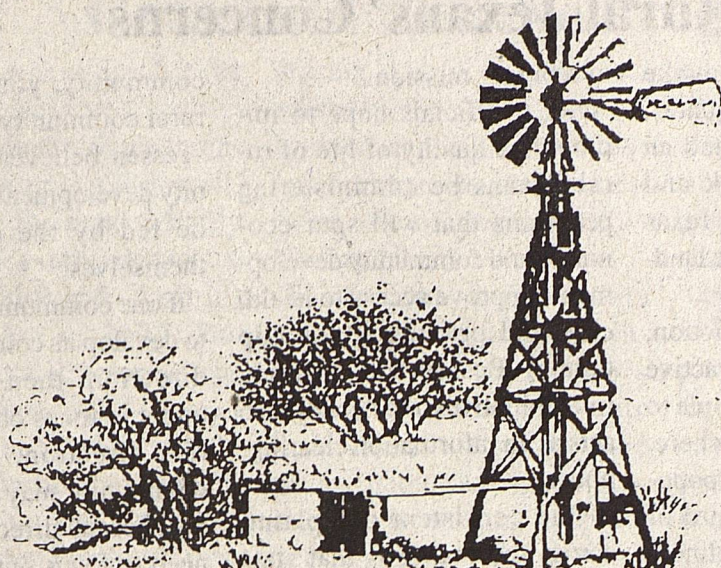


50 Cents

Cowboy Country News

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

Volume IX, Issue 43, July 16, 2003



TPA, TDNA efforts stop bill aimed at defeating open government policy

On July 9, members of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association (TDNA) and the Texas Press Association (TPA) received fax copies or e-mail seeking members help in stopping HB 54, legislation which was out of committee and to be considered by the full State House of Representatives on July 10.

For background on HB 54, CCN is re-producing portions of the message sent by the two news agencies to statewide member newspapers.

"HB 54 stems from Governor Rick Perry's decision last spring to release a proposed budget with all zeroes. Several newspapers requested his budget working papers to see what direction his proposal was moving before he decided to release his 'zero budget.'

"Attorney General Greg Abbott ruled that Perry was required to release the papers, and he eventually did. Subsequently, several newspapers published stories using the documents. This caused no political fallout for Perry, but he resolved to insulate his office from public scrutiny anyway. During the last weeks of the regular session he and his supporters sought to create an exception for disclosure for his budget working papers. The effort failed, so now he has added the measure to the call of the ongoing special legislative session.

"The arrogant and irresponsible move flies in the face of Texas' tradition of open government. The members of your Legislative Advisory Committee believe it a serious mistake to pass such an exception just because the papers were requested this spring. To our knowledge it is the first time such working papers had been requested by a newspaper, and was a result of the governor's odd decision to release his 'zero' budget.

"The preamble to the Texas Public Information Act states, all government records should be open unless there is a compelling reason to close them.

Lea County Fair and Rodeo Parade

The Lovington Chamber of Commerce is accepting entries for the 68th Annual Fair and Rodeo Parade. The annual parade will be Thursday, August 7, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. in Lovington. Deadline to submit your entry will be Monday, August 4, 2003. All late entries will be placed at the end of the parade. Entry forms are available at your local Chamber. This year's parade is being organized and sponsored by the Lea County Chamber of Commerce and program assistance from Rural Economic Development Through Tourism. For additional parade information call 505-396-5311. Entries can be submitted by fax at 505-396-2823.

Criminal cases in County Court

In the July 9 session of County Court, three criminal cases were heard, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Douglas Edward Henry Bourdon pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana, and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred. He will be under community supervision six months, was fined \$350, must pay \$211 court costs and \$140 restitution. He must serve 24 hours community service, complete the Treatment Alternative to Incarceration program (TAIP), and spend 36 hours in jail with credit for 22.5 hours served. Investigating officer was Brad Taylor, DPS.

Zachary Brent Mensch pled guilty to driving with suspended license. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$256 court costs. In another cause, the defendant pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. He must serve another 30 hours community service. Investigating officer was Jason Cowin, Denver City Police

The TDNA/TPA Legislative Advisory Committee feels strongly there is no compelling reason here.

"If the people of Texas are not allowed to see the working papers of a budget, they are denied information related to the decision making process involved in the preparation of a budget. While that may be appealing to a politician, it poses grave danger to an enlightened electorate. If this legislation passes it is likely working paper exceptions will be sought for agencies of state government in sessions ahead."

The following day, July 10, members of TDNA/TPA received via fax or e-mail the following:

"Congratulations on a job well done. Your phone calls, faxes and e-mails to Texas state representatives yesterday were elemental in defeating House Bill 54, a bad piece of legislation which would have closed off access to the governor's budget working papers.

"On the House floor today, lawmakers mounted stiff and unrelenting opposition to Rep. David Swinford's ill conceived move to allow the governor, his staff and the Legislative Budget Board to secretly devise budget proposals for the Legislature. A motion by Swinford to table the bill passed and it was not recalled before the House adjourned.

"Swinford and Governor Perry had been heavily criticized on the editorial pages of dozens of Texas newspapers for pushing the issue in the prior regular session. They suffered a renewed barrage for re-introducing it in this special session. It is clear the people of Texas benefit by transparency in the affairs of state government, and your role in preserving that transparency is greatly appreciated by TPA and the TDNA."

The message was signed by Donnis Baggett, Chair, TDNA/TPA Legislative Advisory Committee.

50th Old Settlers Reunion, Rodeo closer than you think



City employees were hanging banners at the entrance to Plains last week announcing the annual Old Settlers Reunion and Rodeo. Rodeo performances will start at 8 PM Thursday, JULY 31, followed by performances Friday and Saturday nights. T - N - T Rodeo Company of Anson will again produce the TCRA show, and arena events will include team roping, bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, ladies breakaway roping and ladies barrel race. Roping Club membership events include ribbon roping and team roping. Tickets are \$5 for adults, kids 5 - 11 \$3. The Old Settlers Reunion will be held in Stanford Park immediately following the downtown parade, scheduled to start at 10:30 AM. The barbecue and all the trimmings lunch will be catered by Johnnie's Barbecue of Odessa. The Plains Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce and Roping Club Rodeo Queen contestants, Allison Friesen, Ashley Hunter and Ashli Vantine, are working hard selling tickets for a new saddle, or \$500. The ticket sales are the primary source of funds to produce the rodeo and reunion. Help keep this tradition alive - if one or all of the queen candidates have not called on you, PLEASE CALL ON THEM. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!



City water pressure going up

A four feet deep ditch is not a pleasant place to labor, especially when the thermometer hits 100, and there's just enough wind to blow dirt in on top of you. City utility crews worked under these conditions last week, replacing an old two inch water line with new four inch plastic lines.

The workers are now in the alley between 3rd and 4th Streets, and will cover several more blocks. New line has been laid between 2nd and 3rd at Avenue B.

Troopers post impressive drug seizure numbers

For the third straight year, drug seizures by DPS troopers on traffic patrol topped the \$100 million mark.

According to 2002 statistics released today by the Traffic Law Enforcement Division, DPS troopers intercepted illegal drugs valued at \$123.8 million while on normal patrol duty. Texas troopers have led the nation in highway drug seizures for the last several years.

"Seizing drugs intended for someone's neighborhood is just one positive byproduct of our normal patrol activities," said DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. "In addition to arresting drunk drivers and slowing

down speeders, our traffic patrols put drug smugglers, murderers and other criminals behind bars, a big step forward in making Texas a safer place."

Some of the highlights in 2002 include:

- * Heroin seizures of 86 pounds were a record for DPS troopers.
- * The 1,780 drug arrests were the second highest in DPS history.
- * Cocaine seizures hit 2,202 pounds, worth an estimated \$90.1 million.
- * Troopers confiscated more than 25 tons (50,908 pounds) of marijuana.

Nursing school students awarded scholarships

In a brief and routine session of Commissioners Court this Monday, Clay Taylor, Yoakum County Hospital Administrator, briefed the court of scholarships recently won by two Denver City ladies currently in nursing school. The hospital, a member of the Northwest Texas Hospital Association, has approved \$500 school scholarships to Delia Sherman and Rochelle Lowrey of Denver City. They will also receive \$500 scholarships from the hospital association. Taylor explained the two future nurses are currently working part time at the hospital, and upon graduation from nursing school will be employed at the hospital, and have agreed to repay the scholarship amount. Taylor told the court the hospital scholarship would be paid from their dis-pro share funds. Funding was approved by the court.

One bid was received on Lots 10-11, Block 65, Original Town of Plains held for delinquent taxes totaling \$872. The \$100 bid from Marcos Hernandez was accepted.

The County Clerk's Minutes for the month of June were approved as presented.

New State Agency Working To Address Rural Texans' Concerns

The term 'rural' may evoke images of quaint town squares, open spaces, oil wells and an abundance of livestock and farmland, but a changing Texas economy is repainting the landscape of rural Texas.

Fewer jobs in oil production, agriculture and other extractive industries are forcing people to seek employment elsewhere. From 1990 to 1999, the population of more than a third of Texas' rural counties declined, while every metropolitan county grew, according to Rural Texas in Transition, a February 2001 report from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Along with economic changes, rural communities often contend with an aging infrastructure, a lack of access to health care, a small pool of community leaders and dwindling resources for education, transportation and housing.

In 2001, Texas' 3.2 million rural residents gained a new voice in state government when the Texas Legislature passed House created the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) by merging three existing state programs: the Center for Rural Health Initiatives, the Texas Community Development Program and Local Government Services, renamed Outreach and Training Services. By housing these programs under one roof, ORCA becomes a "one stop shop" for rural community leaders.

ORCA's first challenge was teaching the personnel from these three different agencies to let go of their allegiance to one particular program and focus on the agency's overall mission.

"These programs were in their own little silos, not grasping the whole picture of community economics," says Sam Tessen, ORCA's executive director. "We worked hard to make the staff learn that they are a part

of a bigger mission."

ORCA officials hope to improve the quality of life of rural Texans by administering programs that will spur economic and community development, improve access to health care and provide leadership training. Besides administering rural initiatives, the agency also acts as an information clearinghouse.

"One consistent complaint, across the board, is that state government is confusing, and that it is difficult to figure out where to go for what," says Tessen.

ORCA is trying to solve this problem by compiling an inventory of state agencies and services and making it available on the agency's Web site, <www.orca.state.tx.us>. The agency also publishes a newsletter, The Rural Texan, with a circulation of more than 8,000, which provides information about ORCA's programs and services as well as tips and contacts for other types of rural assistance.

Rural folks are not the only ones confused by the intricacies of state government. Tessen started an inter-agency rural working group, open to all state agencies, to communicate the needs of rural areas to other state agencies and to provide a forum where agencies can share information about their own programs and services. ORCA also held its first Rural Summit in February 2003 to discuss rural issues and develop policy suggestions for the 2003 Legislative session.

The diverse demographic, socioeconomic and cultural bases of rural Texas means ORCA's policies must be flexible enough to address a wide range of issues.

"Each community is different, the weaknesses are different, so the expectations, of each community, are different. In our industry, if you've seen one rural

community, you've seen one rural community."

Tessen believes that community development efforts should be led by the communities themselves.

"If one community has a vision to develop its community in one direction, then we (ORCA) ought to focus our resources in that direction, and the next community may want to go in a different direction, and we need to focus our resources on helping that community move in that direction," he says.

"Some communities want to focus on quality of life, some want to develop ecotourism, but the vision ought to be local."

Community leaders play a key role in the success of rural communities.

"If there is no leadership, nothing happens," Tessen says.

Small leadership pools pose a problem for many rural communities because the same people frequently hold a variety of leadership jobs and suffer fatigue or burnout, and high turnover rates.

ORCA's Outreach and Training Services Division offers leadership training to county judges, commissioners, school board members or any other community leader who is not already receiving training. The goal is to help provide community leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to address local concerns.

ORCA staff also has inventoried existing training programs and will create a training program they can share with anyone who wants to use it, Tessen says. Knowledgeable and motivated leaders can improve a community regardless of its advantages or disadvantages, he says.

"If the community is going to grow, it is going to depend on all the segments of the community working together, supporting each other in new and creative ways," Tessen says.

American History and Civics.

The academies would provide two weeks of additional training for K-12 teachers, enhancing their knowledge of history and civics and teaching skills specific to those areas of instruction.

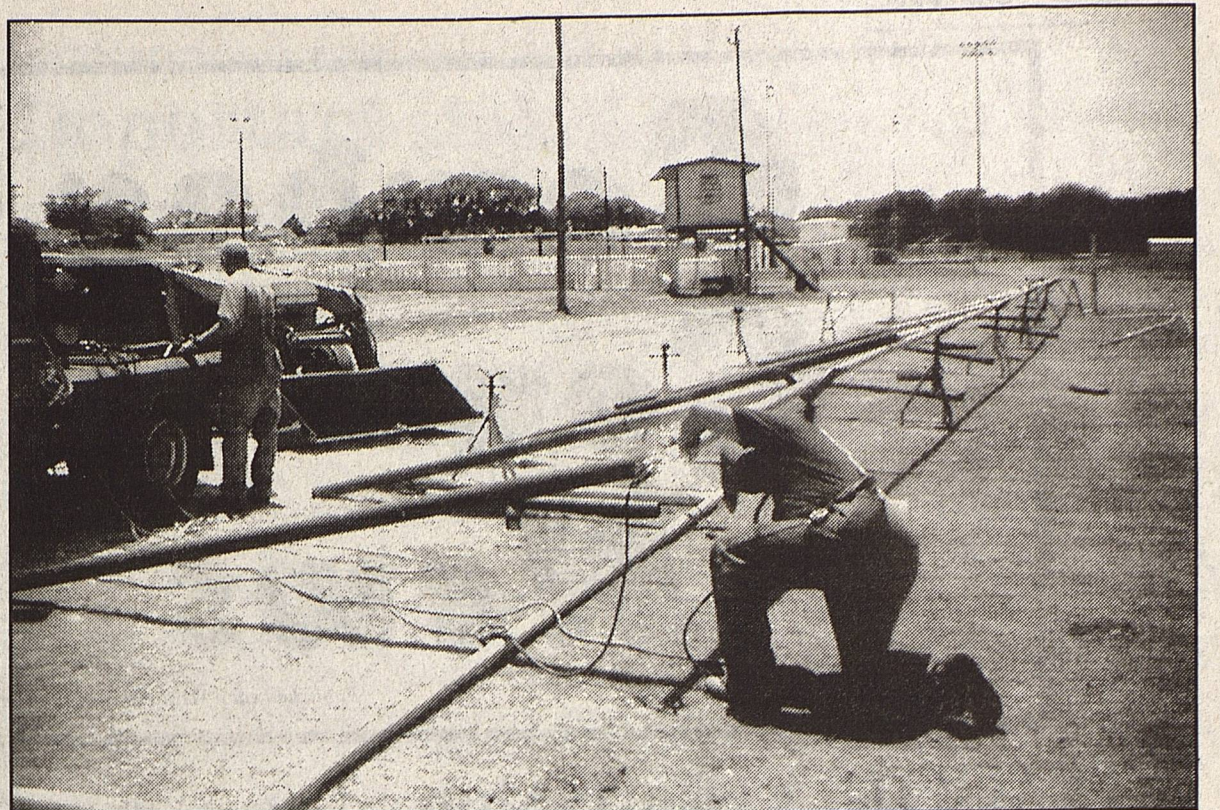
Congressional Academies for Students of American History and Civics.

As many as 12 academies would be formed for selected high school juniors and seniors. A four-week program will be offered to broaden their understanding of the subject area.

National Alliance of Teachers of American History and Civics.

This provision would create a national network for teachers and administrators to exchange ideas and advice on what methods and topics work best in these fields.

The pilot programs will be funded through grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities. A similar bill, H.R. 1078 is pending in the House of Representatives.



PREPPING FOR THE RODEO -Dale Cleveland shown recently welding steel pipe used to re-build the livestock runway on the north side of the rodeo arena. The old fencing and wood posts had to be replaced because of age.

High Plains Vegetable, Weed Control Field Day Is July 30

Persons who are interested in vegetable production and weed control options for vegetable crops should mark July 30 on their calendar. That's the date for the 1st Annual High Plains Vegetable and Weed Control Field Day at Texas A&M's Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

The center is just north of the Lubbock International Airport of Interstate Highway 27; take exit 11 off I-27 and drive east approximately one half mile.

"We will discuss general weed control practices for vegetable growers, and new herbicides which may be labeled for vegetable crops," said Russ

Wallace, Texas Cooperative Extension vegetable specialist headquartered at Lubbock. "The field day will also feature a walking tour of the vegetable research plots here at the center.

"The walking tour will include the statewide watermelon variety trial, and fungicide research for powdery mildew control in pumpkins and cantaloupes. We will also look at our herbicide research trials for pumpkins, cantaloupes, peppers (bell, chili and jalapeno), snap beans and tomatoes."

Those who attend can qualify for two general Continuing Education Units (CEU's) ap-

proved by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The field day will begin at 9 a.m. and includes lunch. Those who plan to attend should RSVP by contacting Wendy Durrett (806-746-6101) by July 23, Wallace said.

"After lunch we will drive to the Halfway Research and Extension Center in Hale County for an afternoon tour of our vegetable research plots there. The Halfway facility is about 45 minutes from the Lubbock Center. The afternoon tour at Halfway will begin at 2 p.m.," Wallace added.

For more information on the July 30 High Plains Vegetable and Weed Control Field Day, call Wallace at the Lubbock Center, at 806-746-6101, or 746-4052.



YOAKUM COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION 2003 SHOW & SALE

July 29, 2003 - August 2, 2003.....Community Building, Plains, TX

Entry Date: Tuesday, July 29th, 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Fees: Per entry: \$3.00/Members and \$5.00/non-members for both Fine Art and Crafts.

❖ Yoakum County Art Association gets 15% commission on all sales.

Eligibility: Limited to those works not previously entered in YCAA competition. Crafts must be made by person entering them.

Judge: Gale Webb, Watercolorist

Judging: Thursday, July 31st. This is restricted to appointed personnel.

Critique: Thursday, July 31st, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Open to the Public: Friday, August 2nd, 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 3rd, 11:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Awards: *Best of Show* - \$100.00
Best of Photography - \$50.00
Best of Crafts - \$50.00

Purchase Awards: Will be selected by businesses and private patrons Wednesday, July 30th, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Only authorized members are allowed at this time.

Cash Awards and Ribbons: In each category: 1st place - \$25.00
2nd place - \$15.00
3rd place - \$10.00

- ❖ Cash awards will be given only in originals and photography.
- ❖ Ribbons awarded in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention places in all categories.
- ❖ No cash prizes will be awarded in divisions with less than 10 entries.
- ❖ Ribbons and awards presented at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 2nd.

Categories: Originals / Photography / Copies / Graphics / Class Work / Students (Adult / Junior and Senior Youth divisions). *No fee for students.* CRAFTS: Wood / Fiber / and Other.

Divisions: Landscape / Still Life / Portraits / Wildlife / and Miniatures.

- Miniatures can be no larger than 5X7.
- No entry larger than 30" X 40" (inside dimensions not including the frame).
- Divisions will be established, combined and/or eliminated as necessary.

Entry Standards: All paintings must be securely wired and ready for hanging at time of arrival. No saw tooth hangers and no wet paint. YCAA "reserves the right" to reject any entry. Each entry must have a form on the back stating artist name, title of entry, and a price. The long form should have each entry listed. YCAA will not be responsible for any loss or damage. All work submitted will signify an agreement by the artist to the above stated conditions.

Saleroom: Club members only, and they must have at least one entry in competition. Each entry must have an entry form attached to each item, with a price, name and number, and be listed on the long entry form.

Door Prizes: Drawn at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, August 2nd. These will be paintings by club members only, and cannot be sold before the drawing. \$75.00 will be paid to the artist whose paintings are selected.

Pick-Up: Works may be picked up from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., Saturday, August 2nd. *Anything left after that time will not be the responsibility of the Yoakum County Art Association!*

History, Civics Bill Passed In Senate

The United States Senate recently unanimously approved a bill to bolster the teaching of American civics and education. *The American History and Civics Education Act, S. 504*, establishes presidential academies and offers workshops to teachers to help improve education on these important educational topics. Congressional academies will be established to offer workshops to outstanding students of American history and civics. U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, an original co-sponsor of the bill, praised its speedy

passage. "I'm encouraged that my colleagues recognized the importance of strengthening this critical area of our children's education," Cornyn said. "I appreciate Sen. Lamar Alexander for his efforts in bringing this bill to the Senate and his leadership on education issues."

The bill would fund the following four-year pilot projects intended to bolster the history and civics education of American children: **Presidential Academies for Teachers of**

TPA
MEMBER
2003
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Cowboy Country News

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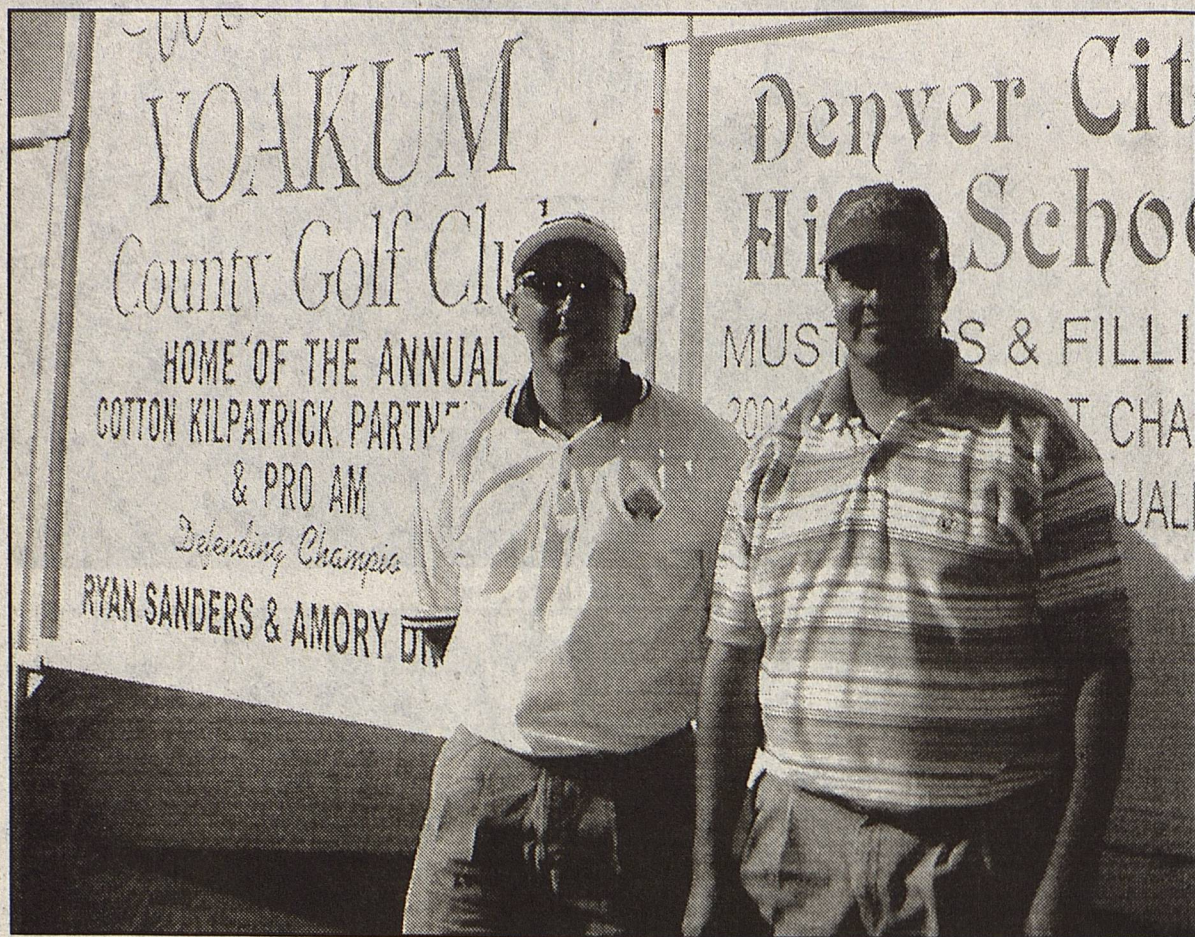
On June 12, 2003, Guidant, Inc. pled GUILTY to charges filed against them for misbranding medical devices and failing to report to the FDA almost 2600+ malfunctions with ANCURE stent devices. Guidant will pay a \$92 million fine. It is alleged that this cover up of these malfunctions has led to numerous deaths and unnecessary surgeries. If you or a loved one believe that you have been injured as a result of this device, then call us to learn more about your legal rights in a products liability claim. No Fees or Expenses charged to you unless we obtain a recovery for you. Call For Free Consultation. Toll Free 1-800-883-9858.

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Cotton Kilpatrick Tourney Champs.



Following two days of play in the annual Cotton Kilpatrick Partnership golf tournament at the county course this weekend, the teams of Doug Brown and Raul Garcia, and Ken Taylor and Kenny Dierschke were tied in the Championship Flight with identical 134 scores. In the following play off, both teams bogeyed the number one hole. On hole two, none of the players hit the green in regulation. Brown, Taylor and Dierschke, after chipping on the green, again missed par putts. Garcia was on the green about five feet from the hole, and drilled his putt to win the prestigious tournament.

Plains golfers in other flights managing to get in the pay line included; 3rd flight- Arlan Gentry and Lanny Wood, 2nd, 139, 4th flight-Chris Winn and Jimmy Bragg, 3rd, 152, 5th flight- Kip Blount, Kris Fields 1st, 153.

USDA Accepting Applications For Grassland Reserve Program

Financial assistance for the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is now available to eligible landowners. GRP is authorized by the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) administer the program, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. Funding for the GRP comes from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). According to Dr. Larry D. Butler, NRCS State Conservationist, "This voluntary program helps landowners and operators restore and protect grassland, including rangeland and pastureland, and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. The program emphasizes support for

grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland and land containing shrubs and forbs under the greatest threat of conservation to other land uses."

To participate in GRP, offers must be private land that includes at least 40 contiguous acres. Participants voluntarily limit future use of the land while retaining the right to conduct common grazing practices; produce hay, mow, or harvest for seed production (subject to certain restrictions during the nesting season of bird species that are in significant decline or those that are protected under Federal or State law); conduct fire rehabilitation; and construct firebreaks and fences.

Applications for participation will be accepted on a continu-

ous basis with the local office of NRCS or FSA. For the current funding cycle, an application must be received by August 1, 2003. All applications received by that date will be ranked on specific selection criteria to ensure only the highest priority areas (lands) are protected. Once funding has been exhausted, eligible applications will remain on file until additional funding becomes available. Applications accepted after August 1, 2003, will be held for ranking during the next funding cycle.

For more information about the GRP, contact your local NRCS field office.

Additional information is available on the agency Website at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill>.

Plains Varsity Football 2003

Date	Opponent	Place	Time	
Aug. 16	Lorenzo	Here	TBA	Scrimmage
Aug. 22	Hale Center	Here	TBA	Scrimmage
Aug. 29	Farwell	Here	8:00	
Sept. 5	Seagraves	There	7:30	
Sept. 12	Sudan	Here	8:00	
Sept. 19	Wink	There	7:30	
Sept. 26	Ralls	Here	8:00	
Oct. 2	Open			
Oct. 10	O'Donnell	There	7:30	
Oct. 17	Whiteface	Here	7:30	
Oct. 24	Sundown	There	7:30	
Oct. 31	Smyer	Here	7:30	
Nov. 7	Morton	There	7:30	

Yoakum County Plains Clinic

Amir Memon, MD
and
Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

We have Meningococcal Vaccines for Meningitis. It is recommended for students entering college, and may be required for some schools. Vaccinations at the Clinic are offered only until July 2. Please come to see us by this date!

TEXAS HEALTH STEPS

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8-5
Wednesday 8-5
Thursday & Friday 8-5

Will take walk-ins Appointments preferred
Please call 806-456-6365



Whether it's strolling down the San Antonio River Walk, camping at Bastrop State Park, or exploring the Big Thicket, Texas offers summer fun for everyone. This year, as you're enjoying the wide variety of getaways Texas has to offer, don't forget one essential item, a good book.

Books can take us back in time or provide a window into the future. They give us an understanding of the past and present, and give our lives perspective, pleasure or escape.

Open the pages of a Texas history book and experience the drama as Colonel Travis and his troops battle Santa Anna at the Alamo; enjoy a bird's eye view of the singing of the Texas Declaration of Independence at Washington on the Brazos, the last capital of the Republic of Texas; or revisit the devastating Galveston hurricane of 1900 that forever changed the shape of the Gulf Coast.

Biographies can be inspiring and motivational. In *Lazy B*, the story of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, we are privy to her hardships on a drought devastated western ranch during the Great Depression. Her personal story paints a vivid picture of the family values that have governed her life and continue to guide her as she makes life al-

tering decisions in the marble halls of the Supreme Court.

For an escape from everyday, consider a classic tale of fiction. In the children's story, *The Wizard of Oz*, readers are transported with Dorothy out of rural Kansas and into the magical world of a talking scarecrow, a heartless tin man, and a glittering emerald city. The enchanting fable teaches lessons of perseverance, teamwork and courage.

Books educate us, entertain us, enlighten us and even improve us. Child rearing books can help parents find creative ways to tackle temper tantrums, teething and potty training. Books such as *The Court-houses of Texas*, *Organic Vegetable Gardening*, and *Best Bike Rides in Texas* can enrich our lives and challenge us to try new things.

Books are especially important for children. Studies have shown that reading and storytelling increases a child's vocabulary and stimulate their imagination. Favorites like *Clifford*, *The Big Red Dog*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, and Dr. Seuss books teach critical life lessons early on and provide a love of reading to last a lifetime.

Older children can enjoy the practical lessons found in the

adventures of Anne of Green Gables, the tales of a young orphan finding friends and facing growing pains, J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, which has been made into a blockbuster films, takes readers into a fantasy world of unforgettable characters and an epic battle between good and evil.

A visit to your local library is one of the best things you can do this summer. Most libraries offer books for all ages as well as games and special reading hours for children. They are the perfect place to rediscover classics like *Charlotte's Web* and *The Great Gatsby*, or find the latest best seller by John Grisham or Robert Caro. The Internet is also a great source for reviewing books on-line, finding summer reading guides and purchasing books.

Reading is the foundation for a lifetime of learning: it is never too early to get started and never too late to revive one's love of reading. As you enjoy the summer and the many sights the Lone Star state has to offer, don't leave your roadmap to adventure behind. Before the long, hot days of summer are gone, take the time to lose yourself in a good book.



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NEW BOOKS AT THE YOAKUM COUNTY LIBRARY

FICTION:

Bad Company...Jack Higgins, Bare Bones..Kathy Reichs, Johnny Angel...Danielle Steel, Last To Die...James Srippando, Lirael: Daughter Of The Clays #2...Sarth Nix, A Man To Call My Own...Johanna Lindsey, The Probable Future...Alice Hoffman, Roseborsugh...Jane Roberts Wood,

NON FICTION:

Benjamin Franklin: An American Life...Walter Isaacson, 21 Days To Baghdad...Steve Koepp, Lose Weight The Smart Low-Carb Way...Bettina Newman

VIDEOS:

Road To Redemption, Kangaroo Jack, The Home Coming, Camino A Redencion (Spanish), One Against The Wind, The Wild Thornberrys, The Ride, You Are Special, Jacobs Gift, Tu Eres Especial (Spanish), El Roedo (Spanish)

JP Court Summary

July 11, 2003-In JP Court Precinct One with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding the following cases and bonds were set: Cases filed: 34 traffic cases, 1 public intoxication, 1 open container of alcoholic beverage in motor vehicle. Bonds Set: Motion to revoke probation-Reagan County-held for transport. Assault causes bodily injury-family member-\$1,000. Driving while intoxicated-2nd offense-\$1,500 + Interlock device. 2 cases motion to revoke probation-held for hearing. Capias pro fine/public intoxication-\$300 fine. Possession controlled substance-penalty group 1-cocaine 0/1 gram-U/4 grams. Manufacture/delivery controlled substance-penalty group 1-methamphetamine 0/4 grams U/200 grams-\$20,000

NOTICE FOR BIDS

The Plains Independent School District will receive bids until 12:00 (noon) Thursday, July 31, 2003 to sell a house located at 1003 2nd Street (E44.8' Lot/ W44.5' Lot 7, Blk 6, Stanford) in Plains, Texas.

Bids will be reviewed and contract awarded at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees that will be held on Monday, August 11, 2003.

Bid forms may be picked up at the Plains Independent School District Business Office from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Thursday. The house will be shown by appointment only by contacting the superintendents office at 456-7401.

Sealed bids should be marked "House Bid" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to the superintendent, James Haynes, PO Box 479/1000 Cowboy Way, Plains, Texas 79355. **NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

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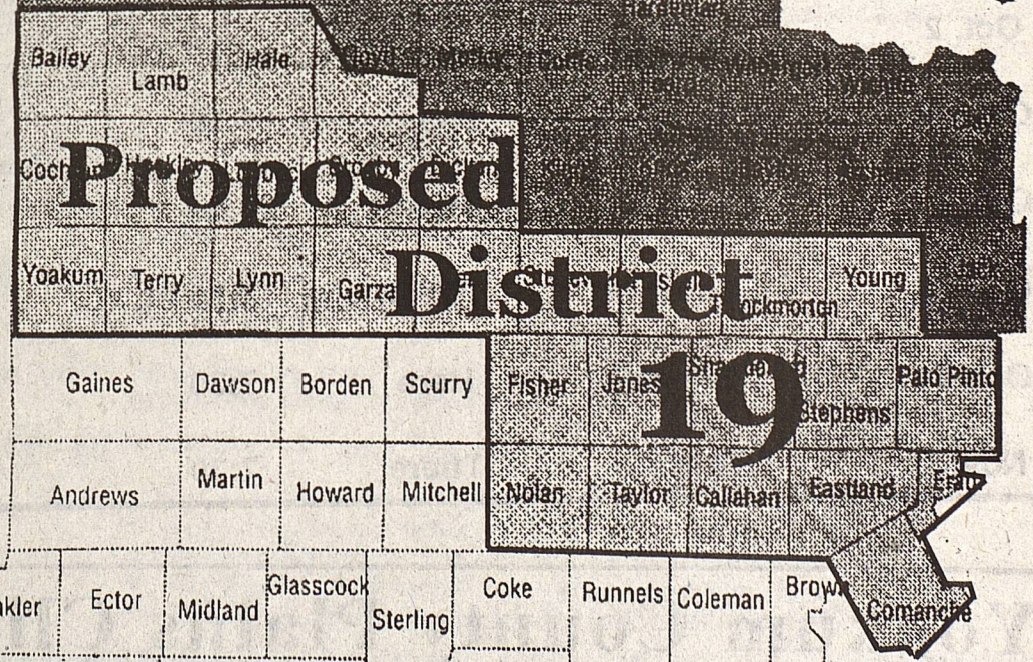
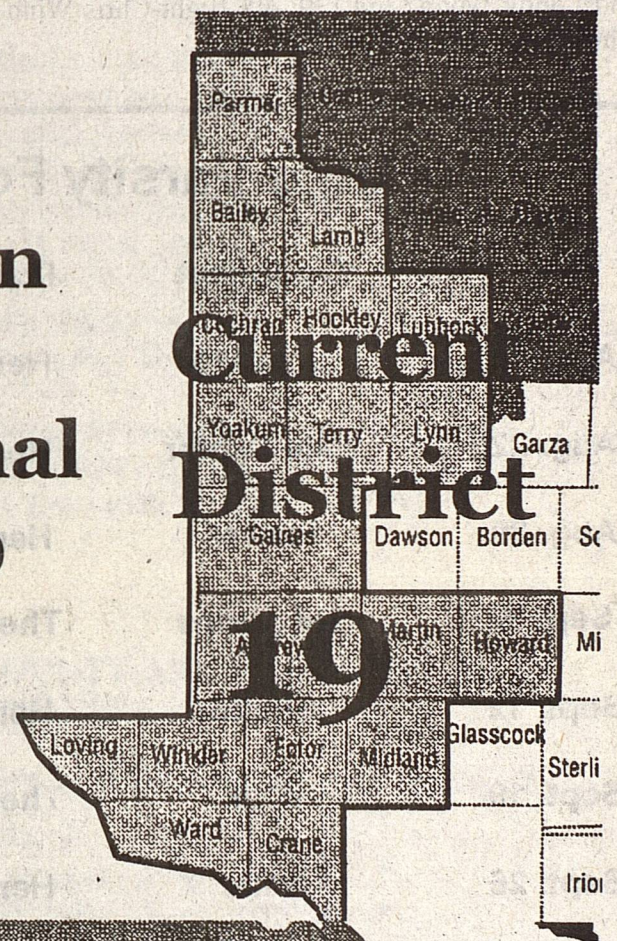
The Library's a cool place to be in the summer.....



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Comparison of Congressional District 19 Lines





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August 30, 2003
Plains, Texas

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Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

Each week we present the life story of one of our Senior Center family. Through this means we hope to preserve a history of those who have been apart of this group. There was no Denver City when each of these various narratives began, but since it became a town on this windswept plateau, the people, whose lives we review, migrated here from diverse heritages and locales. They are stories about struggle, strife, and sin; about learning, loving, and learning; about concern, compassion, and commitment; about trials, tears, and triumph; about vision, valor, and victory. These weekly personal stories present those who have helped to build this community into the friendly, caring community it is today, our home. Monday was birthday and anniversary time again. Ted, Hoot, Randy, Coy, Frankie, Vera, Rita, Lois, and Mary were celebrating birthdays while the Browns, the Blacks, and the Hemmelines were remembering years of marriage. We congratulate each of you as the years continue to climb. Visitors this week include

Dolores Moore, Red Berry, Lois Aulds, and Darwin Hobbs. We count these folks as Center family although we don't see them very often. Hoot and Mary Gibson were accompanied by a granddaughter, Lisa Gibson from Denver City, and a great grandson. Ty Gibson from Corsicana, at lunch time on Monday and Robert Matthews, from Seminole, also had lunch with us on Monday. It was his first visit to our Center.

It is good to welcome Harold and Vera Brown back after a lengthy tour to visit their sons and families in Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Kansas.

Johnny Sims remains in the local hospital. Nettie Short has also spent some time in the hospital after having surgery. We wish these folks a speedy recovery.

Come join the exercise group who meet in the gymnasium on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 10:00 am. There are lots of music, laughter, fun, and fellowship, along with "on-going" exercise routines.

Are You One Of The 7 Out Of 8 Who Have Not Prepared An Updated Will?

When you die you must leave behind everything for which you have worked and saved. The question is, "TO WHOM?" If you have a will, you leave instructions to others to act according to YOUR wishes. If you do not have a will, the STATE will simply distribute your estate according to law.

Without a will, the STATE may determine the disposition of your assets, the welfare of your spouse, and the guardianship of your children. Probate costs, taxes, and fees may increase. Moreover, family members left behind are often at a complete loss and confusion cripples better judgement.

The Salvation Army offers a free booklet on wills and estate planning. The booklet is intended to demonstrate that many of the ideas and opinions about wills are entirely wrong. Also available by request is additional information on examples of estate planning, what specifically does one need to know about estate planning, who needs to do estate planning, using trusts in an estate plan, setting goals and objectives, avoiding mismanagement of assets by unskillful heirs, pre-planning for incapacity, and reducing taxes. To receive a copy of the Will booklet, call toll free 1-800-569-1765.

Bridal Shower

honoring

Becky Coronel

Sunday, July 20, 2003

3:00 pm. to 4:30 pm.

Fellowship Hall

Plains United Methodist Church

Selections: J.C. Penney, Target, Wal-Mart

Come Join the Summer Fun!

Out door Swim Party-

Friday, June 27, 8-11 P.M., Grades 7 thru 12-Refreshments

Youth Center Pool Tournaments-

Friday, July 11, Plains Students and Adults-Grades 7 thru 12, trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd. 8:30 PM until finished. Saturday, July 12, Grades 7-12, singles and doubles. 8:30PM until finished.

Outdoor Swim Party-

Friday, July 25, 8-11 PM All Youth Center grades-food and drinks.

50th Anniversary



Don and Doris (Kee) Miller of Midland, TX will celebrate their 50th Anniversary at a BBQ given by their children, with the help of Family and Friends on July 19th at Calvary Assembly of God Family Center in Midland, TX.

They were married July 20, 1953 at the Assembly of God Church in Plains, TX. Doris is the daughter of the late Silas and Hazel Kee of Plains, TX. Don is the son of the late Hector and Grace Miller of Coleman, TX. They have three children. Jerry Miller and wife Donna of Muscat Oman, Donna Minnick and husband Edwin of Midland, TX, Steve Miller and wife Sheila of Lubbock, TX. They have six grandchildren. Don is a truck driver, Owner Operator, hauling produce 18 years and leased to Weaver Trucking for 20 years, hauling sand and gravel. Before that, he was employed as a roughneck for Ralph Lowe Drilling Co. in Kermit and Midland. In 1999 he sold his trucks and retired.

Doris was employed in Midland, for Texas State Optical, 7-Eleven, and Gibson's. She was a cashier and bookkeeper for 22 years and retired in 1995. She also kept books for Don's Trucking Business. After their marriage they lived in McCamey, Plains, Midland, Kermit, Brownfield, and in 1958 they settled in Midland where they have lived for the past 45 years.

To Imagine Is Everything

Yoakum County Connection's Summer Art Program 2003 would like to express their sincere thanks to all who helped make our summer program a great success. We offered several new classes this year, including stepping stones, soap making, jewelry classes, mural madness, making erasers, stenciling, summer hats, pillow making, and the paint paddle flag. These classes were offered at no charge to the kids of Yoakum County. It is a great opportunity for the children in our rural community to experience the arts. The response to our program was extraordinary. A special thanks to all who helped make this a successful summer program: Linda Powell, Susie Powell, Treon Ortega, Janie Ramos, Debbie Pollard, Sandy Ramos, Pam Burgess, Donna Friesen, Able Ramos, Lisa Garza, and Toni Mungia. Also involved were many local merchants and organizations: Yoakum County Precincts, Mid-America Arts Alliance, Texas Extension Service, Plains' and Denver City's County libraries, Plains Chamber of Commerce, Cowboy Country News, DC Press, the City of Plains, Lowe's in Plains, Bayer Lumber, Plains Fine Arts Club, and the Plains' Art Association. Thank you for your contributions. We are very pleased with the communities participation and involvement. Last, we thank the children and their parents for great attendance and support. We look forward to a great program for 2004.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Plains, Texas

Sunday School

9:30 am.

Morning Worship

10:45 am.

Evening Program

6:00 pm.

Connection Plans For Annual Watermelon Round Up

Yoakum County Connection met Tuesday, July 8 for a regular meeting at the Connection Building in Denver City at 6:00 pm. President LeAnn Romines discussed possible school programs and encouraged volunteers to find performers. Secretary Elsa Moya volunteered to be on a live TV program in Lubbock promoting the Watermelon Round-Up. Director Janie Loya Ramos delivered a report on the Summer Youth Arts Programs in Denver City and Plains. 21 different classes were offered with multiples at Denver City and Plains. Mid America Arts Alliance donated \$1,000 as a result of Ramos' petition. 586 participants attended the summer activities with some kids enrolled in more than one class.

Pam Burgess gave a treasurer's report and announced Watermelon Round-Up hats, caps, t-shirts and

aprons are in and on sale at the Yoakum County Libraries, Image'N That and Agri Alliance in Plains. James Altman discussed the live music at the Round Up to be held August 30 in Plains. J and A Farms (Jerry Hartman) gave wheat hay to be baled by Raymond Crain for the festival. Crain is donating his labor as well. Debbie Pollard, Christy Brink, First National of Brownfield, and Wilma Powell have given donations for the clown. Donations are still needed for ice.

Jeannette Head reported Dottie Mayes and Mary Lou Sherrin will run the Horseshoe Pitching and Washer Toss. Cook off contestants are urged to contact Jim Brown for the Lone Star Barbecue Society sanctioned brisket/rib/chicken cook off. Other directors Lisa Brown, Ed Hansen, Debbie Rushing Spears, Judy London and Linda Powell.

by Linda Powell

Artist Of The Month

Flags on the 4th of July

Plains artist Susie Powell displays her original paintings in our Barnes & Noble hallway gallery for the month of July.

Patriotic renditions of the American Flag are beautifully incorporated into urban cityscapes. County scenes depict barns and sheds emblazoned with the red, white and blue. Come browse and enjoy this month's patriotic artwork.

BLOOD DRIVE

Yoakum County Hospital
United Blood Services Donor Coach
Hospital Parking Lot, Thursday, July
17 10:00 am. to 2:00 pm. All donors
will receive a T-shirt. Don't forget
your I.D. and list of medications

Workers needed for
Watermelon Round Up.
Good opportunity for a
group fund raiser. Interested
parties should contact Ed
Hansen at City Hall
456-2288.

First United Methodist Church

1202 Avenue G - Plains, Texas

456-3727



Sunday Schedule

Children's Choir - 9:45 am
followed by Sunday School
Adult Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

For all you do,
His blood was for you!

From The Hack

One of my more less than famous sayings, yet to make print other than in this column, is, "Dummies Do Not Become Rich and Famous." Perhaps after the following saga it will inch up a notch or two.

As reported in the July 9 issue of the *Levelland & Hockley County News Press*, one of the dumbest criminal cases I've heard of was carefully covered.

On the night of our glorious 4th of July celebration, the night DPS headquarters had reported in every news media around the state some 60,000 state and county law enforcement officers would be on duty looking for bad guys on the highway, an alert DPS trooper spotted a pickup on a farm to market road near Levelland, and noted none of the three occupants were wearing seat belts.

That's Dumb Number One. In the bed of the pickup, obviously not even covered, according to the accompanying photo, the officer found a brilliant array of equipment and chemicals used in making Methamphetamine, or Speed. Now picture this... they were 'speeding along', cooking Meth on the fly, so to speak. I suggest this as Dumb Number Two. The pickup contained not only all the chemicals needed to make meth, but a goodly amount of the cooked final product.

The Brain Trust Trio were

charged with offenses including manufacture, delivery, possession of and intent to manufacture a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

I suppose you could consider the Three Stooges rather lucky. They were 'nt illegally shooting fireworks on the Fourth, or speeding, or drinking beer. They then would have been in SERIOUS trouble. Oh, by the way.....one of the suspects had been previously busted for eluding officers in a vehicle chase in 2002 which ended when he abandoned the vehicle, and later in October of this year in a stand-off with police officers at his residence. I feel certain he will be deeper in stuff than his two companions.

.....
Though he's been gone a long time, the wit of Will Rogers lives on. Some examples;

Don't squat with your spurs on.

Letting the cat out of the bag is lots easier than putting it back in.

If you get to thinking you're a person of influence, try ordering someone else's dog around.

After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. A hunter came along and shot him dead. The moral - when you're full of bull keep your mouth shut.

Never, never kick a cow chip on a hot day.

There's two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.

When you give a lesson in meanness to a critter or a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson.

Never miss a good chance to shut up.

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, July 12, 2003
2:00 - 4:00 pm

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Important stakeholders meeting

What: South Plains Public Health District will be sponsoring Stakeholder meetings in Gaines, Terry, and Yoakum Counties to discuss the future of the SPPHD Primary Health Care (PHC) Program in those communities. Items to be discussed include immediate changes which will be necessary due to current budget shortfall. Also an overview of long term changes which will be necessitated by changes in both funding and program scope from the Texas Department of Health effective September 1, 2003 and March 1, 2004 will be presented for strategic planning purposes.

What is the PHC Program? Since 1990, SPPHD has operated PHC contracts through the Texas Department of Health to provide Primary Health Care services to low income persons in Gaines, Terry, and Yoakum counties including uninsured children, adults with diabetes, hypertension, asthma, congestive heart failure, thyroid disease, and uninsured pregnant women. Services have been subcontracted to local physician offices, hospital laboratories/x-ray departments, and retail pharmacies to provide PHC services in each community with the local SPPHD Field Office providing eligibility determination, health education, preventative health, and case management services to PHC clients. In FY 2003, over 950 low income persons will be served by the SPPHD Program.

Why: The short term changes are required as a result of an increased demand for services by uninsured persons in Gaines, Terry, and Yoakum counties which has resulted in a severe budget shortfall for this contract year. The long term changes are a result of recent legislation passed by the Texas Legislature.

Who Should Attend: Local hospital administrators, physicians and clinic administrative staff, local retail pharmacies, county indigent health care staff, county judge, city manager, local press, TDHS Medicaid eligibility workers, members of the ministerial alliance and/or any other community group concerned with health care for the low income and uninsured in the community.

When/Where: Monday, July 14th, 10:00 a.m. Brownfield Regional Medical Center Board Room
Tuesday, July 15th, 8:30 a.m. Yoakum County Hospital Board Room
Thursday, July 17th, 8:00 a.m. Seminole Memorial Hospital Board Room

(The same basic information will be presented at each community meeting however community plans to address the changes/information may vary by location.)

Need More Information??

Contact Dovie Burda, South Plains Public Health District Administration,
At 637-2164 or 1-800-360-6510

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