

Motley County Tribune

50¢



God Bless
America!

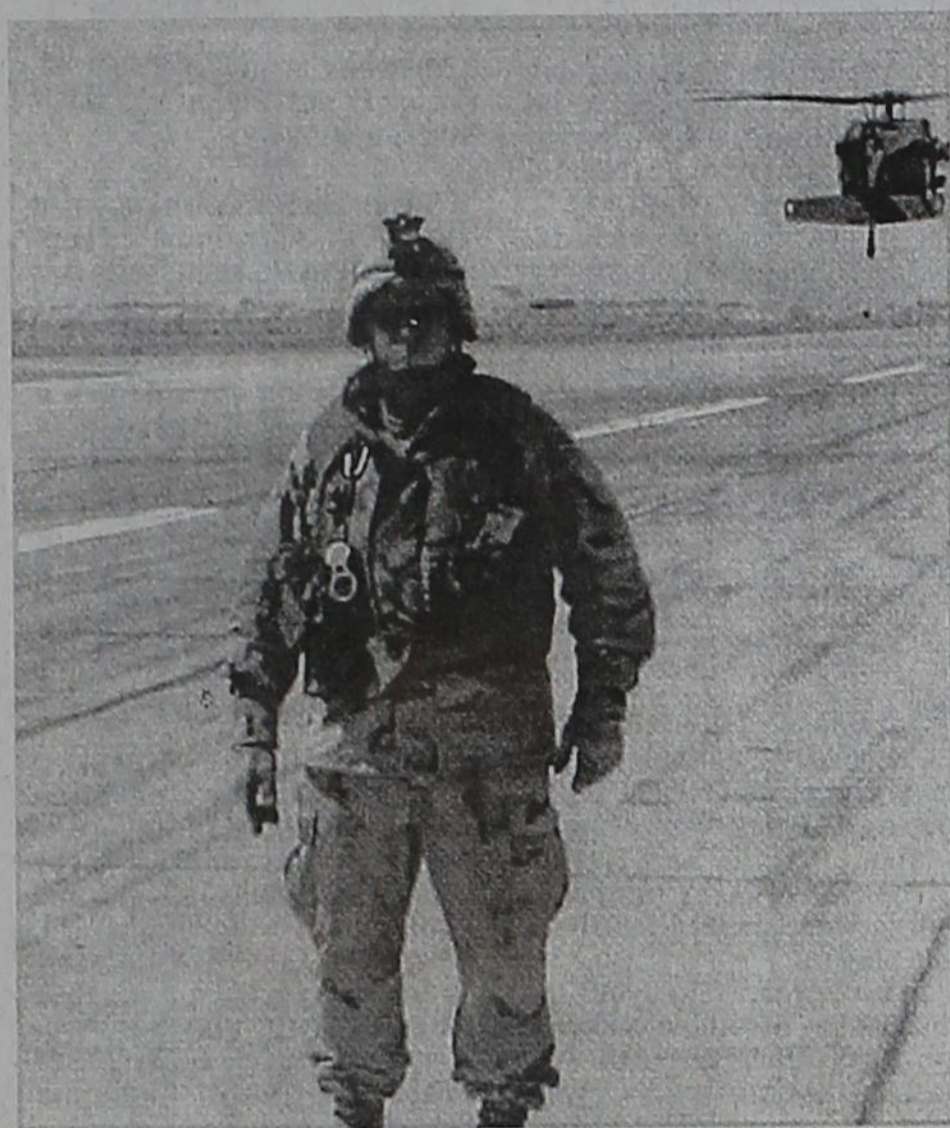
"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2003

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 40



Sgt. Robert Fisk of Matador at a landing strip near Baghdad, Iraq. Sgt. Fisk will be able to take advantage of President Bush's R&R leave when he comes home this weekend for a two week stay.

Local Soldier to come home for R & R leave

Local soldier, Sgt. Robert Fisk, is scheduled to come home this weekend. Sgt. Fisk, who has been stationed in Iraq since April will be able to spend two weeks of R&R with his wife, Christi and young sons, Brendan and Derreck, in Matador. After the two week rest, he is scheduled to return to Iraq and remain there until April.

Sgt. Fisk, a member of the 142nd Infantry QRF (Quick Reaction Force), was called back to active duty as an Army Reservist, in January. He joined the Army in 1995 and received his discharge in 2001.

Mrs. Fisk said that most of the time since her husband has been in Iraq she has kept in touch through e-mail and some phone calls. Although most information is limited, she does know that he and his infantry have been camped west of Baghdad.

Washington reports last week indicated that The Pentagon

may alert a large number of additional National Guard and Reserve troops for duty in Iraq.

Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said more reservists could be called upon if other countries do not soon pledge thousands more troops to form a third multinational division in Iraq.

He said the Guard and Reserve troops should be notified about four months before they would need to ship out because they require some training time.

There are now about 130,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, including several thousand Guard and Reserve forces. Current plans call for mobilizing two National Guard brigades for duty in Iraq this Fall. The Pentagon had hoped that it would need to activate no National Guard units beyond that, but Pace said more could be alerted within weeks for possible deployment.



MC Principal comes home

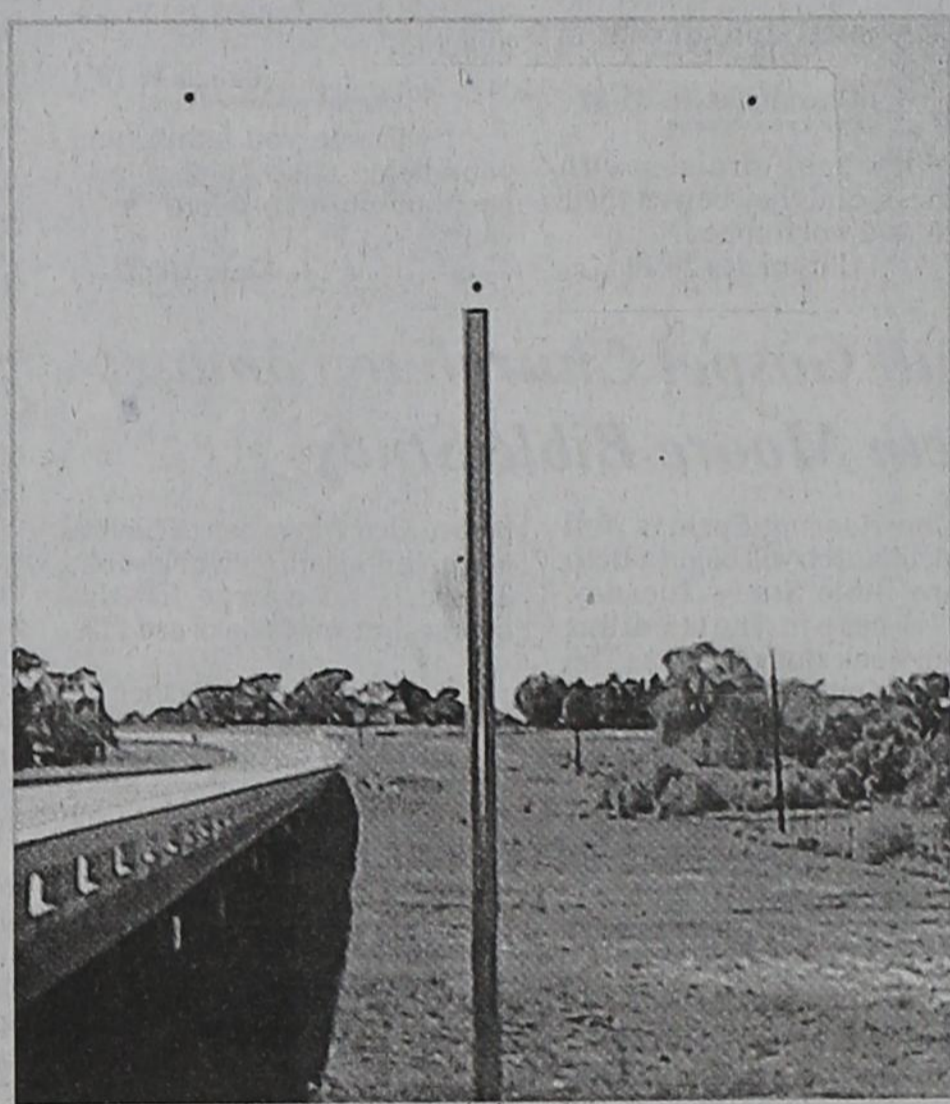
New Motley County ISD Principal, Marilynn Hicks, has come home, in a sense. Mrs. Hicks, the daughter of Matador residents, Sonny and Dorothy Russell, taught here, as did her husband, Randy Hicks, in the mid 1970's. At that time she taught Home Economics and Mr. Hicks was a Coach, Health and Speech teacher. Mrs. Hicks graduated from Colorado City High School, Texas Tech University and Sul Ross University. She is certified in Mid-Management and Superintendency. She comes to MCISD from Clint ISD in the El Paso area, where she was in secondary administration. Over the years she has taught various subjects. Mr. Hicks has been a lead teacher in an alternative school in Clint for several years and plans to join her here in the future.

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New Sign

This new road sign, Frank Mitchell Memorial Loop, is one of two recently erected at the north and south entrance to Roaring Springs. The loop, previously known as Loop 42, was renamed through efforts of the Roaring Springs City Council and Senator Robert Duncan's office. Tentative plans are to officially dedicate the signs November 11. Marine First Lieutenant, Frank N. Mitchell, a Roaring Springs native, lost his life in the Korean War, November 26, 1950, and earned the Congressional Medal of Honor.

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Livestock assistance program available to producers

Motley County livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses caused by natural disasters will find some relief through the Livestock Assistance Program (LAP) offered by the USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA).

"This program provides additional relief to livestock producers who suffered grazing losses due to severe weather and related causes," said Carolyn Redding, Acting County Executive Director.

To date, the Motley County Office has received 50 applications from producers seeking relief. The LAP sign-up period began August 6 and ends October 24, 2003.

"LAP is intended to address the needs of producers who were not adequately covered by the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), but producers cannot receive payments under both programs for the same loss," said Redding.

Redding added, a producer's LAP payment will be reduced by the amount(s) the producer received under 2002 Cattle Feed Program, Livestock Compensation Program - I and Livestock Compensation Program - II regardless of whether the LAP payment is for 2001 or 2002.

Authorized by the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003, LAP provides \$250 million, nationwide, to livestock producers for grazing losses that occurred in either 2001 or 2002.

Under LAP, a producer's grazing land must be located in a county that was declared a primary disaster area under a Presidential or Secretarial declaration. The county must have been approved after Jan. 1, 2001, and a designation requested no later than Feb. 20, 2003, and sub-

sequently approved. Contiguous counties are not eligible.

For those counties designated as a disaster area for 2001 or 2002, additional LAP eligibility criteria must be met for each year. A county must have experienced an average of 40% or greater loss of normal percent grazing loss for three or more consecutive months in a calendar year in order to be eligible for that year. A county may meet eligibility requirements for both 2001 and 2002; however, a producer in that county may receive a LAP payment for only one of the years.

Although LAP is grazing loss program, payments are based on the lesser of the calculated pasture value or the value of livestock feed allowance multiplied by the producer's maximum grazing loss. The eligible amount is 50% of the loss amount. A producer must have control of adequate grazing land to support the eligible livestock.

During 2001 or 2002, a livestock producer must have suffered a 40% or greater loss of grazing production for three or more consecutive months due to drought, hot weather, disease, insect infestation, flood, fire, hurricane, earthquake, severe storm or other natural disasters.

"Because funding for LAP is limited, a national factor will apply," said Redding. "This factor will be announced after the sign-up period ends."

The 2003 Act requires that an adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation apply - a change from previous LAP provisions. A \$40,000 payment limitation also

applies to LAP assistance. The total value of all applications will be determined and, if in excess of \$250 million, will be adjusted proportionately.

USDA has developed a Web

site that provides producers with one convenient location for details on new and existing disaster assistance. The Web site can be accessed at <http://disaster.usda.gov>.

Better Business Bureau warns of email scam

The Better Business Bureau of South Plains (BBB) is warning consumers about emails being received from CarderPortal.Org with the subject line: "Your credit card has been charged for \$234.65".

"This is nothing in the world but a trick to get credit card numbers from unknowing consumers," states Nan Campbell, president, BBB of the South

Plains. The emails inform consumers that their credit card have been charged in association with a money laundering or child pornography transaction and that if you want to confirm the transaction, you press "yes". If you select "no" then the recipient still thinks they need to

type in their credit card number so that the scammers will know which card not to charge.

"The scammers get the consumers both ways, so the BBB advises extreme caution, to not press either button and delete the email", Campbell stated.

The BBB has been unable to identify this company from any of its sources although it is thought to be a foreign company, possibly originating out of Moscow.

The BBB reminds consumers that personal information such as credit card numbers and expiration dates, social security numbers and banking information should never be given to unknown, unconfirmed sources OR sent via emails.



Yearbook ad sales to begin

The 2003-04 La Arena yearbook staff will soon begin selling ads. The staff consists of six members, pictured left to right, (sitting) Sabrina Osborn and Shea Rose; (standing) Emily Hurt, Amanda Hurt, Brittany Moore and Sierra Atherton. Staff director is Mr. Walter Taylor. If any of these girls stop by your business, they would appreciate your advertisement in the yearbook. Or, if you would like to place an ad, as a business or individual, please contact any of the staff members. The girls hope to make this year's La Arena bigger and better.

Matadors lose to tough Meadow Broncos

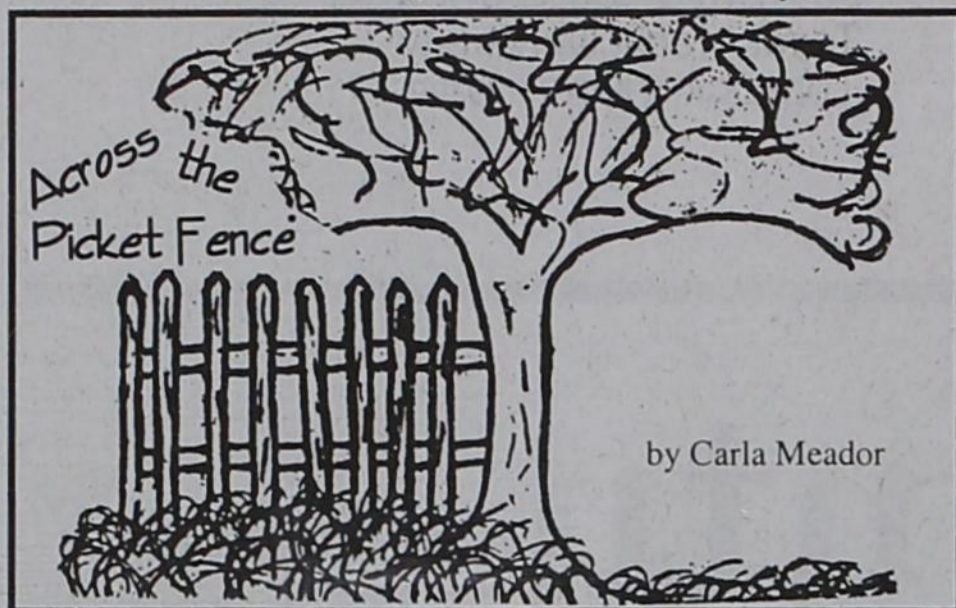
by Amanda Hurt

Motley County went up against the state-ranked Meadow Broncos on Friday, Sept. 26. The Matadors put up a good fight but were eventually defeated at half-time 48-0.

Total rushing yards for the Matadors was 96 and passing

yards was 29. Seagram Sims rushed for 89 yards and Lorenzo Salazar had 7 rushing yards.

The Matadors will face New Home, there, this Friday, October 3. Kick off will be at 7:30. So everyone come and support the Mighty Matadors!



Just in case you need a little pick-up this week here are some happy scriptures that are good to remember when life seems overwhelming.

"Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me."

Genesis 21:6

"The people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them."

I Kings 1:40

"Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; and let men say among the nations, The Lord reigneth. Let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof; let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein."

I Chronicles 16: 31-32

"They sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped."

I Chronicles 29:30

"Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the Lord, to the mighty One of Israel."

Isaiah 30:29

"As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste."

Song of Solomon 2:3

"Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing. O mountains; for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted."

Isaiah 49:13

"I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

John 16:22

Full Gospel Church to conduct Beth Moore Bible Study

The Roaring Springs Full Gospel Church will begin a Beth Moore Bible Study, Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 7:00 p.m. The title of this eleven week study is "Jesus The One and Only."

Participants must sign-up

before Oct. 7 in order to have a required home workbook. There is no charge for the course, but workbooks are \$13.

To sign up or get further information call 347-2325.

World Crafts Party will feature handcrafts from around the world

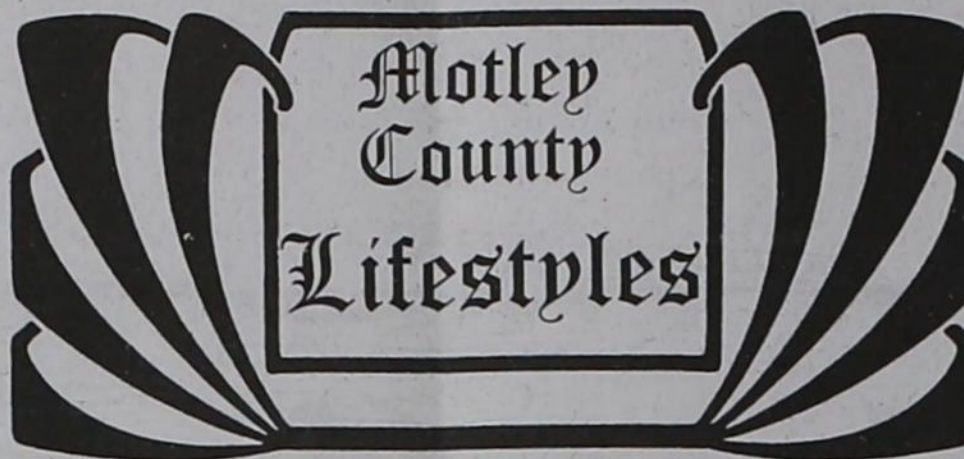
All ladies of the community are invited to attend a World Crafts party to be held at the home of Doris Moore on Saturday, October 4, at 10:00 a.m.

The event, sponsored by the Women on Mission of the WMU of First Baptist Church, Matador, will feature handcrafts from around the world, which may be ordered from a World Craft catalog. The catalog features wood crafts, fabric items, lace tableware, Christmas ornaments, and a variety of nativity

scenes. Several examples of these handcrafts will be on display for examination.

Snacks from around the world will be featured, as well as information about the World Crafts program and its artisans.

All handcrafts are made by artisans living in poverty, and all income from orders goes to the artisans to help feed and clothe their families. No funds are retained by the local church or by the national WMU organization.



El Progreso Club hears program on Shared Services

by Winifred Darsey

El Progreso Club met September 11 for its first meeting of the year at the Rolling Plains Shared Service Arrangement in Matador.

President Lana Copp called the meeting to order at 3:30 for a program on Education.

The invocation was given by Frieda Burns. Loys Campbell was leader for the day and presented Mrs. Beverly Mars, who gave an outstanding program on the disposition to the demands of students, who have a learning disability, emotional or physical. She explained the function of the work, the evaluation and care given to each diagnosis a student receives. No child is left behind. Each child is given an equal opportunity for aid and special education in their special need.

The Rolling Plains Shared Service Arrangement has its service headquarters here in its new building. Mrs. Mars is head of the service and directs its responsibilities and service to each student. It is an extensive service to seven counties included in this endeavor. They have banded together in their efforts to help the handicapped pupil. Person to person attention is given to each one. All problems are considered important and receive proper attention, whatever the problem.

The seven schools that belong to the Rolling Plains Shared Service Arrangements are Guthrie, Jayton, Motley County, Paducah, Quitaque, Spur and Turkey. It is federally funded and ample funds are available.

The new building is a beautiful structure with its wing for offices, an impressive foyer, directors room and a roomy kitchen. The interior walls are white. The club enjoyed the tour of the building. It's a valuable addition to the Motley County school.

This service to a handicap student helps them to learn a skill or improve on impairment

so that they will be able to function in their world of today.

Mrs. Copp conducted a short business meeting. She had the yearbooks ready and distributed them to the members. The books are very nice and the agenda of programs is very interesting. The programs are something to look forward to.

El Progreso Club's projects for the year are Historical Jail Museum, Motley County Chamber of Commerce, Motley County Independent School District Scholarship and Library, Motley County Historical Museum, Mural and Community beautification, East Mound Cemetery, the Vernon Rehab Center and M.D. Anderson Clinic and Hospital in Houston.

El Progreso Club will be hostess to Santa Rosa District Board meeting to be held at the First United Methodist Church, October 18.

Mrs. Barbara Whiningham, President-elect of Texas Federation of Women's Clubs of Texas will attend the meeting.

The October meeting of El Progreso club will be held at the Motley County Library, October 9. Mrs. Suzanne Abbott will bring the program on "More Than Just Books." All members are urged to attend.

The officers of the club were hostess for the day favoring the members with ice cream sundaes.

School supplies were donated to the school to aid students who need help.

Mrs. JoAnn Dickson, president of Santa Rosa District of Texas Federation of Women's Clubs attended the meeting, traveling from Brady. The club was honored by her presence.

Mrs. Winifred Darsey gave the inspirational thought, and the club adjourned.

Members present were Sharon Allen, Frieda Burns, Loys Campbell, Lucretia Estes Campbell, Dorothy Day, Lana Copp, Opal Pipkin, Ruby McGuire, Jerry Watson and Winifred Darsey.



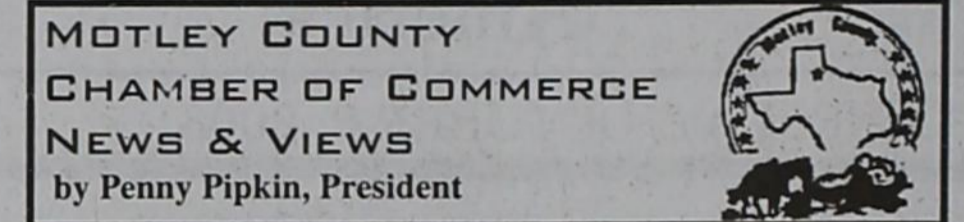
The library is back together now. We lack just the genealogy section and the reference section having all the books back on the shelves. We are on line again, too. Our computers are hooked to the Internet again.

The Motley County Library offers to its patrons many useful, on-line data bases such as Health Source: Consumer Edition and Nursing Academic Edition, Newspaper Source, Military Library Fulltext, Religion and Philosophy Collection, Topic Search, Biography and Genealogy, Master Index, and many others that will appeal to all users including students doing research for school papers.

Just a reminder about the

library's hours: we are open in the afternoons only, 2:00-5:00 on Monday's, 1:00-6:00 on Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursday's, and Noon to 5:00 on Friday's.

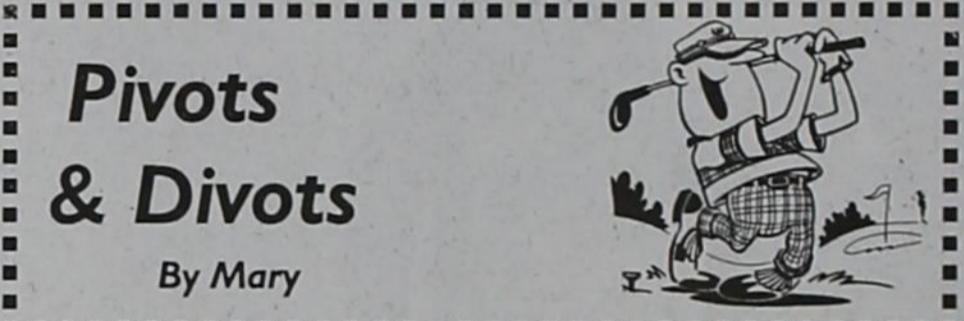
We appreciate all who have worked so hard to get the library open again. D.A. McGuire and Charley Johnson have carried all the books back, keeping us busy putting them on the shelves. Betty Henry, Ruby McGuire, Marihelen Wason, Patricia Green, Betty Moore, Deb Spray, Shea Rose, and Jo Crowder have all unpacked boxes and put books on the shelves. We thank them for their work in getting the library open again.



With fall, winter and holiday seasons fast approaching, the Motley County Chamber of Commerce would like to remind the community that "M.C. Bucks" are available in any denominations for all their gift giving needs. The "bucks" can be purchased through Barbara

Armstrong at the Chamber of Commerce or Penny Pipkin at Pipkin Insurance Agency.

The "Bucks" can be spent at any M.C. merchant except Allsups. Please remember it is an excellent way to increase sales for local businesses.



Thursday, September 25th, the ladies played for low putts. Playing 18 holes were Geneva, Louise, Jeannie and LaVoe. LaVoe won with 29 putts. No scores were posted for the 9 hole players.

There were 16 players for the Tuesday Scramble, September 23rd. Alan Bingham was closest to the pin with 15' 7". Winning 1st, score of 31: Buzz

Thacker, LaVoe Thacker, Roncho Grundy and Jim Watson. Winning 2nd, score of 31: Ken Marshall, Jerry Johnson, Jeannie Johnson and Stan Hanesworth. Winning 3rd, score of 32: Gene Brannon, Dot Grundy, Alan Bingham and Kyle Moore. Others playing were: Bill Heatly, Kay Heatly, Sut Braselton and Francine Braselton.

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School Menu

MONDAY, OCT. 6
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Ham/Cheese Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Chips, Orange Slices, Milk.

TUESDAY, OCT. 7
Breakfast: Egg Omelet Bacon, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Soft Tacos, Refried-

Beans, Tortilla Chips, Oreo Fluff, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 8
Breakfast: Cereal, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Rib-B-Q, Potatoes, Broccoli/Cheese, Biscuit, Pudding, Milk.

THURSDAY, OCT. 9
Breakfast: Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, French Fries, Choc. Brownies, Milk.

FRIDAY, OCT. 10
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Steakfinger, Creamed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Hot Roll/Honey, Milk.

Grand Ole Opry Stars Jim Ed Brown & Helen Cornelius

In Concert
Saturday, October 11
7:00 p.m.
Old High School Gym
Turkey, Texas

Tickets: \$20.00
For advance tickets call
806/423-1420

Button Inspection

A serviceman wrote about a bit of unintended comedy during a company inspection at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. This is where the U.S. Army's guided missile school is located. As the story goes, an inspection was being conducted by a full Colonel. Everything had gone smoothly, until the officer came to the man standing just next to the soldier who recalled the incident. The Colonel stopped, looked up and down, and snapped, "Button that pocket, trooper!" The soldier, more than a little rattled, stammered, "Right now, sir?" "Of course, right now!" was the reply. Whereupon the soldier very carefully reached out and buttoned the flap on the Colonel's shirt pocket.

Jesus told a parable, "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye." Matthew 7:2-5.

Could it be that it is easier to see the unbuttoned pockets of others than it is to see our own? It seems as though some become "expert speck hunters." Does it sound reasonable - even scriptural - to begin our inspections with self first. That might stop a lot of unjust judgement in our brotherhood. May God help us all, with the wisdom to look into our own hearts before ever passing judgement on someone else.

Roaring Springs Church of Christ
Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.

Colonial Candles are now here!

Matador Floral

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Lots of NEW Clothes (sizes XS - 3X)
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New Texas Jewelry

Too many new things to list...
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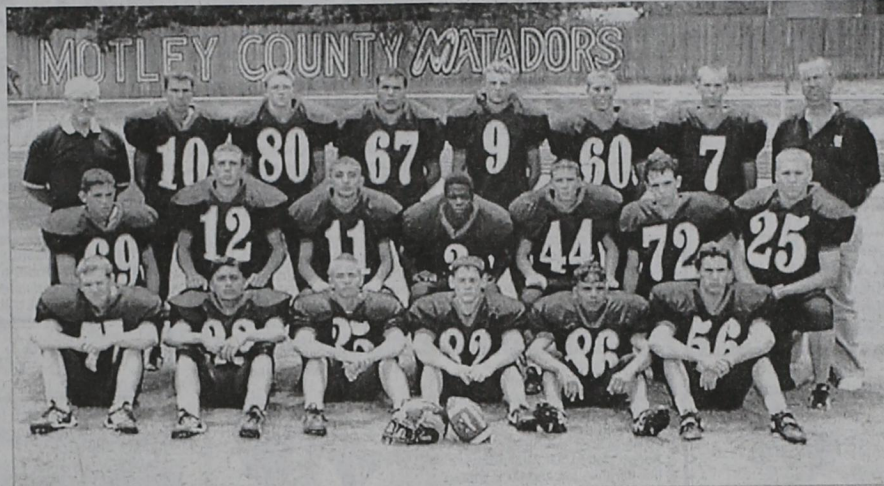
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to shop for your
special outfit!

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MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS FOOTBALL



MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS — Beginning at back, left to right, Coach Cooper, Chance Bingham, Quinten Rose, Brandon Martin, Kenny Johannes, Cody Cooper, Clay Cooper, Coach Dodson; 2nd row, Matthew Martin, Levi Buckner, Lorenzo Salazar, Seagram Sims, Matt Henzler, Brandon Gressett, Colton Russell; (front) Sam Stapleton, Gene Salazar, Aaron Dodson, Cameron Jeffcoat, Jose Ramirez, Martin Walker.



MOTLEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS — Charli Ream, Angie Marvel, Mandi Ream (back l-r); Emily Hurt, Amanda Hurt, Mascot, and Kittie Campbell (middle); in front is Sabrina Osborn.

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2003-2004 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date:	Opponent:	Site:	Time:
September 12	Spur	Here	7:30
September 19	Guthrie	Here	7:30
September 26	Meadow	There	7:30
October 3	New Home	There	7:30
District			
October 10	Patton Springs	There	7:30
HC * October 18 **	Happy (Saturday)	Here	5:00
October 24	Hedley	There	7:30
November 1	Silverton (Saturday)	There	5:00
November 7	Valley	Here	7:30

**BEAT
NEW HOME!!**

WE SUPPORT THE MATADORS!

- Anna's Mexican Restaurant
- Alexander Fuel
- South Plains Electric Coop., Inc.
- Gillespie Communications
- Matador Floral
- Designs by Vickie
- Higginbotham-Bartlett
- First State Bank
- First Ag Credit, FCS

- Red Ball Gin
- Motley County Tribune
- Matador Implement
- Pay & Save Grocery
- Flomot Gin
- Lighthouse Electric
- Thacker Jewelry
- Matador Variety
- New To You
- CapRock Telephone

- Meredith Construction Gas & Supply
- J.D., D'anna & Shane'a Russell
- Billy, Brenda, Sabrina & Lexie Osborn
- Tony, Sherry, Sean & Shea Rose
- Tommy, Kate, Tommy Jr., & Zach Hurt
- Douglas, Janie, Cassie & Kittie Campbell
- Alan & Kay Bingham
- Jim, Judy & Clint Cooper
- Rodney & Glenda Williams

News Around the County

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson



RED HAT LUNCHEON — Members of the local Red Hat Society enjoyed a luncheon at the recently refurbished Cookhouse at the Matador Ranch last week. Hostess for the event was Ranch Secretary, Janie Campbell. The Society's Queen Mother, Joyce Campbell, is pictured above sitting, center. Other members attending the luncheon were (left to right) Evelyn Garrison, June Keltz, Suzanne Abbott, Freida Burns, hostess Janie Campbell, Robena King, Norma Marrs, Ruby McGuire, Anne Seigler, Marihelen Wason. Sitting with Mrs. Campbell are Dan Barton, left, and Joan Patton.

OVERHEARD

An elderly gentleman stopped at a dude ranch and asked for the rates. "For people your age who can't handle a horse, it is \$450 a day," the owner said. Incredulous, the man replied, "\$450 a day? You're putting me on!" "It's \$50 more if we have to do that," the owner said.

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Emily Milam, daughter of Christi and Dwain Milam of Petrolia, had a fun filled birthday day party Saturday afternoon in her home. She blew out her four candles on a colorful decorated cake and entertained everyone when opening her gifts.

Among those enjoying the occasion besides her parents and sister, Haley, were her grandparents, Kathy and Clois Shorter, great grandparents, Alma and Everett Shorter and Mrs. Geneva Martin of Flomot and her aunt and cousin, Mrs. Keri Sehon and son, Brain of Ropesville.

Visiting last Wednesday night and Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin were Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Moss of Anson. Visiting in their home Thursday were Keith Gilbert, Mrs. LaRay Gilbert and Mrs. Nona Anglin of Anson. The families attended the graveside rites of D.M. Gilbert held at the Flomot Memorial Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey attended the annual Three Day Singing on Sandy Beach at Greenbelt Lake last Friday. Her brother, Jack Moon of Fritch was one of the featured musicians with his violin and mandolin. They spent overnight in Clarendon and visited from Saturday until Monday in Fritch with Mr. and Mrs. Moon.

Donna Sue and Stanley Degan of Kalgary visited overnight Saturday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers.

Mrs. Fred (Marilee) Cooper of Borger visited last Wednesday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin. They visited in Quitaque with the D.M. "Ikie" Gilbert family.

Tom Ross visited in Olton Saturday with the Herchell Carson family. Mrs. Lucille Carson, 91, died Friday, Sept. 26, and funeral services were held Sunday, Sept. 28.

Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse visited in Rising Star from Tuesday until Thursday with her mother, Mrs. Dona Browning and brother and

wife, Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Browning. Mrs. Anna Beth Clay visited in Panhandle Tuesday with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay. She was a guest of her granddaughter, Sarah at Grandparents Day held in the Panhandle School. Sarah is a student in the first grade and was happy her paternal grandmother attended with her.

Brenda and Darrell Cruse were in Canyon, Sunday and their luncheon guests were son, Derrick and friend, Natalie Wheeler, students at West Texas A&M University.

Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton enjoyed visiting and lunch with Mrs. Lou Burleson in Floydada, Saturday.

Deidra and Larry Clifton of Cisco visited overnight Saturday with her mother, Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse. Before returning home Sunday, they visited in Floydada with daughter and family, Monica and Tanner Smith and son, Cutter.

Aleda and Tom Ross visited in Lubbock, Tuesday with daughter and husband, Elisa and Stan Wigley, Mrs. Ruth Williams and Mrs. Elizabeth Ancestad.

Micheal Starkey of Canyon accompanied his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey to Amarillo, Thursday for her a medical appointment. Their daughter and husband, Bessie and Clifton Reid of Amarillo are vacationing for a month at Port Aransas.

Anna Beth and Joe Ike Clay were in Childress from Thursday until Sunday with the Prison Ministry held in the Texas Correctional Belt.

Several residents in Flomot have killed rattlesnakes this past week. Snakes are on the move looking for a winter home, so when outside you are advised to use caution.



RECOGNIZED FOR 50-YEAR MEMBERSHIP — Mrs. Frances Dixon was recognized for 50 years of membership with First Ag Credit at the organization's recently held dinner. Alan Bingham, President, Matador, presented Mrs. Dixon with a plaque. Mrs. Dixon and her husband, Stuart (deceased) became members in 1953.

First Ag Credit holds member appreciation dinner

First Ag Credit held their annual member appreciation dinner on Friday, August 15. A crowd of approximately 100 enjoyed the delicious barbecue meal served by Dale and Donna Smith of Quitaque.

Frances Dixon was honored for being a 50-year member. She and her late husband, Stuart, became PCA members in 1953. Their operation consisted of cotton, peanuts, wheat, hay and

cattle. Mr. Dixon passed away in 1995 at the age of 74. Mrs. Dixon has continued the operation with the help of her daughter and son-in-law, Elaine and Fred Risser. Frances was presented a jacket and plaque from Alan Bingham, President and Manager of the Matador office.

Numerous door prizes were given to the lucky winners of the drawing.

Note of Thanks

We would like to say thank you to the Matador and Roaring Springs firemen for their quick response to the fire at our place, Sunday, September 21.

Bill and Lea Peacock

Words cannot adequately express our appreciation for all of the many wonderful acts of kindness during the illness and passage of our loved one, Ikie Gilbert. Whether it was by your prayers, phone calls, cards, food, flowers or your presence, you each helped ease our pain during this difficult time. We sincerely thank each of you for your kindness.

Christeen Gilbert
Jerry and Sheila Gilbert
Judy and Lee Heiskell
Kathy and Neal Blanton

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FARM & RANCH NEWS

Matador Ranch hosts RCHA Cutting event

The Matador Ranch hosted an RCHA (Ranch Cutting Horse Association) cutting event, Saturday, September 30. Tim Washington of Roaring Springs and Colton Russell of Matador participated. There were thirty-nine entrants. Approximately 70 spectators enjoyed the event. Many toured the businesses of Motley County while here, particularly the restaurants, as the ranch intentionally did not provide a concession, so as to support the local businesses.

Matador was one of six cuttings scheduled for the 2003 season with the finals to be held in conjunction with the Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering in the Stockyards of Fort Worth October 24, 25 and 26. Participants are the top ten point earners from the two sanctioned divisions of the RCHA, Senior horse, which are 6 years old and older, and Junior horse, which are 5 years old and younger. The RCHA was formed in 1998 to fill a void left by the over-specialization of the horse industry. For years, the large ranches used the cutting events as a showcase and marketing tool for their ranch raised and trained horses. Through the years, the cutting events have evolved to the point that most ranches are not able to participate at a competitive level riding the same horses they use to perform daily ranch activities. RCHA sanctioned events

are open to any working ranch's family or employees riding true ranch horses which are used for day to day activities on the ranch. RCHA members hail from over 60 different working ranches from three states. The ranches represent almost two and half million acres of land, over fifty thousand head of mother cows and nearly one hundred and fifty thousand yearlings.

Results of the Matador Ranch Cutting are listed below:

- Junior Division (19 entries):**
 First - Alotofbull, Tripp Townsend, Sandhill Ranch, Earh.
 Second - Goldie Sandino, Jim Rounsaville, Rounsaville Cattle Co., Megargel.
 Third - Colonel Rock, Cody McGaha, Pitchfork Ranch, Guthrie.
 Fourth - Mark A Lucky King, J.R. Coody, Seymour.
- Senior Division (14 entries):**
 First - Snippy Crow, Bill Smith, Espuela Ranch, Spur.
 Second - Lighthouse Dually, Sam Dove, CF Ranch Land Cattle Co., Alpine.
 Third - Sir Forty Nine, Bob Moorhouse, Pitchfork Ranch, Guthrie.
Open Division (Six entries):
 First - Lighthouse Dually, Sam Dove, CF Ranch Land & Cattle Co., Alpine.
 Second - Trey, Tina Lamb, Haskell.

Cotton News

from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

PCG & MONSANTO DISCUSS TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

Representatives from St. Louis-based Monsanto Company sat down with members of Plains Cotton Growers this week to talk issues and to develop ideas for adding even more value to the customer loyalty programs currently offered to Monsanto customers.

The meeting, which has become almost a yearly ritual, provides PCG the opportunity to discuss evolving Monsanto programs and products with the decision-makers responsible for their development and implementation.

Issues discussed with the Monsanto contingent included: technology pricing strategies, specifically the concept of switching to a regional pricing structure; discussion of proposed changes to current Monsanto crop destruct and re-

plant programs; and, also discussion about the development of new programs Monsanto hopes will provide additional value and encourage growers to utilize Monsanto branded projects.

Monsanto officials noted that one of the most popular programs with growers has been the Replant program through which growers were reimbursed a portion of their seed costs on crops destroyed early in the season.

The 2004 Monsanto Replant program will look considerably different, but maintain Monsanto's financial contribution at the same level of \$17 per bag.

Monsanto's 2004 changes are being prompted by the seed industries pending switch from marketing seed in 50 pound bags to selling seed based on the total number of seed per bag.

COW POKES® By Ace Reid



"I figger to pay back half of what I borrowed for them cows an' call it even, 'cause that way we both lost the same amount!"

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CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

TEXACOPIA
 Can you guess the number one vegetable crop in Texas? Corn? Potatoes? Carrots?

You may be surprised to learn the onion is Texas' top produce crop, with more than 15,000 acres harvested every year. But onions are just one of more than 45 types of produce grown in Texas, the nation's largest producer of fruits and vegetables. With all these home-grown varieties to choose from, there's no excuse for not eating healthy.

For thousands of years humans have relied on plants for sustenance as well as to cure and prevent diseases.

However, as our lifestyles have become increasingly busy, too often we opt for fast food rather than consuming fresh fruits and vegetables. Such habits can deprive our bodies of certain vitamins and minerals that are essential to maintaining good health. Scientific evidence suggests one-third of cancer deaths are diet-related and today medical professionals are refocusing their efforts toward preventing disease through diet and exercise rather than treating disease with drugs and surgery.

Speaking of onions, did you know that the sweet onion is our official state vegetable? The famous 1015 Sweet Onion, developed at Texas A&M University, is so sweet and mild it was voted the sweetest tasting onion in a national competition - and it is tearless.

Potatoes are another crop abundant in Texas. More than 500 million pounds of red, white and russet potatoes are grown each year in Texas. Potatoes are high in potassium, an important mineral in helping your bones retain the calcium they need to stay strong.

Another vegetable, developed and enhanced through research with health in mind, is

the 'BetaSweet' maroon carrot available in some areas. Again, it was Texas A&M's Vegetable Improvement Center which created this carrot containing 40% more beta-carotene than average carrots. Of course, if this had been developed at my alma mater, The University of Texas, we would have left carrots burnt orange as nature intended.

Researches also working to develop darker varieties of melons, such as cantaloupe, because the deeper color, the higher the content of beta-carotene. Beta-carotene is an antioxidant that helps maintain vision and can reduce the risk of degenerative diseases including cancer. Certain peppers such as Texas' sweet jalapeno are also great sources for antioxidants.

Another nutritious crop produced in Texas is the red grapefruit, which began as a mutation on the pink grapefruit tree. Today, all red grapefruits are descendants of the ruby red first grown in Mission, Texas in the 1940s. Red grapefruit is our official state fruit and thrive in the fertile Rio Grande Valley.

Many a childhood memory have been made biting into a juicy red wedge of watermelon. I can't think of a more refreshing treat for a hot Texas afternoon. Ranking third in the nation for watermelon production, Texas farmers grow more than 20 percent of the country's watermelon supply each year.

We also boast a harvest of the country's earliest crop of peaches. The Lone Star State ranks in the top ten in "utilized" peach production, so watch out Georgia. Tree-ripened peaches, primarily grown in the Hill Country and in East Texas, are produced at an annual rate of more than 360,000 bushels.

Are you getting hungry yet? Many Texans are unaware our state provides a bountiful cornucopia of fruits and vegetables.

Snakes are crawling ...

Motley County residents should remember that the Snakes are still crawling, and should use caution when working outside. Peyton Lester, pictured at right, killed this huge rattlesnake last week outside of Roaring Springs.



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Think Texas

by Agriculture Commissioner
 SUSAN COMBS

Five servings of produce, eight glasses of water, nine servings of grains, 30 minutes of exercise - the list goes on. Expert recommendations for boosting health can be overwhelming, but fitting in extra fruits and vegetables can be fairly easy in Texas considering our diverse array of specialty crops.

Texas farmers are credited with producing great-tasting produce throughout the year, and one mild-flavored vegetable that is receiving plenty of attention this season is squash. Last year, about 1,400 acres of squash were commercially grown and harvested here in Texas, for a total value of more than \$9 million. Adding squash to meals not only gets people closer to that five-a-day goal, but it also supports the Texas agricultural economy. And these days, farmers markets across the state are brimming with squash of all varieties.

One of the most popular varieties is zucchini squash, but the yellow crookneck and pattypan varieties are also becoming available at farmers markets. Crookneck squash have a light to deep yellow skin, and pattypan squash can be identified by their pale green skin.

Squash is an excellent source of beta carotene and potassium and has very few calories; one half-cup of zucchini squash has only about 18 calories. Toss chopped Texas squash into salads, grill it on a kabob or bake it in the oven for an easy way to boost nutrition at mealtime - and an easy way to reach the five-a-day goal.

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Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



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2tc-41

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