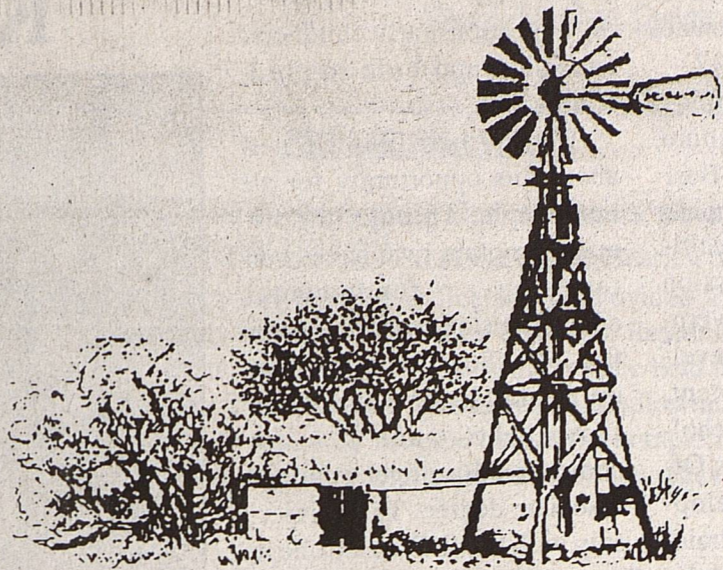


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Cowboy Country News

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

Volume X, Issue 49, August 25 2004



Assessment Notices To Arrive Soon

Boll weevil eradication assessment notices were recently mailed to cotton producers in the Western High Plains eradication zone. The assessments are based on information cotton producers provide the Farm Service Agency when they certify their crops. If growers find an error in the information on their billing, they will need to correct the information at their local FSA office and forward the corrected information to the Foundation.

Payment is due September 25, but a 2 percent discount is available to growers who pay the full assessment by September 10. Growers with failed acres are eligible to receive a credit on those acres completely destroyed prior to the final certification date. Qualifying acres must remain free of all hostable cotton until a killing freeze to receive the credit.

To aid WHP growers who have been affected by adverse weather conditions, the TBWEF is offering payment extension agreements for producers whose accounts are current.

"For those having difficulty paying their assessment, help is available by contacting the assessments department and arranging an extension agreement," said Chief Financial Officer Tina Ballard.

Producers entering into an extension agreement must make a 10 percent down payment, and they will be charged a late fee of 1 percent per month until their accounts are paid. This late fee begins on the date the signed agreement and down payment are received by the Assessment Department. Producers who are delinquent in payment and who do not have an extension agreement are subject to a late fee of 1.5 percent per month.

Producers with extension agreements have 150 days to pay their accounts.

For more information contact the Assessment Department in Abilene at (866) 672-2800.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a nonprofit, grower initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost effective and environmentally responsible manner possible.

South Plains College, Denver City partner to bring higher education to area towns

South Plains College and Denver City have formed an educational partnership to bring workforce training, continuing education and college level courses this fall to Denver City and neighboring towns.

The enterprise is called REDI (Rural Educational Development Initiative) and should make higher education more accessible for the citizens of Denver City, Plains, Seagraves, Seminole, Loop and other communities.

Denver City is the first of four cluster cities in SPC's 15 county, 15,000 square mile service area initiating courses for its surrounding area. Grants from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Office of Rural Community Affairs and the U.S. Department of Labor will help fund the unique project.

"SPC will serve as the hub and these cluster cities will essentially serve as extension campuses of SPC. That should increase accessibility for students in that particular service area," explained Jim Walker, dean of continuing and distance



Adult students learning computer skills in Learning Center

education at SPC. "There are a lot of people who still need to reach and provide lifelong learning opportunities; we want area residents to be trained for the skills they need in order to be productive citizens in their communities," said Walker. SPC is also in talks with officials from Muleshoe, Plainview and Crosbyton which would serve as head-

quarters for other cluster cities in SPC's service area.

SPC will launch its educational initiative in Denver City with two workforce courses focusing on computer training and nearly 100 sections of Internet college courses available for SPC students. The effort should positively impact residents of Denver City and surrounding area towns. Two

additional workforce training courses are slated for spring.

Internet and computer classes will be offered at the Yoakum County Family Literacy's site, the Learning Center at 500 Ave. C in Denver City. The computer lab will be open 1 - 6 PM Mondays beginning October 4, 6 - 9 PM Tuesdays beginning

Turn To Page 2, PARTNERSHIP

County employees longevity awards presented at picnic



Despite the threat of rain from passing thunderstorms, the annual Yoakum County Picnic and Awards event was an uninterrupted success. County Human resource Director Teresa Howard reported approximately 175 employees and their family attended the barbecue meal followed by sweets and ice cream. The county has some 240 employees.

Longevity awards were presented to employees for five,

ten, fifteen, twenty and twenty five years service. Recipients were:

5 Years: Danny Steffens, Mary Barron, Jose Natividad, Galen Ford, Jack Cobb, Jennifer McCasland, Hope Corrales, Cynthia Potts

10 Years: Gerald Baker, Ginger Wilson, Mary Padilla, Kay Sellers, Janet Andis, Noelia Esqueda, Josie Nerios, Vicki Blundell

15 years: Don Corzine, Jesse Flores, Joyce Rice, Julia Rodriguez, Carolina Rivas

20 Years: Kenneth Upchurch

Leslie Efird, Ramon Diaz, Nancy Baize, Bobbie Payne

25 Years: Betty Rivas, Sheila Stephens, Debra Joiner

Criminal cases in County Court

Six criminal cases were heard in the July 18 session of County Court, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Eric Douglas Edwards pled guilty to violating driver license restriction on occupational license. He was fined \$200, and must pay \$211 court costs and \$200 court appointed attorney fees. Warren New was his attorney and DPS Trooper Robert Munsell was investigating officer.

Arnaldo Estrello pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .208/.207, open container. 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 must spend six days in jail with credit for one day, attend weekly AA meetings, serve 24 hours community service, and complete the alcohol and drug abuse program. Investigating officer was Trooper Robert Smith, and Roy Bell was his

Turn To Page 2, COUNTY COURT

Volleyballs flying at PISD



From the Lady Wranglers in Plains Jr. High, to the JV and Varsity Cowgirls, the young ladies are hard at work honing their volleyball skills for the long season. More photos inside.

The Countdown Has Started...
Nine More Days Until
Watermelon
Round Up # 9

**From Page 1,
PARTNERSHIP**

October 5 and 8 AM - noon Fridays beginning October 8. For more information contact the center at 806-592-5917. Internet courses will be offered this fall by SPC in Agriculture, Anthropology, Biology, Business Administration, Computer Information Systems, Electrical and Power Transmission Technology, English, Government, History, Human Development, Law Enforcement, Physical Education, Psychology and Sociology. SPC's Office of Workforce Development will offer workforce training courses... Introduction to Computers and Windows, Introduction to MS Word and Introduction to MS Excel. The computers and Windows class will meet Monday, September 27 - November 8, Internet and Email class 7-9 PM Thursdays September 30-November 11. Introduction to MS Word will meet 7-9 PM Mondays January 19-Feb. 14 and 7-9 PM Thursdays Jan. 13-Feb. 17.

A key to the success of the training is the newly equipped literacy center in Denver City, recently outfitted with 30 computers from a \$130,000 rural expansion grant from Worksource of the South Plains, according to Kathy Clark, director. Last year the lab served 150 adults and 60

children with computer training, GED preparation, English as a second language classes, citizenship preparation, parenting education, early childhood education and birth to pre-k child care.

"We are incredibly excited about this opportunity for all our people. Through the literacy program, we have been targeting fundamental education skills, and the addition of college courses opens up the field, for example, to those who want to gain computer skills or get a college associate degree. The partnership with South Plains College has taken us to a whole new level of educational opportunities for the people in this area", believes Clark, who is chairing a planning committee to get the higher education project up and running.

"Anytime you have workforce training, you provide opportunity for further education; it is always positive for any community. It's a good opportunity for not only citizens in Denver City but anybody in the area to take advantage of this type program. As it expands and grows, it will provide more opportunities for everyone in the area," said Stan David, city manager.

For more information contact the SPC Division of Continuing and Distance Education. 806-894-9611, ext 2340 or ext 2341.

**From Page 1,
COUNTY COURT**

Rey Lopez-Velez pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury to family member. His 48 day jail sentence had been met with 48 days served. Karen Hobbs, Denver City Police, was investigating officer, and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

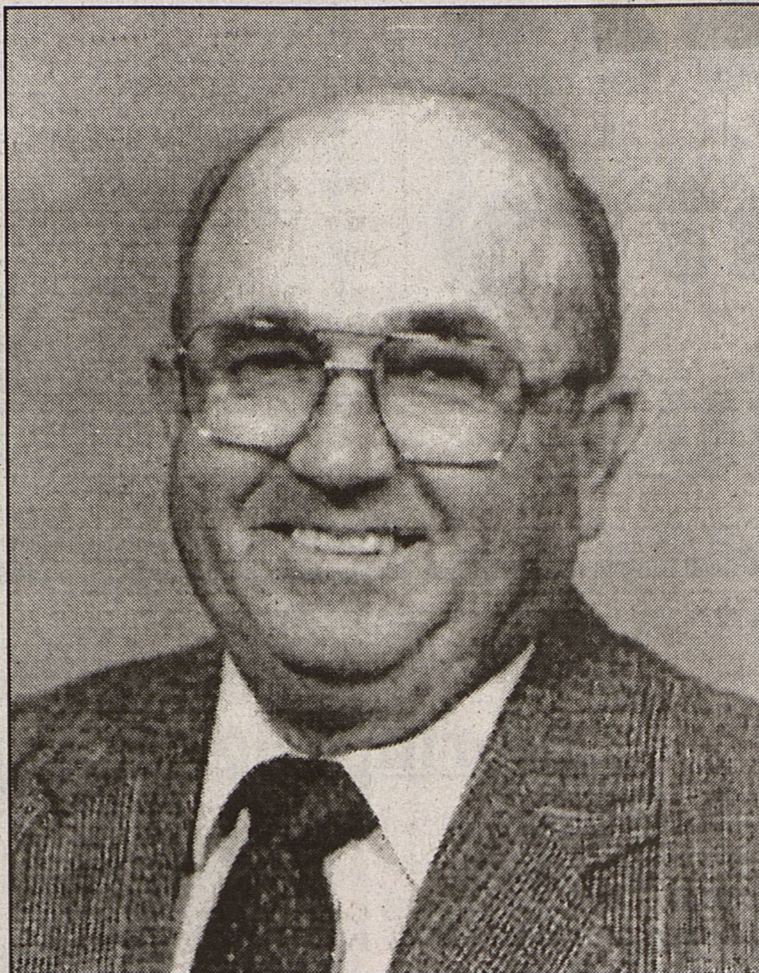
Helena Wieler Harms pled guilty to first DWI, blood test .18. She was sentenced to 42 days in jail with credit for one day served. Warren New was her attorney, and Trooper Robert Smith was investigating officer.

Walter Guillermo Ayala pled guilty to a second DWI, b.t. .118/.116. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probation 24 months. He was fined

\$500, will serve 72 hours in jail with 13.5 hours credit, complete the DWI repeat offender program, serve 80 hours community service, must complete the batterers prevention program, and surrender his license 180 days. Deputy David Bryant was investigating officer.

Gabriel Ramirez pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury to family member. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended 18 months, he must pay \$250 fine, \$211 court cost, and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 80 hours community service and pay \$50 monthly supervision fee, and must complete the batterers prevention program. Robert Banks, D.C. Police, was investigating officer.

**Services held for
Kenneth Hale**



Funeral services for Kenneth Hale were held at 11:00 AM Monday, August 23, 2004 at Plains First United Methodist Church, with grandson Tracey Bearden and Rev. Cameron Givan officiating. Burial followed in Plains Cemetery under the direction of Brownfield Funeral Home.

He died August 21, 2004 in Quail Ridge Alzheimer Special Care Center in Lubbock. He was born May 28, 1927 in Boswell, Oklahoma to Tom and Annie Hale. He married Gracie Chambliss November 16, 1952. She died April 23, 1967. Kenneth married Clydell Simmons on June 2, 1972 in Lovington, NM.

He worked for Shell Oil Company for 36 years, retiring in 1987. He was a member of Plains First United Methodist Church, past member of the Plains ISD Board of Education, past mayor of the City of Plains, and a U.S. Army veteran.

A brother, Jerry Hale, a sister, Marie Humphrey and a stepson, Mike Simmons and step grandson, Dennis Simmons, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, four daughters, Beth Ann Cain and husband Charles, Karen Bearden and husband Rickety of Plains, Robbie Phipps and husband Ben of Boswell, OK, four brothers, Jesse of Boswell, OK, A.J. of Lamesa, Charles of Norman, OK, and Don of Yukon, OK; two sisters, Sally Stubbs of Hugo, OK, and Tela Barrick of Mesa, AZ; ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Alzheimer's Assn., 3601 4th St., 5-C 122, Lubbock, TX 79415-9981.

**Education The Key For
Future Texas Work Force**

Texans could be robbed of as much as \$40 billion in household income each year by 2040, according to a report by the Austin Area Research Organization (AARO). The culprits? Not enough Texans with a higher education.

The formula is simple, according to AARO's Closing The Gaps in Higher Education in Central Texas. In the face of a dwindling number of jobs where a high school diploma is sufficient, Texans with higher education are more attractive to potential employers, thus increasing their wage earning potential.

An associate's degree for example, would help a person earn an average of \$15,000 more annually than someone with only a high school degree, according to AARO. Similarly, a bachelor's degree holder would earn an additional \$40,000 annually and about \$850,000 over a lifetime.

But many Texans lack the financial or emotional resources needed to attain a degree. The Austin based Capital Area Training Foundation (CATF) is one organization helping the work force of tomorrow get a leg up today, by offering counseling and job skills and computer training to prospective college students.

The need for more, better educated employees is a challenge to be met now, not later, according to CATF Executive Director John Fitzpatrick.

"If we don't have between 40,000 and 60,000 more Central Texans ready for the work force by the year 2015, the average household income will decline by about \$4,000 annually," Fitzpatrick said. "That's a cumulative total of almost \$2 billion."

CATF's Construction Gateway program, a type of five week 'boot camp' aimed at individuals who are unemployed, have been incarcerated or are homeless, teaches its students the construction trade as well as guidelines on life, Fitzpatrick said.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Department of

Labor recognize the Gateway Program as one of the top four job training programs in the country, and its graduates find employment with regularity.

"We've had almost 700 folks (go) through that program in 10 years and about 80 percent have gotten jobs," Fitzpatrick said.

Titus Electrical Contracting has its headquarters in Austin but has business throughout Texas and Northern New Mexico. The company has seen first hand the benefits of CATF's training efforts.

"The CATF recruits are very committed to their own personal success as well as to our team here, evidenced by the fact that our apprentice of the year, Sean Gamez, came from there," said Titus Runyan, president of Titus Electrical. "These kids deserve an opportunity and CATF provides that."

Following Austin's high tech explosion of the late 1990s, Texas Instruments and the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce visited the capital city to look in on CATF's Semiconductor industry. Impressed, the groups worked together and a similar SEC was born in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

"They were interested in what CATF was doing," Fitzpatrick said. "So they came down and looked into it and (theirs is) a similar model."

Started in 2002, the younger Metroplex version of the SEC has grown up quickly, according to John Sheleen, executive director of the Dallas/Fort Worth SEC.

"We've had things get established pretty quickly," he said. "We've worked with more than 4,000 students and 350 teachers and individuals through industry tours, workshops and internship programs."

Eight semiconductor companies employ about 25,000 people in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, Sheleen said, and it will be another year or two before the results of the SEC's effort will start to show.

On January 1, 1864 Lawrence Sullivan Ross, famed Texas Ranger and Indian fighter, was given command of a unit known as Ross's Cavalry Brigade, with units from Texas, Tennessee and Mississippi. The brigade would see bloody action until the war's end. Sul Ross University at Alpine is named after the general

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The Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District will hold a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 31, 2004 at the District office located at 1012 Avenue F, Plains, Texas, to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2004. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District by 7.38%

TPA MEMBER 2004 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Precious Cargo Onboard

As school starts, all Texans share the responsibility of making sure students arrive safely. Drivers should remember to slow down in neighborhoods where children are walking and waiting for the bus. They should also follow school zone laws and know when and where to stop for school buses.

School buses are the safest form of transportation for students, but the most dangerous time of the journey is when kids are entering and exiting the bus. When a school bus is loading or unloading students, the law requires that drivers stop on most roadways.

State Law Requirements: State law requires approaching drivers to stop when a school bus is stopped and operating a visual signal (red flashing lights

or a stop sign). Drivers should not proceed until the school bus resumes motion; the driver is signaled by the bus driver to proceed; or the visual signal is no longer activated. A driver does not have to stop for a school bus if it is on a highway with roadways separated by an intervening space or physical barrier. (If a highway is divided only by a left-turning lane, the roadways are not separated, and drivers must stop for school buses).

Punishment for drivers who do not stop: Drivers who do not stop for school buses face a fine of up to \$1,000. If a driver is convicted of the offense more than one time, DPS can suspend their license for up to six months.

Texas Adds Jobs, Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged

Total Nonagricultural Employment in Texas gained 5,600 jobs from June to July and 112,000 jobs since September 2003. The Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged for June to July, remaining at 5.7 percent. Initial claims for unemployment compensation for the week ending July 3, 2004 declined 9.5 percent compared to one year ago. "Even though the unemployment rate remained the same, Texas continues to add jobs," said TWC Chair Diane Rath. "More importantly, we continue to add jobs in the private sector, with a majority of industries showing gains both over the month and over the year."

Since July 2003, Texas employers have added 102,000-

tal jobs. Seven major industries in Texas sustained job growth over the year. Education & Health Services led the way, with a gain of 34,100 jobs over the last 12 months. Trade, Transportation & Utilities also showed good gains over the year, adding 29,500 jobs. Professional & Business Services added 20,100, while Leisure & Hospitality added 18,300.

"Business activity continues to expand, as Texas employers add jobs in many sectors," said Commissioner Representing Employers Ron Lehman. "The comments I am hearing from Texas employers confirm hiring and job growth as demand for products and services remains good."

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)
Civilian Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
Preliminary Data (In Thousands)

	July 2004			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
State of Texas	11,080.1	10,398.3	681.8	6.2
Abilene	62.9	60.7	2.2	3.4
Amarillo	121.6	117.3	4.3	3.5
Austin-San Marcos	777.1	740.8	36.3	4.7
Beaumont-Port Arthur	186.3	168.6	17.7	9.5
Brazoria	117.8	107.0	10.8	9.2
Brownsville-Harlingen	145.0	131.0	14.0	9.6
Bryan-College Station	82.4	80.7	1.7	2.1
Corpus Christi	184.8	171.6	13.2	7.2
Dallas	2,063.3	1,935.2	128.1	6.2
El Paso	297.3	274.2	23.1	7.8
Fort Worth-Arlington	975.2	918.7	56.5	5.8
Galveston-Texas City	131.2	120.3	10.9	8.3
Houston	2,370.8	2,215.3	155.5	6.6
Killeen-Temple	123.6	117.9	5.7	4.6
Laredo	88.3	82.0	6.3	7.1
Longview-Marshall	110.9	104.1	6.8	6.1
Lubbock	133.4	128.0	5.4	4.1
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	230.4	202.3	28.1	12.2
Odessa-Midland	129.1	122.6	6.5	5.1
San Angelo	53.2	51.3	1.9	3.5
San Antonio	853.0	807.7	45.3	5.3
Sherman-Denison	51.7	48.7	3.0	5.7
Texarkana	Data Not Available			
Tyler	100.5	95.4	5.1	5.1
Victoria	46.7	44.5	2.2	4.6
Waco	106.4	101.3	5.1	4.8
Wichita Falls	65.8	63.1	2.7	4.1

Cisco classes set for this fall

The South Plains College electronics service technology program will offer Cisco training classes 1-4 and 5-8 this fall.

Cisco 1-4, leading to the Cisco Certified Networking Associate, will meet weekdays as part of the electronics service technology program and will meet 6-9 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cisco classes 5-8, leading to Cisco Certified Networking Professional, will meet 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students can register on the first day of class, August 30-31.

Cisco 1-4 cover introduction to Cisco routers, basic routers and switches and wide area and local area networks.

Cisco classes 5-8 cover advanced routing, system troubleshooting, remote access, multi layer switching and network troubleshooting. Cost per course is \$330. Instructor will be Raymond Elizondo, assistant professor of electronics service technology, who is a Cisco certified academy instructor.

Think Texas

by Agriculture Commissioner SUSAN COMBS

The kids have gone back to school but that doesn't mean your family's weekend travels and summertime adventures should stop. Come on out to West Texas this fall and take part in the legendary Marathon 2 Marathon event.

The event's main attraction is a 26.2-mile race from Alpine to Marathon, taking you over a mountain or two and through some scrub brush, and it's all done under some of the most beautiful skies in West Texas. The experience is simply mystical, and this year's event, which takes place Oct. 16, involves much more than a race.

M2M gives travelers a chance to reconnect with rural Texas and our cowboy culture. There will be a horseback riding event, a 10K fun run, music and vendors all along Marathon's main street. On race day, breakfast tacos are sold on street corners, antique stores and bookshops open at the crack of dawn and the whole community comes together to cheer on runners.

Part of the adventure is traveling there. Believe me, with my own family's ranch in Brewster County, I often make the drive from Austin and can attest to the beauty and serenity of the area. Go see the Marfa lights. Visit the town of Alpine and its growing artist community. Check out the vineyards near Fort Davis and Fort Stockton. Hike through Big Bend National Park. West Texas is a whole other world, and I encourage you to check it out.

It's a chance-in-a-lifetime experience. Not many folks can say they've seen a marathon in Marathon. For more information go to www.runtex.com.

PUBLIC HEARING

As required by law, and by directive of the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County, Texas, **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Public Hearing on the salaries, expenses and allowances of elected County and Precinct Officers to be provided for in the Fiscal Year 2005 Budget for Yoakum County is set for 4:00 P.M., Thursday, September 2, 2004, preceding the Public Hearing on 2005 Proposed Budget. The hearing will be held in the District Courtroom, County Courthouse, Plains, Texas. The salaries and allowances will be considered and acted upon at this meeting and officially adopted before the completion of the hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 Budget. Present salaries and allowances with the requested and proposed increases are as follows:

Elected Official	Present Base Salary/ Longevity Salary/ Allowance	Proposed Base Salary/ Longevity Salary/ Allowance(s)	Increase
County Judge	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	6,324.00	6,696.00	372.00
	6,000.00	7,200.00	1,200.00
NOTE (1)*	1,200.00	1,200.00	-0.00-
NOTE (2)**	10,000.00	10,000.00	-0.00-
Commissioner, Precinct #1	\$36,062.88	\$37,144.77	\$1,081.89
	2,604.00	2,976.00	372.00
	6,000.00	7,200.00	1,200.00
Commissioner, Precinct #2	\$36,062.88	\$37,144.77	\$1,081.89
	4,774.00	5,146.00	372.00
	6,000.00	7,200.00	1,200.00
Commissioner, Precinct #3	\$36,062.88	\$37,144.77	\$1,081.89
	684.00	912.00	228.00
	6,000.00	7,200.00	1,200.00
Commissioner, Precinct #4	\$36,062.88	\$37,144.77	\$1,081.89
	1,140.00	2,232.00	1,092.00
	6,000.00	7,200.00	1,200.00
County Clerk	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	2,635.00	3,007.00	372.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	-0.00-
District Clerk	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	4,030.00	4,402.00	372.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	-0.00-
County Treasurer	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	84.00	168.00	84.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	-0.00-
Tax Assessor/ Collector	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	0.00	383.00	383.00
	5,040.00	5,040.00	-0.00-
County Sheriff (Sheriff has a vehicle, he does not get travel allowance)	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	5,766.00	6,138.00	372.00
JP, Precinct #1	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	6,944.00	7,316.00	372.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	-0.00-
JP, Precinct #2	\$36,683.04	\$37,783.53	\$1,100.49
	84.00	168.00	372.00
	4,800.00	4,800.00	-0.00-
Criminal District Attorney (Above is the county's portion of CDA salary, he is a State Employee)	4,807.32	5,047.69	240.37
District Judge	3,607.32	3,787.69	180.37
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
(Above is the county's portion of District Judge's salary, he is a State Employee)			
NOTE*(1) Juvenile Board Salary for Juvenile Judge Duties			
NOTE**(2) Judicial Salary for Constitutional County Court Judge's duties (State Supplement)			

Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up Watermelon Decorating Contest

September 4, 2004

RULES

- Entrants must live in Yoakum County or within 10 miles of county line.
- Awards of \$200 savings bonds go to age groups, Juniors 0 - 9; Youth 10 - 20; Adult 21 and up. Any age group is eligible for Best Of Show for a \$400 savings bond.
- Winners must verify savings bonds have correct name, address and social security number with donor banks.
- A whole or parts of real watermelon of any variety may be used.
- No restriction apply on decoration material except must be in good taste. Chair will determine if inappropriate in case of dispute.
- Painting or carving may be done on watermelons.
- Contestant is responsible for a prop if needed to hold watermelon in a certain position.
- Contestant must leave watermelon on display from 10 AM until 5 PM on contest day. Disposal of melon or materials will be handled by chair if not claimed by contestant.
- Only one entry per person; entry form must be filled out when entering contest. Forms will be available at information desk when entering contest.
- A nameplate may accompany entry if it adds to understanding of decorations

Decorating Contest Sponsoring Donors:

- * Junior Division - \$200 Savings Bond - Plains State Bank
- * Youth Division - \$200 Bond - West Texas National Bank
- * Adult Division - \$200 Bond - Wells Fargo Bank
- * Best Of Show - \$400 Bond - Sundown State Bank

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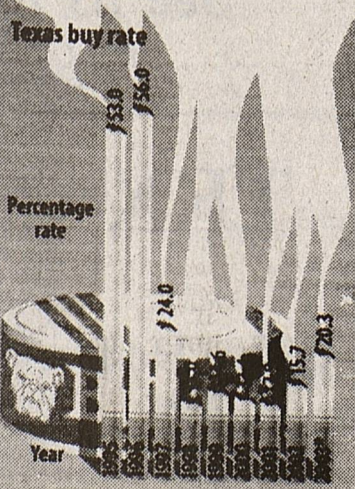
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Home 592-3490

Jeff Lowery, Sales Assoc.
Mobile 806-592-1319
Home 456-3195

Bad buys

"Buy rates" project the percentage of retailers selling tobacco products to minors. Texas' buy rate has plunged since the mid-1990s but has begun to creep up into a range that could trigger federal penalties.



* Preliminary rate
SOURCE: Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

2 DAUGHTERS LANDSCAPING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE PLAINS, TEXAS

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Steve Jones
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806592-1994

CALL for estimates

Family Land Heritage Program Seeks Historic Farms And Ranches For Recognition

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that the Texas Department of Agriculture's Family Land Heritage Program is seeking farms and ranches for recognition by the Family Land Heritage Program, which marks its 30th anniversary this year. Since the first ceremony on October 14, 1974, the program has honored almost 3,900 farms and ranches in 222 counties for being kept in continuous agricultural production by the same family.

"These families have nurtured life from the land to make a future for their children, all the while making their mark in Texas history," Combs said. "The Family Land Heritage Program honors their contribution to the settlement of the Lone Star State. It also chronicles the unique history of Texas agriculture, a proud record that otherwise might be lost forever."

To be eligible for the program, the farm or ranch must meet these qualifications: * The farm/ranch has to have been agriculturally productive for 100 years or more and the line of ownership traced from the first family member to the present, either through direct relatives, marriage or adoption.

* The land must fit the old U.S. Census definition of a farm: 10 acres or more with agricultural sales of \$50 or more a year; or if less than 10 acres, sales of at least \$250 a year.

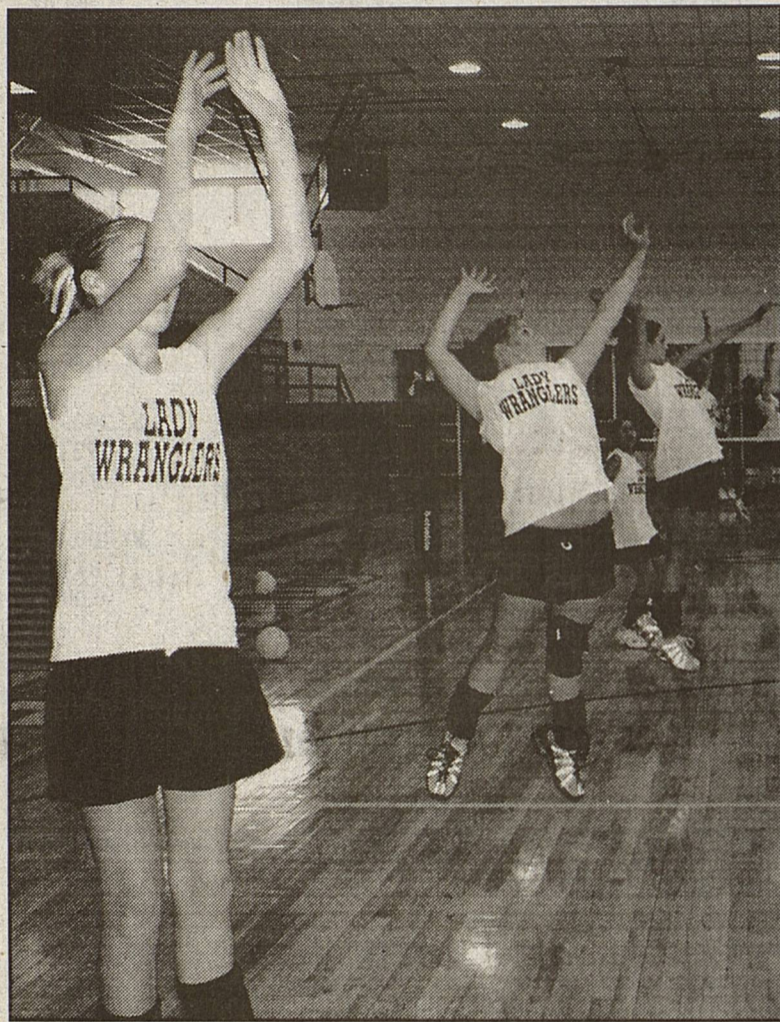
* Owner(s) must be actively managing the everyday operation of the property.

* If all the land has ever been rented to someone outside of the family, it will not qualify. If only a portion was leased, and as much as 10 acres retained in the family for agricultural production with sales of at least \$50 annually, it will qualify.

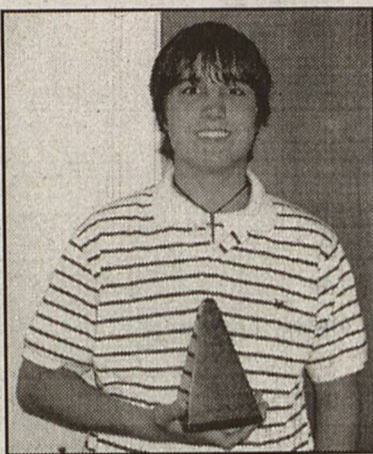
* Deadline to submit applications for properties established in 1904 or before is November 15, 2004.

Farms and ranches that qualify will be honored during the ceremony in Austin in March 2005. The history of the farm or ranch will be chronicled in a registry and honorees can obtain historic farm or ranch signage for their property.

Program applications are available through TDA, county judges and on TDA's web site at www.agr.state.tx.us. For more information, contact Family Land Heritage Coordinator Melissa Blair, Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711 or (512) 463-2631.



Student of the Week



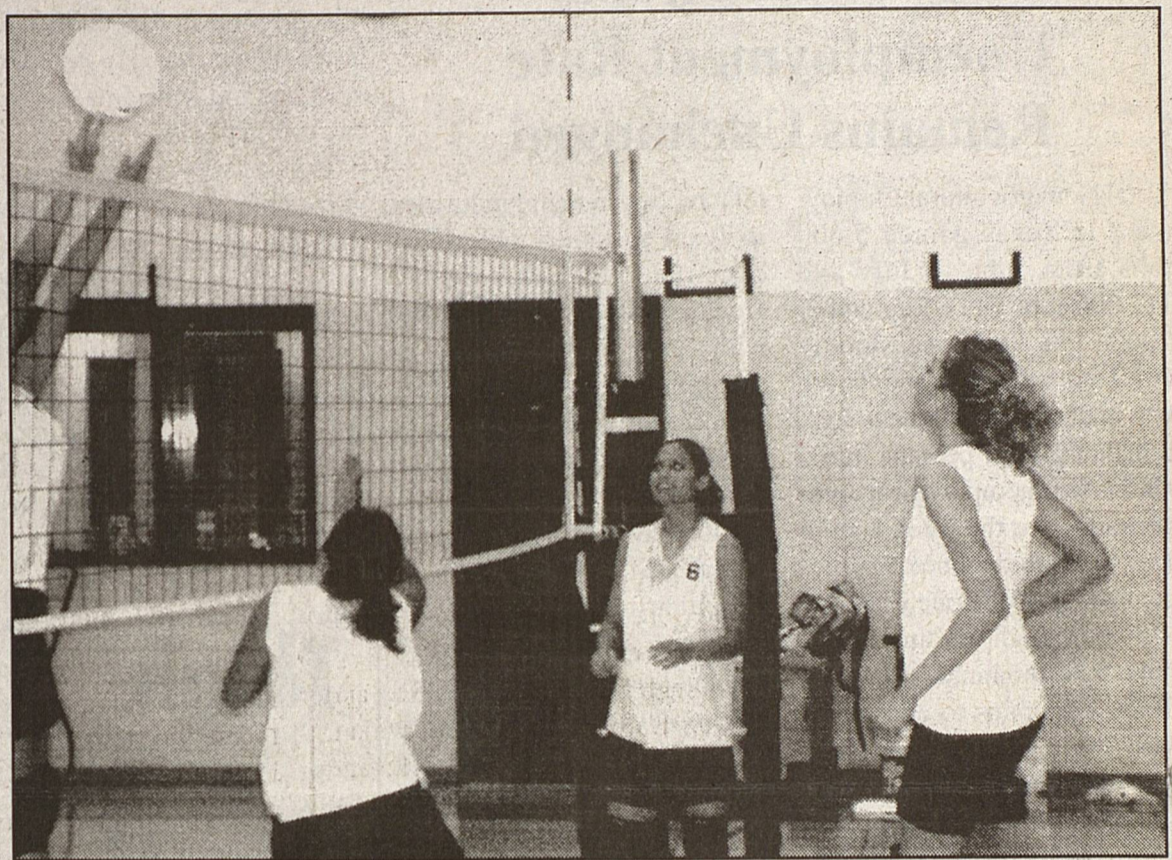
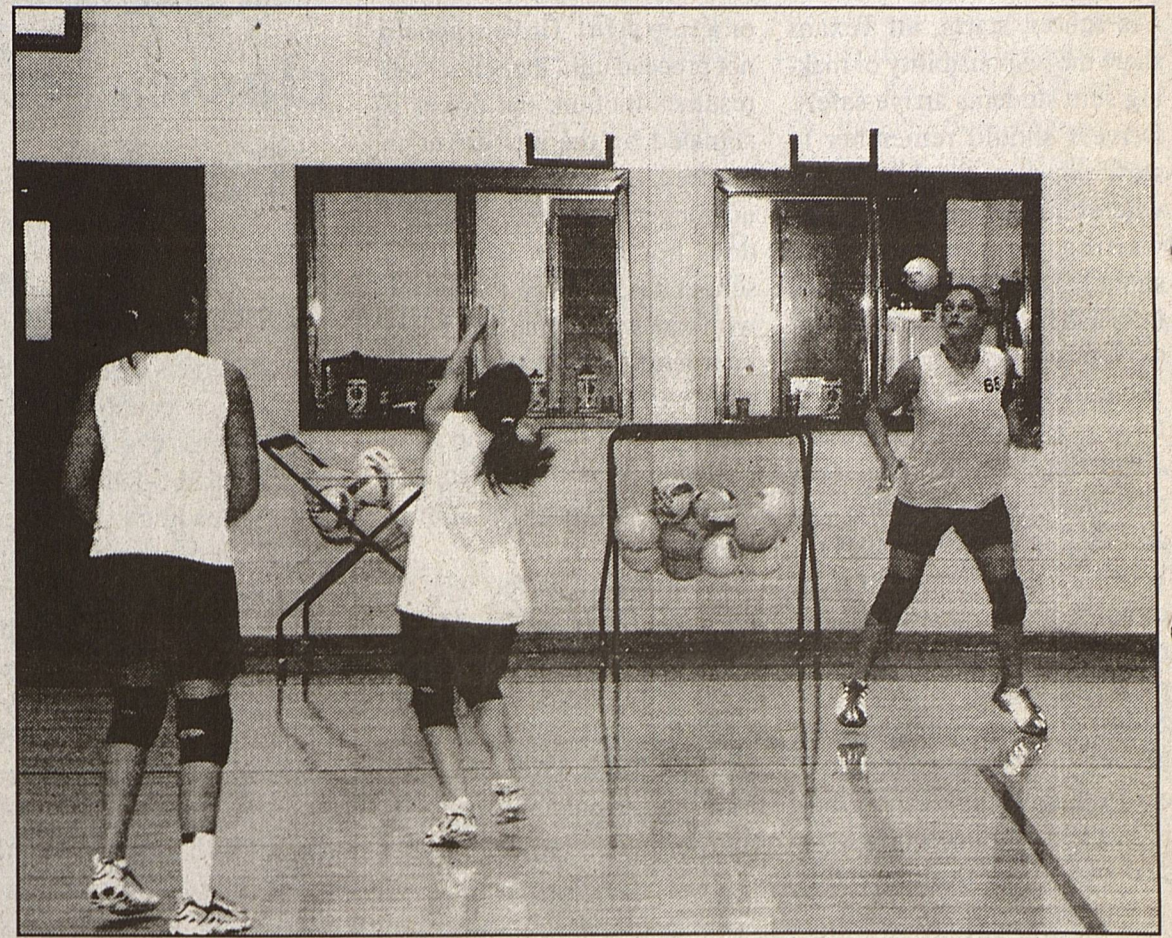
The first student of the week is B.J. Lester, a junior and the son of Bruce and Jan Lester. He was nominated by Mrs. Dorsett, who said, "I nominated B.J., who is Student Council President, because of his dedication to academics and hard work for this school to make it the best it can be. He is willing to step in when there is a job to be done. He exhibits a respect to adults that makes us glad to ask for his appreciation."

2004 graduate Moriah Traweck sent the following note in appreciation to the former American Legion for the scholarship fund established at PHS:

Thank you so much for the scholarship. It was an honor to sing the National Anthem. The money will be a big asset to my college education. Thanks again, and may God Bless.

Sincerely,
Moriah Traweck

Volleyball mania going on here



Watermelon Round-up Station
Labor Day Weekend Sept 4, 2004

Plains, Texas 79355

The U.S. Postal Service is offering a special cancellation at this year's Watermelon Round Up. Come by our booth for more info!

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Appointments preferred

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Lifelines & Styles

Mildred Jones Celebrates 91st Birthday



Mildred Jones celebrates her 91st birthday on Sunday, August 8, 2004. Her daughter and son-in-law, Marilyn and Don McCormick, hosted the celebration in Levelland.

Mrs. Jones moved to Yoakum County in 1915 with her parents, R.C. and Mattie Cox. She and her late husband, Charley Jones, moved to Plains in 1963. Over the years she has made quilts for all of their children. She has won many ribbons on her entries in the South Plains Fair at Lubbock.

Mildred often walked to the Post Office to get her mail and stopped at the library or other businesses. She did this well into her 80's. With her bonnet on, everyone knew her. She also enjoyed gardening, canning, and sewing.

Enjoying cake and ice cream with Mrs. Jones were Ray and Dorothy Jones; Elaine Lewis; Barbara and Ted Bowman; Travis and Jean Jones; Linda and Royce Carmack; and Marilyn and Don McCormick, and great granddaughter, Maycee Baccus.

Senior Citizens Corner

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me. I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

You have been given our telephone number at the Center many times but today we want to remind you of what it is and in addition we now have another number for the kitchen. You may reach whomever you want by dialing 592-8000 or 592-7122.

The Birthday/Anniversary monthly celebration will be postponed to Tuesday, September 7th, instead of the usual first Monday of the month because of the Labor Day holiday. You may want to mark your calendar so you won't miss it.

If you have been enjoying the many photos adorning the walls of the rec room and the pool room, you may want to order some personal photos. Ann Holland or June Hanneman can arrange to photograph you and develop photos of any size for you. With Christmas peeking around the corner, it may solve some gift choices for you. Check in the office for information on the minimal cost for this service the Center is offering.

News has filtered in from some of our former Center family members this week. A letter from Opal Jefferson indicates that she is enjoying a special reading hour with some of the ladies where she lives. Christine Stewart who lives in San Antonio has recently suffered a broken hip, but appears to be recovering well, and a telephone call from Tom Clevenger brings the news that Darlene is still in the nursing home. He sends greetings to everyone. Eileen Fillipp writes from Lubbock that she and Bob have visited one of the senior centers there, but the food doesn't compare with Denver City. They, too, send greetings to everyone.

Ed Hicks has gone to spend some time with his daughter in

Sherman, Texas, while he recovers from his heart attack. We miss him around the Center.

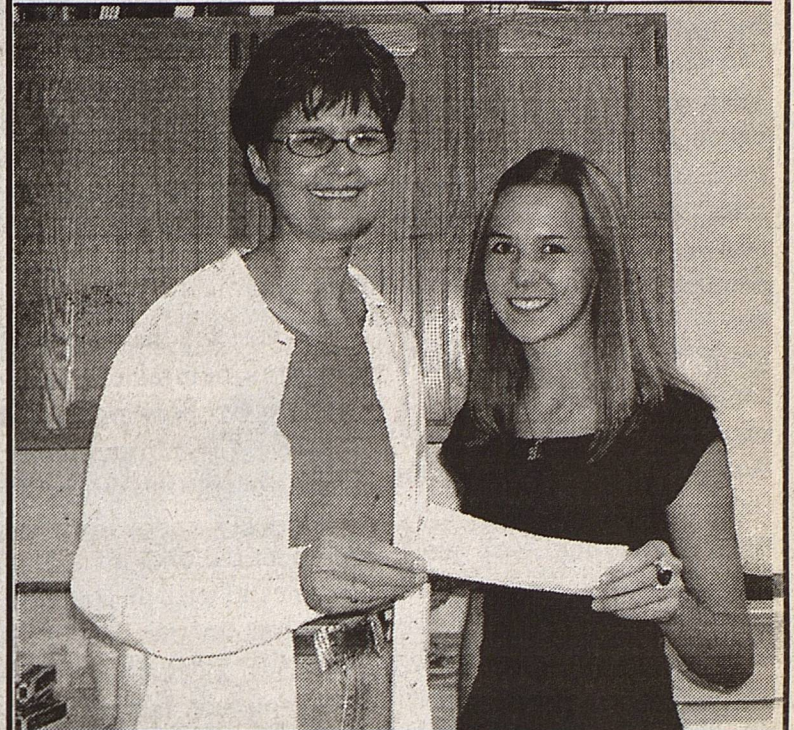
Our thanks to Gail Ribble for the small refrigerator he provided for the rec room. This will be convenient for those bringing snacks or cold drinks to enjoy while they play games or watch movies.

This statement came across my desk this week and I share it in total agreement: "Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, "Wow, What a Ride!"

The hallways glisten as we make our morning laps up and down them. The gymnasium floor shines for the line dancing group to enjoy. The new rec room is spotless and relaxing. When all of the debris was eliminated from that area one day, we found that when we walked in the next morning the floors looked like new. Through the years we have come to expect our Center to look clean and attractive at all times, thanks to the excellent care from Linda Horton. I have seen her high up on a ladder changing a light bulb or rushing to make last minute touches to the poll room on tournament day so it is attractive for our guests. When we walk into the dining room each day and see the shining floors and the chairs lined up perfectly under each table, we know Linda has been there. She not only leaves her touch in every physical corner of the Center, but shares her smile and her personal Christian testimony with all of us by her caring attitude and willing spirit. We all say, "Thank you, Linda, for making all of our lives brighter."

Thought for Today: In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: IT GOES ON.

Stacie Alldredge Receives Scholarship



Plains ISD Secretary Sarah Kay Burrus, right, presents PHS Senior Stacie Alldredge with a \$500 scholarship. The scholarship is an annual award presented by Yoakum County Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark in honor of his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Clark.

Our Sincere Thanks

Dearest Friends,

Thank you for supporting our family during this difficult time. We can not thank you enough for the food, flowers, and most importantly, the prayers. Thanks to you, our rooms, dishes and laundry are clean. Also, many of you brought paper plates and cups, paper towels, and toiletry items. We appreciate all the donations at the bank that will be used for college for Stacie, David, Kurt and Troy. Thank you also for all the condolence cards. Our family is so lucky to be surrounded by wonderful friends and family.

Pat was a great mom, wife, and friend. Her service on Tuesday was overfilled with flowers, family, co-workers, and friends. The sanctuary and service were beautiful. She is now in a more beautiful place, a place of peacefulness with the Lord. We still have memories of Pat/Mom. We carry our lovely memories in our hearts and minds.

Pat Alldredge should be remembered by her servant heart, working hands, and her bright smile. She served the Lord with all her heart, soul and mind. We know she loved and was loved by the people in this community. Our family loves her and will miss her. Thank you again for taking care of us and grieving with us.

Sincerely,

Steve, Stacie, David, Kurt and Troy Alldredge

You are invited to a bridal shower honoring

Kassie Lowe, bride-elect

of

Mike Bunton

Sunday, August 29, 2004, 2:00 to 3:30 pm

in the home of Leann Lewis

3 miles west of Plains on Highway 82 to

Yoakum County Gin South 1.5 miles House

is on the west side of road

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Yoakum Soil & Water Conservation District

Ladies Farm Tour

September 13, 2004

Tours

*Chili Plant

*Tire Recycle

Plant

*Newsom

Vineyard

Lunch

* Door Prizes

* Awards

* Exhibit

Booths

Two locations for Tour pick-up:

* Denver City - 1st Baptist parking lot

* Plains - Community Building

Departure for tour 9:15 a.m. .. Arrives at

Plains Community Building for lunch 12:30

noon .. Awards for Farmer/Rancher

Appreciation Day .. Depart for trip back

to Denver City 2:00 PM.

For more information please call 806-456-3703 ext 3

RSVP by September 10, 806-456-3703 ext 3 or

806-592-1426 1305 Cowboy Way, Plains TX

Transportation Provided By

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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

From good buddies in Pecos, the Forsaken Garden of West Texas;

"My last child support check"

Today is my daughter's 18th birthday... I'm so glad this is my last child support payment.

Month after month, year after year, all those payments. I called my baby girl to come over, and when she got there I said, "Baby girl, I want you to take this last check over to your mamma's house. You tell her this is the last check she's ever going to get from me, then come on back and tell me the expression she had on her face". So, my baby girl took the check to her, and I could hardly wait till she came back and I could learn what the witch had to say. When my baby girl walked in, I asked, "Well, now tell me exactly what she had to say?!"

"She told me to tell you that you ain't my daddy".

For all you guys looking like (a) your head has a snow pack on it (b) you've spilled a bucket of white paint on it (c) you have the worst case of dandruff known to mankind, take heart, relief may be on the way.

Just read science has come up with a gene altering substance which, when injected into albino mice used in lab work, turns the mice from snow white to black. The scientists say if this gene therapy can make a white mouse a black mouse, it could possibly result in correcting genetic mutations in human skin cells to restore hair to its original color, the process could do the same to humans. As for me, color of hair be

damned! I want to do some of this black magic on a BALD mouse. A totally BALD mouse they can fool with and make it sprout new hair like the original wooly-booger, then rub the top of MY head with the stuff! I am getting sparse up there.

Things aren't so bad here in the good old USA. I just read (I swear!) in Peru's Lake Titicaca (yes, it's pronounced exactly the way it looks it should) there grow 2 to 3 pound frogs which are caught, ground up with a potato like tuber and honey and serve as the Peruvian Viagra. Yep, nothing like a bit of frog and tater to get you going. I have no idea what fantastically successful Viagra contains, but I'm reasonably sure it's not ground up frogs.

With possibly the most vilifying presidential election in many years drawing near, the following, also from friends in Pecos, bears timely attention and thought:

"About the time our original 13 states adopted their new constitution, in the year 1787, Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor, had this to say about 'The fall of the Athenian Republic some 2,000 years prior:

'A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time voters discover they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship.

'The average age of the worlds greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about 200 years. Dur-

ing those 200 years, these nations always progress through the following sequence:

- From bondage to spiritual faith
- From spiritual faith to great courage.
- From courage to liberty.
- From liberty to abundance.
- From abundance to apathy.
- From apathy to dependence.
- From dependence back into bondage".

I seriously submit to you, dear readers, between now and the November election day is absolutely no time for complacency, apathy, or dependence

Puzzling -

If you ate antipasto and pasta would you still be hungry?

Is a castrated pig disgruntled? Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?

Why is the alphabet in that order... is it because of that song?

A woman came home from a Women's Liberation meeting and told her husband it had been about free love. He asked, "Surely you don't believe in free love?"

She replied, "Have I ever sent you a bill?"

The history of medicine: 2000 BC- "Here, eat this compound of root" 100 AD- "Don't touch that root, it's devil's work. Say this prayer." 1850 AD- "That prayer is superstition, drink this potion." 1940 AD- "That potion is snake oil, swallow this pill." 1975 AD- "That pill won't work at all, take this antibiotic." 2004 AD- "That antibiotic is artificial. Here, take this compound of root."

*** Garage Sale ***
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6 PM. Furniture,
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NOTICE Of Vote On Tax Rate

**The Yoakum County Commissioners
Court conducted a public hearing
on a proposal to increase the total
tax revenues of Yoakum County
by 8 (eight) percent on
August 20, 2004 at 5:00 PM**

**The Yoakum County Commissioners
Court is scheduled to vote on the
tax rate that will result in that tax
increase at a public meeting to be
held on September 2, 2004 from
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the District
Courtroom in the Courthouse
at Plains**

Texas at a Glance

A Grill's Best Friend

Summer for many Americans wouldn't be the same without a hot dog or grilled sausage link at the baseball park or a backyard barbecue. Retail sales of the meats in 2003 amounted to more than \$3.35 billion, and Americans will eat nearly 26 million hot dogs in 2004 at stadiums around the country, according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council.

Sausage producers report nearly a third of annual sausage sales take place during summer, and hot dog producers estimate retailers sell 38 percent of their hot dogs between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Texas does its part. Two Texas ballparks made the 2004 list of the top 10 hot dog-eating stadiums in the country, and Texas cities are among the top five for both sausage and hot dog sales.

Top five hot dog-eating American cities, 2003

City	Units sold (in millions)
1. Los Angeles, CA	44.7
2. New York, NY	35.2
3. Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	21.5
4. Chicago, IL	19.6
5. Baltimore, MD/ Washington, DC	19.6

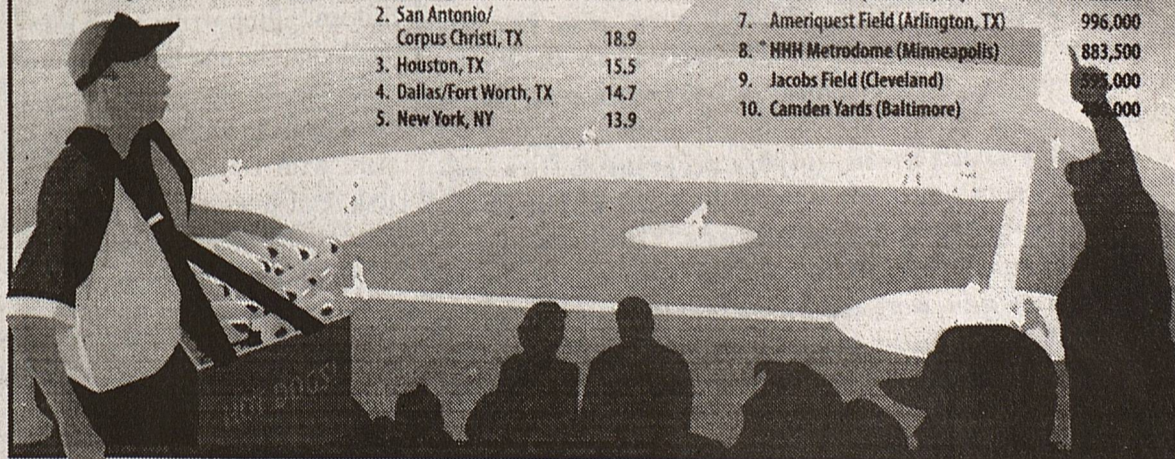


Top five sausage-eating American cities, 2003

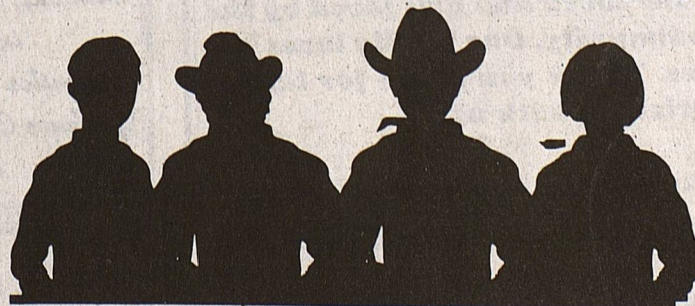
City	Units sold (in millions)
1. Los Angeles, CA	22.0
2. San Antonio/ Corpus Christi, TX	18.9
3. Houston, TX	15.5
4. Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	14.7
5. New York, NY	13.9

Top 10 hot dog-eating stadiums, 2004

Stadium	Projected number of hot dogs consumed
1. Dodger Stadium (Los Angeles)	1.6 million
2. Coors Field (Denver)	1.5 million
3. Wrigley Field (Chicago)	1.5 million
4. Yankee Stadium (New York)	1.3 million
5. Minute Maid Park (Houston)	1.2 million
6. Edison Field (Anaheim, CA)	1.1 million
7. Ameriquest Field (Arlington, TX)	996,000
8. HHH Metrodome (Minneapolis)	883,500
9. Jacobs Field (Cleveland)	875,000
10. Camden Yards (Baltimore)	800,000



We Want You In The Picture



FSA County Committee Elections

The deadline to get your name on the Farm Service Agency County Committee election ballot is September 3, 2004. Please contact your local FSA office or USDA service center to learn how you can have a voice and take a seat on your area Farm Service Agency County Committee.

Without You, Nothing Happens

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.

