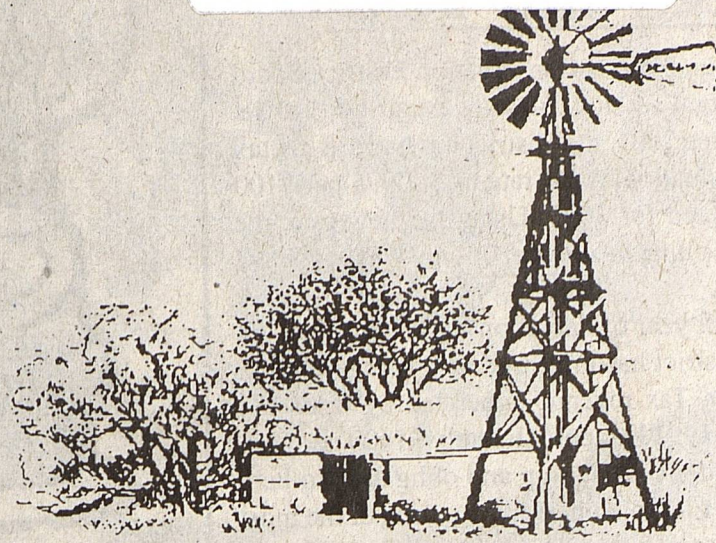


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XI, Issue 1, September, 8, 2004



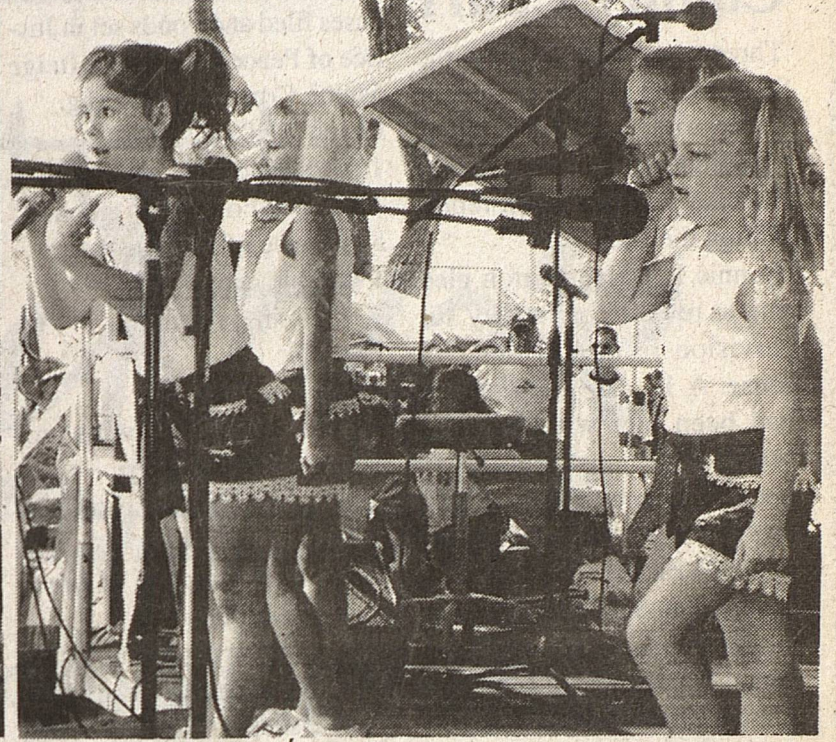
Watermelon Round Up # 9 - biggest, best yet?



The area around the entertainment stage was packed with visitors all day long. Entertainment included a variety of live music, dance acts, trick roping, and ' Kiss the Pig '.



Texas - Oklahoma Watermelon Queen Stephanie Duda and National Watermelon Queen Jennifer Carden made a lovely appearance.



"The Cactus Cuties" charmed the crowd with their youthful exuberance and talent, one of many great acts and performances organized by the entertainment committee. Many more photos inside.

Criminal cases heard in District Court

Five criminal cases were heard in two sessions of 21st Judicial District Court starting August 30, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

In a case of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, Juanita Petree Bernal pled guilty and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred, with affirmative findings of deadly weapon. She will be under community supervision five years, must pay \$223 court costs and appointe attorney fees, serve 300 hours community service, attend weekly AA meetings, and complete the batterers treatment program. Jimmy Hammons served as her attorney, and Denver City Police

Officer Lupe Garcia was investigating officer.

In a judgment revoking plea bargain Wallace Lynn Langley was sentenced to two years in State Jail, with credit for 269 days served. Warren New served as his attorney.

In another judgement revoking plea bargain, Lorenzo Carrillo was sentenced to ten years in the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice Institutional Division, with credit for 645 days served. Warren News was his attorney.

In a trial before a jury Corina Villareal entered a plea bargain guilty plea to possession/transport of controlled substance with intent to manufacture methamphetamine. A ten year prison sentence was suspended and probated 10 years. She was

fined \$1500, must pay \$278 court costs, \$25 time payment fee, \$193.55 restitution with joint liability for \$387.10 to Agrialiance. She will serve 240 hours community service, complete the drug offenders education program, will remain under supervision of the community corrections facility in Brownfield no less than one month or longer than 24 months. Jimmy Hammons was her attorney.

Joe Raymond Flores pled guilty to recklessly causing injury to a child. He was sentenced to two years in state jail, with credit for 190 days served. Patricia Valdez, D.C. Police, was investigating attorney, and Jimmy Hammons and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Area wide drug fighting task force may not yet be dead issue

State Representative Delwin Jones, R-Lubbock and State Senator Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, continue to work hard to re-align law enforcement agencies in an 18 county area to continue the war on illicit drugs. Last week the originally planned South Plains Drug Task Force was abandoned when the City of Lubbock's Police Department pulled out of the organization as the grantee, or manager, of a state grant of \$655,000 which was to fund drug fighting efforts in the 18 county organization. Officials in the Lubbock Police Department expressed their concerns about liability issues following the City of Amarillo settling a 5 million dollar lawsuit with dozens of Tulia residents falsely arrested in a notorious drug case.

Representative Jones and Senator Duncan announced at a recent press conference they will propose to the Criminal

Justice Division of the Office of the Governor the original grant funds be shared proportionately among drug enforcement officers in the 18 counties originally forming the South Plains Drug Task Force. This would limit liability for drug issues to the individual department and employees in each county. The South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) is actively assisting law enforcement agencies in the area preparing grant requests for the funds.

Yoakum County Sheriff Don Corzine was recently asked his assessment of the Task Force issue. " If you will recall, the former Llano Estacado Drug Task Force was organized here, serving both Yoakum and Terry counties. When the recent South Plains Drug Task force was organized into an 18 county organization, we were faced with a forced merger in the new task force. I have doubts

the Governor's office will approve 18 individual grants for the new organization. That would be completely multi-jurisdictional, and not a unified task force."

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark, who was instrumental in the organization of the Terry/Yoakum County serving task force, sees the continuing need for a regional drug investigation organization. " If we are forced to split up into 18 individual law enforcement agencies rather than a multi-county true task Force, it's an indication criminals can organize, but law enforcement agencies cannot, because of this liability issue" Clark told CCN. He reported following the breakup of the former Llano Estacado Task Force, the local Commissioners Court did approve the hiring of Lisa Switzer as an investigator for his office in local drug cases.

Farmer/Rancher Week proclaimed

The Yoakum SWCD will announce something new to Yoakum County - a Ladies Farm Tour on September 13. This is in conjunction with the Yoakum County Farm Tour, sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension.

The Ladies Farm Tour will visit the Chili Plant near Higginbotham, the Rubber Recycling Plant near Denver City and Newsom Vineyards north of Plains. Transportation for the Ladies Tour will be provided by Mustang Chevrolet in Denver City.

For information and to RSVP for the 1st annual Ladies Farm Tour, contact the SWCD at 456-3703.

The two separate tours will meet for lunch at the Plains Community Building at 12:30 PM.

A local Outstanding Farmer/Rancher will be named by the



Yoakum County Judge Dallas Brewer signs a proclamation naming the week of September 13 - 17 to be Farmer/Rancher Appreciation Week in Yoakum County. Pictured to the right is Yoakum County Soil and Conservation District Secretary Jackie Pate.

Yoakum SWCD as well as offering many door prizes provided by local merchants. The noon meal will be sponsored by

Sun-Cot Gin, New-Tex Gin, Yoakum County Co-op Gin, Tokio Co-op Gin and the Yoakum SWCD.

Extension also hosts county farm tour

The Yoakum County Farm Tour conducted by Texas Cooperative Extension is planned for Monday, September 13. Participants will meet at the Plains Community Building at 9 AM and finish with a lunch at noon, according to County Extension Agent Arlan Gentry.

Producers will receive information on harvest aid products, peanut maturity-water management, a crop update and the current insect situation. Speakers will be:

Randy Boman, Extension Agronomist; Calvin Trostle, Extension Agronomist; Scott Russell, EA-IPM; and Arlan Gentry, CEA-Ag. Tour stops scheduled are a large systems trial on cotton, and viewing and discussion of the new picker machine. Producers will receive 3 CEU credits for their Private Applicator License.

For more information contact Jackie Pate at 456-3703, Ext. 3 or Arlan Gentry, 456-2263.

Cowboy game shots, write-up, many more Watermelon Round Up photos inside

Sandy Land UWCD reduces tax rate

Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District Board of Directors met in special session Tuesday, August 31, to set the tax rate for 2005. Since 2001, the District has had a \$.01 tax rate per each \$100 of valuation. A tax rate of \$.0095 per \$100 valuation has been adopted for 2005. Using the new rate, the average single-family dwelling in Yoakum County will pay \$3.97 in taxes to Sandy Land.

Since 1991, the first full year of operation of Sandy Land, the budget to operate the District has increased an average of .007 (less than 1%) per year. Tax revenue generated by taxes has actually decreased since 1991 by approximately \$1400 per year.

"We continue to consider our mission and obligation to help conserve the groundwater in Yoakum County as one of the most important issues we face to ensure our future", said Gary Walker, Sandy Land Manager.

Criminal cases in County Court

Three cases were heard in the September 3 session of County Court, Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Bonnie Lee Hennington pled true to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI cause. A 10 day jail sentence had been met with 43 days served. She must pay delinquent fine, appointed attorney fees and supervision fees totaling \$594 on plea day.

Noel Adam Salcido pled guilty to assault causes bodily injury to family member. A 30 day jail sentence had been met with 34 days served. He was held for the U.S. Border Patrol.

Luis Alberto Madero pled guilty to first DWI, open container, bt. .244/.235. His 54 day jail sentence had been met with 54 days served. He was held for the U.S. Border Patrol.

JP Court Review

The following is a summary of cases filed and bonds set in Justice of Peace Court One, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

- Cases filed"
 - 108 traffic cases
 - Two open containers alcohol
 - 5 issuance of bad checks
 - 1 forcible detention
 - 1 public intoxication
 - 1 felony
- Bonds Set:
 - 4 cases motion to revoke probation- bond denied
 - False report to police officer- \$500
 - 2 cases bail jumping, failure to appear- \$1000
 - Motion of surety/DWI- \$1000
 - Bond forfeiture/Driving while license suspended- \$500 cash bond
 - Fugitive from justice- held for state of Oklahoma
 - Bond forfeiture/DWI Gaines County- \$5000
 - Motion of surety/DWI- \$1500
 - 2 cases driving while license suspended- \$500



This issue of CCN marks the start of our 11th year. We wish to express our heart felt appreciation to every reader, subscriber, advertiser, who has helped us survive. I was a genuine 'doubting Thomas' all that time ago. Not the Bride. She drummed into my head, 'It will work!' Thank you very, very much. Gary Dyer

TxDOT To Remove Illegal Dumpsters From Right Of Way

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will begin removing illegal trash receptacles from the state right of way in the next few weeks in an effort to eliminate a safety hazard to the traveling public. Trash receptacles that have been placed on the state right of way throughout the Lubbock District will be removed if the waste management company has not relocated the dumpster to private property. Texas law gives TxDOT exclusive control over the state highway system, and the authority to limit what objects are placed on the right

of way. Objects are removed for several reasons, the most important one being safety, explained Ted Moore, director of maintenance for the Lubbock District. "When objects are placed on the right of way, often they create sight distance problems that can be hazardous for the traveling public," said Moore. "Another reason we want these objects off the right of way is because of the damage to vegetation, pavement edges and ditches when the trash trucks pull up to empty the contents of the receptacles."



As President Bush and the U.S. government continue their fight to protect the American way of life in the war against terrorism, they have also been fighting another battle to protect American ideals and principles - a battle against human trafficking and slavery. Most Americans would be shocked to learn that the institution of slavery - an institution that hundreds of thousands of Americans shed precious blood to destroy - continues to persist today - not just around the world, but hidden in communities across America. This is a new fight against an old evil.

To combat this scourge in the state of Texas, I joined senior Justice Department officials last week to announce the creation of a new anti-trafficking task force in Houston, to coordinate the efforts of federal, state, and local government and non-governmental organizations. Additional task forces are being planned for other regions of Texas next month.

It has been nearly two centuries since the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade, and well over a century since the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to abolish slavery itself. Yet to this day, men, women and children continue to be trafficked into the United States and coerced into lives of forced labor and sexual slavery. The stories they tell are shocking, tragic, and heart-rending. The acts they endure are not just unconstitutional and criminal - they are profoundly evil. Their experiences amount to a form of modern-day slavery. This daily assault on human dignity, occurring within our very own borders, is an outrage, and it demands a response.

The Justice Department, led by its Civil Rights Division, has engineered a remarkable campaign to combat human trafficking and slavery in our midst. The Department has prosecuted numerous cases involving forced labor and sex slavery across the country - from California to Maryland, Hawaii to New Jersey, Georgia to New Hampshire - as well as right here in Texas. The Department has dramatically strengthened its efforts to combat human trafficking - tripling its prosecution and conviction rate over the past three years as compared to the preceding three years, circulating awareness-raising materials to law enforcement officials across America, and reaching out to victims by installing a toll-free hotline.

Yet federal efforts alone are not enough. Slavery, as practiced in modern-day America, is carefully hidden and difficult to uncover by federal officials alone.

As we learned at a Senate subcommittee hearing I chaired last month, we need the active participation of state and local officials, who know their communities inside and out, and who can work closely with federal officials to identify and rescue victims. To ensure

proper coordination between federal, state and local officials, we need state laws criminalizing trafficking and slavery, to provide state and local officials with all of the incentives and tools that they need to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases at the state and local level, as well as the establishment of regional task forces to coordinate the efforts of federal, state, and local officials.

We are already taking both steps in the state of Texas. First, Texas is one of the few states (along with Florida, Washington, and Missouri) that has already enacted comprehensive laws to prohibit human trafficking. More states should join the effort. Accordingly, the Justice Department recently announced a model for new state anti-trafficking laws to encourage other states to consider enacting such laws, and the Senate recently approved a bipartisan resolution I authored urging states to do so. Second, the Houston anti-trafficking task force announced last week is the first since the Justice Department's historic national anti-trafficking conference convened last month. It joins similar efforts already in place in Philadelphia, Atlanta, Phoenix, Northern Virginia, and Tampa, and more are planned.

This is an important effort. Eliminating the scourge of human trafficking and slavery from our midst remains the most fundamental civil rights issue of our time.

Human traffickers peddle in human misery. They smuggle human beings into this country and condemn them to lives of forced labor or sex slavery. For countless victims, the American dream quickly turns into an American nightmare. Such tales of human suffering should not exist anywhere in the world - and especially not in the United States of America.

Yet according to government estimates, approximately 800,000 human beings are trafficked across the world's borders each year - including at least 15,000 human beings trafficked into lives of slavery in the United States each year.

The American commitment to eradicating human trafficking and slavery is a solemn vow - reflecting the highest traditions of our Founding Fathers and the drafters of the Thirteenth Amendment. It is a commitment to the principles of freedom and liberty that Americans have fought and died to protect. And it is a profoundly moral commitment, not just to punish violators of our criminal laws, but to repel an assault on our nation's core beliefs about the fundamental worth and dignity of every human being.

The author is a U.S. Senator from Texas and chairman of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights. He chaired a hearing last month to examine U.S. efforts to combat human trafficking and slavery. He is a former state supreme court justice and state attorney general.

Texas Yes!

Texas Department of Agriculture

Refreshing the Spirit in Rural Texas

By Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs

With more than 213,000 square-miles in our backyard, rural Texas continues to rank as the number one travel destination in this great state - from warm coastal beaches and rugged, rolling hills to crystal clear springs, pristine desert, towering mountains and lost pines.

Rural Texas covers 80 percent of the state's land area and is home to just 2.9 million of Texas' 21 million citizens. Yet there are no strangers in rural Texas. Visitors are greeted with almost limitless opportunities for recreation and relaxation. Rural tourism accounts for \$2.5 billion in spending each year, jump-starting local economies, contributing significant tax revenues and serving as the life-blood for many smaller communities.

Rural Texas has it all: outdoor adventure, shopping bonanzas, hands-on history and heritage, and festivals featuring food, music and old-fashioned fun. To find out what's going on in your back-

yard, check out the Web sites listed below. Then come visit. Stay a while. And refresh your spirit - in rural Texas.

- Texas Department of Agriculture: www.TexasYes.org
- Office of the Governor, Economic Development and Tourism: www.traveltex.com
- Texas Commission on the Arts: www.art.state.tx.us
- Texas Historical Commission: www.thc.state.tx.us
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: www.tpwd.state.tx.us
- Texas Department of Transportation: www.dot.state.tx.us
- Texas Yes! is a member-based program sponsored by the Texas Department of Agriculture for rural communities, businesses and organizations to promote business development, job growth and tourism in rural Texas. For more information on Texas Yes! call (866) 4TEX-YES or visit www.TexasYes.org.

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Cowboys Sting Hornets 46-8

Following a disappointing first game loss to a team they should have beaten, the Cowboys put on an offensive display against the Lorenzo Hornets producing 46 points, while the 'D' boys held the Hornets to a total of 99 yards and 8 points.

Coach McWhirter credited his troops with "Playing a really tough offensive and defensive football game. We need to do more of the same every week."

In their first period possession, the Cowboys racked up three first downs on rushes by Caffey and Williams. A recovered fumble slowed the attack, but two plays later Caffey went off his left tackle for the first score, and his kick gave the Cowboys a 7-0 lead. The Hornets muffed the kickoff, the ball recovered by Huerta, but the Cowboys would then fumble to Lorenzo. Unbelievably, the Hornets would again fumble, recovered by O'Quinn, recovered at the 5. Two plays later Williams would cross the goal for the score, but the PAT was blocked and the Cowboys led 13-0.

The Cowboy defense stifled the Hornets in their possession, forcing a pun to Caffey taken to the 21. and from there Caffey burst free over his right guard for a dash to the endzone, and at the end of the first period the Cowboys led 19-0.

Early in the second period Evan Cain hit Patrick Cotton with a 12 yard pass, and three plays later Caffey would over his right guard for a 68 yard scoring dash and 26point lead.

Both teams offense sputtered until late in the period. From the 34, O'Quinn gained 8 yards, and Caffey would score again to give Plains a 33 point lead at the half.

With the third period barely underway, Payton Bean recovered a Hornet fumble at the 30, where O'Quinn lugged the ball in for the score, and Bruton's kick put the Cowboys up 40-0.

The Hornets mounted a quick drive late in the quarter to get on the board 40-8.

Midway through the final period,

Parker stepped in front of an errant Hornet pass and hustled it 46 yards for the score, and the Cowboy defenders held the angry Hornets in bay for the final 46-8 win.

The Cowboys had 277 yards offense on the ground, 29 in the air. Caffey gained 198 yards on the ground, Wil-

liams, 45, O'Quinn 40, Crump 4, Cain 10. Only three passes were complete, 2 to Cotton, 1 to Caffey. No defensive stats were available.

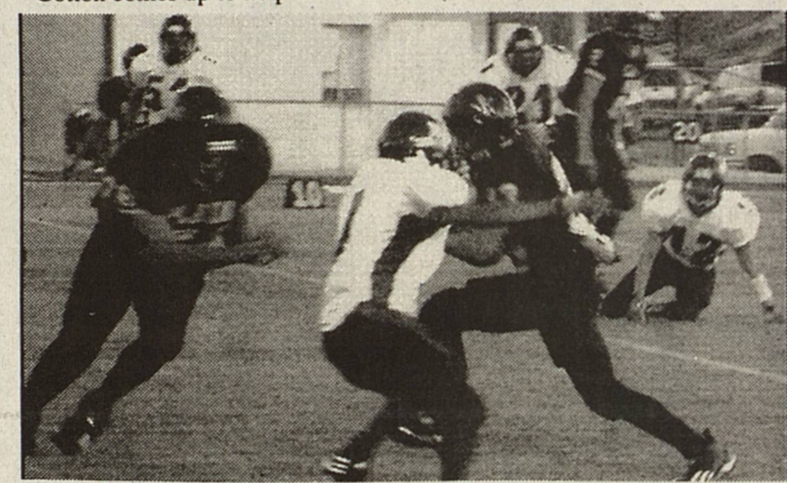
The Cowboys journey to take on old foe Sudan next Friday at 7:30 PM. Be on hand to give them support!



Caffey off for good yardage



Cotton comes up to help downed Cain (we think)



A Cowboy comes in to block for teammate

Cowboys win 'Indian Run' cross country meet

The Cowboy Cross Country team had an outstanding performance, taking the team championship at the annual "Indian Run" in Seminole. They bested some larger schools including Levelland by 20 points, Brownfield by 70, and Pecos, Fort Stockton, Monahans, Wellman-Union, Sands, Grady and Crane.

Jose Villegas topped the Cowboys performance placing fourth overall, six seconds ahead of team co-captain Abel Ramos, 5th. Payton Bean, other co-captain, was 11th, Scott Addison

19th, Chandon Loya 23, Zachary Ramos 38, Jose Loya 40. Coach Davis said "It was an incredible day for our team, the kids all really stepped up and ran their hearts out."

The Cowboys did not have a complete JV team because of injuries to Patrick Cotton, Ben Hayes and David Alldredge, but the other three runners came on strong with Bradon Loya 2nd overall, Daniel Estrada 12th, Landon Craft 13th.

Lauren Davis, the only Cowgirl, was 6th individually, and Coach

McAdams said "She ran in perfect position to win first if she had realized where the finish was. She was still strong at the finish."

The five Jr. High boys all finished in the top 35. Zachary Ramon was 3rd, Jonathan Lira 4th, Chris Addison 30th, Brandon Craft 32, Arthur Ruiz 35.

Lady Wrangler runners Jasmine Mares were in the top half of the girls division, 34th and 53rd individually.

The teams compete this weekend at the Morton Country Club.

Lady Wranglers Volleyball

The 7th Graders began their season with a 25-19, 25-19 win over Brownfield last week. Team members include Courtni Asebedo, Natalie Butler, Sydney Caffey, Allison Eccles, Natalie Haynes, Abigail Hernandez,

Jasmine Mares, Sara Neudorf, Victoria Valverde and Shyann Vantine. Their coach is Angela Barefield.

The 8th Wranglers fell to Brownfield 29-27 and 25-22 in their opener. Coach Charles Cain's roster includes

Brianna Conway, Reyna Gallegos, Yesenia Loya, Vanessa Martinez, Heather Parrott, Mari Ruiz, Crystal Tarrango, Lydia Whitzel and Kimber Williams.

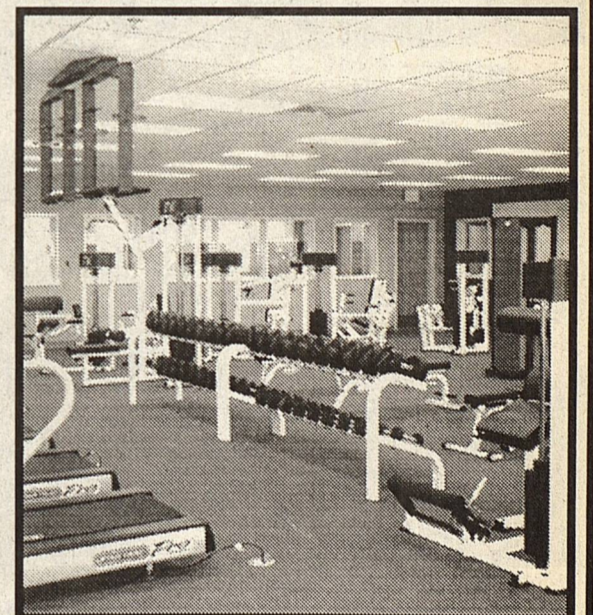
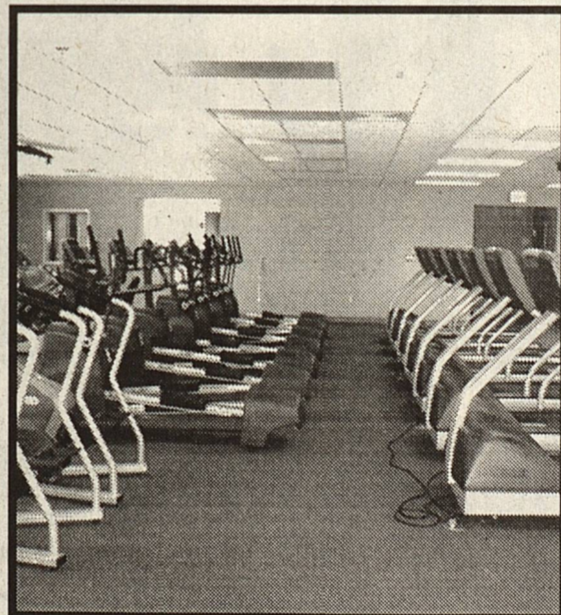


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Senior Citizens Corner

Seniors, mark your calendar for September 16th. A social evening is being planned for your enjoyment on that date. There will be a drawing that evening to raffle off the items you will be hearing about as you are approached about buying tickets. The tickets will sell for \$1.00 and each ticket will give you a chance to win any of four items that will be available. The raffle is a fundraiser planned by the Site Council, so join the fun! If on one approaches you with tickets, stop by the office where Rosa or Ann will be happy to sell you some.

"Turkey and Dressing" day brought several visitors this week, some of which were 'senior-to-be' while the faces of some of our people who attend irregularly were also seen. Names appearing on the guest list were Monica Casas, Michelle Anderson, Denman Pate, Robbie Stirdivant, Charles Benge, Juanita Wright, Mike Hannemen, Vera Villa, Catherine Reed, June Segars, Bill Harmon, and Sue Hammett. Welcome to each of you.

It is good to see Chic Coats back after a bout with surgery, and to have Gladys Thomason here again after several days of illness. We miss anyone of our senior family who is ill and unable to attend.

The Board of Directors votes to extend the list of those who are eligible to help the reception desk volunteer count and report the daily lunch money to include the members of the Site Council. The names of all of the Board of Directors and Site Council members are posted in the hallway outside of the dining room; so if you need help, any of these folks is available to assist you.

At our house we are preparing for our Labor Day reunion of our three children and their mates. This group of six people hold a special concern for me as I prepare for their visit so I try to follow a few rules. You may want to consider the list for your own family. 1. I don't do windows and glass doors because I don't want them to run into a clean window and get hurt. 2. I don't wax floors because they may slip and fall. 3. I don't disturb cobwebs because I want every creature to have a home of his own. 4. I don't pull weeds in the rock garden because I don't want to

get in God's way. He is an excellent designer. 5. I don't do gourmet meals because I don't want them to stress over what to cook when they invite us over for a meal. 6. I don't iron because I chose to believe the manufacturers when they say, 'permanent press.' 7. Finally, I never disturb the dust bunnies because they are good company. I have named most of them and they agree with everything I say. So, as I write this, we are eagerly anticipating a great weekend of visiting, playing games, attending the annual 'fly-in' breakfast at Plains and enjoying the Watermelon Round Up activities.

Even though none of our children or grandchildren is any longer involved, it is always exciting to see the Denver City 'school-time' activity begin a new year. It doesn't seem possible that three quarters of a century has passed since I eagerly looked forward to that 'first day' each autumn. Although I cannot vouch for its accuracy, I must share this incident about the group of elementary students who were lined up for lunch where a teacher had posted a note admonishing them to take only one apple by saying "Take only one. God is Watching"! Moving on down the lunch line was a platter of chocolate chip cookies beside which a child had left a note which said, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Voices were hushed and laughter was stilled today at the Center as we shared in the sorrow of the Carrasco family. Gloria has been a part of our Senior Center staff for so many years that she has become like a member of our own family. We have stood helplessly by and watched a brave, young family walk the dreaded path of cancer. Rene who, at thirteen, often voiced his certainty that "God is going to heal me," stands healed today! Everyone will miss him. He and his family have taught us once again that love, love of God and of each other, will ultimately see us through whatever life holds. Our sympathy goes to each member of the family.

Thought for Today: "I signed up for an exercise class. I was told to wear loose-fitting clothing. If I had any loose-fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place."

New Arrival Gets Into Watermelon Round Up Spirit



Miss Christina Townes arrived home August 17, 2004 and her parents Zelma and Jason Townes promptly introduced her to something new-a bed fashioned from a hollowed out Allsweet Watermelon (lined with a blanket, of course), and even introduced her to the piece of melon in her right hand!



What about?

Being in Lubbock this summer has been an enlightening time for Beth and I. During one of our conventions there, we had a pastor from a neighboring town come up to us. He said, "Well, Mark, where are you all now?"

I looked at him kind of funny. We have known him for several years and he knew we bought the funeral homes in Seagraves, Brownfield, and the chapel in Plains.

My reply was, "We're still in Seagraves, Pastor, and we have been since December of 2001." Then he looked at me funny and stated he had heard we had sold out and moved away! What non-sense!

A few days ago, someone met with us in the office at Seagraves on some business. They have lived in Seagraves for many years, but had heard that Beth and I had left town.

And now, we see a sign about someone who is claiming to have a 'locally owned' business but does not live in Seagraves or even the northern part of Gaines County.

Let me say something. Beth and I feel that God has brought us here to serve the families of our three areas.

We are NOT selling, moving, quitting, or closing the doors. We firmly believe that when God leads you somewhere, He will take care of you and guide you in each of your steps.

We are in Seagraves, Brownfield, and Plains to stay. For the people of Seagraves and anyone else who do not know, we live in the funeral home in Seagraves. When we first came to this area, that is where we moved and that is where we will be.

Beth and I in the last couple of months have even bought our cemetery property. The only way we will leave is through our own business, in the funeral coach, and buried at the cemetery.

SEAGRAVES IS OUR HOME!, but we love, work and support the Brownfield and Plains area too.

You see, God sent us here, it was not for the people of this area. It wasn't so we could enjoy the sandstorms, either. It was for us. We needed the people of this area and know that people can be kind, decent, and caring in a time of trouble. No where in the world can you find such wonderful, supportive people as the people of this area of Texas.

Until Next Time!

Mark A. Jones

www.majonesfuneraldirectors.com. email comments to: markajones@door.net.

Food For Thought: SAS Peach Bread Pudding

Ingredients: 4 cups bread cubes; 8 oz. cream cheese, 3/4 teaspoon almond extract; 2 cups & 2 tablespoons sugar; 1 tablespoon lemon juice; 1/2 teaspoon salt; 6 large peaches; 2 eggs, 1 cup milk and 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg.

Preparations: Bread cubes: Cut bread into 1/2 inch cubes and let dry. In a large bowl toss 4 cups bread cubes with 4 tablespoons melted butter.

Egg mixture: In another bowl combine 2 eggs beaten with 2 tablespoons sugar, 1/4 teaspoon almond extract; 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg and 1 cup milk. Peaches and Cream: Mix 8 ounces softened cream cheese with 1/2 teaspoon almond extract, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1/2 tea-

spoon salt and 5 large peaches chopped. Nest, pour into bottom of an 8x8 casserole dish 3 cups of bread cubes keeping one cup in reserve, cover with 2/3 of the egg mixture; cook covered in microwave for 3 to 4 minutes. Spoon peaches and cream over partially cooked egg/bread mixture, arrange remaining bread cubes over the top of mixture then place one sliced peach in a pinwheel shape over the top of the bread cubes. Finish by dripping rest of egg mixture over all. Cover and refrigerate for one hour or overnight. Cook at 350 degrees for 40 minutes covered and at 400 degrees for 10 minutes uncovered. Cut into four portions and serve warm.

September Is Texas Food Safety Education Month

Governor Rick Perry and the Board of Health will sign a proclamation designating September as Food Safety Month. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that 76 million persons experience food borne illnesses each year, resulting in 5,000 deaths annually; and though most customers have a good foundation of food safety knowledge, problem areas still exist.

The South Plains Public Health District offers these reminders: Hand washing protects you and the food you prepare, thoroughly, clean your hands, especially after handling raw meat or poultry. Always wash and sanitize surfaces, and utensils between tasks. Never place cooked food on a plate that previously held raw food. Cook foods thoroughly, reheat to 165 degrees, hold foods at 140 degrees, cool foods down quickly and refrigerate promptly. Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. All these practices will help you serve safe food. For more information call your South Plains Health District Office.

New Activities Begin The New School Year At The Yoakum County Library

Several new activities have been planned at the Yoakum County Library to start the new school year. A Trivia Question Game is in progress at the library for adult and juvenile patrons. Every two week new questions are posted and patrons are invited to answer the questions. Prizes are given to everyone who answers the question correctly.

A Back to School Peanut Guessing Game began on August 23 and will end on September 30. Winners will be named in each of the following

groups: Adult, High School, Junior High, 2nd-4th Grade and 1st and below. Prizes will be awarded to the person with the closest guess in each division.

Family movie night will begin at the library on Tuesday, September 7. Family movies will be shown every other Tuesday night from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Storytime will begin at the library on Wednesday, September 8 for preschool age children. The weekly meetings will be from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

"IT'S TIME FOR AN INDEPENDENT VOICE TO STAND UP FOR OUR TEACHERS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES."

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- ★ SMALL BUSINESS OWNER
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YOAKUM COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER
1006 AVENUE G, PLAINS, TEXAS
4:00 - 6:00 P.M.



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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.

From The Hack

It is Sunday afternoon as I hunt and peck this out. You may or may not know I am scheduled for a meeting with my eye Doctor in Midland Tuesday morn, and am supposed to have the laser thing done to my left cataract coated eye sometime Wednesday. Believe me, I am ready, I am sick and tired of hitting what should be a magnificent golf shot, and have to yell, "Anyone see that?" Of course, the usual response is "Yeah, you hit a duck in the pond across the fairway... looks dead to me." Or, "Sure, straight down the fairway about 44 yards, maybe 46, you did a little better this time".

As soon as I recover enough to talk, I am going to ask Dr. Ingram, "When do you think I'll be able to play golf?" I feel there is an excellent chance he will ponder the question a bit, and then solemnly prophesy, "Well, I would guess after at least three more years of intense instruction from a miracle granting pro."

How about the Watermelon Round Up! After talking to many folks who are now nine year veterans attending the thing, it appears the consensus is, bigger, and more folks attending. There were a few more attractions for the youngsters,

the stage entertainment appeared a bit more diversified, the food and entertainment areas were jammed most of the day, there were more beautiful cars in the Classic Show, and the brisket cookoff has now evolved to brisket, pork and chicken. Yoakum County Connection members and volunteers again did a tremendous job organizing the Round Up, and once again Majordomo Jeannette Head engineered a tough project through to what I thought was a great success. Congratulations to everyone taking a part in the show.

Trouble is probably already brewing for the following, but honest, a priest gave me all this stuff:
The Before And After Of Falling In Love:
Before- Don't Stop!

After- Don't Start!
Before- Turbocharged
After- Jump-start
Before- Saturday Night Fever
After- Monday Night Football
Before- You Take My Breath Away.
After- I Feel Like I'm Suffocating
Before- We Agree On Everything
After- Doesn't She Have A Mind Of Her Own?
Before- He's lost without me.
After- Why won't He Ask For Directions?
Before - I Love A Woman With Curves.
After - I Never Said You Were Fat!

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION AND POSTING OF NOTICE OF ESTRAY

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF Yoakum

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared LT. LARRY MURPHY who after being by me duly sworn deposes and says:

After the herein described estray was impounded, I made a diligent search of the register of recorded brands in the county where said estray was found. The search did not reveal the owner of said estray.

I did then advertise the impoundment of said estray in Cowboy Country News a newspaper of general circulation in the county where said estray was found, at least twice during the fifteen (15) days after the impoundment of said estray. The dates of such advertisement were 6th and 13th of Sept. 2004 and a duly verified printed copy thereof is returned herewith!

I also posted a copy of the Notice of Estray and the Notice of Impoundment of Estray on the public notice board of the courthouse of the county in which the estray was found.

Said estray is described as the following:
Kind of Animal STEER Color Black
Breed Brangus Sex Steer Age Unknown
Size 600 to 600 lbs
Brand, Marks, Identifying Characteristics Red Point Star

WITNESS my hand, this 2nd day of Sept 2004

Larry Murphy
Sheriff or Designee of Yoakum
County, Texas

SWORN to and subscribed before me by Larry Murphy this the 2 day of September 2004

Carla A Cook
Notary Public,
County, Texas
My commission expires: 2-25-08

Public Notice for Plains Independent School District

Plains Independent School District has earned a rating of: **Superior Achievement** on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas for the 2002-2003 school year. The rating system is administered by the Texas Education Agency.

This is the highest rating that a school district can earn and reflects the administration and use of sound accounting practices by the district and adherence to specific accounting guidelines as well as correct staffing and budgeting for the district.

The district met all the requirements for the 21 indicators that represent the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas. This is the second year for the state to administer the rating and the second perfect score to be earned by the district.

The FIRST rating will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled board meeting which will take place on September 13, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the board room in the superintendent's office.

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Public Notice City of Plains

Texas Community Development Program

The City of Plains will hold a public hearing at 5:30 PM on September 13, 2004 at City Hall, 1015 Ave. F, Plains, Texas, in regard to the submission of an application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for a Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) grant. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizens participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TCDP funding available, all eligible TCDP activities and the use of past TCDP funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TCDP application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Pam Rowe, City Secretary, at the City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

For further information, contact Pam Rowe, City Secretary at the City Hall, 806 - 456 - 2288