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Cowboy Country

News

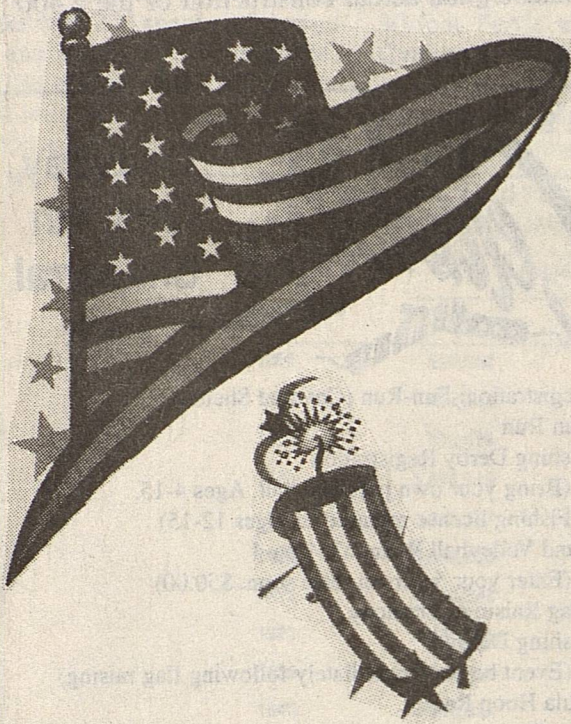
God Bless America!



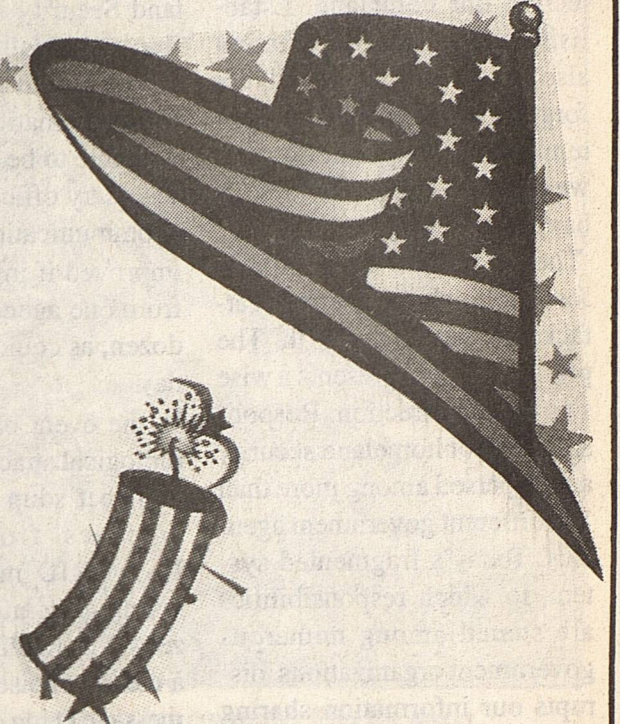
Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume V111, Issue 41, July 3, 2002

Have a GREAT 4th of July



I Pledge Allegiance To The
Flag Of The United States Of
America, And To The Republic
For Which It Stands,
**ONE Nation Under God,
With Liberty And Justice For All!**



Boll Weevil Eradication effort here shows impressive results



Field Unit Supervisor Johnnie Don Davis checks weevil trap north of Plains.

Even the most critical skeptics of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundations war on the cotton pest should be impressed with the current insect trapping numbers for the Plains District.

Darrel Dusek, Manager of the Western High Plains Eradication Zone, furnished CCN an update on eradication efforts here in the Plains District

"To date, we have not found it necessary to spray any of our cotton producing fields. The weevil count is down dramatically from the numbers found during the 1999 Diapause phase of the eradication program."

Dusek reported the last seven day count of trapped weevils in thousands of traps around the district produced *not one* boll weevil. On the same date in 2001, the trap recorders found 169 weevils, and in the year 2000, 4,009 weevils were trapped in the same seven day period.

Even more impressive are the

numbers for the year to date; Only 11 weevils have been found in traps to date in 2002. In 2001, 13,795 had been trapped, and in 2000, the first year of the full eradication program, 52,057 weevils had been trapped.

Equally impressive are the number of acres treated during the same period. No treatments have been made to date in 2002. In 2001, 13,795 acres of cotton ground had been treated, and acres treated in 2000 tallied 52,057.

"We are very pleased with the programs effectiveness to date. We feel we have come a long way in this battle against the boll weevil," Dusek said.

He explained all the districts are currently involved in quality control programs to ensure accuracy in the daily weevil count. "Now that trapped weevil numbers are drastically reduced, we want to make certain our field personnel don't become complacent about finding no weevils to count." He

said Field Unit Supervisors regularly take stored dead weevil to fields, and place them in a number of traps. "By recording the number of weevils placed in specific traps, we are making sure our field hands are diligently checking each and every trap." He said if trapper's counts do not match the number of weevils placed, they may face re-training, and if inaccuracies continue, possible termination.

Dusek reminded cotton producers they must report all failed cotton acreage to their local FSA office by July 15, and bring a copy of their FSA paperwork to the Zone office. Field Unit Supervisors will then verify the failed acreage, and make sure all host cotton material is destroyed. If this material is left in fields, weevils will use it for feeding and reproduction. Once these measures are approved, all but one weevil trap will be removed from the field.

Four Days In July, 1776 Lead To..... The Birth Of Our Nation

July 1, 1776, Philadelphia - The Second Continental Congress of 12 of the organized colonies in the New World of North America convened in Philadelphia. Delegates from the New York Colony were absent, throttled by that organizations desire to avoid use of the word "Independence" in a document being crafted to free the colonies from the heavy and oppressive hand of His Majesty King George III of England. The Congress was not recognized by any nation in the world.

At the time, the struggling colonies contained a few more than 2.5 million citizens, more than half a million of whom were slaves.

Delegates to the ambitious meeting of the illegal Congress labored long and hard for the first two days, embroiled in arguing over language, punctuation, even spelling in the proposed document. Credited with being the chief author of the demand for liberty, Thomas Jefferson, not totally venerated by all members of the Congress, managed to prevail in pushing through the heavily amended and drastically shortened version by the end of the third day - some 340 words briefer than the original draft.

Jefferson suggested to the delgates John Adams be allowed to write the final approved version of the Declaration. Miffed at Jefferson, Adams replied, "No. I am obnoxious, suspected, unpopular. You are otherwise. Besides, you can write much better than I."

Finally, after frantic hours of editing and re-writing, the final, hand written document, a bit over 1,300 words in length, was presented to the Convention delegates - still an illegal assembly according to English law. The document was unanimously approved.

Days and weeks then passed before a source was found to print the magnificent document on parchment. On August 2, 56 members of the Congress assembled to sign their names to the paper. John Hancock, one of the richest men in the colonies, but one of the most patriotic, announced, "I will make my signature so large even King George won't need his spectacles to read it!"

The New York delegation had now been freed to strike for independence, and they and delegates from present day states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia proudly used their inked quills on the parchment.

The newly created nation would fight and win two wars against England. Less than one hundred years after the signing, the new country would almost disintegrate during the bloody Civil War, northern states fighting southern states over slavery and states rights. How ironic. How marvelous. We have endured. May God Bless Us All.

McAdams' home from China, prepare for first child

Ken and Kim McAdams are home from China after a two year stint there as Missionaries, and English instructors at Shaoguan University in the Chinese city of the same name.

Their Missionary service there is non-denominational. In 1999, Ken made his first trip to China with a Baptist sponsored group. In 2002, he and Kim returned to Shaoguan, a city of some 500,000 people near the province of Hong Kong.

Now here in Plains, the couple will soon travel to Missouri to stay with Kim's parents until their first child arrives in October.

Zhen, the girl in the center of the photo, became a Christian in 1999, and shared her new Turn to Page 3, 'McAdams'



Front, Mrs. Zhen, daughter Hong (Belinda), Kim, and back, Ken McAdams.

Larry Combest Comments..

President Bush has called for the formation of a new department whose primary mission will be the protection of our country's homeland. His proposal is now before Congress. I strongly support the president's proposal of creating a new department to focus on this mission, and believe that a well reasoned approach to creating the new department will ensure that it is a meaningful change, not simply a bureaucratic shuffle. This represents a significant change in attitude our government has about the importance of protecting our homeland. Establishing this new department also reinforces that we will not forget what happened on September 11th, and will do what we can to ensure that it does not happen again.

The nation needed to shift its focus following the terrorist attacks on September 11th. The president's plan presents a wise step in that direction. Responsibilities for homeland security are dispersed among more than 100 different government agencies. Today's fragmented system, in which responsibilities are shared among numerous government organizations, disrupts our information sharing capabilities. Trying to prevent terrorist attacks against our country is, by itself, a daunting task. Our system today only further complicates the difficulty of accomplishing that goal.

Establishing a new department would markedly improve our intelligence gathering and sharing abilities. A ship stopped by the Coast Guard today could

fall under the jurisdiction of several government agencies. Customs has jurisdiction over the goods aboard the ship. If contraband were aboard, its cargo could fall under the jurisdiction of a federal law enforcement agency. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service has jurisdiction over the people aboard the ship. The Coast Guard has jurisdiction over the ship while it is at sea. The dizzying limits of jurisdictional boundaries in this scenario easily could lead to confusion between the agencies. Once the Department of Homeland Security is in place, that ship would fall under the jurisdiction of only one department, with information more readily available to be shared with the necessary officials.

Communication also will be improved if information came from one agency rather than a dozen, as could be the case today.

In the event of a chemical or biological attack on country, an alphabet soup of government agencies from FEMA to USAMRIID might distribute warnings or information to citizens. The likelihood is small of a clear, concise and consistent message being delivered to citizens under today's system.

Another benefit of consolidating a large amount of intelligence information in one department would be in the ease in identifying trends, which could help thwart terrorists attacks.

Our local and state officials also would benefit from consolidating these responsibilities into one department. After this

new department is in place, local officials in West Texas, and at the state level, will have one primary contact instead of many when it comes to matters relating to training, equipment, planning and other critical needs, such as emergency response.

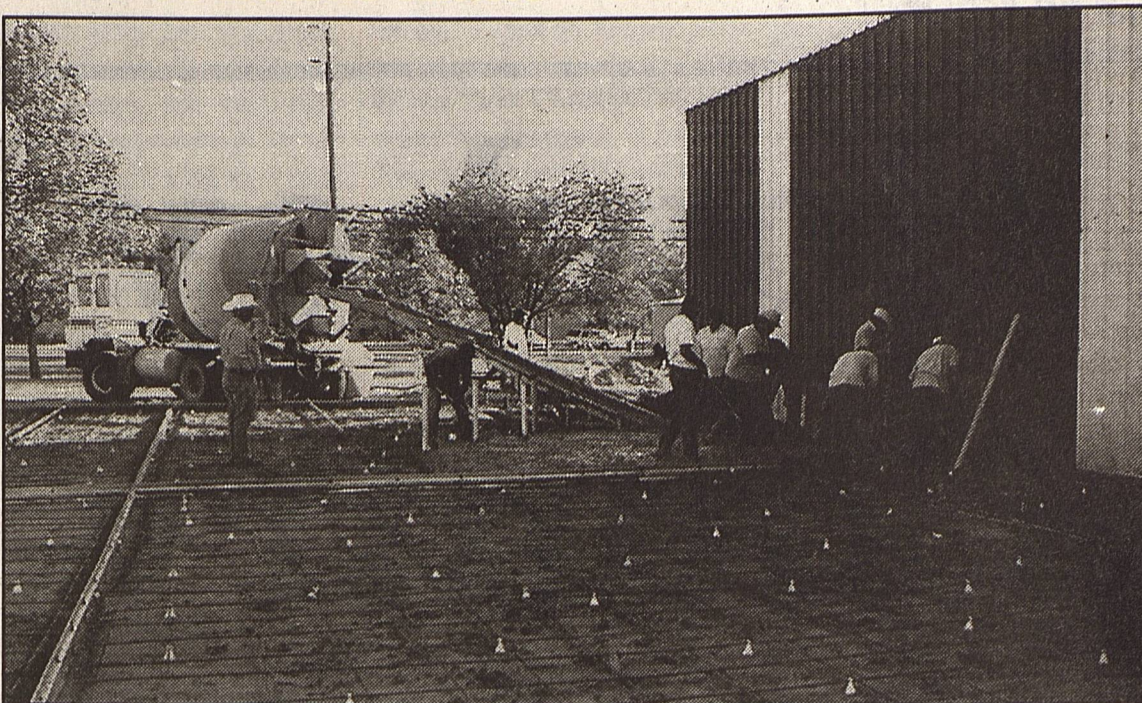
According to the president's plan, the Department of Homeland Security would contain four divisions: Border and Transport Security, Emergency Preparedness and Response; Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Countermeasures, and Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection.

While the president's plan is well thought out, because of the sheer size of the effort, it will need fine tuning. We must ensure that the organizations comprising the Department of Homeland Security serve functions critical to protecting American citizens from those trying to do us harm.

I believe that a rational approach to creating this department will result in meaningful changes that will help address threats to our country. The structure of our government must change to meet our country's new need. Creating the Department of Homeland security will enable us to better meet the need of protecting American citizens where they live.

New is not necessary better. In this case, I believe that creating the Department of Homeland Security is warranted and will be a marked improvement over today's system for protecting our nation.

Lots of hands make "Mud Work" easier



A crew of West Texas Concrete cement workers swarmed over the foundation being poured for the new City of Plains City Hall building last Friday. City Administrator Ed Hansen said steel framing for the new building is now available, and actual construction of the 2,400 square foot structure should start very soon.

Court OK's county tax refund

In Monday's session of Commissioner Court, Tax Assessor/Collector Betty Rivas requested approval to refund \$572.48 of county taxes to Valor Telecommunications. She explained the company had mailed a total of \$3089.51 to the tax office, and the envelope was postmarked within the deadline to avoid any penalties or interest. Apparently the postoffice failed to forward the payment, and when it was finally mailed to the tax office, the envelope was postmarked again, with another date past the penalty time limit. Rivas said she reported the matter to the law firm handling county taxes, and they indicated if Valor protested paying the \$572.48 they would win in a court decision. Her request was approved.

The court also approved the permanent installation of a video projector for use in the District Court room. The purchase of the projector will be from budgeted funds.

The court also approved the transfer and salary of Alice Bearden from the Criminal District Attorney's office to the Tax Assessor/Collector office as third deputy Clerk.

Lovington's JULY 4th Celebration

Thursday, July 4th
Chaparral Park

- 7:00-7:30 Registration: Fun-Run (Covered Shelter)
- 7:30-8:30 Fun Run
- 8:00 Fishing Derby Registration
(Bring your own pole and bait. Ages 4-15. Fishing license required for ages 12-15)
- 8:00 Sand Volleyball Women's 4-on-4
(Enter your 5 person team soon. \$50.00)
- 8:30 Flag Raising Ceremony
- 8:30-10:30 Fishing Derby
(Event begins immediately following flag raising)
- 9:30 Hula Hoop Race
- 10:00 Egg Toss
- 10:30 Treasure Hunt (Children ages 5 and under)
- 11:00-7:00 Dunking Booth
- 11a.m.-9p.m. Food Booths Open
- 11:15 3-Legged Race
- 12:00 Egg Toss II
- 12:00-5:00 Water Polo
- 12:30-3:30 Karaoke
- 1:00 Slip & Slide Contest
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. Bingo
- 2:00 Water Balloon Toss
- 3:00 World's Greatest Lizard Race
- 4:15 Outhouse Race Sign-in
(Enter your 3-man team soon. \$30.00)
- 4:30 Outhouse Race
- 5:30-9:00 Bandfest (Battle of the Bands)
- 9:00 Spectacular Fireworks Display
- 9:00 Outdoor concert immediately following fireworks featuring "Locked Door" (70's and 80's Rock 'N Roll)



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Landry's Downtown Aquarium making progress in Houston

Tunnels installed in Downtown Aquarium's largest Shark Tank

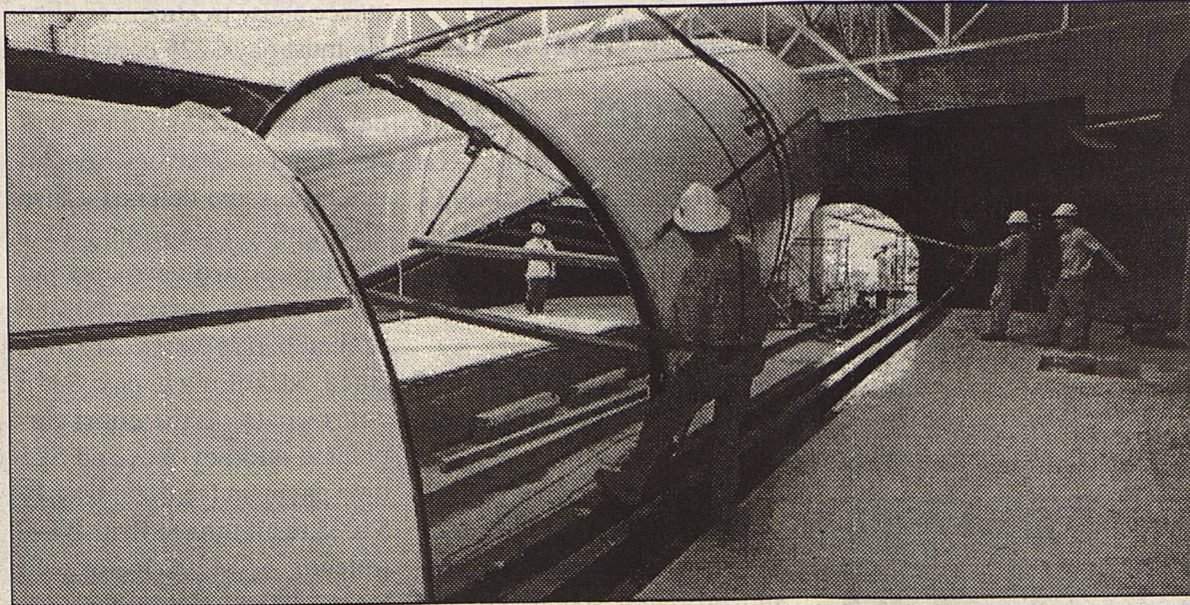
HOUSTON...Construction on Landry's Restaurants Inc.'s Downtown Aquarium is progressing as planned towards the entertainment complex's December 2002 completion date.

Workers at the site recently installed huge acrylic tunnels in the aquarium's largest shark tank that will serve as a path for a train to glide through, giving visitors an up-close view of the sharks.

Landry's is developing a world-class aquatic entertainment, dining and meeting complex in downtown Houston.

The Downtown Aquarium will feature as its centerpiece a public aquarium boasting more than 500,000 gallons of underwater tanks with 200 species of domestic and international marine life.

The complex also will offer a 400-seat seafood restaurant, a 6,000-square-foot ballroom, a



Workers install huge acrylic tunnels in Landry's Restaurants Inc.'s Downtown Aquarium's largest shark tank. The tunnels will serve as a path for a train to glide through, giving visitors an up-close view of the sharks.

casual themed café, a lounge, a plaza with dancing fountains, and amusements for the entire family, including an aquatic-designed 90-foot Ferris wheel, a 36-foot Carousel, a gas-powered train and a 200-foot observation tower.

Landry's Restaurants Inc. is the nation's second largest and

fastest growing casual-dining, full-service seafood restaurant chain, with 213 restaurants across the country.

Publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange, Landry's owns and operates Landry's Seafood House, Joe's Crab Shack, Willie G's, The Crab

House, Rainforest Café, Charley's Crab, Gandy Dancer, The Grand Concourse, Big Fish, and Chuck & Harold's, as well as Kemah Boardwalk, a magnificent 40-acre, family-oriented themed entertainment destination. The company employs 25,000 workers in 36 states.

Helping a friend leads to employment opportunity

When Buddy Hanna, long time co-owner with wife Lee of Buddy's Auto Parts here, became seriously ill and was hospitalized for treatment, they were forced to close the doors of the store.

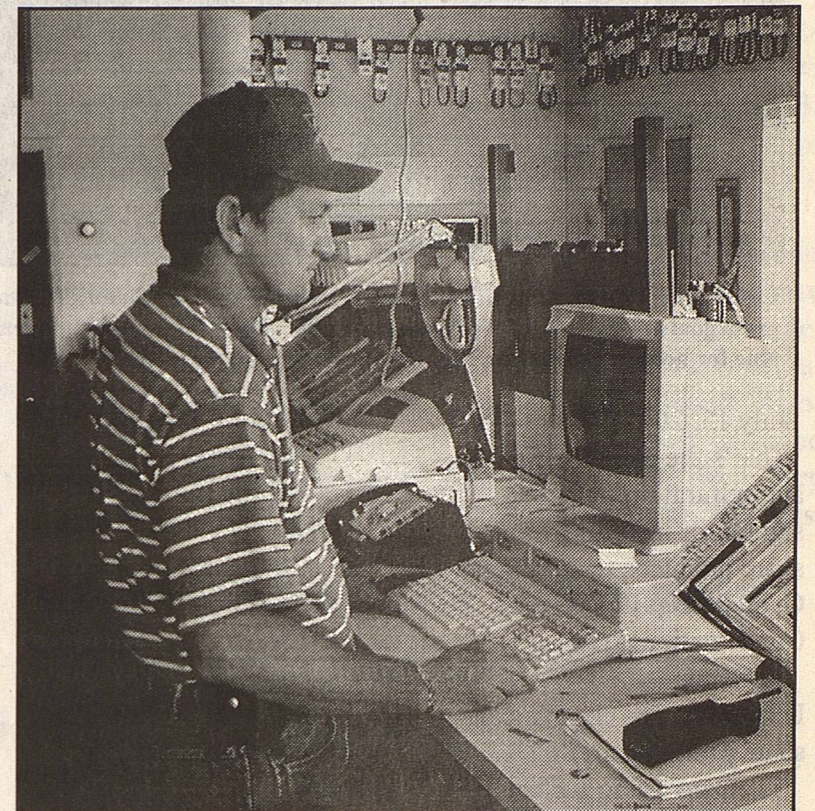
When Buddy finally recovered enough to visit his business, it was obvious he was too weak to resume his eight hour, five and half day weekly schedule.

Mike Blount, local ag producer and long time friend stopped by to visit Hanna one

day, and Buddy promptly made him a proposition - "give me a hand, and I'll pay you to learn something about the parts business".

Mike accepted, and Hanna says "He has really been a big help, and he's been pretty fast at learning the business".

Mike told CCN, "Buddy's bragging on me, but being real honest, I had no idea there were so many parts necessary to keep autos and trucks running!"



Mike Blount searches computer files for parts

From Page 1, 'McAdams'

faith with her mother, now actively attending the McAdams' couple fellowship and ministry. Zhen is now a student missionary, helping disabled and destitute children in the capital city of Guanzhov.

The younger McAdams couple will return to China some two months after their baby is born. Ken's parents, Estelle and Evert McAdams both retirees from Plains ISD will accompany Ken and Kim when they return to China, to support their Missionary efforts, and enjoy their new grandchild.

**Our volunteer fire department urges extreme caution if you celebrate the Fourth with fireworks....
We Are Dry !!**

Weather Forecast From Duncan Axisa, Meteorologist, SOAR Program

DATE	WEATHER	TEMP (°F)	WIND	RAIN (Inches)
Today	Partly cloudy; isolated TS	86/67	SE 10-20 mph	< 0.1
Thursday	Mostly cloudy; scattered TS	88/68	SE 10-20 mph	< 0.3
Friday	Partly cloudy; chance of TS	93/68	SE 10-20 mph	< 0.1

Total Population and Percent Population Change in Texas and the United States, 1850-2000

Year	Total Population		Percent Change	
	Texas	U.S.	Texas	U.S.
1850	212,592	23,191,876	---	---
1860	604,215	31,443,321	184.2	35.6
1870	818,579	39,818,449	35.5	26.6
1880	1,591,749	50,155,783	94.5	26.0
1890	2,235,527	62,947,714	40.4	25.5
1900	3,048,710	75,994,575	36.4	20.7
1910	3,896,542	91,972,266	27.8	21.0
1920	4,663,228	105,710,620	19.7	14.9
1930	5,824,715	122,775,046	24.9	16.1
1940	6,414,824	131,669,275	10.1	7.2
1950	7,711,194	150,697,361	20.2	14.5
1960	9,579,677	179,323,175	24.2	19.0
1970	11,198,730	203,302,031	16.9	13.4
1980	14,229,191	226,545,805	27.1	11.4
1990	16,986,510	248,709,873	19.4	9.8
2000*	20,851,820	281,421,906	22.8	13.2

* All values are for the indicated census year.

Ten Fastest Growing States in Numerical Terms in the United States, 1990-2000

State	1990 Population*	2000 Population*	Numerical Change 1990-2000	Percent Population Change 1990-2000
California	29,760,021	33,871,648	4,111,627	13.8
Texas	16,986,510	20,851,820	3,865,310	22.8
Florida	12,937,926	15,982,378	3,044,452	23.5
Georgia	6,478,216	8,186,453	1,708,237	26.4
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	1,465,404	40.0
North Carolina	6,628,637	8,049,313	1,420,676	21.4
Washington	4,866,692	5,894,121	1,027,429	21.1
Colorado	3,294,394	4,301,261	1,006,867	30.6
Illinois	11,430,602	12,419,293	988,691	8.6
New York	17,990,455	18,976,457	986,002	5.5

* Population values are decennial census counts for April 1 of the year indicated



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Thanks, Dad. For Being My Hero

Dairy Queen thanks all those who shared their admiration and love for their fathers in our essay contest. We'd like to share with you the winning entry from Plains. Brooke, your dad is king.

Brooke Wilson
Dad: Jason Wilson
Plains Dairy Queen

My dad is the best dad that ever lived on earth, because he works hard to get us things we need, when he should get it for himself. My dad plays with us, and teaches us how to protect ourselves and be safe. He even plays barbie dolls with my little sister. When a new movie comes out, he usually takes us to see it. Also if he can, he takes us out at least once a week. We can order anything that we want. If I have a nightmare or get scared, he hugs me and kisses me, and tells me he won't let anything or anyone hurt me, ever. He makes me feel safe and loved. I always get a good job and I'm so proud of you when I accomplish something. I love him so much.

Dairy Queen

A Mad Dog Lures prize package was awarded to the dad.



On The Level

with Donald Haley
USDA/NRCS



Converting these inefficient irrigation systems to systems that utilize water more efficiently is the program goal of USDA/NRCS's Ogallala Aquifer Water Conservation Area. A 75% cost-share rate is available for accepted practices. Sign-up deadline is July 15, 2002.

July 15, 2002.

That's the deadline for agricultural producers to sign up for installing cost-share practices under the new Ogallala Aquifer Water Conservation Area.

Implemented by USDA/NRCS, eligible cost-share practices are:

- 1) Converting surface irrigation system(s) to LEPA (Low Energy Precision Application, LPIC (Low Pressure In Canopy), MESA (Mid-Elevation Spray Application) and LESA (Low Elevation Spray Application) systems.
- 2) Converting surface irrigation system(s) to Micro-Irrigation (drip) system.
- 3) Converting Waterdrive/Sideroll/Solid Set Sprinkler system (hand-moved pipe) to LEPA, LPIC, MESA, LESA system.
- 4) Convert Waterdrive/Sideroll/Solid Set Sprinkler system to Micro-Irrigation System.
- 5) Re-nozzle existing sprinkler to LEPA, LPIC, MESA, LESA systems.

- 6) Irrigation Pipeline
- 7) Flow Meter
- 8) Chemigation Safety Valve

All eligible and approved practices shall be cost-shared at the rate of 75 percent of the actual cost of the practice, not to exceed the established NRCS average cost of the practice.

Minimum contract length will be one year after the date on which all practices have been implemented.

Maximum contract length is 10 years.

Acceptance will be on a points basis, consisting of acre inch per acre calculations of irrigation water conserved.

Sprinkler System

All sprinkler systems will be certified to meet NRCS Standards and Specifications for the specific type of system installed.

Chemical injectors, storage tanks and related equipment will not be included in the cost of the system. Chemigation Safety Valves and Flowmeters can be included as components of the sprinkler system.

Micro-Irrigation

All micro-irrigation systems will be certified to meet

NRCS Standards and Specifications for the specific type of system installed. All equipment required for the operation of the micro-irrigation system is included as components of the system. This includes all components or equipment from the filter station downstream.

Flowmeters and chemigation safety equipment are included in the total cost of the system. A pipeline from the well(s) to the filter station is included under Pipeline.

Pipeline

All pipelines will be certified to meet NRCS Standards and Specifications for Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, High Pressure Underground, Plastic (430EE) or Low Pressure Underground Plastic (430EE) or Irrigation Water Conveyance.

All required appurtenances (Pressure relief, air relief valves, etc) are included in the total cost.

Interested Yoakum County producers may apply at the Farm Service Center, (USDA/NRCS office), located at 1305 Cowboy Way in Plains, Texas.

Felony criminal cases heard in District Court

In the June 24 session of 121st District Court, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, nine felony cases were heard. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Mario Barrios Caballero pled guilty to delivery of cocaine, less than one gram. A two year sentence in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice State Jail Division was suspended and probated five years. He must pay a \$1000 fine, \$292 court costs, \$25 time payment fee, restitution of \$931.47 in a theft by check charge. He will serve 160 hours community service. He will return to county jail July 9 or ten days prior to confinement in the Ray D. Anderson Community Correction Facility, where he will remain no less than one month or more than 24 months, as an alternative to incarceration. Lisa Switzer, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force, was investigating officer, and Bill Helwig served as defendants attorney. Erica Rose Howard pled guilty to possession of methamphetamine, less than one gram, and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred, and five years community supervision. She must pay \$217 court costs, a fine of \$1500, and \$140 restitution to DPS. She must attend weekly narcotics meetings complete the TAIP outpatient program, and serve 120 hours community service. Bill Helwig served as her attorney, and investigating officer was Robert Shugart, DPS.

Buster Eugene Rich, AKA Buster Rich, pled guilty to lesser included charge of theft. A one year jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He will pay \$175 court costs, \$1000 fine and \$25 time payment fee, and serve 80 hours community service. Sheriff Deputy Inoe Valdez was investigating officer, and Bill Helwig served as his attorney.

Mark Wesley Clevenger pled guilty to a subsequent DWI, breath test refused. He will serve 180 days in jail or until

space is available in a substance abuse treatment facility. He must pay \$225 court costs, and surrender his license 180 days. Investigating officer was Joe Ramos, Denver City Police. The same defendant also pled guilty to burglary of a building. A two year state jail sentence was suspended and probated five years. He was fined \$1000, must pay \$243 court costs, \$250 court appointed attorney fees and \$25 time payment fee. He must pay \$1025 restitution to British Petroleum, or \$4100 if not paid by co-defendants in the burglary cause. He will spend 180 days in jail or until space is available in a substance abuse treatment facility for at least 90 days or no more than one year, and serve 120 hours community service. Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer, and Bill Helwig served as attorney in both causes.

Glenn E. Noack pled guilty to possession of less than one gram methamphetamine, and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred, with five years community supervision. He must pay \$217 court costs, \$140 restitution to DPS, and \$1500 fine. He must attend weekly AA meetings, complete the TAIP treatment program, serve 120 hours community service and spend 72 hours in jail. Robert Shugart, DPS, was investigating officer, and his attorney was Bill Helwig.

Tray Dan Field pled guilty to possession of less than one gram methamphetamine, and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred. He must pay \$217 court costs, \$1500 fine and \$140 restitution to DPS. He will attend weekly AA meetings, complete the TAIP treatment program, serve 120 hours community service, and spend 72 hours in jail. Bill Helwig served as his attorney, and investigating officer was Robert Shugart, DPS.

David Ray Carter II pled guilty to burglary of a building. A two year state jail division was suspended and probated five years. He was fined \$1000, must pay \$293 court costs, appointed attorney fees of \$250, a time payment fee of \$25, and \$41 restitution to Town &

Country stores. Evading arrest/detention with a vehicle charges were adjudicated. Investigating officer was William Gardner, D.C. Police, and Paul Mansur served as his attorney. Aaron Lytle pled guilty to Burglary of a habitation. A ten year prison sentence was suspended and probated 10 years. He was fined \$1000, must pay \$292 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will perform 240 hours community service. Investigating officer was Deputy Kenley Powell, and James Balagia served as his attorney.

Locally Led Conservation Is The Best Approach

The need for local leadership in natural resources management was one of the most important factors leading to the establishment of soil and water conservation districts (SWCD's) over 60 years ago. Locally led conservation is the best approach to effective soil and water conservation practices in a particular area.

Over the years, federal, state and local governments have channeled assistance through local conservation districts in order to address aspects of natural resource conservation. Districts focus on setting priorities and carrying out programs based on local conditions and needs.

Federal and state legislation have significantly impacted the way conservation and natural resource management needs are addressed. The enactment of the Farm Security & Rural Investment Act of 2002, the Farm Bill, signals a shift to the district approach of locally led conservation. Elected officials and policy makers have reaffirmed that local leadership and grassroots decision making are the keys to successfully managing and protecting our natural resources. As a result, conservation districts have the opportunity to look to their roots and lead their communities in determining local conservation needs and priorities.

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Five Historic Courthouses Rededicated

Five historic county courthouses throughout Texas have been restored and rededicated through the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program, with a sixth dedication event scheduled for July 4 in Milam County.

The Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program was established in 1999 by Gov. George W. Bush and the Texas Legislature to restore Texas' county courthouses to their original splendor and make them safe, functional and a source of pride for Texas communities. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) created and administers the \$100 million program. To date, the program has assisted 48 counties requesting more than \$96 million in assistance to preserve and restore their historic courthouses.

The Shackelford County Courthouse in Albany was the

first rededication in June of 2001. Since then, the Persidio County Courthouse in Marfa, the Grimes County Courthouse in Anderson, the Sutton County Courthouse in Sonora and the Llano Courthouse in Llano have held rededication events. The THC's goal is eventually to restore all 225 historic county courthouses in Texas with additional funding from the Texas Legislature. The Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program is the largest preservation program of its kind in the nation. Other states are now looking to Texas to learn how to conduct similar programs.

For more information on the THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program contact the THC Architecture Division at 512-463-6094 or visit the THC web site at www.thc.state.tx.us.

By the time your children are learning their multiplication tables, they may need to be screened for diabetes.

"Signs that parents can look for include frequent urination, constant thirst, weight loss and/or a darkening or "ring" around the neck known as acanthosis nigricans," said Dr. Siripoom McKay, an assistant professor of pediatrics, endocrinology and metabolism at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Check For Diabetes At Age 10

According to McKay, parents can help protect their children from becoming diabetic by increasing exercise and decreasing the amount of time spent in sedentary games.

Diabetes puts a person at higher risk for heart disease, stroke, poor circulation and infections of the feet and legs that can result in amputation. Treatment includes medication, insulin and lifestyle changes.



Happy Birthday, Mom... It's hard to believe you're 40!

Sharla, Ashley, Shayann

Texas Allots More For Schools Than National Average

New Study Reveals How Texas Compares To Nation In Education Spending

With 40 percent of Texas' general spending going toward education, the Lone Star State outpaces the national average of 34 percent. Further, Texas outspends Florida, Colorado and California, according to a new study released June 26, by the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

The study, part four of the Foundation's "Taxing Texans" series by internationally acclaimed economist Richard Vedder, Ph.D., examines how the state compares to its geographic and economic rivals, as well as the nation overall. The report can be found at www.tppf.org.

"At the elementary, secondary and collegiate levels, Texas devotes a larger percent of its tax revenue to education than the national average," says, Dr.

Vedder. "Yet some claim Texas' spending is inadequate, pointing to the fact that Texas' per pupil spending is slightly lower than the national average."

However, Texas ranks 27th in actual spending per pupil, \$6,588.

Vedder explains comparisons of per pupil sending are unreliable because of the differences between the states in other economic factors. His study points to a number of factors, including a lower wage level and Texas' higher concentration of young people. Nationally, 17 of every 100 state residents go to primary or secondary public schools; in Texas, it is 19 out of 100.

"The most contentious issue in education financing is the state-local mix," notes Vedder, a col-

lege professor. "Texas does rely somewhat more on local funding than average, but that reliance is a virtue, not a weakness."

Vedder points to very recent research by Harvard University's Caroline Hoxby that finds heavier reliance on local dollars for school funding increases school accountability and student academic performance.

"Students in Texas, particularly African-American and Latino students, demonstrate impressive gains in elementary and middle grades that challenge the average achievement of their peers throughout the nation," Vedder concludes "So when people try to tell you Texas shortchanges its students, don't believe them."

"Not Tonight Honey"-- she really has a headache

The woman who feigns a headache to avoid her husband's amorous advances is the stuff of joke legend.

But the debilitating pain of migraine headaches is far from a laughing matter to women who experience them regularly. Unfortunately, women throughout history often have been told their migraine pain was "all in their heads."

Physical activity like sex, however, can make a migraine worse.

"Only in recent years has the medical community been able to explain some of the biochemical changes in the brain that cause migraine headaches," said Dr. Howard Derman, director of the Headache Clinic at Baylor College of Medicine. "For years people believed that women who complained of migraines had psychological problems."

Migraines happen when blood vessels in the brain swell and irritate the neighboring nerves, which send pain messages to areas of the brain. The nerves release chemicals that increase the swelling of the blood vessels, adding to the pain. Pain from migraine usually last four to 10 hours, but migraine related symptoms such as nausea, vomiting and sensitivity to sounds and bright lights may last up to 36 hours.

Services Held For Terry Allen Ferguson

Services were held June 28, 2002 at the First Baptist Church in Denver City for Terry Allen Ferguson, 22, of Eules, TX., under the direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors with Rev. Bob Webb and Rev. Jim Currie, assisting. He was born September 19, 1979 in Hobbs, NM. He died June 23, 2002 in Ft. Worth.

Mr. Ferguson graduated school in Seagraves in 1998 with Honors. He was a member of the National Honor Society. He moved to Eules in 2001. He attended 2 years at the Dervy Institute and attended 1 year of school for Microsoft certification. His great love was car racing. He owned a Trans Am Ram-Air.

Survivors include his wife Bliss Ferguson of Eules; Par-

Obituary

ents Mike and Bliss Williams of Seagraves; Grandparents Jimmy and Bernice Sterling of Seagraves & Ted and Claudia Sue Ferguson of Denver City; Great-Grandmothers; Ethel Ferguson of Odessa and Marsene Beattie of Denver City; 1 daughter Shelbi Ferguson of the home; 1 brother Trey Hernandez of Seagraves; 1 sister Tiffani Hernandez of Seagraves. He was preceded in death by his father Terry Wayne Ferguson in 1983.

Casket Bearers: Randall Cady, Trey Hernandez, Richard Marion, Marcus Valverde, Clarence Hunt, Mark Trent, Jason Harper, and Robert Olivo.

Honorary Bearers included Cody Madry, Koby Reed, Gary Ferguson and Dusty Williams.

Southwestern University Students Named To Spring Dean's List

Georgetown- Southwestern University students have been named to the 2002 Spring Dean's List for academic achievement.

To be selected, students must have at least a 3.6 grade point average on a 4.0 scale with at

least 12 graded hours and be in good standing with the University.

Students named to the 2002 Spring Dean's List included Clint Burrus of Plains, the son of Tommy and Sarah Kay Burrus.

Outdoor swimming pool party
August 9th
8 P.M. to 11 P.M. Youth
Center Grades.
FOOD & DRINKS

2002 Youth Center Events

Join Us For The Fun!

Outdoor Pool Party

Friday, June 28, grades 7 thru 12
8 PM - 11 PM

Outdoor Pool Party

Friday, July 19, grades 7 thru 12
8PM - 11 PM

Pool Tournament, grades 7 thru 12,
Friday, July 26

Students and Adult, trophies for
1st, 2nd, 3rd place
8:30 PM until tournament is over

Pool Tournament, grades 7 thru 12
Friday, July 26, 8:30 PM

Singles, followed by Doubles
1st, 2nd, 3rd place trophies

NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY

FICTION:

True To Form...Elizabeth Berg, Between Friends...Debbie Macomber, In This Mountain...Jan Karon, To Catch A Spy...Stuart M. Kaminsky, This Pen For Hire...Laura Levine, Jolie Blon's Bounce...James Lee Burke, Vineyard Enigma...Philip R. Craig, Sunset In St. Tropez...Danielle Steel, The Wailing Wind...Tony Hillerman, The Dream Of Scipio...Iain Pears, Freedom's Ransom...Anne McCaffrey, Cold Company...Sue Henry, Hard Eight...Janet Evanovich, Don't Look Back...Amanda Quick, Midnight Voices...John Saul, Old Yeller...Fred Gipson (cassette) has been donated by Mary Dale & Bud Forbus in memory of Paul Powell.

NONFICTION:

Everyday Memory Builder...Jon Keith, Let The Cowboy Ride: Cattle Ranching In The American West...Paul F. Starrs, Stark Raving Dad!...Dave Meurer, Girl Singer...Rosemary Clooney, Use What You Have Decorating...Lauri Ward, Betty Crocker's Health Home Cooking, Good Things From Tag Sales and Flea Markets...Martha Stewart, Staying Home Alone: a girl's guide to feeling safe and having fun...American Girl Library, Parkinson's Disease...Alvin Silverstein, Will You Miss Me When I'm Gone?...The Carter Family.

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456-3727

Sunday Schedule
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm

Wednesday Connection
Food, Fellowship & Study
5:30-7:30 pm

Other Opportunities
Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays
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From The Hack

I have reported several times in this space I consider Dave Barry, usually featured in the Sunday Lubbock AJ, one of the premier humor columnists in the country. I thought this past Sunday's work was hilarious, but I fear there may be some of our area ag producers who did not find it humorous at all - after all, he was poking fun at the 2002 Farm Bill.

Some of the targeted areas in the Farm Bill Barry bored in on included subsidies for Mohair. Yes, Mohair is back in the limelight, as well it should be. If we don't help, Mohair might disappear, and I can personally, truthfully report Mohair has a very warm spot in my memory and heart.

In my high school freshman year, I fell in love one winter with a girl who owned TWO mohair sweaters, one red, the other white, and when she came to class in either colored goat, I would almost melt when she was within ten feet. Those sweaters drove me goofy - well, yes, I suppose so, what was inside the sweaters may

have played a role in my pounding heart condition. Come to think of it, I haven't seen any Mohair sweaters lately. Did the Mohair subsidy kick in too late? Are all the Angora goats gone? What a shame if they are. Millions of young teen boys will be deprived of the sensations I experienced a couple of years.

Mohair - long may it gently curl.

Recently I flopped down on the couch, clicked the remote, hoping to bring something up on the screen guaranteeing me a brief nap while the Bride was absent, doing whatever absent Bride's do. "Is that who I think it is?" I silently asked, and silently answered, "Yes, it is, it truly is old Hopalong Cassidy, in brilliant black and white!"

You remember Hoppy, don't you, one of the stars of those B movie westerns, called B movies because now, they are Bad, Boring, Banal, and full of Bull. When I was a kid, though, and you could get into the Saturday matinees for a dime, they were Beautiful.

I liked Hopalong, He didn't carry a guitar and never once

sang a stupid song like, "Yippeee Tye Yi Yay", or worse, "I'm back in the saddle again!" I always, however, wondered why he was called Hopalong. I don't ever recall seeing him actually hop. True, he did sort of walk strange, but I always suspicioned that was because of the black shirt and black pants he ALWAYS wore. The pants were so tight they appeared to be spray painted on him, which would certainly hinder any mans normal movements, if not cause blood clots in his lower extremities.

He did have a neat, very large white hat, the crown of which looked like a very tall beehive resting on the brim. And of course the handles of his six-guns were gleaming white, white as his teeth when he would infrequently smile at something his sidekick Gabby Hayes would mutter... something dramatic like, "Goldadgumit, Hoppy, I ain't fixin us no more beans for supper, no sirree Bob, you kept me woke up most all night last night, and I near suffocated!" The keenest part of the movie, of course, was when Hopalong would dash to his horse, a

beautiful white gelding, place his hands on the animals muscled rump, and vault into the saddle in pursuit of one or maybe a dozen villains. I was really disappointed to hear later on Hoppy had slightly miscalculated one of those famous leaps, and not only suffered a very painful and serious rupture, but his voice was permanently changed... when he tried to urge his sidekick

on, his "Come on, Gabby, let's go gettem!" sounded much like the much later TV celebs Tiny Tim or Pee Wee Herman.

I was always grateful I never saw old Hopalong kiss anything but his faithful horse. Some of those later singing cowboys, they would kiss their horse, their guitar, any girl handy, and usually when the buss would occur, the Sons Of The Pioneers would pop up out of the sagebrush and break into their melodi-

ous rendition of "Water, Cool, Clear Water."
What a bunch of wimps

**Have a
GREAT
Fourth
Of
July!!**



COWGIRL SPORTS CAMP



When: July 22 - 25

Time: 9:00 - 12:00 Volleyball

12:00 - 1:00 *Lunch

1:00 - 4:00 Basketball

*** Bring your sack lunch and eat with us! Also, feel free to come eat with your athlete and/or pick them up for lunch.**

For Who: Girls entering the 3rd grade - 8th grade

Cost: \$10

(Please make checks payable to Plains I.S.D.)

Where: Plains High School Gym

Questions: Please contact Coach Lusk at 456-2118

If you have not pre-registered, you can register on July 22nd

from 8:30 - 9:00.

REGISTRATION FORM:

Name: _____

Age: _____

Grade (Fall 2002): _____

T-shirt Size: _____

(Please indicate with "Y" for Youth and "A" for Adult)

In case of an emergency, please notify:

Name: _____

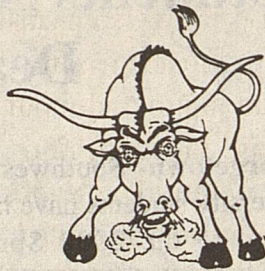
Phone: _____

Waiver of Claims:

I give my child, _____, permission to attend Plains Cowgirl Sports Camp. I will not hold the camp director, camp staff, or the school district at the campsite responsible for any accidents, injuries, or lost items.

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Date: _____



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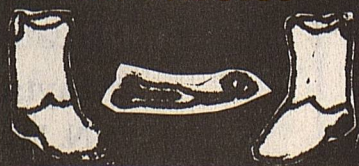
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The Driver License office in Denver City June 17 from 10am to 4 pm, then closed June 18 thru June 21. It will Monday June 24 from 10 am to 4 pm, then closed June 25 thru June 28. We will re-open July 1 with regular office hours.
Thank You

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Notice To Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letter of Administration for the Estate of Jacky Gerald Bench, Deceased, were issued on June 25, 2002, in Cause No. 1407 pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to: Bradford L. Moore.

The residence of the Administrator is in Terry County, Texas. The post office address is: Estate of Jacky Gerald Bench
c/o Bradford L. Moore
P.O. Box 352
Brownfield, Texas 79316
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the Administrator at the above listed address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 26th day of June, 2002.

Bradford L. Moore
Attorney for the Estate

*** For Sale ***
In Plains - 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, Lge. Den, fireplace, central air/heat, Dbl. Carport, Storage Bldg., Great yard.
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Home 456-6494

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