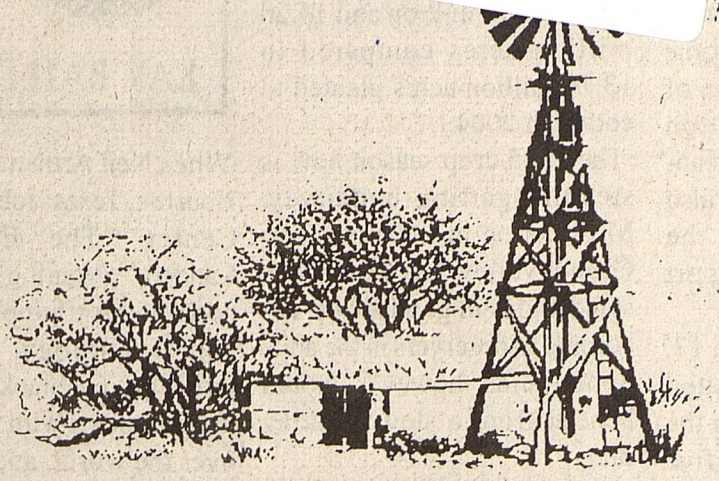


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Cowboy Country News

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PHS Student Council to sponsor *Shattered Dreams* program

Plains High School Student Council members and Sponsors are in final planning stages of a repeat performance of the *Shattered Dreams* program, designed to "address the deadly consequences of underage drinking, including alcohol poisoning, motor vehicle crashes, and drug abuse and addiction," according to a letter recently sent parents of local students by Treon Ortega, co-sponsor of the Council.

More than half the Texas high school seniors reported they had used alcohol in the past month according to a recent poll. Texas leads the nation in alcohol related traffic deaths among 15 to 20 year olds.

Shattered Dreams is a two day program staged by the Council on the school campus. It has evolved over a month period with participation of PHS students parents and the students themselves. The culmination of the program will occur over a two day period, with the final stage taking place in the school auditorium Wednesday, April 6, at 10 am. All parents are urged to attend the dramatic and emotion charged finale of the program, which can play a vital role in young peoples lives and future.

To further illustrate the growing concerns for teen age drinking, HB 1357 was recently introduced in the Texas House of Representatives by Rep. Kino Flores, D-Mission. The bill targets the number one source of providing alcohol for teen age consumption - adults themselves. If passed by both bodies of the Texas Legislature, it would strengthen current teen drinking laws by punishing adults furnishing alcohol to underage drinkers by automatic 180 day suspension of drivers licenses of any adult purchasing or knowingly furnishing alcohol to a minor. Losing their license would be in addition to current punishment provisions including jail time and fines.

Rep. Flores said, "We must hold adults more accountable for these illegal actions. Current penalties are not sufficient deterrents, or so many kids wouldn't be getting alcohol from adults. Hopefully this additional penalty will make a difference."

The proposed law would require a 180 day waiting period for convicted adults applying for a license, and a full year suspension if there was a previous conviction.

April 1 last day to buy Memorial brick for \$50



The marquee sign in the photo will soon be a small bit of Plains history. Chamber of Commerce officials are making final plans for the old sign to be taken down in the very near future and replaced with a modern LED multi-message sign. No more messages will be accepted for display on the old sign, and the final ad will be displayed until April 7.

Current plans call for the removal of the brick border shown here. The

new sign will be mounted on the present steel pipe. A plan for the design of the commemorative bricks surrounding the sign will soon be finalized. Some 300 bricks have been sold. The new LED sign is here, and should be in place soon. Chamber personnel recently determined once the new brick memorial is in place, more commemorative bricks may be purchased, but

Turn to Page 2, 'Brick'

Local internet users can help boost Tyler Willis in Miss USA Pageant

Public's votes to be allowed in contest's preliminary

Something new has been added to the popular Miss USA Pageant - fans across the nation will be able to cast electronic on-line votes for their favorite contestant in the preliminary round of judging. Starting Friday, April 1 and through April 6 you can vote for your Miss USA favorite young lady on www.covergirl.com. This first ever public vote will count for some ten percent of the total preliminary round voting.

Tyler Willis, current Miss Texas USA who has close personal ties with Plains and the area, would appreciate each vote she can get in the prestigious contest. She was a recent guest and speaker at the local Tsa Mo Ga study club here, reported in the March 16 issue of CCN.

Earlier in March Tyler was special guest of the Texas Legislature. She was introduced on the House floor by former Speaker



Tyler Willis, center, shown at Austin's Legislative Ladies Club with, L-R, mother Joetta Willis of Brownfield, grandmother Jerry Warren of Plains, Frankie and Gary Walker, Plains.

Pete Laney, and after her brief address, was the guest of the Senate, where she was introduced by Dist. 28 Senator Robert Duncan of Lubbock.

Following her appearance in both chambers she was special guest at a luncheon sponsored by the Legislative Ladies Club, and delivered her "Develop

The Leader Within" message. She was later flown to Dallas by former Representative Gary Walker.

Criminal Cases in District Court

In the March 21 session of District Court of Yoakum County, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state, 6 criminal cases were heard.

Jamie Christian Leach pled true to charges of failure to observe terms of community supervision from a prior marijuana delivery conviction. He was sentenced to five years in State prison with credit for 232 days previously served.

Mary Lou Ybarra pled true to failure to obey terms of supervision from a prior third or more DWI conviction. She must pay additional \$70 court costs, appointed attorney fees of \$700 in \$10 monthly installments, and must complete the Treatment Alternative to Incarceration program.

Ramon Villa pled guilty to delivery of cocaine, less than one gram, in drug free zone. He also pleaded guilty to DWI in County Court. He was sentenced to nine years in state prison, with credit for 10 days served. Investigating officer was CDA Investigator Lisa Switzer. He must pay \$303 court costs and was fined \$2500. Bill Helwig was his attorney.

In a judgement revoking supervision from a third or more DWI conviction, Juan Rolando

Sanchez was sentenced to serve six years in state prison, with credit for 289 served. Paul Mansur was his attorney.

Jackie Truett Holmes III pled true and conditions of supervision from a prior building burglary conviction were modified.

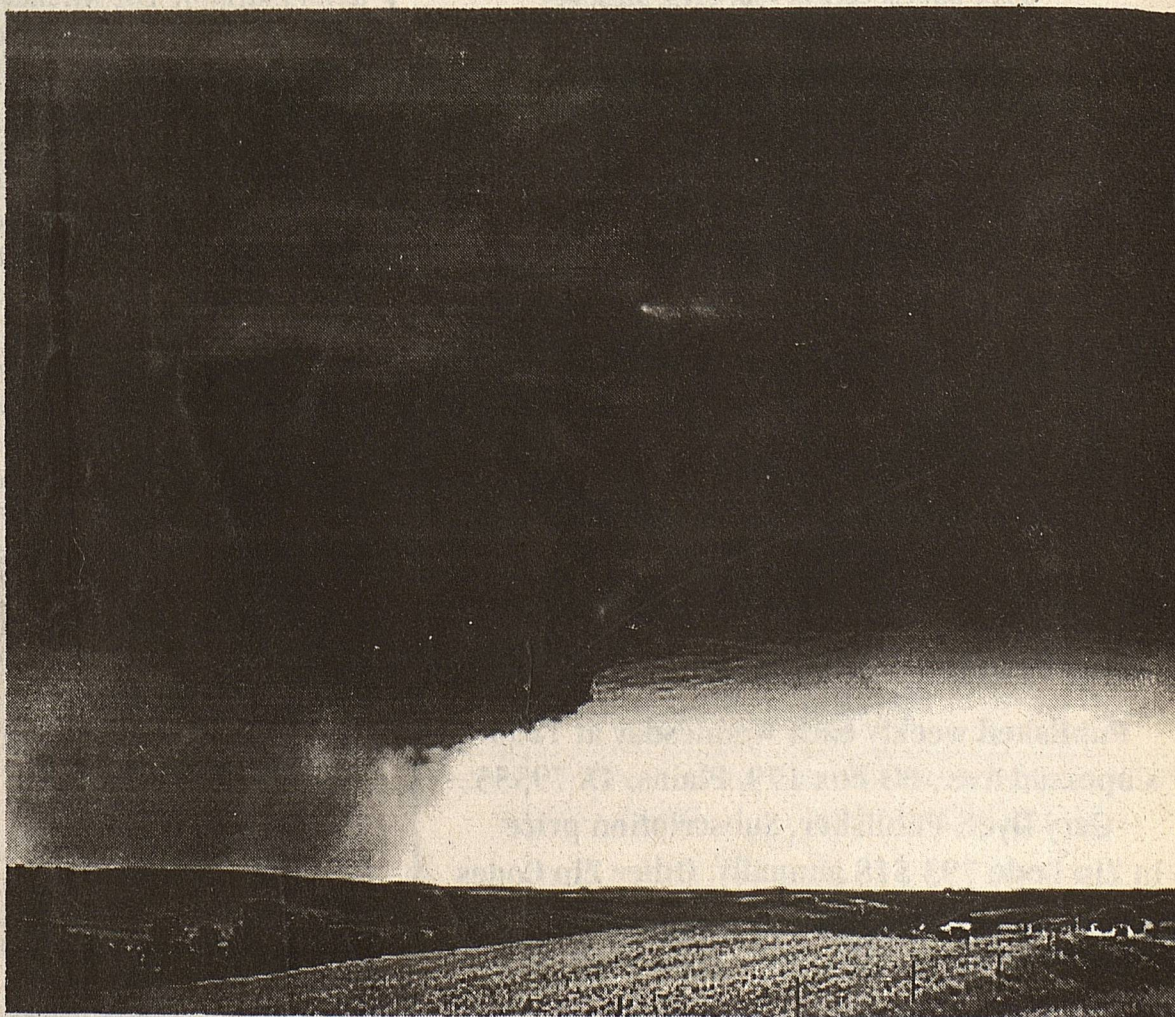
He must pay \$50 monthly supervision fees, \$30 per month on \$300 additional court appointed attorney fees, and complete the TAIP course. He must also pay \$84 monthly installments on \$921 restitution.

William Calloway Brumley pled guilty to third or more DWI. A ten year prison sentence was suspended and probated ten years. He was fined \$1500, must pay \$338 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. The state

waived habitual enhancements. Felon in possession of firearm causes were adjudicated. He will serve 200 hours community service, attend weekly AA meetings, complete the DWI repeat offender program and surrender his license one year.

Dolores Ramirez was tried before a jury on the charge of indecency with a child, sexual contact. He was found guilty

Turn to Page 2, 'Court'



This ominous photo should serve as a reminder, if not a full blown warning - We are now officially into Tornado Season. The photo was sent courtesy of Ron Andrews

Cotton Market Weekly

Cotton futures closed higher Thursday on speculative buying in moderate trade ahead of the Easter holiday break. Traders appeared to be biding time until next week's release of USDA's anticipated cotton plantings report. In the meantime, analysts said support also was offered by the department's weekly export sales report.

In the week ended March 17, net export sales of U.S. cotton increased 32 percent from the previous week and were five percent more than the four-week average. The 160,500 bale sales figure was considered healthy by industry observers. Primary buyers were China, Indonesia, Turkey and Thailand. Sales of 10,600 bales for delivery in 2006-07 were El Salvador.

Export shipments reached a marketing year high at 348,900 bales. The figure represented a 17 percent increase from the previous week and 15 percent more than the four-week average. Primary destinations included China, Turkey, Indonesia and South Korea.

In the spot cotton market, online sales by producers in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas slowed in comparison to the past few weeks as only 14,921 bales were traded in the week ended March 24. The previous week's online sales totaled 31,032 bales. Average prices received by producers in the most recent week ranged from 35.82 to 43.33 cents per pound compared to 38.45 to 43.31 cents per pound the previous week.

Market players now are turning their attention to USDA's

annual planting intentions report. Most traders believe U.S. cotton plantings will fall between 13.50 million and 14.20 million acres compared to 13.76 million acres planted to cotton in 2004.

The 2005 crop season now is steadily getting underway. Most cotton in the Texas Rio Grand Valley has reached a stand and is in good shape, according to observers in the area. Some fields, however, would benefit from a slow, soaking rain.

Planting activities expanded in the Texas Coastal Bend under favorable conditions this week while outside activities remained at a standstill across most of the Upper Coastal Bend due to saturated soils. Cloudy, warm weather prevailed on the High and Rolling Plains, and farmers made great strides in getting fields prepared for planting. However, rain and snow are in the forecast for the weekend which could slow progress.

Rain continued to fall in California's San Joaquin Valley (SJV) this week. As many as 36 inches of snow pack and increase water allocations for the SJV area. Planting has yet to commence there due to unfavorable soil conditions, and farmers are anxious to get the crop in the ground. The optimum sowing period is drawing near, and warmer, dry weather is urgently needed to allow final field preparations to be completed. Meanwhile, cotton planting is nearing an end in southwestern Arizona, and planting is expected to begin in approximately seven to 10 days in the central parts of the state.

minor child or go within 1000 feet of premises where children commonly gather. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy Curtis Coffman, and his attorney was David Martinez.

From Page 1, 'Brick' the price per brick will be \$100 instead of the current \$50. The Chamber was able to sell current bricks for \$50 because a contract was made with the supplier for delivery of the engraved bricks. Future bricks requested after the April 1 deadline will have to be special ordered in small lots, and engraving will have to be done on each individual brick at this site.



When Neil Armstrong radioed Houston, Texas' Johnson Space Center "The Eagle Has Landed," a waiting world wondered at this triumph of science and technology. I watched those grainy black and white images along with millions all over the world, and I felt such pride in our nation, and the role Texas played in putting the first humans on the moon.

Since that time, we have had many triumphs in space, including the launch of the space shuttles, putting the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit and inaugurating and using the still incomplete International Space Station. We have also, in these intervening years, experienced deep losses as well. The exploration of Space Shuttle Challenger in 1986, and the loss during re-entry of the Columbia in 2003, are sobering reminders that space travel is still a risky business. The fleet is currently grounded as we work to correct safety problems to ensure access to orbit is as safe as possible.

This year, I have taken the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Space and Science. My goal is to help refocus NASA on its scientific mission. The road back into orbit faces some hurdles. Our space shuttle fleet is not only grounded, it is aging. The first shuttle flights were launches in 1981. The youngest shuttle, Endeavor, flew its first mission in May, 1992, more than 12 years ago. The International Space Station is incomplete, with many parts ready for launch and assembly. Finally, we have to lay the ground work to implement President Bush's vision of a Mission to Mars.

The decisions we make this year will have an enormous impact on how we surmount these obstacles and how we achieve our short-term and long-term goals. As subcommittee chairman, my priorities will be as follows: First, we have to return to manned space missions. NASA is still working to get the shuttles flying again and its new nominee for administrator, Dr. Michael Griffin, has to make this first, and highest priority. Second, as soon as we get our shuttles flying, we need to finish the International Space Station. This is not only an obligation we made to all those nations which joined the project, it is vital to our future space efforts. Weightless conditions allow us to perform many experiments involving crystals, materials and biology that are impossible on earth. The scientific benefit is enormous and is likely to

generate tremendous economic benefits in the future. For example, NASA, in cooperation with the National Eye Institute, has developed a new dynamic light scattering device which allows doctors to detect cataracts in patients 55 years old or less before the clouding of the disease is visible. The research was spurred by the discovery that astronauts with prolonged exposure in space become more prone to cataracts and for early detection of other diseases such as diabetes.

The space station will build our experience with prolonged human exposure to zero gravity, which is known to cause loss of bone mass in astronauts. NASA is testing treatments for osteoporosis, a disease which reduces bone mass in many senior citizens.

The third priority is to develop a new transportation system to get into space without an interruption in our launch capability. Some plans envisage a gap of several years between the last projected flight of our shuttles and the first flight of a planned new reusable space ferry capable of carrying an entire crew. That is not, in my opinion, a wise course to take. It could be a national security risk for other countries to have men and women in space while America is grounded for five years.

We are at a very important juncture in the history of space exploration. China has become the third nation to orbit the earth with a manned space craft; Japan and India have also announced very aggressive programs. As we work to achieve our first three priorities, we must also keep our eye on the fourth; the Mission to Mars. Landing men on an entirely different planet would mark a new epoch in history.

The Moon can be our laboratory. The Lunar surface would allow us to perfect the landing equipment, exploration techniques and living quarters for the first explorers of Mars. In the meantime, we could erect the next generation super telescope on the dark side of the moon, where it would benefit from permanent night conditions without the decaying orbits and size limitations which affect orbiting telescopes.

We cannot afford to surrender our lead in space exploration. Our defense depends upon control of the high ground of space and our space program has always been a catalyst for technological and scientific development. Our future lies in space.

standards of service and product support to its mechanized irrigation customers. "Valmont Irrigation places a great deal of value in our dealer network. Customer surveys consistently show that the excellence of our dealers has made Valley the leader in sales and customer service. We're very pleased to congratulate Valley Irrigation & Pump Services, Inc. for their superior customer service and leadership," says Brown.

Productive Appraisal Saves Farmers, Ranchers Tax Dollars

Farmers and ranchers may be eligible for property tax relief on their land. They may apply for a special, lower appraisal of their land, based on what the land will produce rather than what it would sell for in the open market, said Sandra Stephens, chief appraiser of the Yoakum County Appraisal District.

"The Texas Constitution provides for two types of agricultural productivity appraisal," Stephens said. Article 8, Sec. 1-d-1, addresses what is known as agricultural appraisal. Article 8, Sec. 1-d, also addresses agricultural appraisal but has different qualification requirements. Property owners rarely apply for agricultural appraisal under Sec. 1-d. Yoakum County has all land owners under the 1-d-1 special appraisal. Landowners must file for special appraisal at the appraisal district office by April 30. Those who must file this year are landowners whose property did not previously receive 1-d-1 appraisal and new owners of qualified land. The appraisal district must accept late-files 1-d-1 appraisal until the day before the appraisal review board approves the 2005 appraisal records.

To qualify for 1-d-1, the owner must use the land for agricultural or timber production. This form of appraisal does not restrict ownership to individuals and does not require agriculture to be the owner's primary business.

This special appraisal requires that the land's use in a qualifying agricultural or timber purpose meets the degree of inten-

sity generally accepted in the area. The owners must show that they devoted the land's use principally to a qualifying use for a least five of the preceding seven years.

The law also provides that a property owner may use the land for wildlife management to receive the special appraisal, if the land had been qualified for agriculture in the preceding year.

"In addition, landowners should know," Stephens said, "that the law provides specific penalties for taking qualified land out of agriculture."

The roll back tax is the difference between the taxes paid under productivity appraisal and the taxes that would have been paid if the land had been put on the tax roll at market value, Stephens explained. The law also requires that the roll-back tax include interest charges. Under 1-d-1 appraisal, an owner triggers a roll back by changing the land's use to a non-agricultural use. The roll-back taxes are based on the five years preceding the year of the change.

Landowners must apply for productivity appraisal with each appraisal district in which they have land. Failure to do so could result in landowners paying taxes on the land's full market value.

Additional information and application forms are available from the Yoakum County Appraisal District's office, 500 Cowboy Way, Plains, or you may call 806-456-7101. The staff will help landowners determine of their property qualifies for special appraisal.

From Page 1, 'Court' and sentenced to ten years in state prison, suspended and probated 10 years. He will pay \$583 court costs at \$20 per month. He must serve 300 hours community service, must not communicate with or go near the victim. He must be available for psychological counseling, must pay for the victim's counseling, must submit blood specimen to DPS to create a DNA record, register as a sex offender within seven days of judgement, will have no unsupervised contact with any

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Terri's Plight Suggests

"Take Control of Your Life While You Can"

Every Texan owes it to his or her family to execute an advance medical directive and medical power of attorney, according to Bohn D. Allen, MD, president of the Texas Medical Association.

"We are witnessing the anguish that follows when families face the question of what quality of life is acceptable, what degree of medical intervention is appropriate when a loved one's life is in the balance," Dr. Allen said. "All of this can be avoided if you, if all of us, make the very simple effort to fill out two simple but critically important forms to designate who has the right to make that decision when we are unable to do so for ourselves, and to let that person know exactly what our wishes are."

The Texas Medical Association Web site has a link to the Power of Attorney form and the Directive to Physicians at www.texmed.org/directive. The link also leads to information about the responsibilities of the person granted the power to make decisions on your behalf, and responsibilities of medical professionals in carrying out those wishes.

The most dramatic life-or-death cases make headlines, but sometimes health decisions that are serious, but not life threatening need to be made, perhaps while a patient is under anesthesia.

"There is a chance in everyone's lifetime of being seriously injured, ill, or otherwise unable to make

decisions regarding health care," Dr. Allen said. "If this should happen, it would be helpful to have someone who knows your values and in whom you have trust to make such decisions for you."

"Almost everyone is discussing with the people around us our wishes should we be in a condition where we cannot speak for ourselves," Dr. Allen said. "Be clear, be very clear with your loved ones and the person you grant the power to make that decision on your behalf, exactly what you want. This includes deciding whether to donate your organs for the benefit of others after you die."

"Don't assume everyone knows what you want. Take the extra step to write out some scenarios that you might face, and state your wishes," he said. *A spouse has a heart attack, oxygen is cut off to the brain for 10 or more minutes, and consciousness does not return for days. *A firefighter is burned so severely he loses fingers, toes, ears, and perhaps other limbs, and faces years of excruciating surgeries. *A young man is in an automobile accident and suffers severe brain trauma that alters not only physical abilities, but also limits ability to learn, to make safe decisions for him or others. *An elderly grandparent suffers a stroke leaving him unable to speak, swallow, or move one side, and there is no improvement months later. *A young mother is losing her struggle with cancer, although

there is some hope of remission, beyond the opinion of treating medical professionals.

The Directive to Physicians form also can help one know what kind of decisions must be made. But just filling out the form is not enough, Dr. Allen said. The form and your decisions should be discussed with your physician and included in your medical record. And the person who will represent you in those decisions also needs a copy of the form.

A third form is helpful for individuals in nursing homes, assisted living, or at home. It is called the Do-Not-Resuscitate Out-of-Hospital form. This is critical of one does not want extraordinary measures being used by paramedics responding to an emergency call. "Other situations fall to parents to make decisions for their minor children," Dr. Allen notes. "Such as those born with birth defects so severe the infant will never survive without continuous medical intervention. Or any of the accidents that children and teenagers suffer that can be so critical as to be life threatening."

To read more about all three forms and to download them, go to www.texmad.org/directive. "Print out the information, read it, study it, discuss it with your family, and fill out the forms," Dr. Allen said. "Promise yourself, and your family, that you will fulfill this responsibility within a week. Why on earth wouldn't you?"

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Texas Legislature is meeting in its 79th Regular Session and is currently working to address the method by which public education is funded; and

WHEREAS the State of Texas has during the past decade retreated from its historic level of funding for public education, thereby requiring local school districts to increase property taxes to fund education; and

WHEREAS 61 percent of the average taxpayer's property tax burden is due to school taxes while only 14 percent is due to county taxes; and

WHEREAS Texas homeowners and businesses need meaningful property tax relief; and

WHEREAS proposed bills to lower the existing appraisal cap from 10% to 3% or 5% are not true solutions to the school property tax problem; and

WHEREAS proposed bills to place harsh revenue caps on county and city governments also are not true solutions to the school property tax problem; and

WHEREAS county government is already struggling to meet the demands of under-funded and unfunded state mandates such as indigent health care, indigent defense and federal mandates such as the Help America Vote Act and the Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS noted Texas economist Dr. Ray Perryman and The Perryman Group have completed a detailed study of appraisal and revenue caps that concludes such caps would have a devastating effect on local government and the entire state's economy and job outlook; and

WHEREAS the study shows that both types of caps restrict the flexibility of local governments to respond to changing needs, emergency situations and state and federal mandates; and

WHEREAS the study shows caps bear no relation to the legitimate demand for costs of public services provided by local government, such as demographic shifts and industrial development; and

WHEREAS the study shows that appraisal and revenue caps particularly constrain the capacity of high-growth areas to meet service and infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS the study shows that such caps adversely affect bond rating, thus limiting local governments' ability to meet infrastructure needs while raising the costs for such; and

WHEREAS the study shows that appraisal and revenue caps depress property values; and

WHEREAS the study shows that appraisal caps discourage real estate activity, distort market outcomes, penalize business start-ups, limit long-term economic growth, create systematic inequities among taxpayers, arbitrarily redistribute the tax burden and tend to be regressive with persons in disadvantaged neighborhoods subsidizing those who are more fortunate;

WHEREAS the study shows revenue caps have resulted in substantial increases in state funding of local services in other states that have passed them; and

WHEREAS undermining a property tax system based upon fair market value is questionable public policy and will result in a distorted, inequitable taxation scheme;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that _____ County does hereby express its opposition to revenue caps and lowering the current appraisal cap and does hereby urge the 79th Legislature to reduce the school property tax burden by again assuming the state's historic share of support for public education.

SIGNED THIS _____ day of _____, 2005.

Dallas Brewer
County Judge

Last Sunday, March 17, Jack Sessions of Denver City made a Hole In One on Yoakum County Golf Club's hole number 16, a 144 yard par three. Sessions used a six iron for the shot in windy conditions. The feat was witnessed and reported by his playing partners, Jim Maynard, Dale Carter and Corky Black, all of Denver City. Knowing the three, the Editor will feel much more comfortable relying solely on Session's testimony.

* PUBLIC NOTICE *

FROM Cornelius Corp. & Newsom Vineyards

As of today, March 30, 2005, please be advised the above vineyards, West Half Sec. 312 and South Half Sec. 253, will be susceptible to certain pesticides. Please notify me of any use in Yoakum County of any restricted use pesticides in the Phenoxy family; example -2 -4D, 2 -4DB, Diacamba, but not limited only to the above.

Posted under the State Of Texas Department of Agriculture
'RIGHT TO KNOW LAW'

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NOTICE

Thursday, April 7, 2005 is the last day to register to vote in the May 7 General Election

You can register at the Yoakum County Courthouse Tax Office. The purpose of the May 7, 2005 General Election is to elect three (3) Councilmembers.

The May 7, 2005 City Council Candidates are:
Christy Brink, Steve Alldredge, Sam Dominguez,
Freddie Ramos, and Dan Wall.

If you are not a registered voter, your vote will not count in the May 7, 2005 General Election

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Sundown Track Meet Shots



PISD Sports Summary

Track Results

Junior High Boys - Sundown Meet- The 7th Boys team scored 80 points.

Jacob Nuedorf, 1st 2400 run, 2nd 1600. Jason Durham 1st 800 run. Jonathan Lira 2nd 2400, 3rd 300 hurdles. Kenyon Powell 5th discus Arthur Ruiz 5th high jump. Troy Parrish 6th 1600 run. Brandon Craft 6th Triple jump. 800 M Relay 3rd. Brandon Craft, Arthur Ruiz, Jacob Brink, Jason Durham. 400 Relay 3rd. Brandon Craft, Arthur Ruiz, Jacob Brink, Jason Durham.

8th Boys scored 32 points. Chris Addison 1st 110 hurdles, 5th triple jump, 6th discus. Landon Earnest 3rd 110 hurdles. Derek Garza 3rd Shot Put, 4th Discus. Holden Welch 5th 800 run, 5th 1600 run. Chris Gonzales 6th 100 dash.

PHS Cowgirls- Sundown Meet: 800 Relay- 3rd-Lauren Davis, Yesica Calderon, Meghan Garcia, Desiraye Broome. 2:00.89 1600 Relay- 3rd - Lauren, Yesica, Meghan, Desiraye. 4:45.23 Long Jump- 3rd, Desiraye, 14' 5.75" Discus- Priscilla Mares 73' Shot Put, 6th, Priscilla 28' 1.5"

JV Cowboys- Sundown Meet

3200 Meters - Zachary Ramos 2nd, Brandon Loya 3rd. 800 Meters - Antonio Martinez 3rd. 800 Relay, 2nd- Juan Lara, Rudy Gonzales, Michael Crump, Casson Curtis. 400 Meter dash- Antonio Martinez 3rd. 200 Meter dash- Juan Lara 1st. 1600 Meter run- Brandon Loya 2nd. 1600 Relay 2nd, Antonio Martinez, Michael Crump, Casson Curtis, Blake O'Quinn. Long Jump- Juan Lara 1st. Pole Vault- Casson Curtis 1st. Discus- Antonio Martinez 3rd.

Varsity Cowboys- The Cowboys captured First Place honors at Sundown.

3200 Meter run- Abel Ramos 1st. 800 meter run - Scott Addison 1st, John Tyson 2nd.

110 hurdles- Ben Hays 1st. 400 Meter dash- Joseph Loya 1st 200 meter dash- Joseph Loya 2nd, Todd Williams 3rd. 300 Hurdles-Ben Hays 3rd. 1600 meter run- Payton Bean 1st, Abel Ramos 2nd. 1600 relay- 1st, Tyler Caffey, Scott Addison, Payton Bean, Joseph Loya. Pole Vault- Ben Hays 1st. Shot Put- Scott Bruton 3rd. Discus= Daniel Parker 2nd.

Tennis - Plains High was one of 24 schools participating in the Levelland Tournament.

In Boys Doubles the brother duo of David and Kurt Alldredge lost their first round match, but came back strong to win their next 4 matches to win the consolation final and medals.

Another Boys Doubles team of Cody Flores and Brandon Hise had wins over Friona, Levelland and Brownfield before losing to Denver City on the Semi-finals. They played a team from Sands in the 3rd place match, winning the third place trophies.

In Girls Singles Kristian Morales won her way to the finals with wins over Lubbock Christian, Lamesa and Levelland. In the finals she fell to a girl from Lubbock Roosevelt, and won the 2nd place trophy. Coach Davis congratulated all the players.

UIL MATH/SCI Meet

Brandon Hise won an \$1100 scholarship March 19 after placing third overall at the San Antonio TMNSCA State Mee. His scholarship winnings now \$2500. The PHS team was fourth overall in the competition. Number sense team was 1st, calculator team second, math team sixth, science team 9th.

Individuals:

Seniors- Breck Hamm -27th NS, 30th calc, 30th math, 25th sci Brandon Hise 1st NS, 2nd calc, 5th 7th sci. Kerry Sisson 10th NS, 16th math. 24th sci.

Juniors- David Alldredge 6th NS, 7th math, 17th sci Allison Friesen 22nd NS, 1st Calc, 13th math, 18th sci. B.J. Lester- 2nd calc, 15th math, 24th sci. Blake O'Quinn 7th NS, 15th calc, 24th math, 5th sci.

Freshmen- Kurt Alldredge 7th NS, 3rd math, 8th sci. Lauren Davis 14th calc, 22nd math, 9th sci. Amber Friesen 20th NS, 7th calc, 24th math, 21st sci.

**** Desiraye Broome was recently named to the All-District Girls Basketball Team, and Joani Bell was named to the All - Defense Team ****

PHS Student's of the Week



PHS Student of the Week of March 14 is Breck Hamm a senior and the son of Ace and Dana Hamm. Breck was nominated by Shannon Caffey, who said, "Breck has always been nice and polite, turned in his work. He is involved in extra curricular activities. The things a student of the week should be, but I just didn't feel like he was being 'all he could be.' Recently, though, he decided he was getting tired of brown and pastel. He has really stepped up his effort in class and in UIL. I'm

really proud of his commitment to improvement, and his not just settling for being involved."

PHS Student of the Week of March 28 is Flor Lara a freshman and the daughter of Juan and Beatriz Lara. Flor was nominated by Adam Jones, who said, "Flor is a person who always does whatever is asked of her in class. She is involved in many activities, band, and UIL academics and is very good all around student, always gets things done property and on time."



Plains High School One Act Play Progress

The cast and crew from Plains High School advanced from the zone 2 competition in Plains last Thursday along with Whiteface play 'Joseph Andrews.' The cast includes BJ Lester, Colby Ortega, Payton Bean, Brant Huerta, Blake O'Quinn, Breck Hamm, Douglas Conway, Tyler Caffey, Skylar Keese, Lauren Hise, Amber Friesen, Joani Bell, and

Allison Friesen. The crew includes Angelica Mendoza-Lights, Joe Luis Gallegos-Sound, Clarissa Zorrilla and Jacob Rivera-Back Stage and Nick Curtis and Lauren Davis-Alternates. Individual honors at zone were Douglas-Best Actor, Joani-Best Actress, Payton-All Star Cast and Breck and Allison-Honorable Mention All Star Cast.

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Lifelines & Styles

It's Just From Me

The editor has chosen to use this space and page location to, hopefully, direct your attention to something I consider an excellent brief essay on a subject many readers now face, and all readers will eventually face... and all the non-readers also.

Denver City's June Hanneman contributes a weekly column to the Denver City Press and CCN, for which I am eternally grateful --- the more she writes and occupies space on a page, the less I have to.

This week's *Seniors Corner* by June is a classic on the subject of age, or aging. I find myself now totally convinced I am correctly classified as a bona-fide Senior citizen, and I also confess there are times I wish I was a robust, younger guy, and then I have to tell myself, "Hey, you dolt, it ain't gonna happen... ever!"

When you finish this, I direct your attention to *Seniors Corner*, also on this page. June's message on the subject of age takes in the first three paragraphs of her column. It is a classic, and as cynical as I sometimes am, I do see the truth in what she says. I hope you enjoy, and my sincere thanks to June!

NEW ITEMS AT THE YOAKUM COUNTY LIBRARY NONFICTION

TWICE ADOPTED by Michael Reagan
THE STRANGER BESIDE ME by Ann Rule
HANDS ON BABY MASSAGE by Michelle Kluck-Ebbin
AMERICA'S WESTERN EDGE by John M. Thompson
EUTHANASIA by Loretta M. Medina
THE DEATH PENALTY by Jean Alicia Elster
IN YOUR FACE: THE CULTURE OF BEAUTY AND YOU by Shari Graydon
THE MONEY BOOK FOR THE YOUNG, FABULOUS, & BROKE by Suze Orman
BY MYSELF AND THEN SOME by Lauren Bacall
ESCAPE IN IRAQ: THE THOMAS HAMILL STORY by Thomas Hamill

FICTION

VANISHING ACTS by Jodi Picoult
BURNED by Carol Higgins Clark
WITH NO ONE AS WITNESS by Elizabeth George
SUSPECT by Michael Robotham
BREAKER'S REEF by Terri Blackstock
SHOTGUN BRIDE by Linda Lael Miller
THE ROSE OF THE WORLD by Jude Fisher
THE PEACEMAKER by Lori Copeland
THE FORGOTTEN MAN by Robert Crais
WEST OF PECOS by Ralph Compton
DAKOTA LAWMAN: LAST STAND AT SWEET SORROW by Bill Brooks

AUDIOS (CD)

THE SALT GARDEN by Cindy McCormick Martinusen
HELL'S RIDERS by Ralph Cotton
HALOS by Kristen Heizmann
DEAREST DOROTHY, HELP! I'VE LOST MYSELF! by Charlene Baumbich
DEAREST DOROTHY, ARE WE THERE YET? by Charlene Baumbich
THE CAT WHO WENT BANANAS by Lilian Jackson Braun
THE GIRL WHO MARRIED A LION by Alexander McCall Smith

The only place you find success before work is in the dictionary. Those who get what they want are those who are willing to work hard and sacrifice their time for others. Nothing is free, and nothing worthwhile is achieved without whole-hearted effort.

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Prairie Winds Chorus offers membership classes for women

Award winning Prairie Winds Chorus of Lubbock will conduct a series of classes beginning Monday, April 4 at 6:30 PM and continuing each Monday evening for three weeks. The classes will focus on the art of singing four-part women's a cappella harmony, barbershop style, and will include information about auditions for the chorus. There is no cost for the classes, and women 18 years of

age and above are invited to attend.

The Prairie Winds Chorus, with more than 60 members, is a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, the world's largest singing organization for women. Classes will be held at the Underwood Center for the Arts, 511 Ave. K. For more information, call 799-SING (794-7464).

SPC Offers Nurse Aide, Basic Phlebotomy Classes At Denver City

Registration for a Certified Nurse Aide class offered by South Plains College is scheduled April 4 in Denver City. Sign-up will be 5:30 - 6:30 PM at Yoakum County Hospital. Classes will begin April 5 and will meet 5:30 - 9:30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays through May 31 at the hospital. Clinical instruction will be arranged at the Children of the Pioneers Nursing Home.

Instructors are Tina Estrada, RN and Kim Chafin, EMT. Tuition is \$340 and textbook is \$45.

The course provides detailed education, training, work based experience and direct patient/client care at a clinical site. After completing the 60 hours of classroom instruction and 24 hours clinicals, students will be required to take the State of Texas Certified Nurse Aide Competency Exam.

Students must provide proof of immunization for MMR, Tetanus and have a current negative TB test. For more information contact the SPC Division of Continuing and Distance Education at 806-894-9611, ext 2341.

Registration is April 6 for a short course in Basic Phlebotomy being offered in Denver City this spring by South Plains College. Registration will be 10 am.-2 pm. at the south door of the Yoakum Co. Hospital, 412 Mustang Drive in Denver City. Classes will meet 5:30-8:30 pm. Mondays and Wednesdays

April 11-May 25 at the hospital. Clinical assignments will be assigned during the day. Students should bring two payments, \$390 payable to South Plains College, and \$68.32 payable to Texas Book Co. for the textbook, "The Complete Textbook of Phlebotomy," 2nd edition, by Lynn B. Hoeltke.

Basic Phlebotomy covers theoretical and practical aspects of specimen collections for clinical labs. Topics include professionalism, ethics, medical terminology, related anatomy, physiology and use of lab equipment and explain issues of quality control and safety.

The course is designed to prepare students to take the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians (ASPT) certification exam. Extensive additional clinical assignments are required to complete ASPT pre-certification requirements.

Students must provide proof of hepatitis B series, MMR, tetanus and a current TB test. Students must register on April 6, not on the first day of class. A minimum of 10 persons is required for the course to make. Enrollment is limited to 12 students.

For more information or how to register over the phone with a credit/debit card, contact the SPC Office of Workforce Development at 806-747-0576, ext. 4906 or ext. 4038.

Senior Citizens Corner

By June Hanneman

OLD AGE is a gift! I would never trade my amazing friends, my wonderful life, or my loving family for less grey hair or some of those other attributes of youth more attractive to the world around me. As I've aged I am more kind to myself and have become my own friend. I've convinced myself I am entitled to overeat, to be messy, or to be extravagant. I've seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.

I can read until 4 PM or sleep in until noon. No one cares. I know I am sometimes forgetful, but there again, some of life is just as well forgotten - and I eventually remember the important things. Like everyone else, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one or see a child suffer. Broken hearts are what give us strength, understanding and compassion.

Yes, I like being old. It has set me free. I'm not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been. I sometimes feel sorry for the young. They face a different world than I knew growing up, when we feared the law, respected the old, the flag, and our country. I am grateful to have been born when it was, a gentler, kinder world.

This week Harold Brown reports a good class of 13 seniors who have participated in the AARP Driver Safety Training Class. These classes refresh our memories about things we need to do as we drive and occasionally we are chastised about some of the things we neglect to do. We appreciate Harold accepting the responsibility of presenting the class each year.

It was good to see Cora Luck join us for lunch this week. Joe Sanders from Plainview was also a luncheon guest one day. Once again we want to mention the ladies of the Site Council who look after our senior family members who come for lunch but are unable to go through the line for their tray. I see them daily welcoming these folks with great concern as they place their lunch on the table before them.

We had two tables of 42 players Tuesday but since it was sort of a 'come and go' group, we didn't have a tournament this week. Inez Turner and her daughter from Hobbs drove over to join us, and Billie O'Neal, whom we haven't seen much of lately, came to join the group. Everyone had a good time.

I can tell Easter is near by the beautifully decorated dining room which reflects both the religious and secular beauty of the season. After enjoying a combined community worship service last Sunday at Trinity Baptist Church, we'll find as Easter Sunday approaches again our churches will be filled as many make a point of being in their places on this special Sabbath morning. Having said that, let me share with you about a church I heard about. The pastor and the choir director seemed to always be pulling in different directions. This Sunday the sermon title was 'Dedicating yourself to service', after which the choir sang 'I shall not be moved.' The next Sunday the sermon was 'Giving', and the choir responded with 'Jesus paid it all'. The third week the pastor felt led to preach on 'The sins of gossiping,' and sure enough, the choir sang 'I love to tell the story'. By now the pastor felt personally attacked, and told his people unless something changed he was considering resignation. The entire church gasped when the choir belted out 'Why not tonight'? A week later he resigned, explaining Jesus was leading him away. The service ended with the choir singing "What a friend we have in Jesus".

Though for today: "Flowers are the sweetest things God ever made and forgot to put a soul into.".... H.W. Beecher

Filmtime At The Library

Filmtime was held at the Yoakum County Library March 23, 2005. Children in attendance were: Austin Robertson, Yairah Garcia, Trenity Wall, Ivey Davis, Austin Ward, Allie Williams, Kaitlyn Ward, Madison Alvarado and Fabian Munoz. The children said the pledge of allegiance and listened to stories about Corduroy's Easter Party and Clifford's First Easter. The Easter Bunny left eggs on the lawn

at the Courthouse and the children had a wonderful time collecting their treasures. Then we all came inside for cookies and punch and watched the film entitled, "Dora the Explorer's Egg Hunt." Later, everyone checked out books and movies in the library and received a coloring page and craft page. The Library staff invites all preschool children to attend filmtime every Wednesday morning.

Congratulations to Loretta O'Neil, winner of the Baby Rag Quilt! A Student Green House Project will open on April 14. We will be open weekly every Thursday and Friday, 12:30 to 3:30 PM. Because of school holiday, we will open Wednesday, May 4, and Thursday, May 5, 12:30 to 3:30 PM. NEW THIS YEAR: Bring your pots, and let US plant your flowers for you! For special orders and information, call Pam Burgess, 456-7282

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

Sent e-mail by a friend; If Laurie, Linda, Elizabeth and Barbara go out for lunch, they will call each other Laurie, Linda, Elizabeth and Barbara. If Mark, Chris, Eric and Tom go out, they will affectionately call each other Raghead, Dork, Simp and Orifice.

A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he needs. A woman will pay \$1 for a \$2 item she doesn't need, but is on sale.

A man has five items in his bathroom, toothbrush, shaving cream, razor, bar of soap and a towel from Marriott. The average number of items in the typical woman's bathroom is 337. A man would not be able to identify most, not have a clue how they were used.

Women love cats. Men love cats, but when women aren't looking, men kick cats.

A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband. A man never worries about the future until he gets married.

A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. A man marries a woman expecting she won't ever change but she does.

A woman dresses up to go shopping, water the plants, empty the garbage, answer the phone, read a book, get the mail. A man dresses up for weddings and funerals... sometimes.

Men wake up as good looking as when they went to bed. Women somehow deteriorate during the night.

A woman knows all about her children - dental appointments, romances, best friends, favorite foods, hopes and dreams. A man is sometimes vaguely aware of short people living in the house.

And finally, THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Any married man should forget his mistakes. There's no use in two people remembering the same thing.

I had my annual checkup at the VA Clinic in Lubbock last week, an event I look forward to about as much as an infectious hemorrhoid, but it does keep the cost of my prescription drugs from rising a bit slower than gasoline prices. I have been questioned, listened to, poked and prodded, peered at, thumped on some eight years now by the same P.A., one Angie Rampy. She is very efficient, knowledgeable, and professional. I am bragging so much because she gave me such a sparkling report on my superb physical condition. Well, perhaps not superb, but she was pleased. And then she peered at her stack of papers and said, "Let's see now, when did we have our last prostate exam." I

dreaded the words, and tried to distract her to another subject by blurting, "Why, Angie, I don't EVER recall YOU having a prostate job!" She just looked at me very serious like, very calmly said, "Mr. Dyer, I fail to see the humor in that, especially since to my knowledge no female has that type plumbing. And yes, I know the thought brings tears to your eyes every time I mention the word. But really now, you should feel very fortunate..... most of my male patients express their gratitude for my small, female fingers. And besides you're not due for six more months." I was so elated, so grateful, I may have slobbered on her just a bit as I told her goodbye.. I simply wouldn't trade her! At least until next time when she coos, "Drop 'em and bend over, Mr. Dyer."

A young kid was sitting on a bench in the park, eating chocolate candy bars. A man sitting across the sidewalk carefully watched as the boy devoured bar after bar, and finally had to say, "Son, don't you realize eating that much chocolate is bad for your health?" The kid wiped his mouth and replied, "My grandad lived to be one hundred and seven." The man was astonished and said, "Wow! Did he eat lots of chocolate too?" The kid finished chewing and said, "No, he just kept his mouth shut and minded his own business."

What does it say under 'Hair Color' on the driver license of bald people?

Plains Chamber Of Commerce P.O. Box 364 Plains, Texas 79355

Plains Chamber of Commerce initiated 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 APRIL 1, 2005, for purchasing bricks. Donations will be accepted past this date.

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

□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

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Think Texas

by Agriculture Commissioner SUSAN COMBS

One look at the numbers and it's clear, there's nothing small about the size of the Texas shrimp industry. Texas shrimpers produce about one-third of the annual U.S. Gulf of Mexico shrimp harvest. Shrimp are abundant from April through November, but quick-freeze technology makes Texas shrimp available year round to consumers.

Last year, shrimp landings accounted for 35.2 million pounds worth \$96.3 million. According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the economic impact of Texas' three-year shrimp harvest average from 1998 to 2000 was nearly \$193 million annually.

Texas is also the largest producer of farm-raised shrimp in the United States and accounts for approximately 80 percent of domestic production, averaging 7 million pounds per year. Raised with high standards and constant control, farm-raised shrimp offer a year-round choice. In 2003, 15 shrimp farms produced a record 9 million pounds valued at \$18 million.

Our shrimp are big on taste, too. Texas brown shrimp have a hearty, bold flavor, while Texas whites have a sweet, light taste. Shrimp are also very nutritious - high in protein, low in fat and carbohydrates and packed with essential nutrients. A good source of vitamin B-12, shrimp are also a good source of niacin, phosphorus and zinc.

Texas shrimp are clearly superior to imported shrimp in freshness, taste and texture. Our marketing program shows seafood buyers that there is a difference, and it's worth asking for. Selling Texas shrimp isn't hard. One taste and you know it's the best.



YCH Foundation Golf Tournament

DATE: April 28 2005, Thursday

TIME: 10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

ENTRY FEE: \$50.00 - Individual, Team - \$200.00
includes golf cart and lunch

FORMAT: Four Person Scramble

ENTRY DEADLINE: April 21, 2005

LOCATION: Yoakum County Golf Course (806-592-2947)
5 miles north of Denver City on Hwy 214. From Lubbock at Wellman, take FM 213 west to course.

Questions?: Call Clay Taylor 806-592-2121

All Proceeds will go to YCH Foundation

(Cut on line and return only this bottom portion)

Entry fee must accompany this form to insure team placement.

Make checks payable to:
YCH Foundation
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