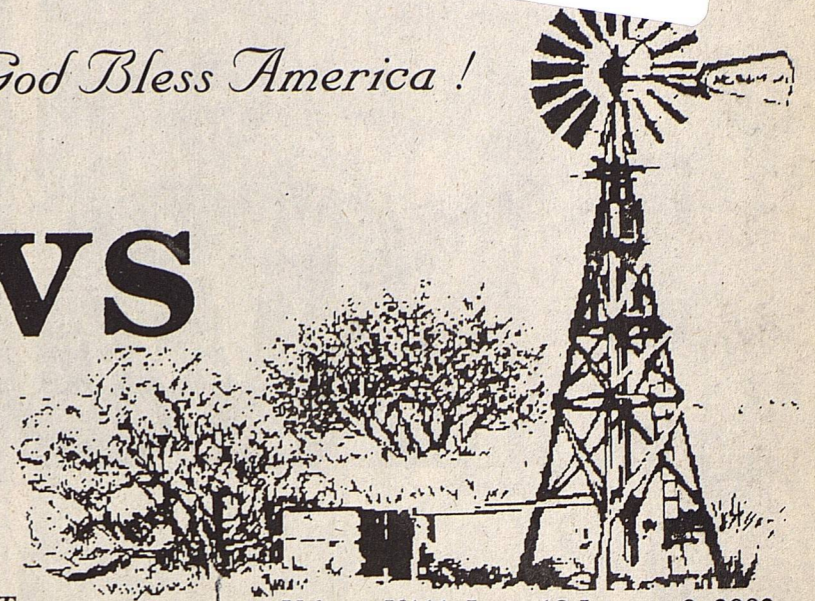


# Cowboy Country

## News

God Bless America!



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

Volume V111, Issue 18 January 9, 2002

## 2001 Cotton Season Enters Final Stage

Agricultural producers in our South Plains area (and virtually everywhere else) are, for the most part, habitual optimists when they start putting seeds in the ground for another crop year. All too often their optimism is sorely tested before their crops are all gathered, and that was certainly the scenario for 2001 ag production, particularly cotton growing.

Early, pre-plant rains came to most of the county, but by time cotton seed was going into the soil, first drought symptoms were already apparent, and they didn't get better. Weather made the county dryland production of cotton almost nonexistent, insect pests added to production costs and reduced yields, some areas experienced hail and wind storm damage, with continued dry, hot days.

Surprisingly, most of the irrigated cotton fared better than many producers expected.

A telephone survey of the four county gins indicated their processing is very near completed. Tokio CoOp Gin reported they finished ginning last week, and produced 14,390 bales, com-

pared to 12,400 bales of the 2000 crop. Sun Cot Gin indicated they anticipated ginning another few hundred bales this week, and would end up with approximately 27,000 bales, very near the same production as last year. New Tex Gin anticipates ginning another 1,600 to 1,700 bales, with an ending total of some 32,600 bales, an increase of almost 10,000 bales over last year's 23,000 bale run. Yoakum County CoOp Gin last Friday had a few modules of cotton to pick up, but felt they would end the 2001 season with about 20,700 bales, a substantial increase over last year's 14,400 bales. The total county production was some 94,600 bales

On the whole, this year's cotton quality has been surprisingly good. The same cannot be said of the dismal price for the commodity all this year. Many producers of irrigated cotton are doubtful if their cotton was sold today it would bring enough for a break-even price, even with the added Government POP payment.

## Incumbents, Challengers, Newcomers Ready To Hit Campaign Trail For March Primary

County Clerk Debbie Rushing reported last Thursday morning 13 Yoakum County residents had filed their Treasurer report, indicating they would be candidates for elective offices in the March 12 Democrat and Republican Primary Election. Another Plains citizen, Gary L. Walker, has already filed for re-election in Austin as State Representative in newly drawn District 83, and will face veteran Representative Delwin Jones, (R-Lubbock) in a hotly contested election resulting from redistricting pairing, the result of the 2000 Census.

The race for the position of County Commissioner of Precinct 2 will be crowded with five candidates hoping to take the seat of retiring Commissioner J. R. Slentz. Denver City residents in the race include, alphabetically, Ben Coston, Democrat, Jim Maynard, Republican, Danny Moore, Democrat, Steve Slentz, Republican, and Leland Tucker. Toni Jones, Democrat, will seek to be re-elected to her fifth term of office as Treasurer of the County. She will be opposed by Barbara Wright, a Denver City Republican candidate.

Plains resident Jack Cobb, Democrat and Commissioner Precinct 4, will run for office unopposed. County Judge Dallas Brewer, Democrat, and Denver City Resident, will also be unopposed on the ballot, as will Criminal District Attorney Rich-

ard Clark, Democrat from Denver City, District Clerk Vicki Blundell, Democrat from Plains, County Clerk Debbie Rushing, Republican from Plains, Precinct One Justice of Peace Judge Melba Crutcher, Democrat. Troy Scott, a Democrat from Denver City, will be unopposed seeking the position of Justice of Peace, Precinct Two, to replace retiring Judge Kenny Smith.

County Clerk Rushing wants to make all residents aware of the following important dates for the Democrat and Republican March Primaries:

\* January 1, first day for Clerk's office to receive applications for early voting by mail.

\* February 11, last day to register to vote in Primary. NOTE-Voter Registration Cards will be issued when the U.S. Justice Department approves submission of the County's redistricting plans.

\* February 25, Early voting in person begins in Clerk's office here, and Branch Tax Office in Denver City.

\* March 5, last day to receive applications for voting by mail ballots. Completed ballots must be received in Clerk's office no later than March 12, or will not be counted.

\* March 8, Last day to vote early in person.

## School Board Recognition Month

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the public schools is to meet the diverse educational needs of all children and to empower them to become competent, productive contributors to a democratic society and an ever-changing world; and

**WHEREAS**, local school board members are committed to children and believe that all children can be successful learners and that the best education is tailored to the individual needs of the child; and

**WHEREAS**, local school board members work closely with parents, educational professionals, and other community members to create the educational vision we want for our students; and

**WHEREAS**, local school board members are responsible for ensuring the structure that provides a solid foundation for our school system; and

**WHEREAS**, local school board members are strong advocates for public education and are responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public and the public's expectations to the district;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dallas Brewer, do hereby declare my appreciation to the members of the Plains Independent School District Board and proclaim the month of January 2002, as**

**SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH** in Yoakum County. I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and in working with them to mold an education system that meets the needs of both today's and tomorrow's children.

**IN OFFICIAL RECOGNITION WHEREOF, I hereby affix my signature this 7th day of January, 2002.**

*Dallas Brewer*

Dallas Brewer, County Judge



County Judge Dallas Brewer presents Plains ISD Board of Trustees President Danny Bell with copy of Proclamation

### Chamber Banquet Reminder



Dr. Ernie Anderson

**Thursday, January 17,  
7:00 P.M., In The  
School Cafeteria.  
Great Speaker,  
Meal By Danny's Hens  
& Fins, Door  
Prizes Galore!  
Tickets \$7 at City  
Hall, \$7.50 At The Door**

## Extending City Utility Lines



City Employees Jerry Dominguez, top, and Alex Barrientes, in trench, are shown pouring chlorine in 2 inch PVC pipe, which will soon carry city water west along north side of US Highway 82. When city water is turned into the new line, the chlorine will disinfect the pipe. Both City water and gas services are being extended to properties belonging to W.C. Wilmeth, Jack Spears, and Bruce Durham. The City crew hopes the project will be completed in about a week.

## Criminal Cases In District Court

In 121st Judicial District Court January 2, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, Ivon Gregory Miller was sentenced on the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior forgery cause to 18 months in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice State Jail Division, with credit for 146 days served. Paul Mansur was his attorney.

In the January 4 session of district court, Kristy Marie Lozano pled guilty to theft of \$20,000 or more, less than \$100,000. She was sentenced to ten years in prison, suspended and probated 10 years. She was fined \$2500, must pay \$217 court costs and time payment of \$25. and \$50,249.55 restitution. A charge of public lewdness was adjudicated. Investigating was Sheriff Deputy

John Matus, and her attorney was David Martinez.

Manuel Ramos Castruita pled guilty to a third or more DWI. A five year prison sentence was suspended and probated 5 years. he will make time payments on \$237 court costs, and was fined \$1500. He will spend eight days in jail, attend weekly AA meetings, complete the TAIP outpatient program, surrender his license 180 days, and serve 160 hours community service. Dayid Martinez was his attorney, and Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer.

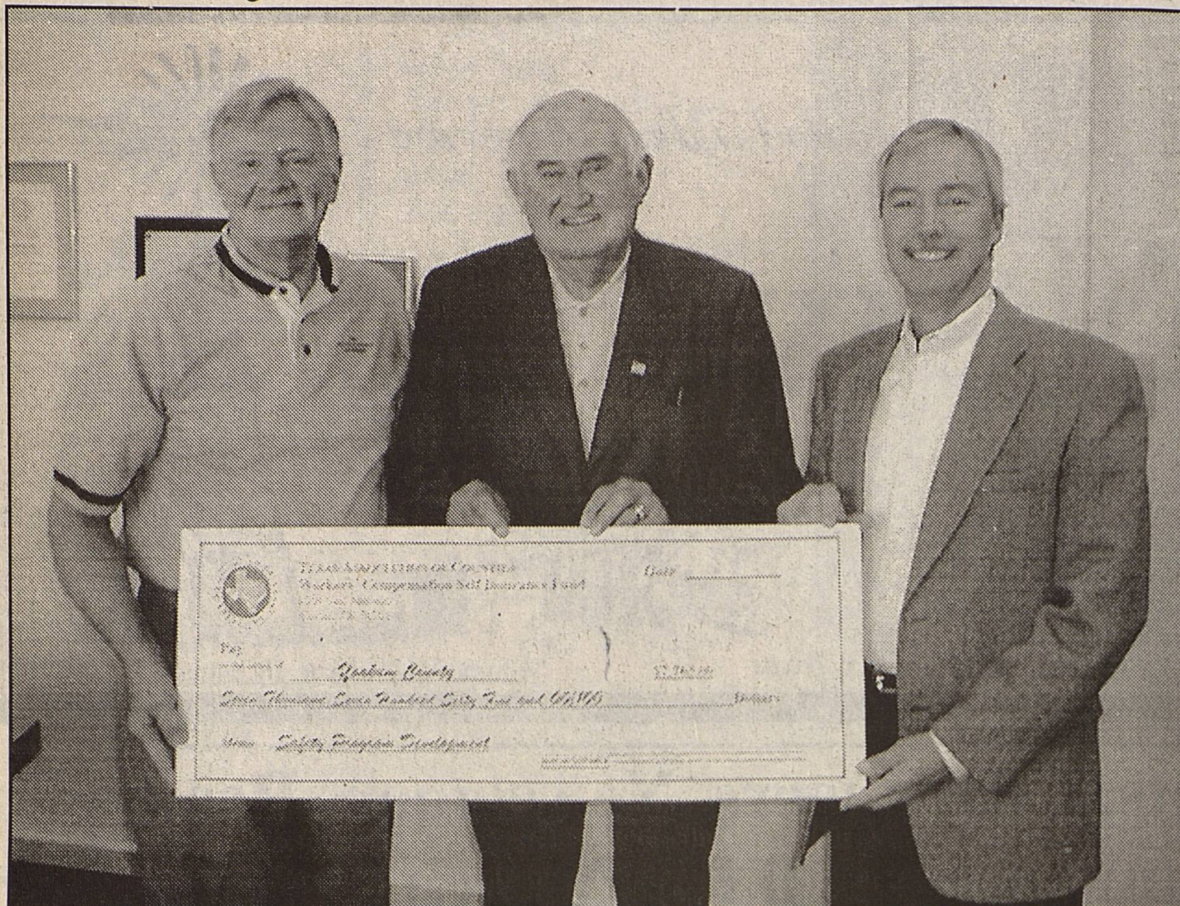
Alvaro Hernandez Zubia pled guilty to a third or more DWI. A five year prison sentence was suspended and probated 5 years. He was fined \$1500 and must make time payments on \$237 court costs, and \$250

court appointed attorney fees. He will attend weekly AA meetings, serve 160 hours community service, surrender his license 180 days, complete the DWI repeat offender program, install an ignition interlock on all vehicles, and spend 29 days in jail. His attorney was Paul Mansur, and Joe Ramos, Denver City Police, was investigating officer.

Aurelio Robert Sanchez pled guilty to failure to appear. The court recommended placing the defendant in the State Boot Camp Program in lieu of a prison sentence. He must pay \$293 court costs and \$250 attorney fees, and \$2537 restitution. Charges of assault/bodily injury, marijuana pos-

**Turn To Page 2,  
DISTRICT COURT**

## County coffers a bit healthier now



Johnnie Jones, County Safety Program Coordinator, Judge Dallas Brewer receive symbolic \$7,765 check from Cris Faught, Texas Association of Counties Field Rep.

On Monday, January 7, Yoakum County was awarded \$7,765 for the enhancement of their safety efforts. The award comes from the Worker's Compensation self-insurance pool in which the county participates. This self-insurance fund is collectively owned and operated by Texas counties, and administered by the Texas Association of Counties.

In 2001, Yoakum County improved workers' safety by implementing several safety measures recommended by the Texas Association of Counties safety staff. The criteria for earning the incentive requires a comprehensive, audited safety effort on the part of each county.

Earlier this year, the resolution authorizing the county's participation in the safety program was adopted by the full Commissioner Court, and endorsed by County Sheriff Don Corzine. A board of county officials oversees the self-insurance pool's operation which involve some 300 other Texas counties and political subdivisions.

## NSGP grain sorghum yield, management contest produce big numbers

The National Grain Sorghum Producers (NGSP) has announced winners in the 2001 National Grain Sorghum Yield and Management Contest. National first, second and third place winners, as well as state winners will be recognized at an awards banquet during the 2002 Grain Sorghum Industry Conference in the San Francisco Bay area February 17-19.

Winners of the contest, which includes five divisions, are determined by the amount a contestant's yield exceeds the five year average yield in the contestant's county, as determined by the USDA's National Ag Statistic Service.

Special food grade sorghum award winner, non-irrigated, is Duane Vorderstrasse, Thayer County, Nebraska. His Producers Hybrid 79 yielded 143.72 bushels per acre.

Special food-grade sorghum, irrigated winner was Long Family Partnership, Texas County, Oklahoma. Their field of Asgrow Eclipse yielded 124.85 bushels per acre.

B & M Farms (Roberts Living Trust) of Hockley County, Texas walked away with national first place honors in conventional till, irrigated division, with a whopping yield of 165.94 bushels per acre. A bushel of grain sorghum weighs 56 pounds, and B&M Farms field produced 9292.64 pounds of Asgrow 581 sorghum.

National first place winner in mulch-till, non irrigated was Hundley Bros. Farms of Acadia County, Louisiana, with 137.16 bushels per acre of Pioneer 83G66.

Placing first in the no-till, non irrigated field was William Hardwick, Tensas County, La., with a yield of 166.96 bushels per acre po Asgrow Missile, or 9350 pounds.

### Attention Little Dribbler Parents:

An organizational/Business meeting will be held on Saturday, January 12th, 2:00 p.m., in the Junior High gym. Topics of discussion will be \*changes in National rules and regulations, \*voting on and implementing by laws, \*coaches, \*electing new officers, \*entry fees. If you are interested in coaching a team this year, let me know IN WRITING as soon as possible. Please, make any suggestions for by-laws as soon as possible.

Thanks,  
Karen Williams



MEMBER 2001  
Cowboy Country  
News  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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ID# 017574 Ph. 806-456-8451 FAX 806-456-2010

### From Page One, DISTRICT COURT

session, criminal mischief and burglary of a building were adjudicated. His attorney was Paul Mansur, and Deputy Inoe Valdez was investigating officer.

James Penner, aka Jake Penner, received a suspended 5 year prison sentence following his successful completion of the Texas Boot Camp Program. He will be under community supervision 5 years, must pay \$327 court costs, \$1000 fine, attorney fees totaling \$500. His attorney was Paul Mansur.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state in all cases.

### History of Reducing School Rate to Rollback Rate—1982 - 2001

Tax Year	School Districts
1982	11 of 24
1983	2 of 4
1984	0 of 3
1985	1 of 1
1986	2 of 4
1987	2 of 9
1988	4 of 12
1989	10 of 23
1990	6 of 11
1991	1 of 1
1992	0
1993	0 of 3
1994	1 of 2
1995	0 of 2
1996	1 of 3
1997	0
1998	2 of 4
1999	3 of 11
2000	2 of 11
2001	1 of 29
<b>Total</b>	<b>49 of 157</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>31.2%</b>

## Services held for Melba Williams

Melba Louise Berry Williams, 79, died Sunday evening, January 6 in the Yoakum County Hospital.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Denver City, with Gene Benningfield officiating and Rev. Bob Webb, First Baptist Church assisting. Burial followed at Denver City Memorial Park under direction of Ratliff Funeral Home.

Mrs. Williams was born March 8, 1922 in Vashti, Texas. She married W.C. "Dub" Williams August 6, 1943 in Bowie. He preceded her in death January 15, 1984. Mrs. Williams owned Carpenter Oil Field Construction. She was a member of the Baptist Church.

Her survivors include three

sons, Larry Don, Frisco, Texas, Richard Delaney and Samuel Wallace, both of Denver City; a daughter, Sandra Sue Thompson of Denver City; a brother, Andy Berry Jr. of Bowie; two sisters, Billie Black of Blossom, and Betty Thomas, Nocona; 11 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Pall bearers included Matt Thompson, Robert Lynn Thomas, Rick Lehnert, Marvin Shaw, Jeff Moreno, Chad Lowrey, Ted Black and Stoney Thomas.

Honorary pallbearers were Bob Thomas, R.C. Sanders, Jim Johnson, Manuel Ramos, Bob Lowe, Roy W. Williams, Carroll Vernon, Clarence Reed and David Bachman

## Treasurer named to national steering committee

Washington, D.C. - Yoakum County Treasurer Toni Jones has recently been named a member of the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Finance and Intergovernmental Affairs Steering Committee by NACo President Javier Gonzales.

NACo's eleven steering committees form the policy making arm of the association. Each committee is comprised of some 60 to 100 county officials who meet several times during the year to examine issues critical to county government.

The Taxation and Financing

Steering Committee focuses on financial resources of counties: fiscal management, federal assistance, municipal borrowing, county revenues, federal budget and tax reform. The committee's recommendations on legislative policies and goals are presented to NACo's membership during the association's Annual Conference. If approved, the recommendations become part of The American Platform, the basis of NACo's efforts in representing counties before Congress and the White House.

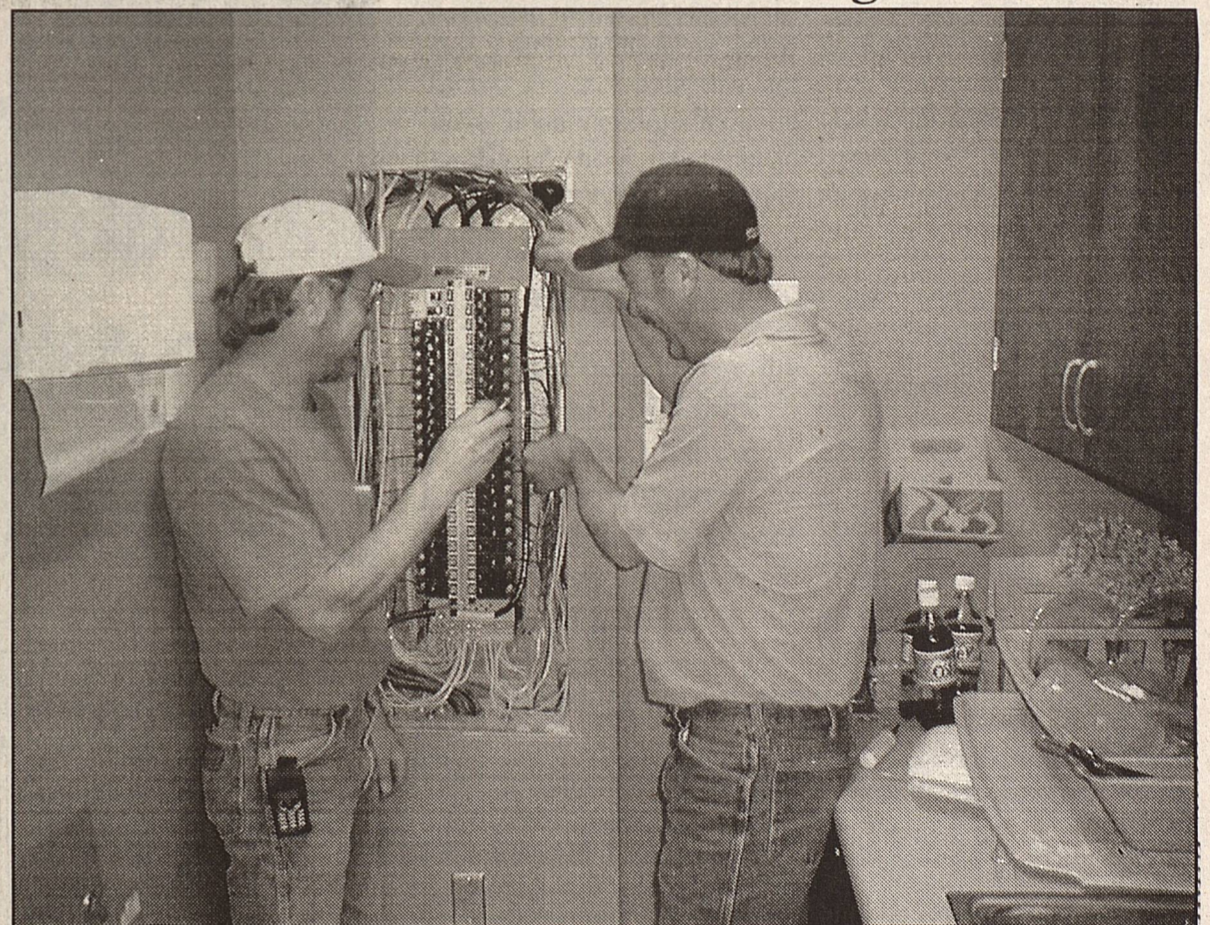
## Courthouse Grant Applications under review

AUSTIN - Counties awarded grants in Round III of the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program will be announced this month. 83 counties are seeking grant money in the courthouse program. Counties requested some \$195 million in matching grant assistance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC). That translates into \$250 million in total construction costs to preserve and restore their courthouses. Ten are first time applicants, 25 counties were automatically rolled over from Round II, and 48 counties submitted revised applications.

Governor George W. Bush and the Texas Legislature created the Texas Historical Commission Courthouse Preservation Program in 1999, with a \$50 million allocation to restore Texas' historic courthouses, and make them safe, functional and a source of pride for Texas communities. Lawmakers allotted another \$50 million to the program in the last legislative session. The last restored courthouse dedication took place in Presidio County in Marfa on January 5.

School is back in session - Please Drive Accordingly!!

## Let There Be MORE Light



Joe St. Romain and Chris Blundell working on electrical panel at the courthouse. They are in the process of updating all electric systems throughout the building to adequately service all the computers and other electronic equipment.

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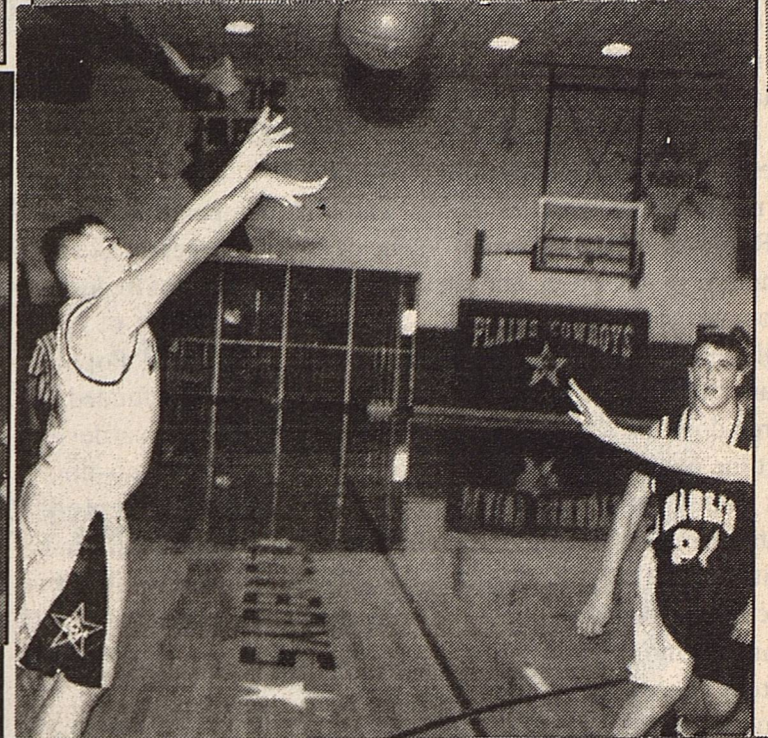
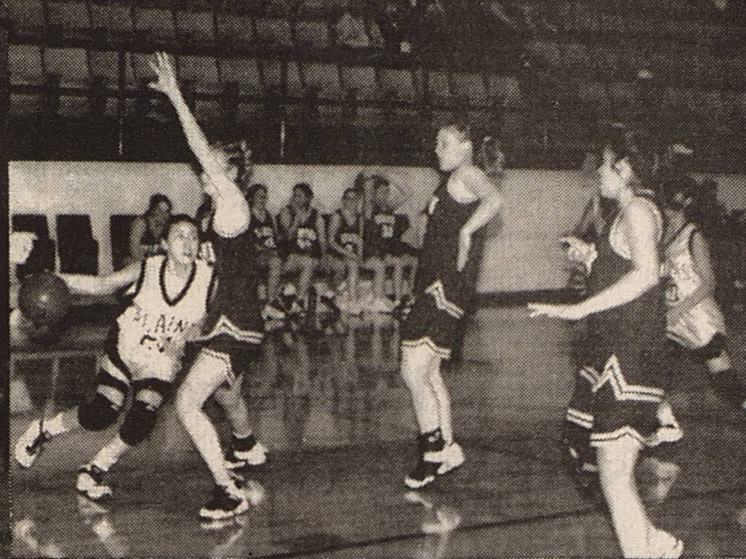
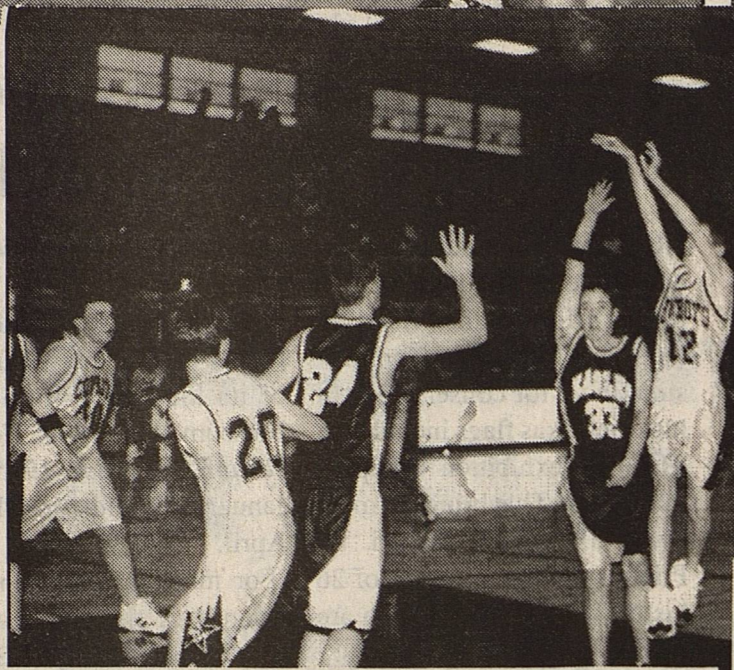
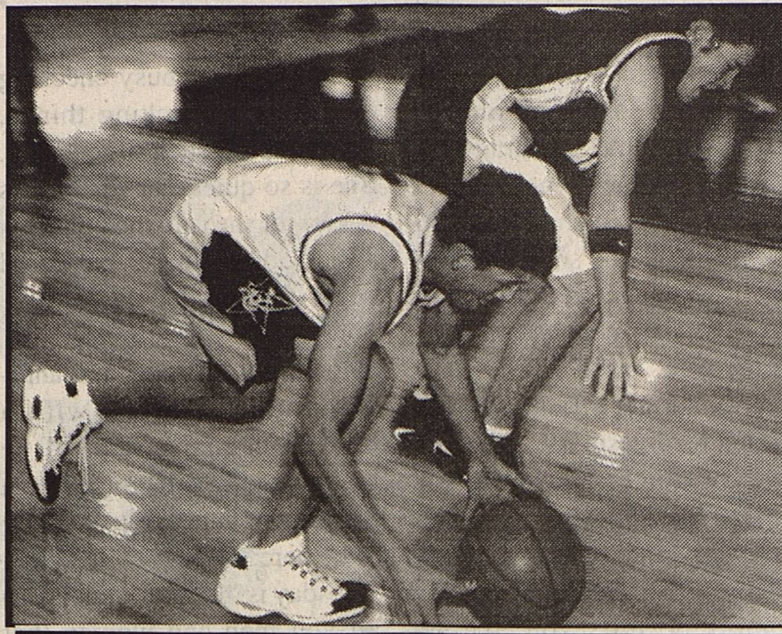
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## Promoting Latino Participation In Cancer Studies

Houston-A new national public service announcement campaign launched this fall encourages Latinos to participate in cancer studies.

Developed by Redes En Accion (Networks in Action), a program funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the PSAs provide a toll free NCI Cancer Information Service telephone number (1-800-4-CANCER) and urge Latinos to call for information about cancer research and studies taking place in their area.

"Many Latinos are unaware of the opportunities available to take part in cutting-edge cancer research," said Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez, Redes En Accion principal investigator and an associate professor at Baylor College of Medicine. "This means that ongoing cancer research does not adequately reflect the needs of Latinos, and that many Latino cancer patients are missing out on opportunities to receive the latest cancer treatments."

While Latinos are the nation's fastest growing minority group, the percentage who par-

ticipate in cancer research and care falls below the non-Hispanic whites. The proportion of Latino participants in NCI cancer studies is less than 6 percent, as compared to 85 percent representation by non-Hispanic whites.

Through a series of video, audio and print PSAs, the campaign encourages Latinos to learn more about the availability of cancer studies and benefits of participation. PSAs produced in both English and Spanish were distributed to television, radio, newspaper and magazine media around the country.

The PSA campaign is part of the cancer awareness, research and training efforts of Redes En Accion, which is one of only five national Special Populations Network grants funded by the NCI. The program is developing a broad based coalition of cancer research centers, community based organizations and federal partners to foster a national infrastructure for Latino cancer prevention and control activities.

## Senior Citizens Corner

I sure do get mixed up on the days with so many holidays, about the time this brain gets back in shape along comes 1 or 2 days and here I go again. What about the snow? I know it is so dangerous, especially for us older people, but it really does help everyone's yards, farmer's fields and the grass for livestock.

Mary Flores' daughter is still in the local hospital, but is improving some so I heard. Hurry and get better every day. We surely do miss you. We are praying for you and hope it won't be too long before we will see your smiling face again.

I haven't heard from 'Smitty' lately or Maxine Pardue either. We hope they are both doing better and having a good busy life.

Anne is really busy checking and double checking things. She is doing such a good job. She is so quiet that sometimes we forget she is in the building. Just kidding Annie. We could never forget you. We all love you.

Monday is birthday and anniversaries. Everyone with a birthday or anniversary will be recognized. So if you have a birthday or anniversary be sure to be here.

Tuesday is '42' tournament. So all you men and women that play in the tournaments be sure to come. It starts at 12:30.

I have been inside during the snow, but I sit on my scooter or in my chair and watched it snow.

I guess that's about all I know. Til next week, Wanda B.

## Vaccine helps protect seniors and at-risk population

It kills more than 40,000 people in the United States each year - more than all other vaccine preventable diseases - and combined with influenza, is the seventh leading cause of death for Texans. But many potential victims of pneumococcal disease don't get the one shot that could protect them from a possible deadly infection of the lungs, the blood or the covering of the brain, Texas Dept. of Health (TDH) immunization officials report.

"Anyone can get pneumococcal disease," says Lisa Davis, TDH's adult immunization coordinator. Those most vulnerable are over 65, and anyone two or older who has diabetes, heart or lung disease or other long term health problems or lowered resistance to infection.

These are the people who need the protection of the vaccine, PPC."

The culprit is a bacteria that is a common cause of pneumonia, bacteremia and meningitis. Penicillin was once effective in treating infections such as these, says Davis, but the disease has become more resistant to antibiotics, making treatment of pneumococcal infection more difficult a vaccine protection even more important.

Those who should get the PPV vaccine include:

All adults 65 or older.

Anyone 2 and older with any type long term health problem.

Anyone 2 and older who has a disease or condition that can lower the body's resistance to infection.

The PPV vaccine is in adequate supply, and one dose is all most people usually need. Pneumococcal disease doesn't have a season, although some infections seem more common in the Winter and Spring

## Lubbock Symphony News

The Lubbock Symphony Orchestra will present the third MasterWorks concert of the 2001-2002 Series on Friday and Saturday, January 18 and 19, 2002. Sponsored by Covenant Health System, these concerts will begin each night at 8 p.m. in the Lubbock Civic Center Theater. Andrews Sill, Music Director of the LSO, will lead the orchestra in performances of Smetana's The Moldau, Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 2, Dvorak's Slavonic Dance, Op. 72, No. 2, and Janacek's Sinfonietta. Featured will be guest artist Elizabeth Joy Roe, piano. The Lub-

bock Avalanche Journal is the Season Sponsor of the LSO. Ticket information may be obtained online at [www.lubbocksymphony.org](http://www.lubbocksymphony.org).

Pianist Elizabeth Joy Roe, 20, is a prize winner of international and national competitions. At the age of 13, she won the Grand Prize in the young division (up to age 23) of the 1995 Ibla Grand Prize International Piano Competition in Italy. She is one of only two musicians in the United States to receive the prestigious Music for Youth Foundation \$25,000 Scholarship Award in 2000.

## Texas historic flags go on display this month

AUSTIN - Two additional donors have been added to fund raising efforts of the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc., for conservation of historic Texas flags included in a Houston exhibition that opens this month. That brings to more than \$389,500 raised by Friends for conservation of 26 historic flags, 14 of which are owned by the State of Texas.

The Powell Foundation of Houston gave \$5000 in support of the overall project. THC Chair John Nau made a donation for conservation of the

36th Division, World War II T-patch.

More than thirty historic Texas flags will be displayed in a first of its kind exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. *Texas Flags; 1836-1945* opens January 13 and runs through April.

For more information about Friends of the THC, contact Linda Lee, 512-936-2241, or visit the THC website, [www.thc.state.tx.us](http://www.thc.state.tx.us). For more information about the Houston exhibition, call the museum, 713-639-7540.

## Sponsors needed for Summer Food Service Program

Austin- The Texas Department of Human Services (TDHS) announces the availability of the Summer Food Service Program to eligible organizations this summer.

State and federal funds are available to operate the program. These funds are appropriated through TDHS and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. The program provides meals to children from needy areas when schools are closed for vacation. The program is offered without discrimination due to race, color, sex, age, disability religion of political beliefs.

Organizations eligible to sponsor the program include public or nonprofit private schools, private nonprofit schools, private nonprofit organizations, residential summer camps, and local, municipal or county governments. Community organizations are encouraged to form partnerships to develop summer feeding programs that combine educational and recreational activities with the provision of meals.

Interested organizations should contact TDHS for more information about the program training schedule. Applications should be received by April 13, 2002.

Organizations may subcontract with food service management companies to provide meals. Communities and schools with the highest percentage of low income children will be targeted for the program.

Additional information is available at this web site: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/summer/about/SFSP/default.htm>. Organizations interested in a summer feeding program should call 512-467-5874 or 1-888-834-7406.

## A matter of degrees

More than half of the state's engineering graduates earn degrees at Texas A&M University or the University of Texas at Austin.

School	Degrees awarded
Texas A&M University	1,377
University of Texas at Austin	1,287
University of Houston	465
University of Texas at Arlington	403
Texas Tech University	321
University of Texas at El Paso	181
University of Texas at Dallas	163
University of Texas at San Antonio	141
Texas A&M University at Kingsville	130
Prairie View A&M University	116
Lamar University	86
University of Texas-Pan American	39
University of Houston-Clear Lake	29
Texas A&M University at Galveston	24
University of Texas at Tyler	5
Statewide total	4,767

## WEDDING SHOWER

for Travis & Stephenia Bennett  
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2:30 - 3:30 PM

Selections at Nelson's, Dillards, Target & Linens & Things

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Evening Worship - 5:00 pm

### Wednesday Connections

Food, Fellowship & Study  
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### Other Opportunities

Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm  
Tuesdays & Thursdays

God loves you and so do we!  
Come grow in Christ with us!

## A Call For Memberships and Support For Yoakum County Connection

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 10 at 6:30 pm. at the Connection Building on Main Street in Denver City. Jim Bob McMillan of the Texas Commission on the Arts in Austin will be our guest speaker. McMillan is Coordinator of Community Development & Rural Services and previously visited Yoakum County Art Association in 1994 in Plains to spur the group to organize the resulting umbrella organization Yoakum County Connection. McMillan was then with the Texas Alliance and Education for the Arts which did a county needs assessment in 1995 with Peter Fox's leadership. Six years of Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up, five years of Summer Youth Arts Programs, and working relationships to promote the Arts in the county schools have been the result of this dream. Seven directors will be elected and nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting. Entertainment will be provided by Plains High School Band members under the leadership of Ray Portillo. Door prizes from county businesses and organizations will be given away and refreshments will be served. Don't miss this invitation to attend and give your show of appreciation for Yoakum County Connection family events and arts that enrich all our lives. [www.yoakumconnection.com](http://www.yoakumconnection.com)

### Membership Form

Please mail to:

Yoakum County Connection, PO Box 117, Plains, TX 79355  
Class I Annual Dues \$25.00 Individual or Non-business families  
Class II Annual Dues \$50.00 Businesses, Farms, Ranches with less than 5 full time employees, Clubs, Organizations  
Class III Annual Dues \$100.00 Businesses, Farms, Ranches with more than 5 full time employees

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City, State, Zip-----

Voting Representative Name-----

Suggestions for improvement or future activities-----

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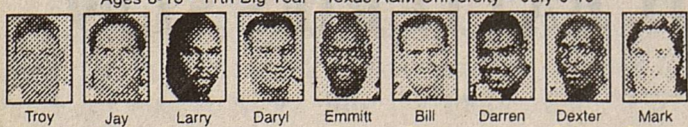
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Supper  
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# From The Hack

Stolen from Stephen Henry's Levelland NEWS-PRESS: On the subject of aging- You walk with your head held high... trying to get used to your bifocals. You turn out the lights for economic rather than romantic reasons.

You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going. Your knees buckle, and your belt won't. You remember today your anniversary was yesterday. You burn the midnight oil until 9 PM. Your back goes out more often than you do. The little grey haired lady you helped across the street is your wife. And some one-liners about the kitchen; A messy kitchen is a happy kitchen, and this one is delirious.

No husband has ever been shot for doing the dishes. A husband is someone who takes out the trash then gives the impression he cleaned the entire house. If we are what we eat, then I'm easy, fast and cheap. A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand. Thous shalt not weigh more than the refrigerator. Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused. A clean house is a sign of a misspent day. Housework done properly can kill you.

Countless people have eaten in this kitchen and gone on to lead normal lives, My next house will have no kitchen - just vending machines. Also this - A young girl asked her father, "What does chaplain of Congress do? Dad thought for a moment, then said, "He stands up, looks at all the members of Congress, then prays for our country." Thanks, and keep up the good work, Stephen - it makes mine easier.

I have worried mightily about what to worry about most in the New Year 2002. To begin with, I wonder how many more new years I will observe - I once had an irate instructor at good old Pecos High tell me, in front of God and about 16 classmates, "Dyer, I'm sorry to tell you my prediction - you will not be with us at age 40 - someone will have already killed you graveyard dead." Ha - shows you what teachers know I worry also about how upset I am with my favorite newspaper humorist, Dave Barry. I think he's hilarious, but he stole one of my punchline bits intended for this issue - he wrote of his favorite Wart in the Sunday A-J, destroying my plans for a feature in this column about my least favorite wart. Dave spoke affectionately of his, and I now suspect my former hero is an idiot. No sane person should have personal hero warts. I hate mine, and I defy any Minister in this town to deter me from my hatred. Should they so dare, I will immediately inquire how they really treasure their Hemorrhoids. I am equally not friendly with those uncomfortable nodes. I digress. We were speaking of

## 10 Principles for Texas in the 21st Century

- \* Develop a better-educated workforce
- \* Direct more of every education dollar into the classroom
- \* Raise the bar on student performance
- \* Cut taxes in Texas
- \* Introduce competition into Texas government
- \* Improve government performance and accountability
- \* Reduce the size of government
- \* Bring common sense to regulations
- \* Use technology to cut costs and increase quality
- \* Return control to communities and individuals

warts. I have one on my left elbow so petrified looking it may have survived since the Paleozoic era. It hurts when I hit it on anything. A few months back, I was told, "Soak a Bandaid in vinegar, stick it over the wart and sleep the night through. In the dawn hours, I tore the bandaid off, the wart looked exactly as it did the night before - ugly, itching, and smelling like sour pickles. I also immediately discovered the Bride's warm bod was missing from my side. When I ambled in the kitchen and casually asked, "Why are you up so early, cooking me what I am sure will be a gourmet breakfast worthy of viewing on the Martha Stewart show?" She barely glanced at me and cuttingly said, "Oh! It's you. I thought you were the pickle salesman again. He must have come and gone in the night. I'm just here boiling liver and cabbage to disguise the lousy smell."

An American Indian, an Islamic and a Texas Cowboy were having a friendly beer. The Indian said, "Once we were many, now we are few." The Islamic said, "Once we were few, now we are many." The Cowboy looked at the Islamic, said "You ain't played Cowboy & Indian yet."

## STATE OF TEXAS

TO: ANY UNKNOWN FATHER OF JOSEPH WADE HAWKINS, RESPONDENT

**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 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty (20) days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment for the relief demanded in the petition may be taken against you.

The ORIGINAL PETITION FOR TERMINATION AND ADOPTION OF STEPCHILDREN OF JOHN WILLIAMSON and RUTH ANN WILLIAMSON, Petitioner(s), was filed on December 19, 2001, in the 121<sup>st</sup> District Court of Yoakum County, Texas, against ANY UNKNOWN FATHER OF JOSEPH WADE HAWKINS, Respondent, in said suit being numbered 7954 on the docket of said Court, and entitled:

### IN THE INTEREST OF JENNIFER RUTH HAWKINS and JOSEPH WADE HAWKINS, CHILDREN

The nature of said suit is a request to terminate the parental rights of the biological parents of the children, and for those children to be adopted by the Petitioners. The date and place of birth of the children, who are the subject of this suit are, Jennifer Ruth Hawkins, born March 20, 1986 in Odessa, Ector County, Texas and Joseph Wade Hawkins, born February 19, 1988 in Brownwood, Brown County, Texas.

**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 January 3rd, 2002.

ADDRESS OF PETITIONER OR ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER  
TERRELL M. THOMPSON  
1001 MAIN ST., STE. #501  
LUBBOCK, TX 79401  
806-771-7500

VICKI BLUNDELL  
District Clerk of Yoakum County, Texas  
P.O. Box 899  
Plains, TX 79355-0899

By: *Sandra Roblez* Deputy  
Sandra Roblez

## STATE OF TEXAS

TO: KYLE SMITH, RESPONDENT

**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 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty (20) days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment for the relief demanded in the petition may be taken against you.

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By: *Sandra Roblez* Deputy  
Sandra Roblez

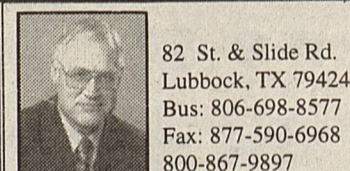
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