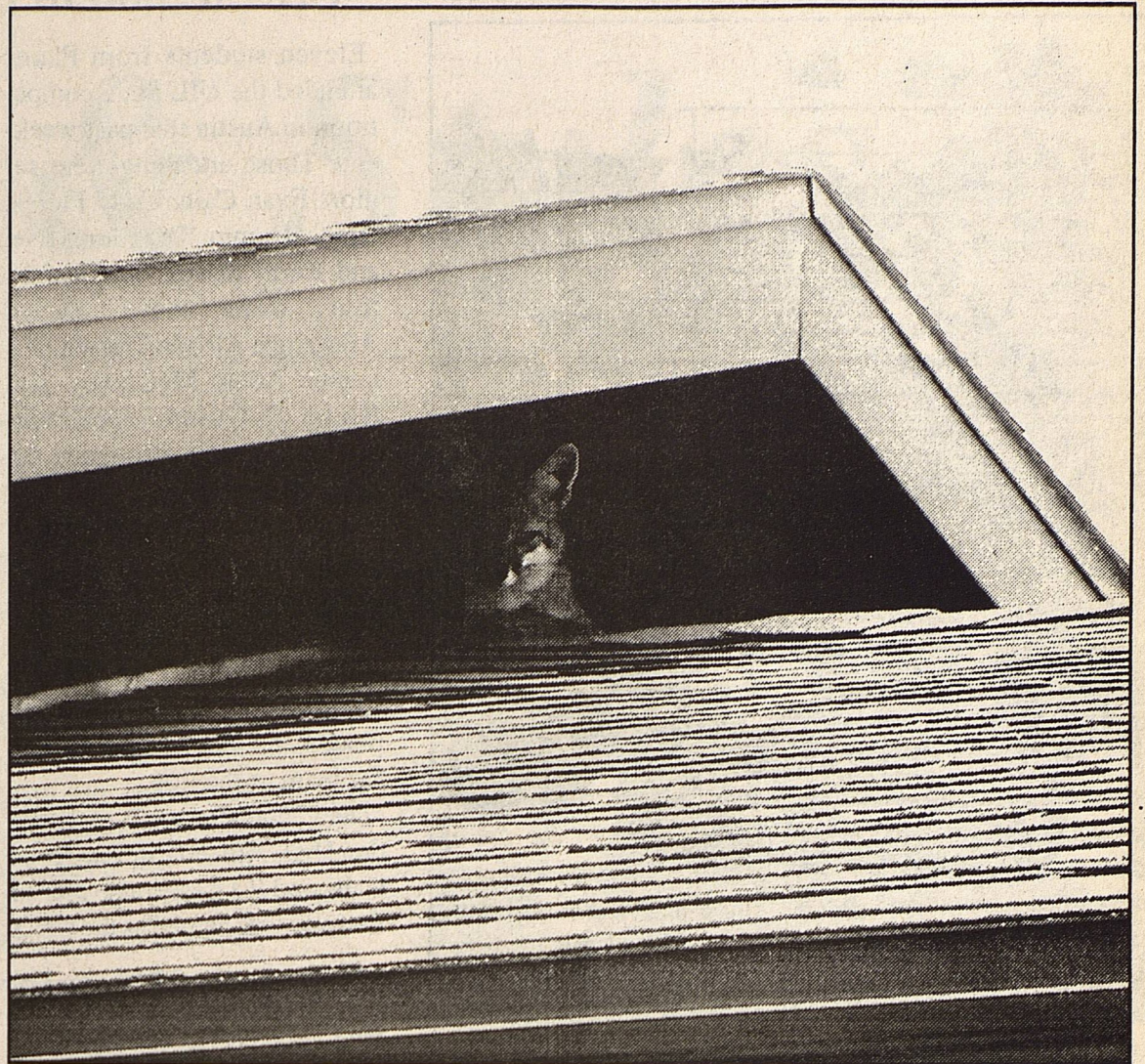
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Cemetery Beautification Project



Precinct 3 Cemetery and Park Custodian Jess Gass is shown with a healthy and growing Afghan Pine tree, one of twenty recently planted in the cemetery. The beautification project was funded by the Plains Dirt Gardners annual 'Operation Christmas Card'. The trees were purchased and planted for a little more than \$2,000. The club is discussing additional improvement and beautification projects with the Cemetery Association.



Pretty Foxy, huh? This Red Fox was digitally captured last Friday afternoon, comfortably relaxing in the shade of an eave on the roof of Sandra Ellison. She said the fox had been reported to her at least an hour before this photo was taken, and she had never had a 'fox guest before'. Mr. Red did not appear a bit apprehensive about being digitally immortalized or of the camera flash.

YCH Foundation

Board Members
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THANK YOU!!!

To all those that participated, helped, and sponsored the
3rd Annual Golf Tournament

Tournament Champion Sponsors:

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Yoakum County Hospital Home Health/Arapaho Healthcare Resources

Hole Sponsors:

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Occidental Permian
YCH Physical Therapy Department
Dialysis Services of West Texas

Bronze

Retail Merchants
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Nephrology Services International
The Helwig Law Firm
Sundown State Bank

Garner's Yamaha
CTSI
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Donations:

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Coca-Cola Enterprises - Drinks
YCH Pink Ladies - Cookies
DC Chamber of Commerce - Bags
Star Printing - Program Paper
Jack Cobb & Crew - Cooking Committee
West Texas Gas - \$50 Gift Card
Wal-mart of Hobbs - \$40 Gift Card
Jr's Car Wash - Oil Change & Car Wash
50th Street Caboose - \$30 Gift Card
Applebee's - 425 Gift Card
Fisher - Cooler
Dialysis Services of West Texas - \$25 Gift Card
Patricia Johnson - Massage

Denver City Press - All Tournament Advertising
Kim Shipman - Peanut Butter Crackers
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Memorial Rehab - \$25 Gift Card
YCH Nursing Department - \$25 Gift Card
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West Texas Medical Center - Caps
Cowboy Country News - All Tournament Advertising

Thank You For Your Continued Support!

Job Opening At Plains ISD

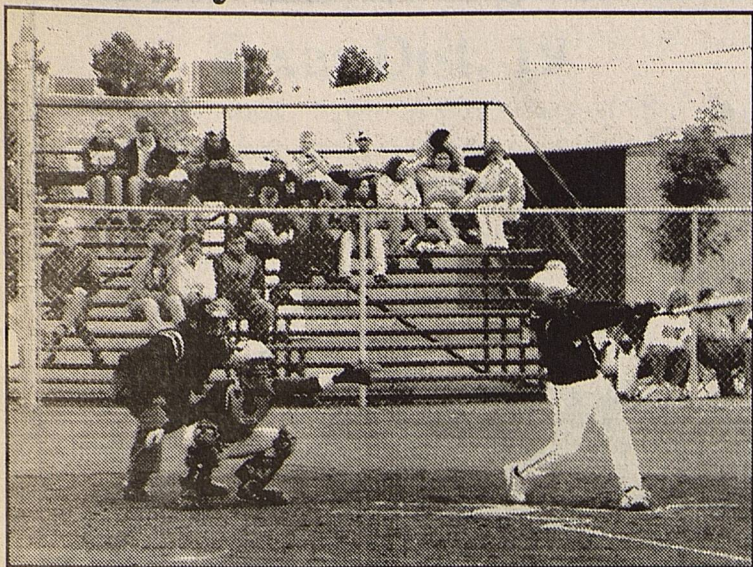
Plains ISD will be accepting applications for a highly qualified individual to fill the position of Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. Some qualifications for the position that will be considered are:

1. Articulate in the written and verbal use of the English language
2. Cordial outgoing personality and a willingness to meet the public
3. Knowledge of technology as it is used for filing state and local reports and word processing
4. Willingness to spend extra time outside the work day to support the operation of the superintendent's office
5. Ability to perform secretarial duties such as filing, maintenance of employee records, and production of reports and correspondence in a confidential manner

This is a year-round position with two weeks vacation and ten sick/personal leave days. Benefits include health insurance and annuity. The salary is negotiable.

For additional information and to apply, go by the superintendent's office weekdays, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Applications will be taken until the position is filled. All persons possessing the above qualifications are encouraged to apply. Plains ISD is an "Equal Opportunity Employer".

Cowboys VS Indians Shots



PHS second in UIL State Meet !!

Eleven students from Plains attended the UIL State competition in Austin this past weekend. Those attending were seniors Evan Cain, Cody Flores, Breck Hamm, Brandon Hise, and Kerry Sisson. The juniors that went were David Alldredge, Allison Friesen, B J Lester, Adam McCravey, and Blake O'Quinn. Freshman Maria Andazola also made the trip.

The Computer Science team of Brandon Hise, Adam McCravey, Allison Friesen, and Kerry Sisson placed first and was crowned the Class A State Champion. Brandon Hise placed 2nd individually to lead the team to the title.

The Calculator team of Brandon Hise, Allison Friesen, Evan Cain, and B J Lester also placed first and was named as the Class

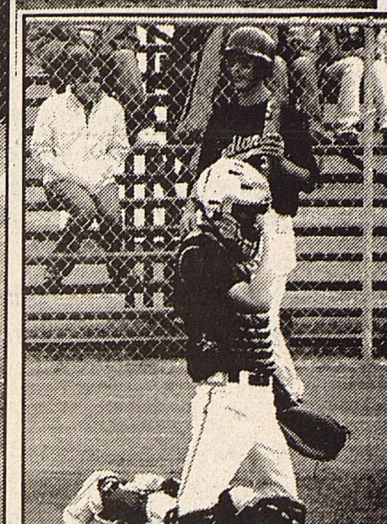
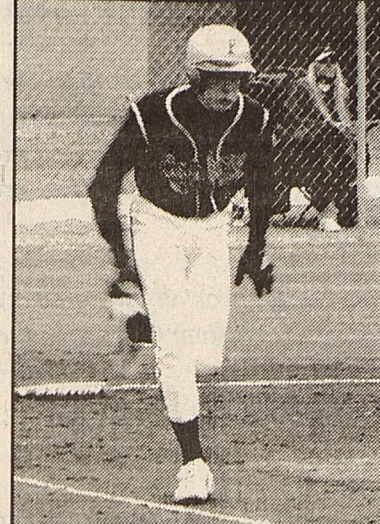
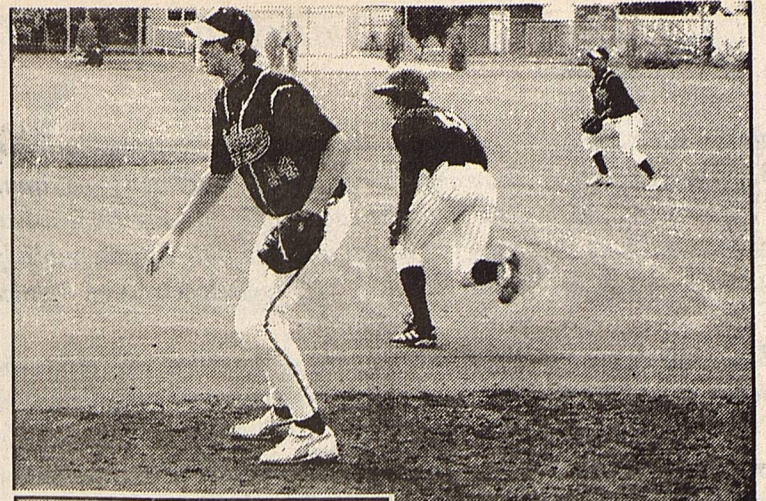
A State Champion. Brandon Hise placed 2nd individually to lead the team.

The Mathematics team of Brandon Hise, Allison Friesen, David Alldredge, and Breck Hamm was named as the third place team in the state. Brandon Hise placed 2nd individually.

The Number Sense team of Brandon Hise, Kerry Sisson, David Alldredge, and Blake O'Quinn was named as the third place team in the state. Brandon Hise placed 4th individually.

Cody Flores competed in Feature Writing on Thursday at Austin and placed 5th.

Plains High School had a total of 80 points at the State Meet which placed us second behind Lindsay High School.



Cowboys District Champs AGAIN!

By Coach Kevin Bartley;

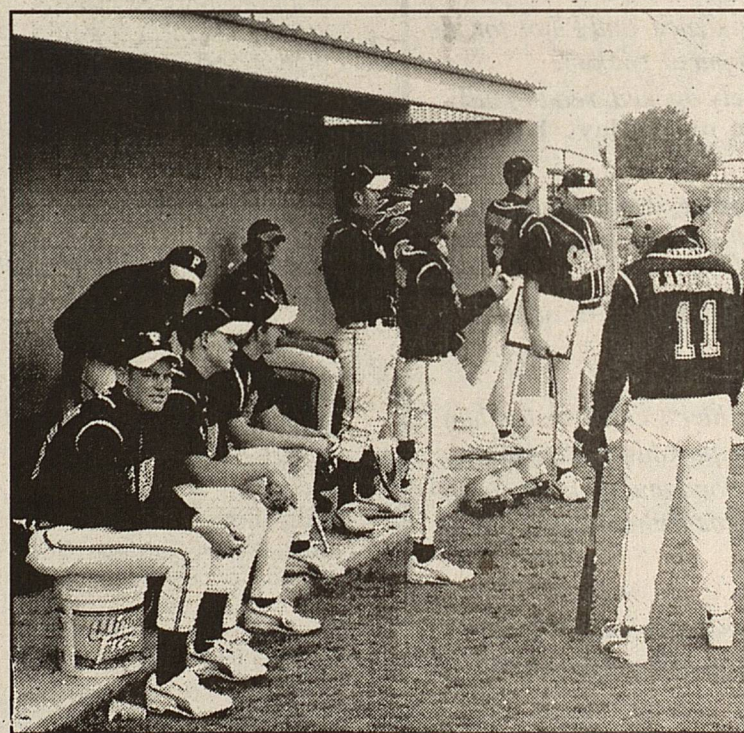
The baseball district championship was on the line last week in the Morton game. The Cowboys had a second chance to re-claim the title, but had to beat Morton to end tied with O'Donnell. They came out full force and downed the Indians 7-2. T.J. Cordova was winning pitcher, giving up only 5 hits while striking out 11 batters. He also got the Cowboys started offensively by hitting a towering homer in the first inning, and Tyler Caffey hit a triple later on. The win tied O'Donnell's 10-2 record, and the Cowboys faced them last Saturday in Lamesa. Cody Mayes was starting pitcher and went four innings. I thought he did a good job, considering he'd been in Austin with the band, not having much sleep and having to fly back to Lamesa just before the game. T.J. relieved him in the fifth inning and allowed two hits, two runs, and struck out 4. The offense was very aggressive and kept the pressure on O'Donnell. They produced 12 hits and scored 8 runs to edge the Eagles 8-7 to claim the district title, their third consecutive. Landon Craft hit a double so hard it broke his aluminum bat, T.J. went 1 and 2 at the plate, Caffey 2 and 4 with 2 rbi's, McCravey 1-3, Martinez 3 and 4 with a double and 2 rbi's, Ramos 1 and 3, Blake Parrish a perfect 2 and 2 with 2 runs scored.

State Tech Meet

The Industrial Technology Department competed in the State Industrial Technology Contest in Waco, Texas, May 5-7, 2005. We took a total of 26 projects and the results were as follows:

Student	Project	Place
B.J. Lester	Table	3 rd
David Alldredge	Stereo Cabinet	3 rd
Michael Marin	Coffee Table	1 st
	Dining Table	1 st
Claudia Reyna	Picture Frames	1 st Best in State
	CD Cabinet	1 st
	TV Stand	3 rd
Breck Hamm	Sword	1 st
	Queen Bed	1 st Best in State
Payton Bean	Safety Poster	2 nd
	Checker Board	2 nd
	Cutting Boards	2 nd
Brant Huerta	Pen	2 nd
	Pens	1 st Best in State
	Entry Table	1 st
	Small Table	2 nd
	Antler Pen	1 st Best in State
	Mirror	1 st
	Clock	1 st
	Necklace	2 nd
	Team Project	1 st Best in State
Reagah Haynes	Take-down Bow	1 st Best in State
	China Cabinet	1 st
	Coasters	1 st
	Carrying Tool	2 nd
	Team Project	1 st Best in State
	Antler Pen	1 st

The student's projects will be on display May 19, 2005 at the Awards Assembly in the Plains High School Auditorium. "This has been a good year and I have enjoyed working with these young men and women," said Robert Canon



Yoakum County Hospital

Health Fair

May 14, 2005

8 a.m. — 12 p.m.

Yoakum County Hospital
412 Mustang Avenue
Denver City, Texas

- ♥ Free Blood Pressure, Glucose, Cholesterol and Skin Cancer checks
- ♥ Body Composition Tests
- ♥ Pink Ladies Merchandise and Bake Sale
- ♥ Women's Protective Services Collection Box
- ♥ Arts and Crafts
- ♥ Ankle Brachial Index Screenings
- ♥ Health Related Information
- ♥ Door Prizes

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Art Association Meets

The Yoakum County Art Association met at 7:00 pm. in the clubroom with 12 members and one guest present.

Lisa Gentry called the meeting to order and the minutes from the April meeting were read and approved as was the treasurer's report.

Lisa reported that Jammy Huggins of Seminole will judge the Art Show this year.

Susie Powell read the list of new officers for 2005-06. They include; Lisa Gentry President, Janelle Brantley Vice President, Sheila Stephens Secretary Treasurer, Julia Lemley Treasurer, Susie Powell Programs, Linda Powell Hostess, Thelma

Cheatham Education, Liz Chandler, Vicki Lamar Juried Show, Mary Dale Forbus Photography, Pat McNabb Scrapbook, Jeanette Head, Betty Estep Telephone, Wadonna Davis Cards, Flowers, Beverly Bray Membership, Jeanette Head moved and Wilma Powell seconded the motion to elect the officers by acclamation.

Linda Harris is responsible for the new yearbooks.

The program for the evening was a watercolor artist on DVD, due to the illness of the artist scheduled.

Hostesses for the evening were Mary Dale Forbus and Liz Chandler.

Film-time At The Yoakum County Library

Film-time was held at the Yoakum County Library on May 4, 2005. We began by saying the Pledge of Allegiance and then the Pledge To The Texas Flag. Children were then led on a 'pretend' ocean adventure and were allowed to deep-sea dive for various ocean mammals, fish and amphibians. Later, we listened to the books, *In The Ocean* and *Somewhere In The Ocean* and watched the film entitled 'Creatures of the Blue.' Those who attended

were: Austin Robertson, Trenity Wall, Brynne McWhirter, and Matthew and Mark Hartman. Everyone then adjourned to the Library to check out books and movies and left with coloring pages and brownies to eat.

Film-time is held every Wednesday morning from 10:00 am. to 10:45 am., September through May of every year. All pre-school children are encouraged to attend.

Senior Citizens Corner

Somewhere along the road between 'beginning' and 'ending' there is a perfect moment for every soul. Images are piled one upon another and shadows have their own shadows but, for most of us, that moment is somehow associated with 'Mother.' So once again we celebrate Mother's Day.

Anna Jarvis was never a mother herself. The daughter of a Methodist minister, she became a school teacher, worked as an advertising executive with an insurance agency in Philadelphia, and spent fifteen years of her life caring for her ailing mother. Anna never married. After her mother died in 1905, Anna wanted to find a way to honor her mother's memory. She recalled the days after the Civil War when her community held a yearly picnic on Mother's Friendship Day to help heal the emotional wounds of those who had lost sons and to honor all mothers who had given of their families in the war effort.

With that in mind, Anna thought there ought to be a day to honor all mothers. Obtaining a patent copyright for Mother's Day, Anna next explained her idea to public officials in state and federal government. She even approached President Wilson with a persuasive argument for making the day a national celebration.

Anna's years of persistence paid off when President Wilson signed a proclamation in 1914, declaring Mother's Day a national observance. Once the celebration was deemed official, Anna worked to keep Mother's Day from becoming too commercialized and to insure that honoring mothers remain the prime emphasis for the day. Her efforts spread throughout the world and when Anna died in 1948, forty-three carnations were placed on her grave to signify the forty-three nations that had adopted her day.

On a personal level, a Mother's Day never passes that I don't pause to thank God for the 'Mothers' who have completed my life: My own mother, who grew up without a mother from the age of seven yet managed to find her way to what I consider nearly perfect motherhood. My daughter, whose skill in the area of motherhood, not only with her own children but all those who cross her pathway while working alongside her pastor husband, never ceases to amaze me. My mother-in-law, the widowed mother who worked tirelessly to raise her children through the depression and the war years with a sense of humor and unflinching faith. The daughters-in-law, these young mothers who stand beside my sons and help to build a personal structure of strength and faith for the next generation. Standing out above any of these, however, I see the mother who stood on a windy hill

at the foot of a wooden cross and heard her Son say, "It is finished."

Visitors this week included Margie and Erasmo Rodriguez. Opal Roberts brought her sisters, Ruby and Betty, with her one day for lunch. The lunch-time conversation led to an impromptu session of Bingo in the recreation room. More were present for this time than on the regular Bingo day. There was lots of laughter and a good time was had by everyone. John and Mary Avara also joined us one day at lunchtime. Welcome, everyone.

There were five chairs with balloons attached on Monday indicating that those five people were celebrating a May Birthday. Gathered for a group photo were Tony Kucera, Charlie Gillis, Bob Thurston, Genevieve Gordy, and Margaret McPherson, who have accumulatively shared over 400 years of living. Our congratulations to each of these folks.

Thursday, May 5th, was National Prayer Day. We hope our fellow Americans paused to thank God for our heritage and our blessings as well as to ask for His guidance in the goals and decisions of our leaders and for the protection of those who fight for our freedom.

Cinco de Mayo also falls on May 5th. This day is not Mexico's Independence Day, which falls on September 16th, but a time of celebration in memory of the victory of the Mexicans over the French army in The Battle Of Puebla in 1862. Although President Lincoln was sympathetic to the Mexican cause, we were involved in our own Civil War at that time and were unable to provide any direct assistance. The victory was a glorious moment for Mexican patriots, which at the time helped to develop a needed sense of national unity, and is the cause for the historical date's celebration. Celebrating Cinco de Mayo has become increasingly popular along the U.S.-Mexico border and in parts of the U.S. that have a high population of people with Mexican heritage.

This story came to me from a much younger person. I think he enjoyed it more than I did, but I'll share it anyway: It seems an elderly lady called 911 on her cell phone to report that her car had been broken into. She was hysterical as she explained her situation to the dispatcher: "They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal, and even the accelerator!" she cried. The dispatcher said: "Stay calm. An officer is on the way." A few minutes later, the officer radioed in, "Disregard," he says, "she got in the back seat by mistake."

Thought for today: "Good judgement comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgement."

City of Plains

City Wide Clean-Up

May 23rd - 27th

The City will pick up all items in the alleys - appliances, wood, Furniture, etc.

* All metal items and tires will need to be separated from other items *

PHS Athletic Banquet

May 16, 6 PM,

Plains Cafeteria

\$7 per plate

Please come and help

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What About... Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors of Brownfield, Seagraves and Plains has received special recognition for outstanding service to our families.

Many who have trusted us in a time of need have filled out confidential Questionnaires. Order of the Golden Rule sends them to each of our families.

The International Order of the Golden Rule holds member funeral homes to a high standard in excellence in service to our families.

A press release from them states that we are now 'celebrating the renewal of our membership in the International Order of the Golden Rule (OGR), a professional association of independently owned and operated funeral homes.

"Mark A Jones Funeral Directors was accepted into the prestigious funeral home organization in April of 2004 and has met and maintained the highest standards of ethical conduct."

"We are very pleased to have Mark A Jones Funeral Directors as a member," said Karen Gentles, OGR Director of Membership. "The people of the Order of the Golden Rule, the funeral home owners and staff have dedicated themselves to continuing this tradition of caring in this community."

I might add that it is our privilege to partner with OGR. Being a Golden Rule funeral home is helping us to better serve our families in Brownfield, Seagraves and Plains.

Texas, and to offer them peace of mind and integrity they can count on.

This is a tremendous honor to be in OGR. As you may remember, we had to have not only our facilities inspected, but our financial practices, show rooms and inventory, contracts and every aspect of our business.

This was to assure them that we had been operating in a professional manner and serving our families in a manner that is beneficial to them.

Honestly, integrity, and trust is what we have always been about and always will be. It is our goal to serve as many families as we possibly can, so that in return, we are able to better serve our total communities' needs.

Headquartered in St. Louis, the International Order of the Golden Rule (OGR) is one of the world's largest professional associations of independent funeral homes, whose members are dedicated to offering reliability, fair pricing, and dignified, caring service to families.

"Service measured not by gold, but by the Golden Rule" has been the credo of the association since its founding in 1928.

Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors is also members of the Texas Funeral Directors Association and local area Chambers of Commerce.

Mark and Beth Jones are active members of the First Assembly of God Church in Seagraves where they live in the apartment at the funeral home.

Until next time....

Mark A. Jones
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Email: markajones@pgrb.com

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Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

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From The Hack

CDA Richard Clark recently received e-mail from his brother Edward, who brought Richard and the world up to date on annual Stella Awards, named for 81 year old Stella Liebeck who spilled coffee on her... well, the area where her legs come together... and sued McDonald's for her anguish, and won. The Stella awards are for the most frivolous, successful lawsuits in the nation.

Three lawsuits tied for 5th place. Kathleen Robertson of Austin won \$780,000 from a jury after breaking an ankle tripping over a toddler running inside a furniture store. The store owners were a bit surprised, considering the toddler was Mrs. Robertsons son.

Another 5th place tie found Carl Truman of Los Angeles winning \$74,000 when his neighbor ran over his hand, while Mr. Truman was trying to steal the hubcaps from the car.

The other 5th place tie found Terrence Dickson trying to leave the house he had just robbed by way of the garage. The garage door would not go up, he could not re-enter the house because the kitchen door locked when pulled shut. The homes family was on vacation, and Dickson was confined to the garage eight days, subsisting on a case of Pepsi and bag of dog food. He sued the homeowners insurance on mental anguish grounds, and collected \$500,000 for his confinement.

4th place winner Jerry Williams collected \$14,500 and med expenses after being bitten on his posterior by his neighbors Beagle, on a chain in the neighbors yard. The jury was a bit

stingy with the award, feeling the dog may have been a bit provoked by Williams' climbing over the fence and repeatedly shooting it with a pellet gun.

Third place found a Pennsylvania restaurant ordered to pay Amber Carson \$113,500 after she slipped on a soft drink and broke her tailbone. She had thrown the drink at her boyfriend seconds earlier in an argument.

Second place's Kara Walton sued a night club owner when she fell from a bathroom window to the floor, knocking out two front teeth. The fall occurred as she tried to sneak into the ladies room to avoid paying the \$3.50 cover charge at the front door. She picked up \$12,000 and dental expenses.

The first place champ is Merv Grazinski, purchaser of a new Winnebago motor home. On the way home from a football game, he set the cruise control at 70 and calmly left the driver seat to go make a cup of coffee. The RV, naturally, left the road and crashed. Grazinsky sued Winnebago for not advising him in the owners manual he could not do this. The jury gave him \$1,750,000 and a new Winnebago! The company later changed the wording of their manuals, just in case other idiots became buyers.

Sent so thoughtfully by Ron Andrews - and it's a realistic picture of some of the characters I know far too well at the local course:

A man and his wife entered a dentist's office. The man told the doc, "Hey, I'm in one heck of a big hurry. I have two buddies sitting in the car outside waiting for us to go to the course and play golf. I want you to forget the anesthesia, just pull the tooth and be done with it - I don't have time for the pain killer to work!"

The dentist thought to himself, "Wow! This sure is a brave man, wanting me to pull his tooth without using anything to

kill the pain!" So the dentist asked the man, "Sir, show me which tooth it is."

The man turned to his wife and said, "Open your mouth, honey, and show the doc which one hurts."

I just read where as of April 29, the last day of business for the legislature that month, 1,968 pieces of lawmaking had been passed. Think of it..... almost 2,000 bits of wisdom, compassion, justice have made their way through the bowels of our state government. Quite a bit of other stuff too. One must remember, the tons of paper and copier ink produced by the two chambers contain quite a bit of fluff - like resolutions proclaiming Texas' Pluck A Duck Week; Loving County's Come See Us Week - PLEASE!; Eat More Pork - Kill A Feral Hog Month.

True, a very tiny handful of these measures have been signed into law by the Governor. This could possibly result from his dodging verbal missiles fired his way by the cranky old granma Carole Keaton Rylander and Senator Kay Bailey, both lusting after his gubernatorial chair. The session's final month should prove interesting. Notice I did NOT say productive, beneficial or providential - just interesting.

A Doc friend told me the following comments had been made by male patients undergoing colonoscopies:

"Take it easy, Doc, you're boldly going where no man has gone before!"

"Have you found Amelia Earhart yet?"

"Any sign yet of the trapped miners, Doc?"

"Hey! Now I know how a Muppet feels!"

"Hey Doc, let me know if you come across my dignity!"

"You used to be an executive at Enron, didn't you?"

"When you get through, will you write a not to my wife and tell her my head is not up there?"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Plains ISD is having a Program Planning Meeting for the public on May 17, 2005 at 5:30 PM in the Resource Center

The following agenda will be followed;

- I. Call meeting to order.
- II. Explain purpose of meeting.
- III. Discussion of programs for planning purposes.
 - A. Title 1, Part A
 - B. Title 1, Part C Migrant
 - C. Title II, Part A Teacher Principal Training and Recruiting fund.
 - D. Title III, Part A Language Instruction for limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students.
 - E. Title IV, Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities
 - F. REAP/SSA
 - G. Other programs for discussion (optional)
 - H. Title V, Part A Innovative Program.
- IV. Evaluation of Parent Involvement Program

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO. 8378

IN THE INTEREST OF § IN THE 121ST DISTRICT COURT
 §
 § OF
 §
 MINOR CHILD § YOAKUM COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: BENJAMIN RAX, Respondent, GREETING:

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 AM on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty (20) days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

The petition of DEBRA JEAN POLLARD, Petitioner, was filed in the 121st District Court of Yoakum County, Texas, on April 26, 2005, against BENJAMIN RAX, Respondent, in the above-entitled and numbered cause.

The suit requests termination of the parent-child relationship and Petitioner to be allowed to adopt the child, the subject to this suit.

The dates and places of birth of the children who are the subject of this suit are:

August 27, 2004, San Antonio La Paz, El Progreso, Republic of Guatemala

The Court has authority in this suit to render an order in the children's interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the children's adoption.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of said Court at Plains, Texas, on May 4th, 2005.

ADDRESS OF PETITIONER OR ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
 WARREN NEW
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