

# Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XII, Issue 24, March 1, 2006



## Recorded votes should be important campaign issue

\*\* The following, written by Paul W. Watler, is from the Winter, 2006 issue of The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. It details an issue which, again, should be addressed by the Legislature in the upcoming special session - or sessions.

Vigilance in open government in Texas rests in the hands of the Legislature. The bedrock freedom of information laws in Texas are statutes passed into law and periodically amended by state representatives and senators.

But the Legislature has fumbled the opportunity to take a stance for public accountability. In 2005, for the second consecutive regular session, the Legislature did not enact rules to change state law to require recorded votes on all amendments and bills.

More than 88 percent of Texans polled say they want the state to join the 40 others that require openness through this important procedure. Yet the Legislature has failed to rise to the challenge of public transparency.

Particularly troubling is the lack of leadership in the House of Representatives. Speaker Tom Craddick failed to lend his considerable clout to make this common sense, good government measure the law of the land. The leadership team in the House exudes an air that says the record-vote movement is a

nuisance detraction from long time legislative prerogative.

Of course, there were some exceptions to the indifference shown by the House leadership. Highly respected Republicans including Rep. Delwin Jones of Lubbock, Rep. Bob Hunter of Abilene and Dallas area Reps. Tony Goolsby and Dan Branch were notable in their support for recording votes.

Lt. Governor David Dewhurst has been far more active in attempting to bring 21st century accountability to an institution accustomed to doing business the old fashioned way. With Dewhurst's active support, significant progress was made toward making record votes the law of the land rather than a hollow deal.

SB 1140 was passed UNANIMOUSLY last session by the House, a bill requiring legislators to record nearly all their votes, but the measure died in the house.

While the 2005 session ended in disappointment for supporters of recorded votes, it began with greater promise. Early in the session, both houses enacted rules making it easier, not mandatory, for lawmakers to obtain record votes on bills. The ineffectiveness of this modest step is aptly illustrated by the fact the House of

Representatives cast only 10 more recorded votes in 2005 than in 2003.

The primary election for the Legislature will be March 7 this year, followed by the November General Election. This is the season for citizens and electoral boards to get a commitment for good government in our statehouse. Every candidate should be asked: Do you favor a law or constitutional amendment requiring recorded votes? If not, how can you justify Texas has less openness in its legislature process than 40 other states? What will you do to see that the legislative leadership makes recorded votes an open government priority?

Lawmakers in Austin set the standard for open government. Senators and representatives should let the sun shine on their own work and at the same time send an important message across Texas.

State boards and commissions, school boards, city councils, county commissioners, water districts and numerous other elected and appointed bodies who see transparency in the statehouse will be encouraged to do public business in the open.

It is now up to the citizens to send representatives and senators to Austin to make recorded votes the law of the land.

## Full Speed Ahead With Voting



Early voting in the Democrat and Republican Primary elections are well underway here in Plains in the basement of the courthouse. Shown here are election workers Elvira Mendias and Faye Nelms manning the Democrat voting table at left in photo, with Gale McDonnell and Sheron Smith working the Republican table. There are two of the new, electronic voting machines here, plus conventional ballot marking stations. Denver City residents are early voting in the Tax Office there. As of Tuesday morning when balloting started, --- voters had cast early ballots here.

## County offers prescription card available to all county residents

Yoakum County this week launched a discount card program to help consumers cope with the high price of prescription drugs. The county is making free prescription drug discount cards available under a program sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo) that offers average savings of 20 percent off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs.

The cards may be used by all county residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage, and are accepted at one hundred percent of the county's pharmacies. A national network of more than 57,000 participating retail pharmacies also will honor the NACo prescription discount card.

"Yoakum County is proud to be one of the counties nationwide participating with NACo," said Judge Dallas Brewer. "The NACo prescription discount card offers significant savings for the uninsured and underinsured residents of our county, and even those fortunate to have prescription coverage can use the card to save money on drugs not covered by their health plan. Residents do not have to be Medicare beneficiaries to be eligible for this program."

Cards will be available at the Yoakum County judge's office, the tax office in Denver City and Yoakum County Hospital Social Services.

"Using the NACo prescription discount card is easy,"

Brewer said, "simply present it at a participating pharmacy. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders

and their family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance."

The new program is administered by Caremark.

## Area Code Scam

\*\* Information for this article was furnished by the office of Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark, originating from Sandy Van Handel, AT&T Field Service Mgr.

"We actually received a call last week from a woman who

said, "Hey, this is Karen, sorry I missed you - get back to us quickly!" Then she repeated a phone number beginning with 809. We didn't respond.

This very important information is being provided by AT&T, and the message is clear - Don't Ever Dial Area Code 809!

"This scam is being distributed over the entire country, and should be passed on to your friends and family. Do NOT respond to e-mails, phone calls or web pages telling you to call an 809 area code number. The scam is spreading quickly and could cost you thousands of dollars. It has been identified by the National Fraud Information Center. Here's how it works.

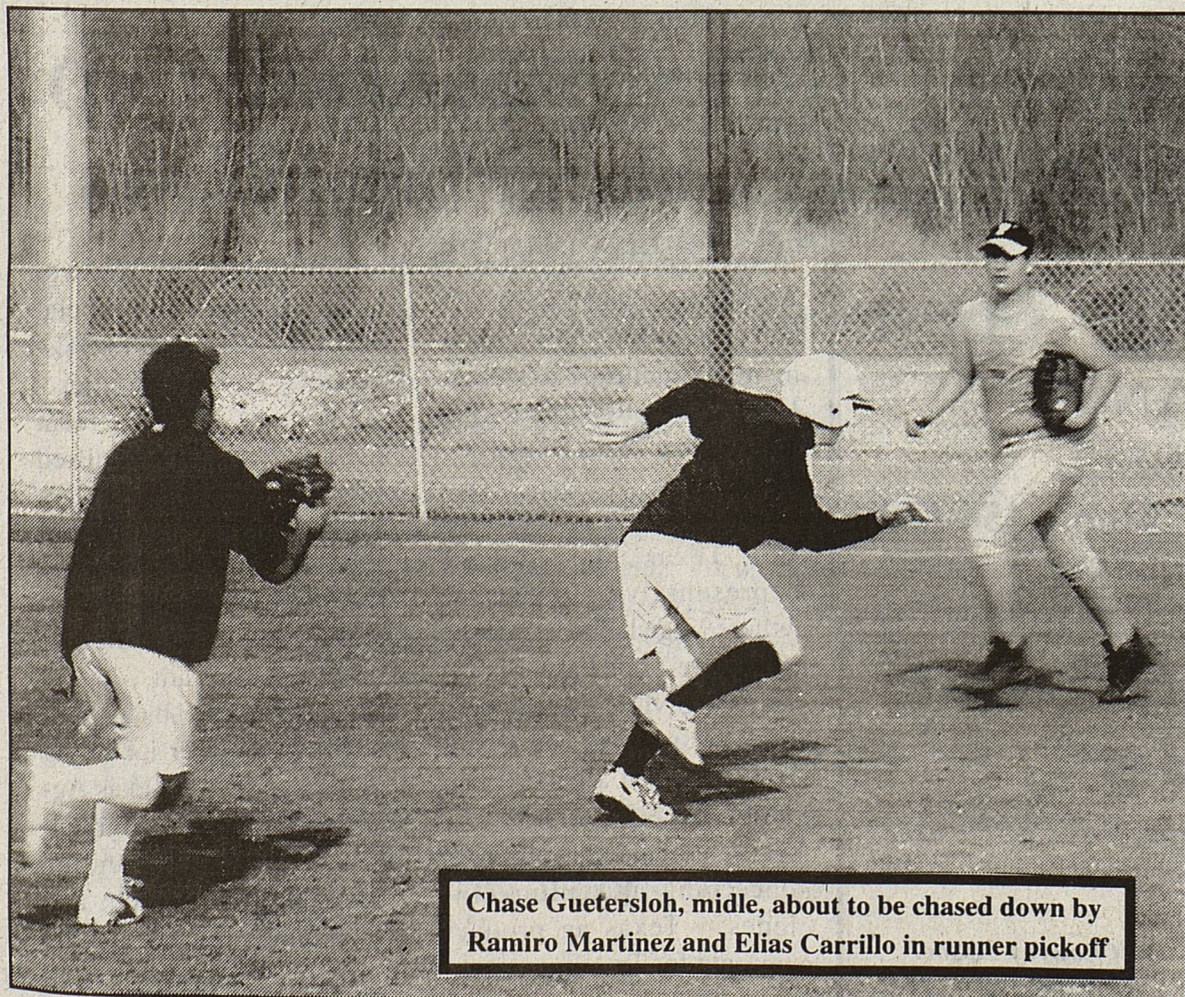
"You receive a call asking you to call an 809 number. You are led to believe the call can furnish you information about a family member, someone has been arrested, a family illness or death, and you are requested to dial the 809 number. With so many new code numbers now, many people make the calls. If it is made from the United States, you could be charged up to \$2425 per minute, possibly on a long recorded message.

"Why does this work? The 809 area code is located in the British Virgin Islands, the 'Bahamas'. Since it is not in the U.S., it is not covered by U.S. regulations of 900 numbers, which require you to be warned of charges and rates on 'pay-per-call' numbers.

The bogus company is not required to provide a time period in which you may terminate the call without being charged. Additionally, while many U.S. homes have 900 number blocking features to avoid such charges, they do not work preventing calls to the 809 area code.

"It's important to avoid becoming a victim of the 809 scam, for trying to fight the charges later can be a nightmare. You DID make the call, and if you complain your phone company and long distance provider will not want to get involved, telling you they are simply providing the bill for the foreign company.

## It's Batter Up Time!



Chase Guetersloh, middle, about to be chased down by Ramiro Martinez and Elias Carrillo in runner pickoff

The 2006 Cowboys are working hard for the upcoming baseball season, hoping for a repeat of last year's District Championship. A good number of starters from last year's squad are welcome news for Coach Bartley. Schedule on Page Four.





Vote For  
**Shane  
McKinzie**

**County Commissioner Pct. 4**

Subject To The Republican Primary March 7, 2006  
Political advertisement paid for by Shane McKinzie



**Tim Addison**

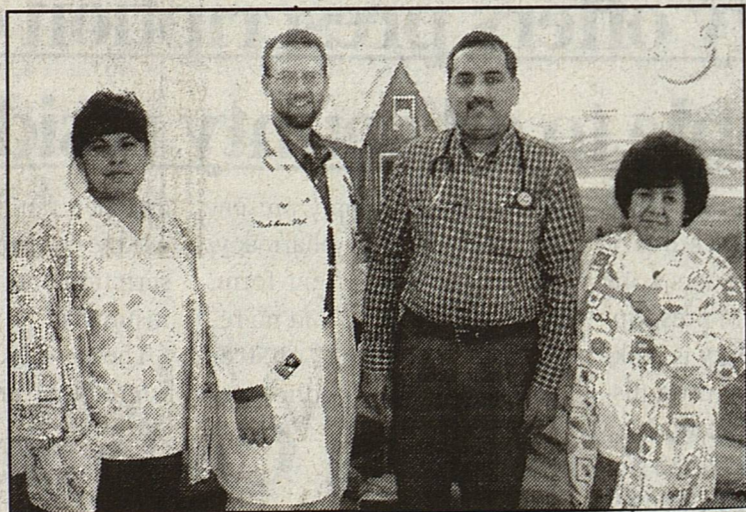
Candidate for County Commissioner  
of Precinct Four

*Your vote and support  
is appreciated !!*  
Republican Primary  
March 7, 2006

Early Voting Feb. 21 thru March 3, 2006

Political advertisement paid for by Tim Addison

**Plains Family Health Clinic**



*The professionally trained and dedicated staff of  
Plains Family Health Clinic are available and  
ready to meet the medical needs of the community*

**Prescription Assistance Friday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM**

For more information call 592-2121, EXT 521 or  
592-2121, EXT 506, or the Plains Clinic

Please call 806-456-6365



**MEMBER  
2006**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

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

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**DANNY BELL**

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PLUS**

CROP INSURANCE MPC1-CRC-CAT-CROP HAIL  
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Home - 806-592-3490

Jeff Lowrey Assoc.  
CELL 806-592-1319  
Home 806-456-3195

**ELECT  
KREG KEESEE**

Candidate for County Commissioner  
Precinct Four

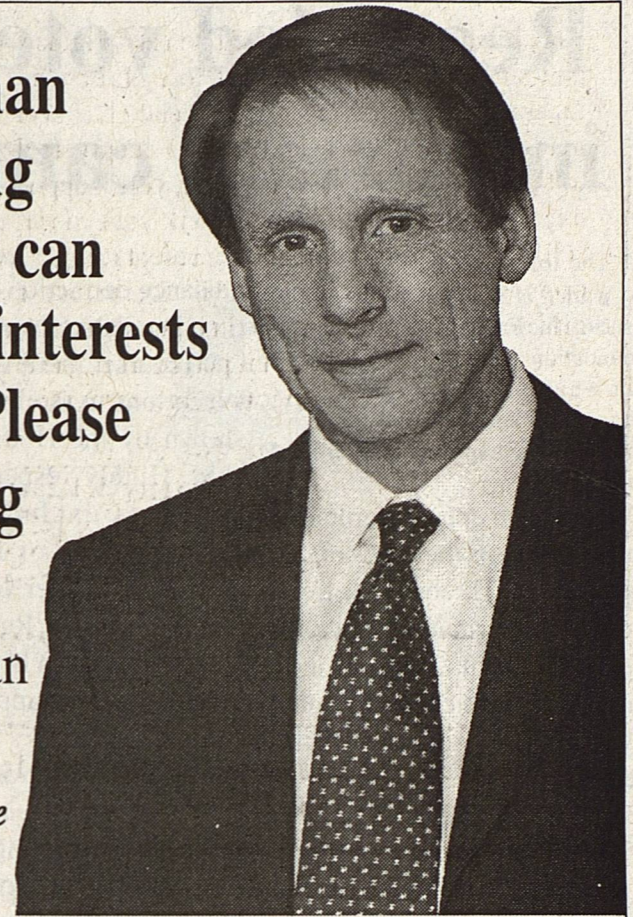
*I would appreciate your vote & support in the  
Republican Primary, March 7, 2006*

Subject to the Republican Primary, March 7, 2006  
Early voting February 21 - March 3, 2006

Political advertisement paid for by Kreg Keese

**"Delwin Jones is a man  
of integrity -- a strong  
conservative who we can  
trust to put the best interests  
of West Texas first. Please  
join me in supporting  
Delwin, thank you"**

- Senator Robert Duncan



**Voice of Reason: "Delwin is the voice  
of reason and experience -- two things  
we need in Austin." - John Montford**

**Effective: "Whenever I need something done in Austin I pick up the phone and  
call Delwin Jones. He's always gets things done." - Sheriff David Guterrez**

**Defender of Quality Education: "Delwin Jones has protected our children by  
standing firm against the anti-public education forces in Austin." - Mark Griffin**

**Responsive: "Delwin Jones takes great care of his district. There is no doubt  
about that. His district comes first - always." - Lisa Nowlin, Slaton**

**Fights for What's Right for West Texas: "Delwin is an effective legislator  
who is not afraid to fight for what is right and in the best interest of West Texas."  
- Carl Isett, State Representative District 84**

**Independent: "I am grateful to have Delwin Jones representing and voting for  
'us' in Austin - not state leaders, not other districts, but 'us'. He votes for what is  
right for our district." - Fred Underwood**

**Leadership & Character: "Delwin Jones is a true servant for West Texas. We  
need his leadership and character in Austin." -- Reverend Malcolm Neyland**



Paid Political Advertising, Paid For By Delwin Jones Campaign, Steve Fannin, Treasurer, 2104 50th, Lubbock, TX 79413

**Farm Bureau AGFUND  
endorses Delwin Jones**

Texas Farm Bureau Friends of  
Agriculture Fund (AGFUND)  
has announced the endorse-  
ment of incumbent Delwin  
Jones in the Republican Pri-  
mary for the Texas House Dis-  
trict 83 seat.

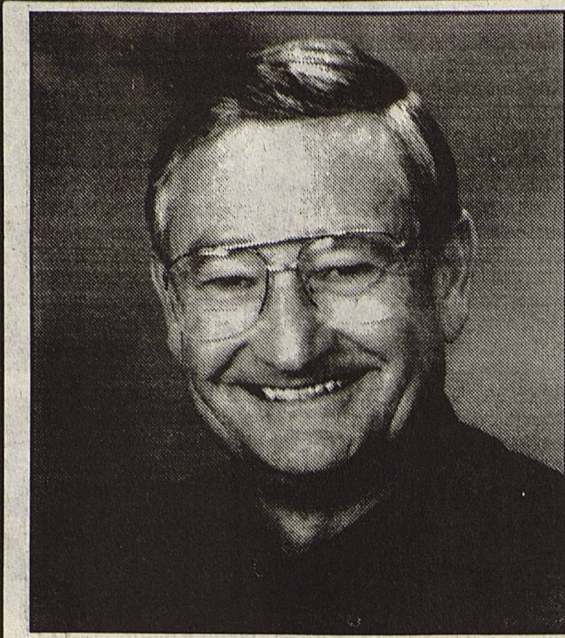
"Throughout his 26 years in  
the Texas Legislature,  
Representative Jones has  
authored legislation benefiting  
agriculture," said Farm Bureau  
and AGFUND President Ken-  
neth Dierschke. "The record  
shows he's been a good friend  
to rural Texas."

Legislation Jones has authored  
concerning agriculture in-  
cludes: - Texas ag product  
copyright for Texas products -  
Giving seed breeders protec-

tion developing new crop vari-  
eties - Establishing special  
check-off assessments to assist  
promoting ag commodities -  
Establishing special 'farm  
value' for farm land annexed  
into cities- Securing funding  
for the original boll weevil  
eradication efforts and co-  
authoring legislation establish-  
ing the present Boll Weevil  
Eradication Program.

Jones has received many hon-  
ors over his career including  
Man of the Year in Texas Ag-  
riculture, Outstanding Agricul-  
turalist in 2001, Outstanding  
Alumni of Texas Tech, and  
outstanding legislator of 1993  
by the Texas House and Sen-  
ate.



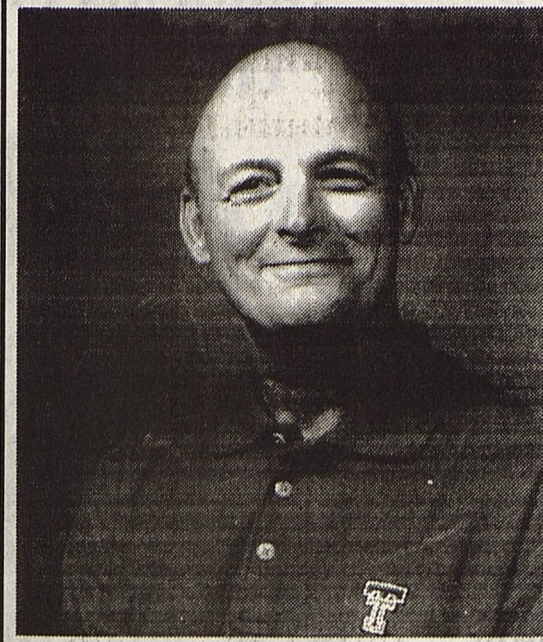


Your support in returning me to office will be sincerely appreciated

## Jack Cobb

Pct. 4 Commissioner  
Subject to the Democratic Primary March 7, 2006

Political advertisement paid by Jack Cobb



Plains is a Great Town. It has been wonderful to me and my family. I want to continue this great tradition.  
**I Want To Be Your Mayor**

*Dave Wilkins*

Political ad paid for by Dave Wilkins

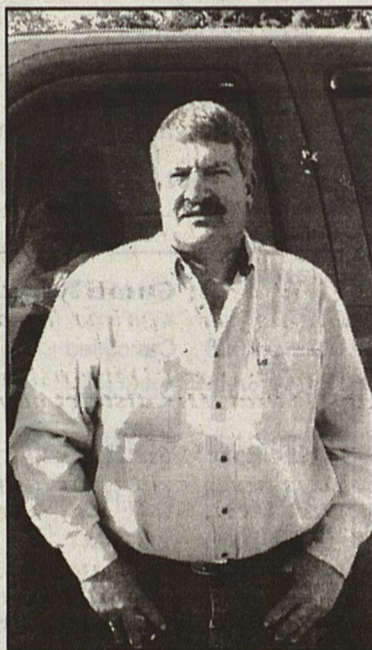
This letter is offered to the citizens of Plains with great regret and humility. I am announcing that I am required to withdraw my candidacy for Mayor. It appears a legal technicality with respect to residency has been uncovered and this precludes me from being placed on the May ballot. I deeply apologize to all the citizens of Plains, especially to those of you who have offered your support to my candidacy. I pray all of you will exercise your God given freedom, your moral obligation to participate in the process of selecting our governmental representatives. Divine Providence has granted us this opportunity - let us not waste it. Let us use this to teach our child, while we may have difference, we must engage in a peaceful, rigorous and active debate of the issues, so "We the People..." shall not perish from the annals of History. May God continue to Bless each of us as individuals and corporately as a community so we all prosper.

Gregory S. Reinhart  
*Gregory S. Reinhart*

Elect Steve Jones, candidate for a  
**Full Time**  
Commissioner in Precinct Four

*I will make every effort to be unselfish in dedicated service to the needs of this county in coming years. Your vote and support will be greatly appreciated. Early voting February 21 thru March 3, 2006*

Subject To The Republican Primary  
Polticaql ad paid for by Steve Jones



### NOTICE

EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE

FOR THE MARCH 7, 2006  
**DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION**  
WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE

La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes aviernes en:

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, IN THE COURTHOUSE AT PLAINS  
AND  
THE DENVER CITY BRANCH TAX OFFICE, AT 122 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> ST.

Beginning: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006  
Martes, Febrero 21, 2006  
Ending: FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2006  
Viernes, Marcha 3, 2006

VOTING WILL BE CONDUCTED MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY,  
8:00 A.M. TILL 5:00 P.M.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### EARLY VOTING BY MAIL

Under certain conditions (see below) a qualified voter is eligible to vote early by mail. Application forms for ballot by mail, may be picked up at the Denver City Branch Tax Office, or at the County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, Plains. An application for ballot by mail must be received in the County Clerk's Office on or before **February 28, 2006** to be eligible to vote in the **Democratic and Republican Primary Election on March 7, 2006.**

Conditions for voting by mail:

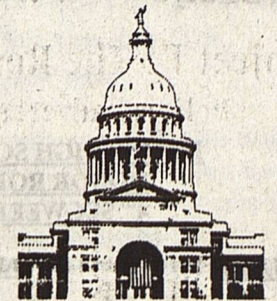
1. Voter is or expects to be **ABSENT FROM THE COUNTY** of the voter's residence on election day.
2. Voter has a **SICKNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY** that prevents him/her from appearing at the polling place on election day.
3. Voter is **65 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER** on election day.
4. Voter is **\*CONFINED IN JAIL.**

\* For more information on the above conditions for voting by mail, call the County Clerk's Office at 806/456-7491 Ext. 294.

REPUBLICAN



W. Van  
Wilson



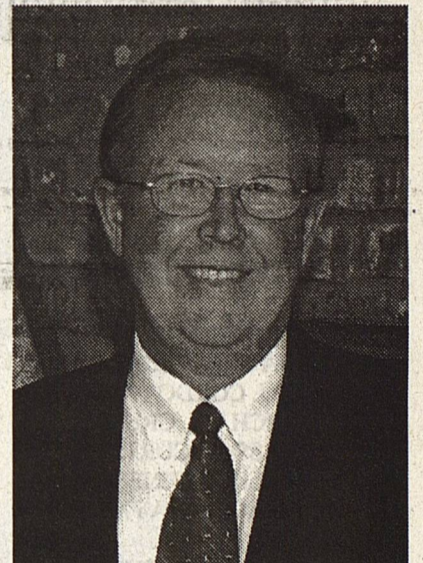
for STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Republican Van Wilson has a vision for West Texas. He is an experienced businessman with a servant's heart who will put our families first, keep our taxes low, and concentrate on making West Texas an even better and more prosperous place to live.

On March 7th, vote for a leader who shares our values and has the passion to lead. Vote Republican Van Wilson for State Representative.

As our next State Representative, Van Wilson will:

- Make public education a priority in Austin
- Strengthen our universities and improve our schools
- Eliminate wasteful spending in state government
- Lower property taxes to help families
- Stand up for conservative family values



On March 7th,  
**Vote Van Wilson**  
for State Representative

Pol. Ad. Van Wilson

### YOAKUM SWCD NEWS

#### ATTENTION FARMERS/ PRODUCERS 2006 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Yoakum Soil Water Conservation District has received funds for approved conservation practices. The LWG recommended that Beginning Farmer/ Ranchers received 75% cost-share. The limited Resource Farmer/Ranchers will receive 90% cost-share. The non-beginning Farmer/Ranchers are eligible for a 50% cost-share.

#### LIST OF PRACTICES ON PRIORITY RANKING

1. Chemigation valve and /or Flowmeter
2. Range Seeding
3. Livestock Watering Facility, Livestock Fencing, Livestock piping, livestock Well.
4. Brush Management
5. No-tillage Incentive- 3 year payment
6. Irrigation System, Sprinklers, Conversions, to LEPA, LPIC, MESA, or LESA
7. Irrigation Pipeline, Irrigation Regulating Reservoir.
8. Irrigation Systems, Micro-irrigation, conversion from surface, solid set, hand move, big gun, sideroll, or water drive irrigation systems to a micro-irrigation systems-30,40,60, or 80 inch.
9. Windbreak or Shelterbelt
10. Wildlife Habitat Incentive- \$2.00 per acre/3 year payment
11. Terraces

All Base Allocation funded practices to follow current NRCS Standards and Specifications.

Visit or call YOAKUM SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 1305 Cowboy Way, Plains Texas or call 806-456-3703 ext.3



PLAINS MIDDLE SCHOOL  
4<sup>TH</sup> SIX WEEKS  
ALL A HONOR ROLL

5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Merritt Crump  
Autumn Friesen  
Matthew Ramos

6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Adriana Corrales  
Mayra Cueto  
Dakota Earnest  
Carolina Hernandez  
Fabiola Rubalcaba  
Denise Tarango  
Brooke Wilson

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Brandon Craft  
Emilia Gallegos  
Nathan McCravey  
Troy Parrish  
Justin Taylor

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Forrest Booth  
Hannah Crump  
Dylan DeBusk  
Cody Friesen  
Kevin Gass  
Roberto Reyna  
Hunter Welch

ALL A 1B HONOR ROLL

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Stephanie Addison  
Kelbi Bartley

6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Troy Alldredge  
Dray DeBusk  
Taylor Fitzgerald

PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL  
HONOR ROLL  
4<sup>TH</sup> SIX WEEKS

ALL A'S

9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
YESENIA LOYA

10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

KURT ALLDREDGE  
MARIA ANDAZOLA  
JOANI BELL  
RYAN CRUMP  
AMBER FRIESEN  
LAUREN HISE  
COLBY ORTEGA  
JORDAN WILLIAMS

11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

LANDON CRAFT  
ERIKA LOEWEN  
NANCY LOZANO  
ANTONIO MARTINEZ  
ANGELICA MENDOZA  
ARACELI MENDOZA  
LISA NEUFELD  
ADRIANA PONCE  
MARIO RUVALCABA  
DIANA VALENZUELA  
COLBY WILMETH

12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

DAVID ALLDREDGE  
T. J. CORDOVA  
MICHAEL CRUMP  
CASSON CURTIS  
ALLISON FRIESEN  
REAGAN HAYNES  
BEN HAYS  
ASHLI HUMPHREY  
B. J. LESTER  
ADAM MCCRAVEY  
BLAKE O'QUINN  
BLAKE PARRISH  
JAVIER QUINTANA  
ABEL RAMOS  
TODD WILLIAMS

ALL A'S AND 1 B

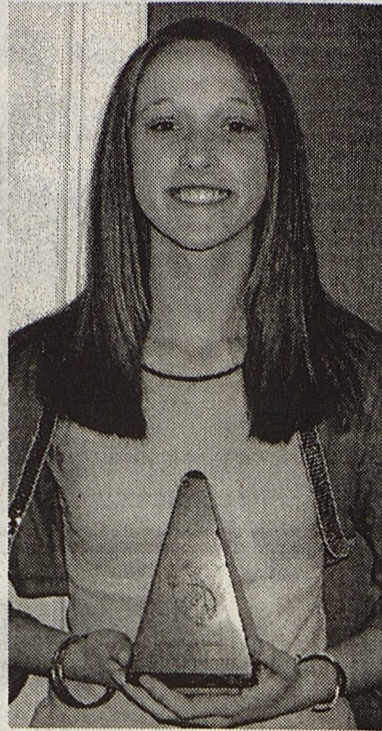
CHRIS ADDISON  
REYNA GALLEGOS  
EDGAR MUNOZ  
LYDIA WHITZEL

LAUREN DAVIS  
JUAN LARA  
ZACH RAMOS  
JOHN TYSON

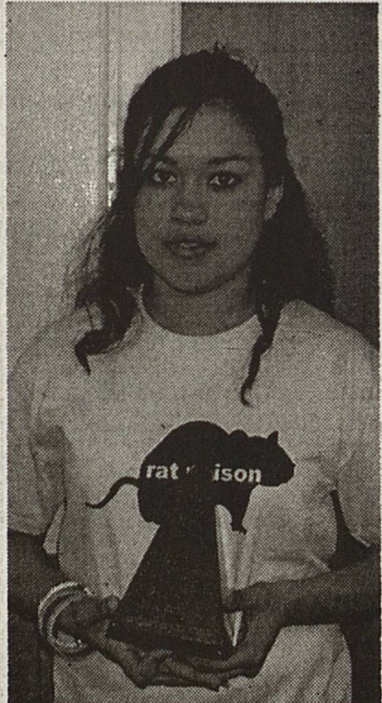
SCOTT ADDISON  
JENNIFER ECCLES  
C.J. TARANGO

RICARDO CUETO  
SKYLAR KEESEE  
PRISCILLA MARES  
RAMIRO MARTINEZ  
MARIBEL MENDIAS  
MANUEL MENDOZA

Students Of  
The Week



PHS February 20 Student of the Week is Lauren Hise, a sophomore and the daughter of Debra and Vernon Hise. She was nominated by Jennifer Everitt, who said "Those of you who went to Disciple Now may have studied the Great Example. We all pattern our life after what we see and hear and believe. Who or what do you look to? Hopefully the qualities you look for include honesty and integrity. We have great examples here in PHS. Students making good choices day in and day out. One student comes to mind, a student who considers others, who gives her best at all times, writing an essay in class or improving on the court. Lauren Hise is a worthy student."



February 27 Student of the Week is Nancy Lozano, a junior and the daughter of Ignacio and Lorenza Lozano. She was nominated by Treon Ortega who said, "This student is not afraid of hard work, and works behind the scene much of the time with little recognition. She is someone I know I can count on to complete the task. She is a joy to have in Student Council and I look forward to having her next year as well. My choice for student of the week is Nancy Lozano."

Student Council at Tobacco Summit



Top- Clarissa Zorilla, Araceli Mendoza, Adrian Ponce, Nancy Loano, Landon Earnest, Jacob Rivera. Lower row; Treon Ortega, Chris Addison, A.J. Martinez, Colby Ortega, Adam Jones, Holden Welch, Wyatt Dearing.

24,000 people in Texas die every year due to tobacco use. In the United States, some 1.200 people per day, or 438,000 Americans die every year.

Last weekend a group of Student Council members attended the Tobacco Summit at Ceta Canyon. The Summit is a program of the Center for Safe

Communities and Schools. The program, free to students, is funded by tobacco company settlements. It was an inspiring experience for the students.

Seven members shine against 4-A schools

Six Cowboys and one Cowgirl took on David vs Goliath qualities when they competed against Class 4-A schools last weekend at the Frenship Tiger Relays. Facing athletes from schools such as Frenship, Palo Duro, Big Springs and others they showed mettle by placing in every event they entered aside from the 200 meter dash. They finished 8th in the field of 13 schools. Other results;

Distance Medley relay - 1<sup>st</sup> 11:27.98

Joseph Loya - 400 meters  
John Tyson - 800 meters  
Scott Addison - 1200 meters  
Abel Ramos - 1600 meters

800 meter run - 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>  
John Tyson - 4<sup>th</sup> 2:11.55  
Scott Addison - 8<sup>th</sup>

200 meter dash - 10<sup>th</sup> qualifier  
Mario Ruvalcaba

3200 meter run - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Abel Ramos - 10:40.53

Pole Vault - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Ben Hayes - 12'6"

1600 meter relay - 6<sup>th</sup> 3:43.48  
Joseph Loya  
Scott Addison  
Abel Ramos  
John Tyson

400 meter dash - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Joseph Loya - 52.80 seconds

Girls' Shot Put - 2nd  
Joani Bell - 33' 4 1/2"

Game Date	Game Time	Location	Opponent
02-17-2006	Cancelled	Plains	Denver City V & JV
02-21-2006	Cancelled	Olton	Olton
02-28-2006	5:00 PM	Denver City	Denver City
03-04-2006	6:00 PM	Plains	Olton
03-07-2006	5:00 PM	Seagraves	* Seagraves
03-09-2006	10:30 am	Levelland	Floydada
03-10-2006	W-3:30pm L-10:30am	Levelland	Hobbs or Big Springs
03-11-2006	WW-6:00pm, WL-3:30pm, LW-1:00pm, LL-10:30am	Levelland	Portales/Idalou/Lub. Roos
03-16-2006	3:30 pm NM Time	Eunice, NM	Mesilla Valley
03-17-2006	W-6:00pm L-1:00pm	Eunice, NM	Monte Del Sol/Eunice
03-18-2006	WW-6:00pm/WL-3:30pm/LW-1:00pm	Eunice, NM	Hobbs JV/Dora/Gateway
03-21-2006	4:00 PM	Smyer	* Smyer
03-24-2006	7:00 PM	Plains	* Seagraves
03-25-2006	6:00 PM TX Time	Plains	Eunice DH
03-27-2006	4:00 PM	Whiteface	* Whiteface
04-01-2006	7:00 PM	Plains	* O'Donnell
04-04-2006	5:00 PM	Plains	* New Home
04-08-2006	7:00 PM	Plains	* Morton
04-11-2006	5:00 PM TX Time	Eunice, NM	Eunice DH
04-14-2006	12:30 PM	Plains	* Smyer
04-22-2006	10:00 AM	Plains	* Whiteface
04-25-2006	5:00 PM	O'Donnell	* O'Donnell
04-29-2006	7:00 PM	New Home	* New Home
05-02-2006	5:00 PM	Morton	* Morton

UIL Journalism Meet

Three student competitors placed at the Midland College UIL Journalism meet Friday, February 24.

Senior Allison Friesen was first in feature writing, junior Jose Luis Gallegos was second in editorial writing and sixth in headline writing, and sophomore Ryan Crump placed third in news writing.

The PHS group competed with ten schools, ranging from class 1-A through class 5-A in the competition. hosted by the Midland College Student Publications Department

Beryllium Alert!

You may be one of the hundreds of thousands of workers exposed to Beryllium. Beryllium can cause lung disease. If you or a loved one have ever been diagnosed with lung disease that you think may have been caused by Beryllium exposure, you may be entitled to compensation.

Call Now 866-960-5000

Law Offices of Jeffrey D. Slakter www.berylliumattorneys.com  
Principal Offices in Dallas, Texas. Cases will likely be referred.

BENZENE ALERT

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML) or Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), please call us today toll free at 1-866-369-3476 to discuss your legal rights.

THE FOX LAW FIRM, P.C. 1-866-FOX-FIRM  
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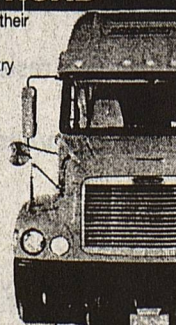
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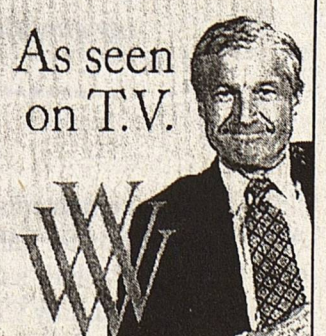


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# Lifelines & Styles

## Connection Elects New Officers

Yoakum County Connection met February 21 in Plains City Hall. City Administrator Terry Howard was a special guest and reviewed a number of grants the Watermelon Round Up could possibly be eligible for by applying as a festival. Linda Harris presided over the election of new officers. Judy London was elected Chair person, Elsa Moya was chosen Vice-Chair, Alecia McCullough was selected to be the next Secretary, and Esme Salas was re-elected Treasurer.

L.J. Sanders delivered the financial report and Elsa read minutes from the prior meeting. After discussion, the members elected to have an open call for the design of Watermelon Round Up T-Shirts, to be sold as fund raisers for the event. An ad for the contest can be found on this page of CCN.

Mary Dale Forbus will handle the T-Shirt and Cap sales for the event this year. Lisa Switzer Palmer volunteered to direct the annual and sanctioned cook-off of brisket, ribs and chicken.

Sanders and Alecia McCullough plan to talk to the Senior Citizens Center about possible sponsorship of art workshops for seniors. Linda Powell led a discussion about the upcoming 2007 Yoakum County Centennial celebration. All county groups, organizations and businesses are invited and urged to sponsor or plan an event, activity or program of their choosing to be featured in the Centennial.

### NEW ITEMS AT THE YOAKUM COUNTY LIBRARY

#### NONFICTION

- CURE FOR THE COMMON LIFE by Max Lucado
- 365: NO REPEATS, A YEAR OF DELICIOUSLY DIFFERENT DINNERS by Rachael Ray
- BOB KNIGHT: THE UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY By Steve Delsohn
- FATAL DEPTH by Joe Haberstroh
- SCUBBA DIVER'S TRAVEL COMPANION by Jeremy Agnew
- LET ME PLAY: THE STORY OF TITLE IX by Karen Blumenthal
- GEM IDENTIFICATION MADE EASY by Antoinette Matlin
- MAKING A HAND by Max Evans
- MANHUNT: THE 12 DAY CHASE FOR LINCOLN'S KILLER by James L. Swanson
- WEIGHT WATCHERS NEW COMPLETE COOKBOOK

#### FICTION

- THE CAT WHO DROPPED A BOMBSHELL by Lilian Braun Jackson
- DEATH DANCE by Linda Fairstein
- REMEMBER ME by Deborah Bedford
- VENDETTA TRAIL by Robert Vaughan
- EDGE OF EVIL by J.A. Jance
- CHAINFIRE by Terry Goodkind
- SEA CHANGE by Robert B. Parker
- STAR WARS: OUTBOUND FLIGHT by Timothy Zahn
- THE HUNT CLUB by Les Lescroart
- THE JUSTICE RIDERS by Chuck Norris
- THE KITE RUNNER by Khaled Hosseini
- GONE by Lisa Gardner

## CSW to host survivor of 9-11 terrorists' attacks

The Spring Jack Maddox Distinguished Lecture Series, hosted by College of the Southwest at Hobbs, will present Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Brian Birdwell Tuesday, March 7. He will take the stage at Tydings Auditorium on the Hobbs High School campus, 800 N. Jefferson at 7:30 PM NM Time.



Birdwell is a survivor of the terrorist's attack on the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. After American Airlines 77 crashed into the Pentagon, just feet away from his second floor office, Birdwell was thrown to the ground and engulfed in flames. Of the burns that consumed 60 percent of his body, nearly half were third degree burns. While Birdwell fought for his life, his wife, Mel, was fighting to maintain their faith and their family. Because of their devotion to God and each other, Birdwell and his wife, along with their son, remained solid in their spiritual convictions and integrity throughout this incredibly difficult ordeal. After enduring more than 30 operations and months of hospitalization and multiple skin grafts, Birdwell has made miraculous recovery. Birdwell communicates a compelling message of enduring hope, unwavering faith, undying patriotism, and unconditional love.

Birdwell is a native of Fort Worth and a graduate of Lamar University, graduating as the Distinguished Military Graduate through the Army ROTC program. He began his military service at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, served 18 months in South Korea, and upon his return met his wife Mel, and they married in 1987.

In 1990 while stationed in

Germany he was deployed for Operation Desert Shield and earned the Bronze Star for action in the Persian Gulf War. He would later earn his Master's Degree at the University of Missouri, served in Central America in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch, later graduated from Command and General Staff College in 2000, and reported for duty at the Pentagon.

Following the terrorist attack Birdwell was awarded the Purple Heart for his 9-11 wounds, and upon his retirement in 2004 he received the Army's Legion of Merit for service to the nation.

He now serves as the President of Face the Fire Ministries, a 501C3 non-profit, which serves critical burn survivors and our nations wounded service men and women. He is the author of *Refined By Fire* which chronicles his physical and spiritual journey in the aftermath of the terrorists' attack. His book will be available for purchase.

Admission to the presentation is free; However, tickets are required, and are available by e-mail, tickets@csw.edu, or by calling College of the Southwest, 505-392-6565, ext. 1014.

You are invited to a  
**Scripture Shower**  
for couples honoring  
**Brad & Lisa (Switzer) Palmer**  
Sunday, March 5, 2006, 7:00 to 8:00 PM  
in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Philip Carter  
3 miles north of Plains on Hwy. 214,  
then 1/4 mile west

\*\*\*\*\*  
Please come prepared to write down your favorite Bible scriptures and why these verses are important to you. Special paper will be provided. These pages will then be compiled into a book for Brad and Lisa



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## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Plains, Texas

**Sunday School**  
**9:30 A.M.**  
**Morning Worship**  
**10:45 A.M.**  
**Evening Program**  
**6:00 P.M.**

## Birth Control Patch ALERT!

"FDA says birth control patch raises blood clot risk" - Dallas Morning News. If you or a loved one has suffered blood clot related injuries or death while using the Ortho Evra birth control patch, we may be able to help. Call toll-free today for a free and confidential consultation.

Call now.  
1-800-882-1402

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## From The Hack

A few more MALE health tips. No, I didn't create them... I'm just naturally skinny as a rail:

How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?

Well, if you have a body and you have fat, your ratio is one to one. If you have two bodies, two to one, etc.

What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

Sorry, can't think of a single one. My philosophy is No Pain...GOOD!

Aren't fried foods bad for you?

You're not listening! Foods are fried today in vegetable oil—they're permeated in it. How could more vegetables be bad for you?

Will sit-ups prevent me from getting soft around the middle?

Definitely Not! Exercise a muscle, it gets bigger. Do sit-ups only if you want a bigger stomach.

Is chocolate bad for me? Are you crazy? HELLO... cocoa beans. ANOTHER vegetable, it's the best feel good food around!

Is swimming good exercise for your figure?

If swimming is good for your figure, explain whales to me!

Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?

Hey! Round is a shape, you know!

A major calamity at my house this week. One of three electronic torture devices I own expired. I refer to computers, of course. The Bride purchased the first almost 14 years ago, its age easily making it eligible for Medicare. It actually looks like it has a full fledged grey beard, but it's only dust the maid keeps forgetting about. The middle aged monster from Hell still hums along nicely, except even God can't make it print. I can peck merrily away on it, but if I want to see the results of my pecking, I have to slide something called a ZIP in its bowels, which then must devour my work, and when it is thru devouring and digesting I take the slimy thing out and stick it in the innards of the third sadistic machine. In theory it is supposed to transfer all my pearls of wisdom thru the printer and produce nice, clean sheets of what the big guys call hard copy but still looks like typing paper to me. Calamity!! Number three beast must have suffered fatal constipation, for it did not digest much less disgorge anything - it just swallowed, hiccuped once, and to avoid prolonged suffering, I shot the thing with my .38.

That's why this issue does not have many photos, and why I have to make an appointment with my banker, then my shrink. In that order. I'm not very worried about the shrink.

**Think Texas**  
by Agriculture Commissioner  
**SUSAN COMBS**

Did you know Fort Davis houses the world's largest telescope mirror and that Eden is the geodetic center of Texas? Everyone knows Elgin sausage, but the town also is famous for another product it has been making since 1882: reliable bricks. Did you know George West is the Storytelling Capital of Texas? Rural Texas covers 80 percent of our state, and each and every town has a story to tell. To help identify the hundreds of unique and interesting rural Texas destinations, the Texas

**House For Sale and to be moved. See at north side of Plains Motel. 806-456-5402**

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**Your Ad here just six bucks. That's WAY too cheap!**

Department of Agriculture put out a call earlier this year to all the members of Texas Yes!, TDA's broad-based rural Texas marketing initiative. Members were asked to spotlight their community's top attractions, events and one-of-a-kind factoids.

The response was incredible. Now TDA has compiled the information into a fun new mini-booklet to help spread the word. It's called "Make Your Getaway: The Biggest Little Guide to Rural Texas Destinations."

Filled with glimpses of what's happening in more than 100 rural Texas destinations, the booklet showcases the best of what to see, what not to miss and where to go to find it. It will be distributed to travelers across the state.

The Texas Yes! Web site (www.texas-yes.org) will offer a longer look at each community in the booklet in addition to including new additions that are added after printing. The printed booklet is scheduled to be available this fall.

Every Texas community has its own story to tell. Whether for an afternoon, a day, a weekend or a week, there are so many places to go to experience the history and beauty of Texas.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Myrtle Lorene Patton, Deceased, were issued on February 7, 2006, in Cause No. 1485, pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas to: Kenneth D. Paton.

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Bill J. Helwig**  
Attorney at Law  
317 North Main Street  
PO Drawer 1388  
Denver City, Texas 79323

DATED the 9th day of February, 2006

**Bill J. Helwig**  
Attorney for Estate  
State Bar No: 09407540  
PO Drawer 1388  
Denver City, Texas 79323  
Telephone: (806) 592-3536  
Facsimile: (806) 592-3872

### NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOHNNIE L. FITZGERALD, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOHNNIE L. FITZGERALD, Deceased, were issued on February 2, 2006, in cause No. 1487, pending, in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to:

**MELBA F. FITZGERALD AND JOHNA FITZGERALD DeBUSK**

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are hereby required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. The representative of the referenced Estate has directed that any such claims shall be presented to the following:

Stephen T. Krier, Attorney for THE ESTATE OF JOHNNIE L. FITZGERALD, DECEASED.  
CLIFFORD, KRIER, WILKERSON & WRIGHT, P.C.  
2124 Broadway  
Lubbock, Texas 79401-2913.

EXECUTED this 21st day of February, 2006

By Melba F. Fitzgerald and Johna Fitzgerald De Busk, Independent CO-Executrices.

**HELP WANTED:** Yoakum County Auditors office in Plains, TX. High School diploma or equivalent (GED) required, bachelor's degree in accounting or business preferred. Full-time ( Mon-Fri, 8-5 ); benefits. Written and verbal communication skills required. Prior accounting experience preferred. PC literacy (MS Office Suites), typing and 10- key required. Experience with accounting or financial software preferred. Qualified candidates should submit cover letter, resume and Yoakum County employment application ( available in Human Resource Office, Yoakum County Courthouse, or Tax Office at 122 W 4th in Denver City ) to Darinda D. McWhirter, PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355. **Deadline 3/10/06.** Yoakum County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the Democratic and Republican Primary Election held on March 7, 2006 will be tested on March 3 at 8:30 a.m. at County Clerk's Office in Plains, Tx. to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

*Darinda L. Rushing*  
Signature of Officer

### AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección Primario democrático y republicano que se llevará a cabo el de Marcha la 7 de 2006 se probará el Marcha a las 8:30 a.m. en Oficina Del Vendedor para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todas los proyectos de ley.

*Darinda L. Rushing*  
Firma del/la Oficial

### CITY OF PLAINS, TEXAS INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR 100,000 GALLON ELEVATED STORAGE TANK

The City of Plains is soliciting sealed bid proposals for a 100,000 gallon elevated storage tank. Bid opening will be at the Plains City Hall at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2006. Bid security in the amount of five percent of the bid submitted is required. Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and to inform themselves of all local conditions. Payment and performance bonds will be required in accordance with Article 5160, V.A.T.C.S., as amended by House Bill 344 passed by the 56th Legislature, Regular Session 1959 and Experience Record. Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age or national origin. Information for bidders, proposal forms, specifications, and plans are on file at City Hall, City of Plains, 1015 Ave F, Plains, Texas. Copies of the plans, specifications and contract documents may be obtained from Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., 4222 85<sup>th</sup> Street, Lubbock, Texas 79423 upon a refundable deposit of \$30.00 for each set of documents.

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Wood burning stove, 2 shops - Sell for \$42,000, rent for \$400 per month. Call 505-390-9673 505-631-6369