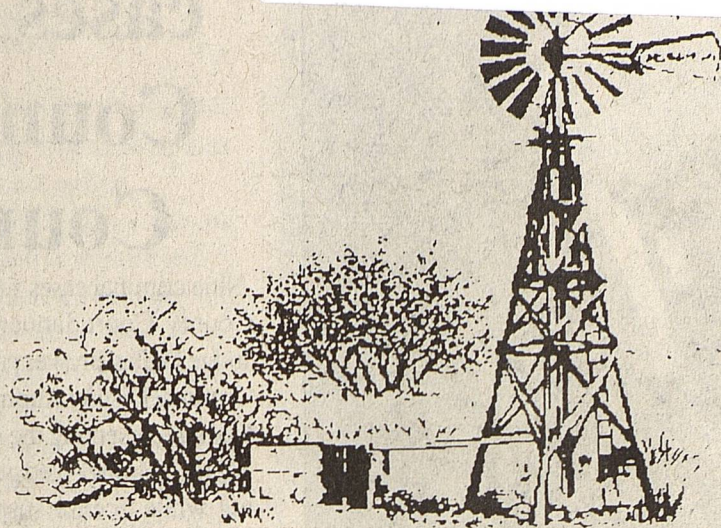


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XI, Issue 19, January 19, 2005



FBC Disaster Relief Team in Sri Lanka copes with confusion

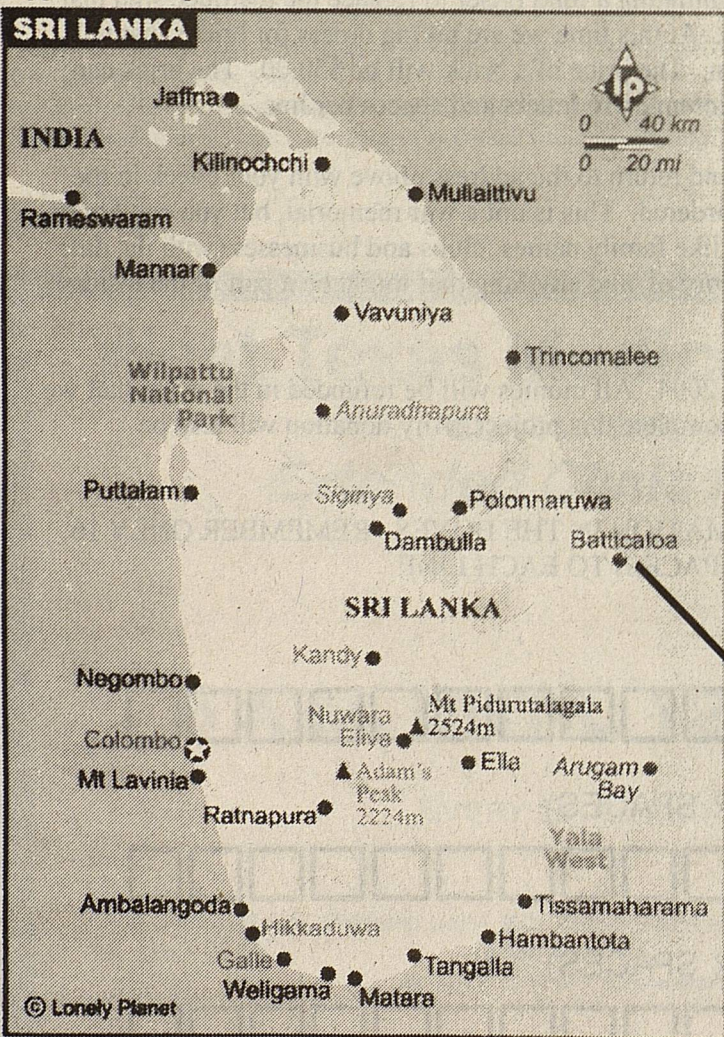
In World War II, a new, descriptive word was created - SNAFU - which translated to "Situation Normal, All Fouled Up." The word would be appropriate to describe the situation faced by the ten people making up Plains' Disaster Relief Team, now in Sri Lanka, originally destined to prepare food for the thousands of homeless survivors of the earthquake and tsunamis which devastated much of Southeast Asia. Things are not exactly going as planned for the team, according to staff members at the local church.

A late arrival in the Sri Lanka capitol city of Colombo after an almost 36 hour flight was followed by a bus trip from that city to the town of Batticaloa, 160 miles across the island nation, a trip taking 14 hard hours to complete.

Communications with the team are extremely difficult, at times impossible. Team Leader Tim Willis has managed to contact the church in brief telephone conversations, as well as talking to his wife here. It is known the team has yet to prepare and serve a meal to the survivors. Apparently, a bureaucratic 'Snafu' has resulted in UNICEF not releasing food to the relief teams to prepare for the thousands in the area. No one has an answer explaining why. In the brief communications with the team it is thought they are currently working to clean out water wells and purify the well water, to prevent disastrous health problems.

They are currently housed in what is advertised as a "deluxe five story hotel", a totally inaccurate description, according to Willis.

FBC members in the team include Tim Willis, Pastor Bill Wright and wife Linda, Jerome Head, Gale McDonnell, Connie McWhirter and Karen Bearden. They were joined by Joe Henard and Gib Webb of Amarillo's Paramount Baptist, and Donovan Phipps, First Baptist in Welch.

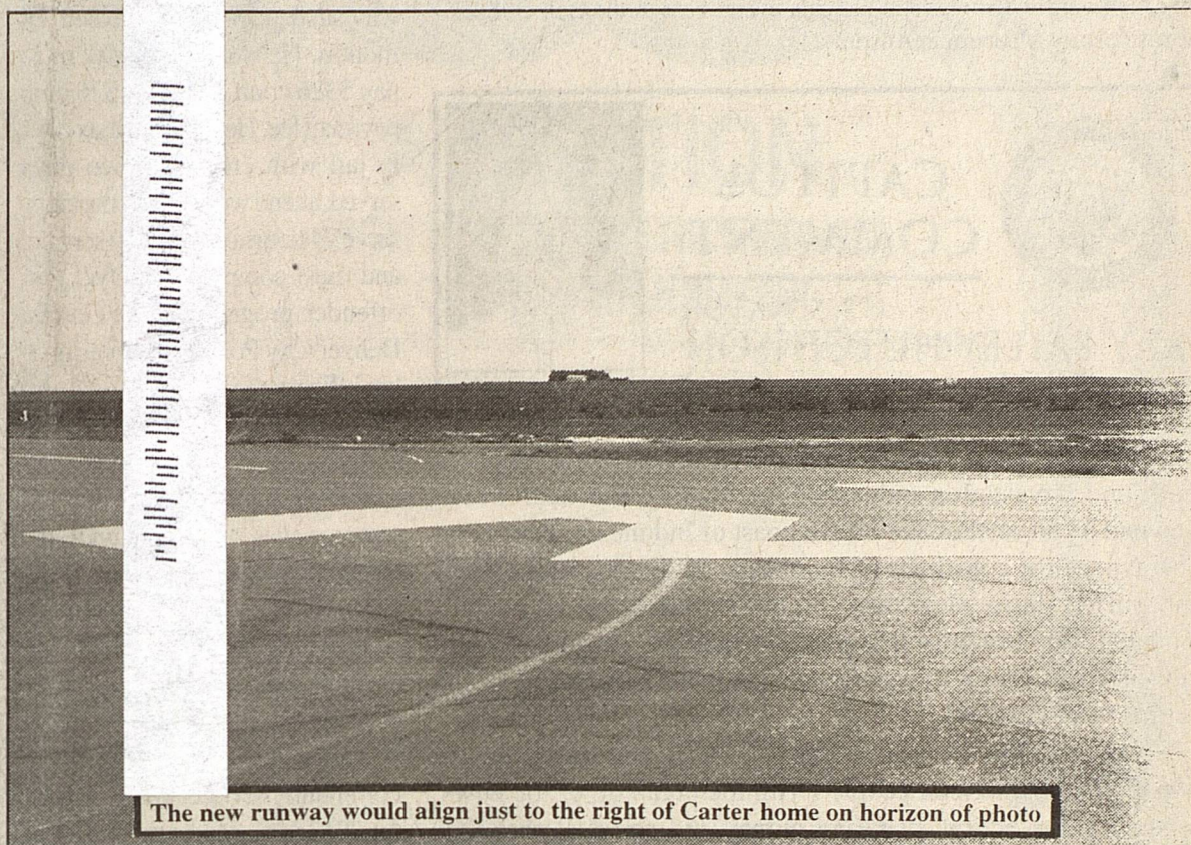


Major improvements planned for airport New runway project to start after February 15 bid opening

Notice for bids will soon be announced for a major construction project at the local Yoakum County Airport. Pct. 4 Commissioner Jack Cobb, whose office is responsible for the routine maintenance of the runway system and grounds, gave CCN a tour of the facility and a study of preliminary plans for the project.

Commissioner Cobb said the project has been planned for a number of years. "It's a fairly major undertaking, and the funding will come from both state and federal grants. The total cost will be about \$3 million, and the county will be responsible for roughly ten percent of that total". Cobb said the county had been allocating its share of the funds from annual budgets over the last four years, to avoid "too large a hit for the county at one time."

The major item included in the plans calls for the construction of a new, 5,000 foot runway. The 75 foot wide runway would be laid out to angle North East to South West, to take advantage of prevailing winds here. It would replace the more nar-



The new runway would align just to the right of Carter home on horizon of photo

row current runway which lies due North to South and is considerable shorter.

Cobb pointed out a pair of producing oil wells the new landing strip would lay between, and said the tank battery which serves the two wells would have to be relocated, along with the flow lines from the wells to the new battery location. A num-

ber of overhead electric power lines would also have to be relocated.

The commissioner said bids for the project would be taken until February 15, and then after review a joint meeting of county and state officials, the winning bid firm and the consulting firm of West Texas Consultants, Inc. would make a final review of

all plans before construction work actually starts.

Cobb said every effort would be made during the extensive construction work to avoid problems with continuing boll weevil eradication flights from the airport, and weather modification flights by S.O.A.R. He said estimating the completion date would be very difficult to predict.

53rd County Stock Show On Tap

The Yoakum County Livestock Association has finalized plans for the 53rd livestock show and sale. Plains and Denver City school 4 - H and FFA members will exhibit steers, swine, lambs, goats and rabbits they have fed and groomed for many weeks, hoping their efforts will win ribbons, trophies, and cash in the sale.

The annual show schedule features opening day Thursday, January 27, with the swine weigh-in 9 AM to 12 noon, lamb weigh-in 1 PM to 1:30 PM, Goat weigh-in 1:30 to 2:30 PM, and steer weigh-in 2:30 to 3 PM.

The animal showing will start Friday with Lambs at 8 AM, Rabbit check-in at 8:30 AM, Goat show at 8:30 AM, Rabbit show, 10 AM, Steers 11 AM, Market Gilts at 11:30, followed immediately by Market Barrows.

The final Saturday schedule calls for a pre-sale Buyer's Lunch in the school cafeteria. The program continues in the show barn at 1 PM with an invocation, followed by the presentation of the Livestock Show Queen Contestants, and presentation of all awards. The Premium Sale will follow at approximately 1:30 PM, and announcement of the Cowpatty Bingo winner.

This year's Queen contestants are Skylar Keese, Plains FFA, Natalie Butler, Plains 4-H, T.J. Kitchens, Denver City 4-H, and Chelsey-Anne Bearden, Denver City FFA.

Officials of the Livestock Association include Danny Williams, Pres., Casey Clark, Vice Pres., Jimmy Bearden, Secre-

tary. Directors are Chris Chambliss, Kevin Gibson, Rick Gibson, Carlos Howell, Brady McConal, Mike Roberts, Bill Rowe, and Lanny Wood. Show Secretary/Treasurer is Lisa Wood.

Offering a great deal of assistance is the advisory committee, Joe Pierce, Plains Ag Science

Instructor, Eric Harrel, Denver City Ag Science Instructor, and Arlan Gentry, Yoakum County Extension Agent - Ag.

This year's announcer will be Howard Pollard, auctioneer will be Mike Smyers, and Bill Helwig will emcee the awards ceremony.

Former Trustees Recognized



At last week's meeting of the Plains ISD Board of Trustees, current President Wayne Sisson, center of photo, presented plaques of appreciation to former trustees Randy Tuggle, left, and Dwayne Canada.

Canada served 11 years on the board, and Tuggle served 9 years. Former resident Ramon Diaz, a three year member of the board, will also receive a plaque of appreciation.

FSA accepting farm loan applications

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is now accepting farm loan applications for excessive rain, hail, and high winds that occurred on August 9, 2004 and continuing in Yoakum County. Yoakum County was one of five counties named as contiguous counties. Farm Loan Manager Wayne Cornelius asks farmers who want to apply for emergency loans to submit their applications as soon as possible. The deadline for applications is August 29, 2005, but Cornelius says if farmers wait too long a backlog will develop and cause delays.

Generally, farmers who have lost thirty (30) percent of their production due to excessive rain, hail, and high winds are eligible for the emergency loans. The FSA Office is located at 1301 South Main, Seminole, Texas.



Former House member Gary Walker discusses upcoming legislative issues facing West Texas with Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison at the annual dinner dance before the solons swearing in the following morning. Gary and Frankie Walker joined many other former state legislature members and spouses in the gala event, held in the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum in Austin.

Criminal cases in County Court

Nine criminal cases were heard in County Court January 12, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Victor Martinez pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$241 court costs. Investigating officer was DPS Trooper Robert Smith, and Jimmy Hammons was his attorney.

Alejandro Carrero Espinoza pled guilty to DWI, open container, B.T. .195/.180. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$600, must pay \$326 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will spend six days in jail with credit for two days served, attend weekly AA meetings, serve 24 hours community service, and must complete the DWI first offender program. Lupe Garcia, Denver City Police was investigating officer.

Manuel Molina Barrientos pled guilty to 1st DWI, open container and .219/.225 b.t. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$750, \$326 court costs, \$300 appointed attorney fees and \$25 time payment fee. He will spend 6 days in jail with credit for 3 days, attend AA meetings, perform 24 hours community service, and complete the DWI first offender program. Bill Helwig was his attorney, and Trooper Robert Munsell was investigating officer.

Bobby Trevino pled guilty to unlawfully carrying a weapon. A one year jail sentence was suspended and probated 36 months. He must pay \$211 court costs, \$500 fine, \$388 restitution to Denver City Housing Authority, \$500 appointed attorney fees, and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 24 hours community service and will forfeit one 9mm Glock pistol. He must complete the anger management program. Patricia Valdez, D.C. Police, was investigating officer, and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

David Silvas Gonzalez pled guilty to assault causes bodily injury/family violence. He must pay \$256 court costs, \$50 supervision fees, and complete the batterers treatment program. Lupe Garcia, D.C. Police, was investigating officer.

Nancy Knelsen Siemens pled guilty, adjudication of guilt deferred to duty on striking fixture/highway landscape. She was fined \$200 and must pay \$241 court costs, and serve 24 hours community service. Investigating officer was Trooper Munsell.

James Marcus Mann pled true to the state's motion to revoke supervision from a prior theft cause. He will spend 30 days in jail with credit for 9 days served.

Clayton Riley McBryde pled guilty to lesser included offense of disorderly conduct. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended 12 months. He was fined \$1000, must pay \$256 court costs, \$350 appointed attorney fees and \$25 time payment fee. He must complete the batterers prevention program, serve 80 hours community service and pay \$50 monthly supervision fees. Sheriff Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

During the Civil War a powder factory was operated by the Confederates at Waxahachie, but a terrific explosion leveled the plant in 1863

CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Tsunami Disaster Brings Out The Best in Texans

Like most Texans I listened with a sinking heart to news of the death and devastation unleashed on Asia by the tidal waves spawned by an earthquake off the coast of Indonesia. The tsunamis ravaged the coastlines of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and Malaysia. More than 150,000 were killed, and five million more were instantly rendered homeless. As a mother, I could only listen in shock to reports approximately one-third of the victims were children.

Yet in that time of trial and loss, I was heartened by the response of the American people. With the breaking of the news, we sprang into action, donating money and goods to those affected by this natural disaster. The pace has not slackened, and the United States is providing needed help to those affected by the disaster.

Our armed forces have demonstrated again their ability to perform humanitarian as well as military missions. The sailors and airmen of the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln are providing airlift capacity to relief efforts. A U.N. official has said the helicopters, which get supplies and help to remote villages whose roads and ports have been demolished are "worth their weight in gold."

As always, Texas is heavily involved in providing aid. The High Speed Vessel (HSV) 2 Swift, whose home port is Ingleside, was deployed January 3 to support disaster relief efforts in the vicinity of Singapore.

While our generosity as a nation is impressive, it is as individuals that we shine. After TV broadcast the grim news of the tsunami, Texans sought ways to help. Local churches schools and charities have pitched in, raising money, supplies and materials. There are countless examples of corporations, people and organizations which have pitched in. Kimberly-Clark Corp. of Irving said donations by the company and employees could hit \$1.5 million. Philip and Donna Berber, Austin, founders of the Glimmer of Hope foundation, have pledged \$1 million. The Baptist General Convention of Texas is sending three water purification units to Sri Lanka and one to Thailand and more than 80 volunteers to man cooking teams which can provide up to 30,000 meals daily.

Michael Dell, chairman of Round Rock's Dell Inc. has pledged \$3 million through his Michael and Susan Dell Foundation. Texas artists are also chipping in. Willie Nelson headlined the "Tsunami Relief Austin to South Asia" concert to benefit the Red Cross, UNICEF and Doctors Without Borders. Joining him were Patty Griffin, Bruce Robison, and other musicians.

I am personally giving to Samaritan's Purse, a part of Billy Graham's humanitarian effort that has been delivering supplies throughout the region.

At this time of immense suffering it is inspiring to see so many of our neighbors helping their fellow man. Lending a hand is part of our heritage. I urge my fellow Texans to remember the afflicted in their prayers, and to support the relief effort if they can.

Cowboy Country News

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E-Mail us at ccn@crosswind.net

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Important Property Tax Announcement Plains ISD

Because Plains ISD had to hold a tax roll back election, two sets of property tax statements were mailed for property owners this year. The first tax statement was mailed to mortgage companies or lien holders that maintain escrow accounts to pay for property taxes for the mortgages that they hold. If you did not have a mortgage, then you received the statement directly.

When the school district taxes were mailed in December after the roll back election, the statements went directly to the property owner. **Please be advised that your mortgage company or lien holder did not receive a tax statement for the school district.** You should contact them to make sure that the property taxes get paid in a timely manner to avoid any late fees or penalties.

If you have any questions please call:
Plains ISD Business Office: 806-456-7483 or
Tax Assessor/Collectors Office: 806-456-2825

PLAINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE P. O. BOX 364 PLAINS, TEXAS 79355

Plains Chamber of Commerce is initiating a fund raiser to replace the marquee sign that is located south of the courthouse. At this time we are taking orders for bricks that will be used at the base of the new sign. The price of a brick will be \$50.00. The brick can have up to three lines with a maximum of 16 letters and spaces per line.

Please complete the form below and return to the address above with your check in the amount of \$50.00 for each brick ordered. This is not a war memorial, but you can honor a veteran if you wish. We would like family names, clubs and businesses (with the date of establishment), events, in memory of, and anything that might be a part of the history of our town.

DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 31, 2004. All monies will be refunded in the event that we do not receive enough money to complete this project. Any donation will also be appreciated.

PLEASE PRINT YOUR INFORMATION IN THE BOXES. REMEMBER ONLY 16 CHARACTERS (INCLUDING SPACES) TO EACH LINE.

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LINE 1 (16 LETTERS OR SPACES)

□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

LINE 2 (16 LETTERS OR SPACES)

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LINE 3 (16 LETTERS OR SPACES)

ORDERED BY _____ DATE _____

CHECK NUMBER _____ CASH _____



Loan Packets available from Sandy Land

Sandy Land UWCD has funds available from the Texas Water Development Board for loan to farmers for the purchase of water conserving irrigation equipment. Interest rates have been set at 4.15%. Equipment purchased with this money can be new or used. New equipment requires 20% down and seven years payout. Used equipment and sprinkler packages require 25% down and five years payout.

The Board of Directors will meet Wednesday, February 9, 2005, and Wednesday, March 9, 2005, at which time any loans submitted will be reviewed for funding. No loans will be considered after March. Proceeds from these loans will be available in March.

Since the inception of the Agricultural Loan Program, the District has loaned approximately \$8,000,000 to area producers. Water savings from these new efficient systems are just a part of the overall efforts the Directors of Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District are involved in to accomplish their long-term goals of water conservation in Yoakum County.

Loan packets and guidelines are available at the District office. If you have any interest or questions concerning the Loan Program, call or come by the District office.

Flu hits 'Widespread' level in Texas

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) officials reported recently influenza activity in the state last week rose to the widespread classification for the first time this flu season.

Officials say it is not too late to get a flu shot and encourages those in the priority groups to get one.

Flu season officially runs from October through May. In Texas, the heavy part of the season typically occurs in late December, January and February. Flu is not a reportable condition in Texas, but DSHS relies on reports from a network to classify flu activity and report weekly to the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention.

The widespread classification is used when there is an increase in flu and flu-like illnesses and recently laboratory confirmed flu in at least half of a state's regions. Ten of Texas' 11 health regions had increased flu activity last week.

The A/Fujian and B/Shanghai forms of the flu virus have been identified in Texas. Both are covered by this year's flu vaccine.

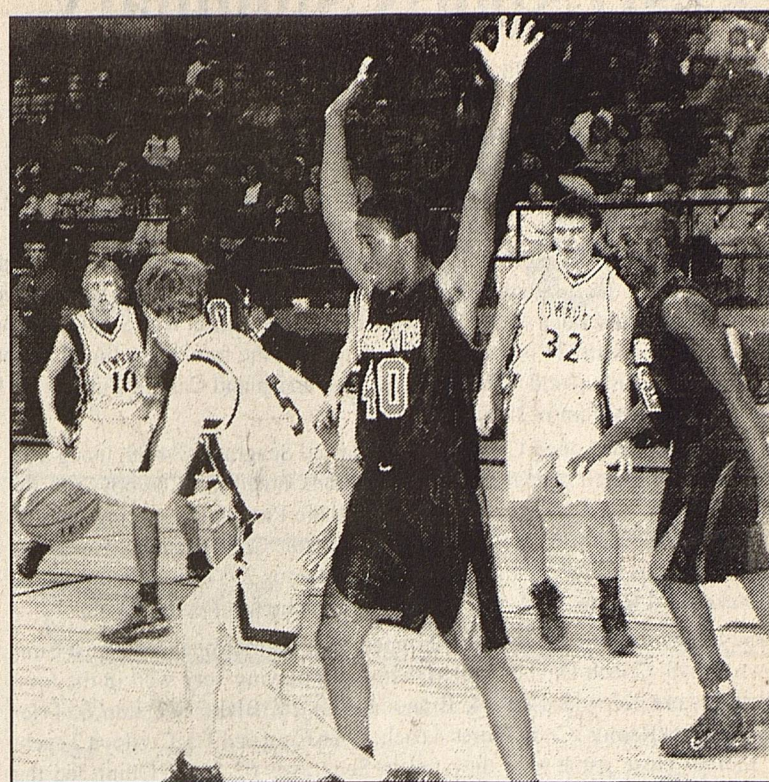
The expanded priority groups for the flu shots are children 6 months through 23 months of age, adults 50 and older, anyone with underlying chronic medical conditions, women who will be pregnant during flu season, residents of nursing homes and other long term care facilities, children 6 months through 18 years on chronic aspirin therapy, medical care workers providing direct patient care and caregivers and household contacts of children under 6 months old and of others at risk of severe complications from the flu.

More vaccine has been shipped to Texas providers in recent weeks. People wanting to get a flu shot should contact their doctor, call 2-1-1 information

service and call their local public health department or nearest DSHS regional office.

FluMist, a nasal spray vaccine that contains live weakened flu virus, may be used to vaccinate most healthy individuals from 5 years through 49 years of age who are not pregnant.

A pneumococcal vaccine is also recommended for people 65 and older and those with chronic health problems to protect against pneumonia caused by pneumococcus bacteria. Pneumonia is often a complication of influenza.



Evan Cain, 10, Blake O'Quinn, 5, Cody Flores, 32, in recent action against Seagraves



WHAT ABOUT.....

I consider there are 4 basic types of services, Traditional, Non-Traditional, Celebration of a life, and Cremations.

Each of these hold different things for different people. People choose what type of service they need and want according to, many times, what the funeral home or funeral director has "always done in the past."

But what was done in the past is not really what many people want today. For instance, in the past, we took the casket to the church, set up flowers after the florist shop delivered them to the church, walked in the family, had a song, the obituary was read, another song, and the minister got up and preached a "mini" sermon to encourage us.

This is the way it has always been and yes, some people prefer this type of funeral service even today.

There is nothing wrong with someone wanting the "Traditional Funeral Service" if that is what a family wants and feels they need.

Funeral services are for the family, not the audience or the funeral home's convenience. You're paying good hard earned money, so have the service your family needs.

A Non-Traditional Funeral Service might be one that is non-religious in nature. It would be for someone who has had no affiliation with a church and doesn't want a religious service.

In this type of service, the family or a close friend might say a few words, without reference to God or saying a prayer. Poems and verses would be read that would have a real meaning to the family.

Maybe a secular song would be played or sung or a special reading by a family member that the loved one had written or lived by.

These services to many of us would be "odd or different" but that is because we have strong Christian beliefs and others do not.

Another style of Non-Traditional services would include direct burial or direct cremation. This type of service would have no public memorialization or service. There usually is no visitation or viewing.

The deceased is buried in a very simple, quiet and private graveside service one morning.

A direct cremation would have the deceased moved directly to the crematory, maybe bathed and dressed with no viewing.

Sometimes, with the latter two types of services, private memorial services may be later at the family's home.

These services would be quite inexpensive, some starting at \$995 up to \$2500 for direct burial or cremation. (Including a minimum casket for burial.)

Until Next Time.....
MARK A. JONES

ATTENTION

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Lea County Electric Education Foundation is currently accepting applications for scholarships to be awarded for the Fall 2005 semester. The Scholarships are renewable up to 8 consecutive semesters, for a total of \$4,000.00!

Eligibility criteria are as follows:

Available only to active members (and immediate family) receiving service from LCEC.

Applicant must maintain a 2.50 GPA on a 4.00 scale and be considered a full-time student.

Applicant must submit two letters of reference (see application for important details) and demonstrate a coherent degree plan.

Applications must be received no later than February 11, 2005.

For more information contact Suzie Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631. You can now apply on line at www.leacountyelectric.coop! Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office.

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PISD Sports Summary

7th Lady Wranglers: The 7th girls bombed O'Donnell last week 44-2. Courtney Asebedo and Jasmine led scoring with 14 points each. Abby Hernandez 8, Sydney Caffey 6, and Natalie Butler 2.

8th Lady Wranglers: The 8th girls also dominated O'Donnell, 34-14. Reyna Gallegos scored 14 points. Briana Conway 10, Heather Parrott 6, and Mari Ruiz 4.

JV Cowboys: The young Cowboys opened district play last Tuesday, and with a strong fourth quarter, edged Sundown 41-35. Coach Brink said they trailed the first 3 quarters, but a strong finish gave them the district win. Scott Addison topped scoring with 21 points, and was 7 for 8 at the free throw line. Landon Craft had 6 points, Todd Williams 4, Blake Parrish and Casson Curtis 3, B.J. Lester and Zach Ramos 2 each.

JV Cowboys: The young Cowboys next blasted Seagraves 84-29, using a 25 point first period to propel them. Coach Brink noted the Cowboys ran the floor well and scored some easy baskets. Blake Parrish led scoring with 24 points, Casson Curtis 16, Scott Addison and Landon Craft 10 each. J.L. Vasquez and B.J. Lester 9, Davis Alldredge 3, Zach Ramos 2, Todd Williams 1. The season record is now 12-4, and 2-0 in district action.

Varsity Cowboys: The Cowboys dropped their district opener against Sundown 54-48. Coach Davis credited them with playing very well in the loss. Scoring were Kerry Sisson 14, Brandon Hise 10, Blake O'Quinn 6, Tyler Caffey, Abel Ramos, Cody Flores 4 each, Evan Cain and T.J. Cordova 2 each. In another close game here they fell to Seagraves 62-56. O'Quinn led the scoring with 12, Flores 10, Ramos 9, Cain, Hise 8 each, Sisson 4, Payton Bean 2.

On Tuesday, January 11, the Cowgirls traveled to Sundown and lost 51-40. "I thought the girls played extremely hard, but we made too many turnovers on offense and against their press," Eddleman said. "We played them pretty much even during the first, third and fourth quarters, but we just made too many costly mistakes in the second quarter." Desiraye Broom had an outstanding game with 15 points, 11 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 blocked shots, and 1 steal. Meghan Garcia had 8 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists and 4 steals. Whittany Caffey had 6 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist and 2 steals. Regina Morales had 4 points, 2 assists and 2 steals. Joani Bell had 4 points, 6 rebounds and 1 blocked shot. Lauren Davis had 3 points, 4 rebounds and 1 steal, and, Jamie Covarrubias had 1 assist. On Friday, January 14, the Cowgirls played 3rd ranked Seagraves and lost 51-38. "I thought the girls played a very good game against a very good basketball team," Eddleman said. "Seagraves had a lot of size, quickness, and experienced players, but the girls stepped up to the challenge and played extremely hard and smart." The team was led by Whittany Caffey and Desiraye Broom. Whittany had 9 points, 9 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 blocked shots. Desiraye had 9 points, 6 rebounds, 3 steals and 1 assist. Joani Bell and Lauren Davis also had very good games. Joani had 6 points and 9 rebounds. Lauren had 6 points and 1 rebound. Meghan Garcia had 4 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, and 2 steals. Regina Morales had 2 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists and 1 blocked shot. Jamie Covarrubias had 2 points, 3 assists, and 1 rebound. The Cowgirls overall season record is 12-7 and 1-2 in district. The team will be playing Smyer on Friday, January 21, at 6:00 pm.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE COUNSELOR

A few more scholarship are available. Please come by to see if you are eligible to apply. Deadlines are approaching for these scholarships.

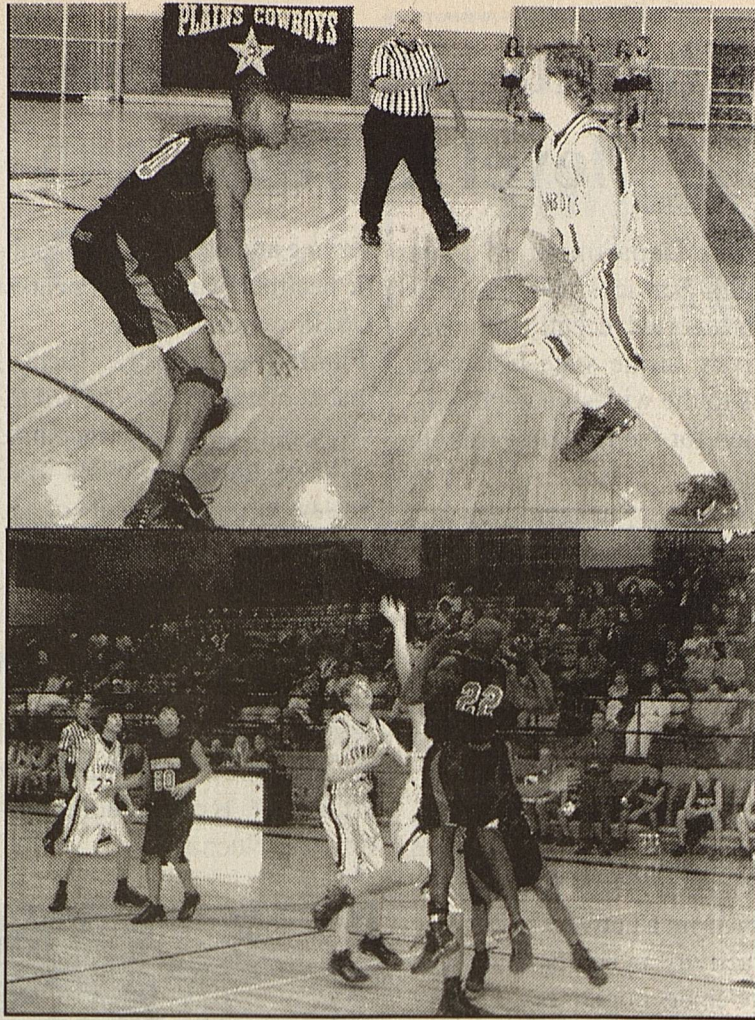
LEARN, Inc. will be here Thursday, January 20 at 6:32 for all senior parents. He will complete individual files. Dennis will also collect information if you have already filed your tax return.

On Wednesday all seniors and juniors will be traveling to Denver City to hear speakers on Making College Count and Making High School Count.

Cowboys vs Eagles Scenes



Members of the Plains 4-H Club served baked potatoes to the crowd at the basketball games last week. The proceeds from the events will be donated to the Chamber of Commerce to help pay for the new marquee sign. Shown seated, Kevin John Gass, Whitney Davis, Colby Ortega. Standing, Extension Agent Debbie Pollard, Carolyn Culwell, Dottie Mayes, Kameron Loya, Jess Gass.



Student of the Week



PHS student of the week is Colby Ortega, a freshman and the son of Treon Ortega and grandson of Joe and Sandy Cobb. He was nominated by Adam Jones, who said, "He is a person who if you didn't see him walk into the class you wouldn't know he was there. He is an excellent student who always gets his work done and never complains about doing it."

PISD Honor Roll 3rd - Six Weeks

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 'A' Honor Roll | Dakota Earnest |
| 1st Grade | 6th Grade |
| Lionel Contrera | Jaxon Bean |
| Blake Dominguez | Forrest Booth |
| Genoveva Esparza | Hannah Crump |
| Alexux Flores | Kevin Gass |
| Yasmin Flores | Hunter Welch |
| Briana Hernandez | Cody Friesen |
| Trevor Lewis | 7th Grade |
| Griselda Loredo | Brandon Craft |
| Bethany Mares | Nathan McCravery |
| Brittany Michaleson | Troy Parrish |
| Maddie Munsell | 8th Grade |
| Makenzie Patton | Chris Addison |
| Brandon Pereyra | 'A-B' Honor Roll |
| Aaron Ramos | 1st Grade |
| Sieanna Sosa | Jasmine Escobar |
| Eva Wiebe | Ivan Parra |
| 2nd Grade | Analyssa Vasquez |
| William Boyles | 2nd Grade |
| Kritian Cueto | Perla Corrales |
| Riley Earnest | Benny Fehr |
| Dedrick Fehr | Karina Loya |
| George Fehr | Iria Mejial |
| Clayton Gass | 3rd Grade |
| Halee Lowrey | Jaston Brink |
| Brock McWhirter | Zackery Wilkins |
| Karla Ramirez | Bailey Winn |
| Micah St. Romain | 4th Grade |
| Kasidee Taylor | Latie Dearing |
| 3rd Grade | Stacy Loewen |
| Helena Friesen | Haley Welch |
| Lucas Hernandez | 5th Grade |
| Jennifer Lira | Adriana Corrales |
| Taylor Michaleson | 6th Grade |
| Brittney Roper | Stephanie Addison |
| Herman Sawatzky | Kelbi Bartley |
| Pery Sosa | Chase Ortega |
| 4th Grade | 7th Grade |
| Merri Crump | Emelia Gallegos |
| Whitney Davis | Natalie Haynes |
| Isaac Fehr | Jonathan Lira |
| Autumn Friesen | Matthew Ramos |
| 5th Grade | 8th Grade |
| Mayra Cueto | Holden Welch |
| Taylor Fitzgerald | |

Tsunami Bear Project



National Honor Society is collecting bears to send to Tsunami children victims. You may purchase a bear by donating one dollar. You may also bring a bear by the High School office. Shown working the bear program at a recent ballgame: front, Allison Friesen, Kristian Morales, Skylar Keesee. Back, B.J. Lester, Michael Crump, Reagan Haynes.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY LAND APPLICATION PERMIT RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

PERMIT NO. WQ0010114001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. The City of Plains, P.O. Box 550, Plains, Texas 79355-0550, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Permit No. 10114-001, which authorizes the disposal of treated domestic wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 160,000 gallons per day via surface irrigation of 77 acres. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into waters in the State. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on September 27, 2004.

The facility and disposal site are located approximately 1 mile east of State Highway 214 and 1.5 miles north of U.S. Highway 380 in Yoakum County, Texas. The disposal site is located in the drainage area of Colorado River below Lake J.B. Thomas in Segment No. 1412 of the Colorado River Basin.

The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, technical summary and executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Plains City Hall, 1015 F Avenue, Plains, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comment or to ask questions about the application. Generally, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments and requests for a public meeting should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of the notice.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on a mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the executive director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. Issues that are not raised in public comments may not be considered during a hearing. **The TCEQ may act on this application to renew a permit without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The executive director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or a timely request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Plains at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Pamela K. Rowe at (806) 456-2288.

Issued: JAN 10 2004

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Lifelines & Styles

TSA MO GA Meets

TSA MO GA club members met January 10 for a 'Moment of Remembrance' with a special program by Bud Forbus on 'Back to the Fields of Battle,' recalling his return trip to Guam for a 60th reunion with fellow servicemen.

A recipient of two purple hearts, the former Marine PFC detailed his service during World War II and his travels and injuries. Touching the American flag in its stand, Forbus told the group with conviction, "This is where we start...right here." Using a globe of the world as a reference guide, he pointed out locations where he served with the Marines during the war.

Proudly stating that 'once a Marine, always a Marine,' Forbus responded to the question of whether returning to the beaches of Guam was a painful experience. "Years have changed everything. We received a much better reception than we did before."

Dressed in a vest the displayed his medals and commemorative pins, Forbus said he and wife Mary Dale will travel to Wash-

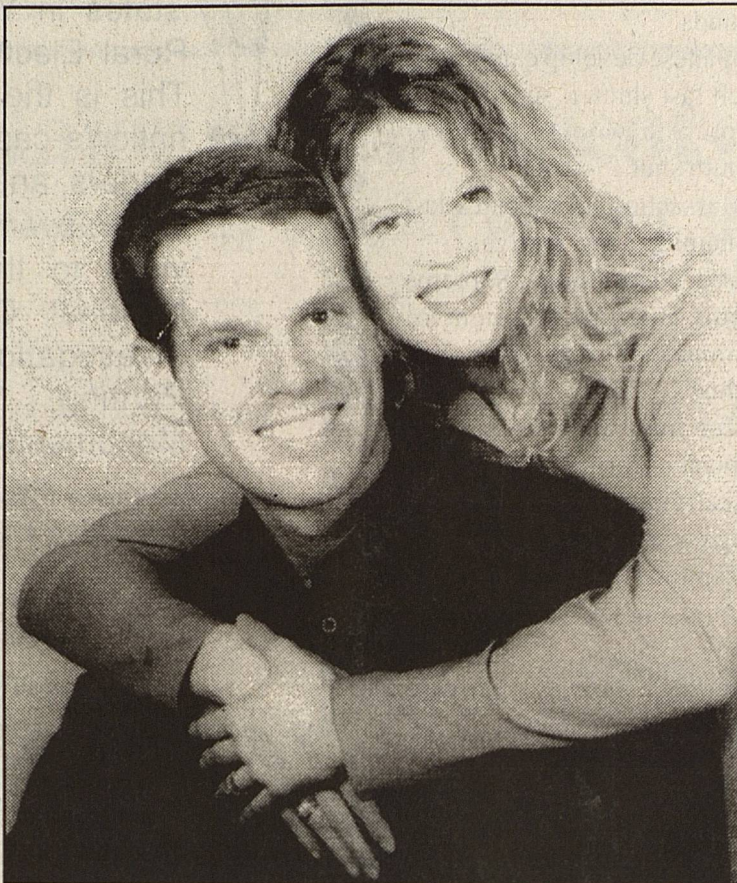
ington, DC, in June for a convention of WWII veterans at the National Archives. Approximately 750 war veterans are expected to attend. They attend organized reunions of former servicemen regularly and state that the number of attendees is 'less this year.'

During club business members were given recipe forms to distribute in the community and county to make up a centennial cookbook for the county's 100th birthday in 2007. Forms are available from a club member. Profits from the cookbook will be used to purchase a gazebo for Pioneer Plaza to celebrate the centennial.

Members were reminded that the January 24 meeting will be held in Denver City at the Family Literary Center at 500 Avenue C and 7:00 pm. The meeting will feature Kathy Clark, director of the Rural Educational Development Initiative, and will be titled 'Lifelong Learning Opportunities.'

Hostesses for the meeting were Martha Palmer and Betty Rushing.

Poortvliet-Record Announce Engagement



Risa Maree Poortvliet and Matthew Tom Record announce their engagement.

Risa is the daughter of Dale and Linda Stayberg of Mountain Springs and Bob Poortvliet of Sanborn, Minnesota. Matt is the son of Lewis and Melody Morris of Gainesville and the late Harold Record.

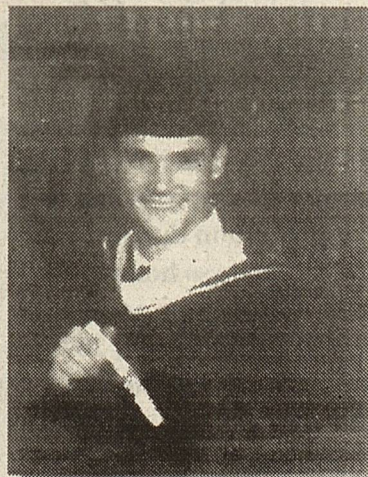
Dr. Poortvliet is a 1995 graduate of Keller High School, 2000 graduate of Texas A&M University, and a 2004 graduate of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Dentistry. She is serving as a Captain in the United States Army.

Dr. Record is a 1991 graduate of Plains High School, a 1995 graduate of Texas A&M University, and a 1999 graduate of Baylor College of Dentistry-The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center. He is a partner with Powell and Record, D.D.S., P.L.L.C., in Gainesville, Texas.

Their wedding is being planned for February 19, 2005.

Kyle Sisson a Texas Tech grad

Dustin Kyle Sisson was one of over 2000 graduates who participated in commencement exercises at Texas Tech University December 18, 2004. Kyle graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and minor in Education. He is the son of Wayne and Judy Sisson of Plains.



Yoakum County Hospital offers a position for Housekeeping. Please call Jerry Cowart at 806-592-2121.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Plains, Texas

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

Senior Citizens Corner

Somebody sent me this information which was entitled "Your Monday Morning Test." See if you missed as many as I did: (1) Does England have a Fourth of July? (2) How many birthdays does the average man have? (3) Some months have 31 days; how many have 28? (4) How many outs are in one inning? (5) Is it legal in California for a man to marry his widow's sister? (6) How many animals of each sex did Moses take on the Ark? and lastly (7) How many two-cent stamps are in a dozen?

It was good to see several members of our senior family this week who have not been here for awhile. Gladys Thomason returned after a long motorhome trip with her daughter and husband into the northwestern states. We have been missing her at the domino table.

Eva Pritchard came to join us for lunch one day and the Parkers are back after a long absence. June Anderson was a guest of Dorothy Anderson one day and David Bruton was accompanied by his brother, Doyle, and his son, Kevin.

Vicki Delgado brought her daughter, Norma Munoz, with her for lunch one day and it was good to see Jay Noble come walking in along with Georgia Hubbard. Georgia is recovering from an illness and has been receiving her lunches at home. We are glad to see everyone back again.

We have received word that Moray Clark had been transferred back to Lakeside hospital in Lubbock and has undergone more surgery. Ray Roberts has been transferred from the hospital in Carillon House, a skilled nursing facility, in Lubbock. These two, and their families, need our prayers everyday.

One of our senior ladies, Wynelle Lewis, who drives in from her home in Gaines County to have lunch several days a week, has begun this week to volunteer at the Learning Center. She is a retired teacher and we commend her for this move to share her teaching knowledge, which is much appreciated by the teachers there.

A telephone call from Tom Clevenger reveals that they still miss Denver City. Darlene is confined in a nursing home there in Childress where she will continue to be. She is unable to speak since her stroke, but Tom says she looks forward to his three visits each day. His mailing address is 300 Madison #409, Childress, TX 79201.

He says to tell everyone hello. He has an e-mail address of: tomcleveng@srcaccess.net.

Smile with me at this little 'all too true' rhyme "My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn; My house isn't dirty; the cobwebs are gone. My garden looks pretty and so does my lawn; I think I will never put my glasses back on!"

There were several people who had January birthdays when we celebrated on Monday. There were also some who were remembering anniversaries. Guests who came to share with us on that day were Earon and Vanette Cochran who have not lunched with us for awhile, and Brenda Massey came with her father, R.C. Sparks, to celebrate his birthday with him. Larry Morehead was also a guest, and Darwin Hobbs brought his wife, Lela Mae, with him for lunch. On another day Alice Lehnert came for lunch. It is good to see all of these folks and you are invited to come regularly and join us at the Center.

Again we want to thank those of our Senior Center family who so willingly volunteer for the myriad tasks that keep things running smoothly. A different one serves at the 'check-in' desk for a week at a time and the ladies from the Site Council are alert and ready to serve meals to anyone having difficulty going through the food line. These daily things are needed and much appreciated.

If you have any news item you'd like to share for our Senior Column, please bring it to June Hanneman or leave it in the office. This is your COLUMN. I e-mail it each to several of our people who have moved away and send it 'snail mail' to some who have gone and no longer take the Denver City Press. My sources of information are sometimes unreliable but the results are interesting, so come on and be part of my reporting team!

In case you may have missed one of the questions at the start of this column, these are the answers: (1) Yes, it comes after the third of July. (2) Just one. (3) 12-all of them. (4) Six, three per side. (5) No, because he is dead! (6) Moses didn't have an Ark, Noah did. (7) There are 12 two cent stamps in a dozen.

Thought for Today: Today's thoughts are a couple of tips for our golfing friends: (A) Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle! (B) The best wood in most amateur's bag is the pencil!

** NURSES NEEDED **

Yoakum County Hospital is seeking LVN's or RN's for day and evening shifts, 7am until 7 pm and 7 pm until 7 am. * Free membership to West Texas Lifestyle and Rehab Center * Two week vacation * Annual leave days * Great Insurance * Shift differential. Great working environment
Call Joyce Tedford, 806 - 592 - 2121

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Miss Lisa Parrish

Bride Elect Of

Chad Bown

Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005, 10:00 - 11:30 AM

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From The Hack

I KNEW I HAD FORGOTTEN SOMETHING!! The annual homage paying salute to my four attorney friends. NO, I am not about to tell who - let them bask with the erroneous thought I'm not referring to them.

* Why should lawyers be substituted in laboratory experiments in place of white mice? (1) Lawyers aren't as messy as mice. (2) There are far more lawyers than white mice. (3) You don't ever get attached to lawyers. (4) There are some things white mice just will not do.

* What do you need the very most when you find three lawyers up to their necks in sand? Lots more sand.

* What do you call 500 dead lawyers at the bottom of the ocean? Not a bad start.

* Why does New Jersey have more toxic waste dumps while Texas has more lawyers? New Jersey got their first choice.

* What's the best way to save a marriage? Talk about fees with a few divorce lawyers.

* What is a criminal lawyer? Redundant.

* What's the difference between a bucket of manure and a lawyer? The bucket.

Happy New Year, y'all.

I was reminded very recently of an old Mark Twain story; "Mark Twain was walking along the road and he asked a farmer, "How far is it to Henderson's place?" "About a mile and a half," the farmer said.

He walked awhile longer and met another farmer and asked "How far to the Henderson place?" And he said, "About a mile and a half." He walked still further and met a third farmer and asked him, "How far to the Henderson place?" and was again told, "About a mile and a half." Said Twain, "Thank God it looks like I'm holding my own!"

What reminded me of Mr. Twain was a recent golfing experience, more accurately described as a flogging experi-

ence. I faced my second shot, deep in the rough. I carefully selected an iron, took dead aim, delivered a gorilla like swing and immediately thought I had broken both wrists. I had smashed an unseen elm tree root, and did absolutely no damage what so ever to the ball, which lay exactly where it had been. I assured my wrists were not broken, and again took a mighty swing. I made splendid contact with the ball, and I was on the verge of delivering a beaming smile as I watched it sail away, until it hit another elm tree quite solidly, and so help me, the ball shot back towards me, and fell at my feet almost exactly where I had started this odyssey. I first of all carefully peered about, praying my playing partners who always wear masks and carry handguns were not recording my woes on video, and again swung away, and this time I was so frustrated I completely missed the ball. It lay exactly where it had started. That's when I thought of Twain.... at least I wasn't actually losing ground!

Via my e-mail:
The U.S. Postal Service has created a new stamp with Senator Hilary Clinton's photo on it, honoring her achievements as the First Lady. When put into public use it was discovered the stamp wasn't sticking to envelopes. This enraged the senator, and she demanded a full investigation of the problem. After a full month of testing by a postal commission the following facts were determined; * The stamp was in perfectly good order * There was absolutely nothing wrong with the glue * People were spitting on the wrong side.

(Thanks to Ron A.)
The Year Is 2029:
Ozone created by electric cars killing millions in 7th largest country in world, Mexifornia, formerly known as California.
Spotted owl plague threatens northwestern U.S. crops and

livestock.
France pleads for global assistance after being taken over by Jamaica.
Castro dies at age 116. Cuban cigars may now be imported, but President Chelsea Clinton has banned all smoking.
George Z. Bush announces he will run for president in 2036.
Postal Service raises price of first class stamp to \$17.89, reduces mail delivery to Wednesday's only.
85 year, \$76 billion study shows diet and exercise keys to weight loss, average weight of Americans plummets to 276 pounds.
Japanese develop camera with such fast shutter speed it will capture a woman with her mouth shut.
Massachusetts executes last remaining conservative.
Prodded by ACLU, Supreme Court rules punishment of criminals violates their civil rights.
Congress authorizes direct deposit of formerly illegal political contributions to campaign accounts.
Capitol Hill intern indicted for refusing sex with congressman.
Florida democrats still trying to master voting machines.

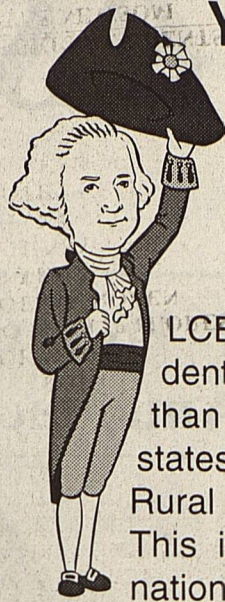
Hey High School Students!

Where will you be this summer?

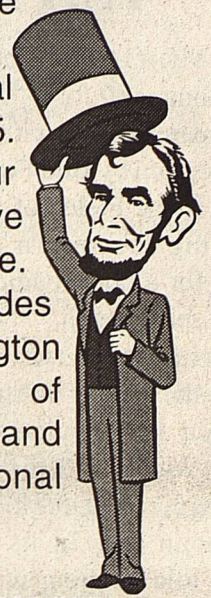
You could be in Washington, D.C.,

Courtesy of
Lea County

Electric Cooperative, Inc.!



LCEC will be sending two local high school students on an all-expense-paid trip to join more than 1,400 high school students from 37 states in Washington, D.C. for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 16-18, 2005. This is the chance of a lifetime to tour our nation's capital, visit personally with legislative leaders, and see where history has been made. The Government-in-Action Youth Tour includes visits to the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mount Vernon, all the National Monuments and more!



For more information contact Suzie Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631 or (800) 510-5232.

You can now apply on line at www.leacountyelectric.coop! Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office. Applications due by February 15, 2005.

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If you or a loved one have taken CELEBREX, BEXTRA, VIOXX or NAPROXEN products and have suffered a heart attack, stroke or a sudden cardiac death, then call us for a Free Case Evaluation. We Attorney's Fees or Court Costs unless we recover for you.
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The City of Plains is accepting sealed bids for a 16 ft. utility trailer with 2" ball hitch. The trailer can be seen at the City of Plains fenced light plant located at Ave. G, Plains, Texas, or you can call for information during regular business hours. Sealed bids will be accepted through February 14, 2005. The City reserves the right to accept or reject all bids.

NOTICE FOR BIDS
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 AM Friday, January 28, 2005, for the purchase of Asphalt for all four (4) Precincts and Yoakum County Parks for Calendar Year 2005.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, January 31, 2005.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-2422 or PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355.

Sealed bids should be marked BID - ASPHALT on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/ Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355.

NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

A Petit Jury selection will be held for the 121st District Court on January 25, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom of the Yoakum County Courthouse in Plains, Texas. The following citizens are asked to appear:

DENVER CITY RESIDENTS:

- IGNACIO PEREZ
- DENNIS SMILEY
- JACQUELYN NICOLE LOYA
- ANA MARIA MCCLURG
- LYNDA A. HANEY
- PABLO SILVAS GONZALES
- JIMMIE WELCH FOLMAR
- JESUS ENOC TERRAZAS
- VICKY B. TATSCH
- TINA MARIE GUERRERO
- JACQUELINE NICOLE ENGLISH
- ALAYNA FRANCINE BROOKS
- CAROL J. CORZINE
- STEPHEN RAY ROBERTS
- JANICE K. VALVERDE
- ROBERT LEE MCGEE
- DWAYNE LUCK
- FERRI CRISTAL FRANCO
- AARON JOSEPH MOORE
- TERESA RAE CAUDILLO
- HERNANDEZ GERARDO MORENO
- ROBERT CHATHAM
- CAROL L. VALVERDE
- NICHOLAS JOHN BOYD
- VICKY E. HOLT
- JESSICA ORTIZ FLORES
- SYLVIA ANN CAVAZOS
- LYNDAL C. TROUT
- AARON NOE MADRID
- GREGORIO PHILLIP FLORES
- MELISSA ORSAK RODEN
- NOEL S. OLIVERA
- VERA COURTNEY
- FLORA QUINTANILLA
- JOHN TIMOTHY KELLY
- BILLIE JOE RENDER
- MILTON D. WATKINS
- ANDRES ROBLEZ

PLAINS & TOKIO RESIDENTS:

- NOLAN DOYLE NEWSOM
- JEFFREY BRIAN LOWREY
- STEVEN LYNN O'QUINN
- BALDEMAR VASQUEZ
- ANTONIO TORRES MACIAS
- MELISSA J. ROPER
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- LARRY K. MASON
- STACIE KAY EARNEST
- BILLY B. BUTLER
- VINCENTE MARTINEZ LOYA
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- NAOMI G. GOODMAN

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- ROBBIE DON MCBETH
- VAL LERIE HOPE DELEON
- DANIEL R. SONGER
- JUAN JOSE HERNANDEZ
- ELY A LOZANO
- KEN R. SNIDER
- PEGGY WHISENHUNT
- JUAN FEHR REIMER
- CRYSTAL IRIS PENA
- TERESA STEPHENS RICH
- CELIA D. MOORE
- PAUL CHRISTOPHER TREVINO
- BRIDGET LYNN GRAHAM
- DEBRA JOINER
- STEVE W. GAYLE
- MILDRED MERETA HARVEY
- TIMMI ELIZABETH PAYTON
- DENISE ERICSON DEAN
- AMY K. TEAFF
- BRENDA TRANTHAM BAILEY
- INOE R. VALDEZ
- RYNN A. PEELER
- TEDDIE M. KNOX
- CORINA OLIVAS FRANCO
- WILLIAM FRANKLIN BULLOCK
- RANDALL LEON GOOCH
- GUADALUPE B. ESCOBEDO
- JASEN TODD CARTER
- AMBER DANIELLE FRUITT
- EDUARDO SOTELO
- SAMUEL GARBRIEL MANZANO
- HENRY FAST GUENTHER
- LOIS HOLLAND
- JOANN NICOLE PESINA
- KRISTI GARCIA ROBERSON
- WESLAND A. GALINDO

JOSE MORALES PINEDA

- DENISE MILLER GALLEGOS
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- NELMA JOYCE EMMERT
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- ERNEST MICHAEL BERRY
- MICHAEL EDWARD TEAFF
- ALICIA CONTRERAS ALMENDARIZ
- KENNETH MARK HEMMELINE
- TED G. WELCH
- RUBY L. ISENBERG
- MICHAEL GEORGE ADAMS
- KENNETH WILLIAM DIERSCHKE
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- JOAQUIN EUSTULIO QUINTANILLA
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- BUTH JOHNSON
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- CRISTINA ANN SANCHEZ
- MARION J. BRYANT
- JENNIFER LEIGH HILLER

ADAM GUERRERO

- ESTEBAN NATIVIDAD HERNANDEZ
- JEFFREY DAVID LOLLAR
- ROSALIE RIVERA
- SYLVIA ESTHER RODRIGUEZ
- JOE PIERCE
- ANTONIO GUERRA
- MARY S. WILMETH
- ROY DAVIS WILKINS
- LENSEY GAYLE CULLINS
- DEBBIE LONGORIA
- JESSICA RHEA PARIIN
- JOHAN NEUFELD LOEWEN
- TOMMIE DARRYL MCNABB

Want to purchase minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: P.O. Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201

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