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Motley County Tribune

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Thursday, March 20, 2003

ESTABLISHED 1891

Issue No. 12

Rural Texans have much at stake in Legislative Session

The Texas Legislature is back in session in Austin, and this year rural Texans have more at stake than any time in memory. If words like "budget cuts", "water rights" and "tax exemptions" mean anything to you, please read on.

A state funding shortfall of nearly \$10 billion will require legislators to cut spending. We will cut from administrative costs and non-essential programs as much as possible. But the reality is that services important to all Texans, including rural Texans, will have to be reduced.

What will be cut? Spending for roads and bridges, hospitals and other health care services, community colleges and universities, fire prevention services, law enforcement, courthouse renovations, boll weevil programs? Literally everything is at risk.

Rural citizens should - and will - shoulder their share of the

cost-cutting burden. But we may be hit more than our share. Why? Because when agencies are asked to reduce spending, they will want to make cuts where the fewest citizens are affected, and that means rural Texas!

It is simple, economic logic. If you can only maintain so many miles of roads, won't you cut back where there is less traffic? If grants to hospitals are reduced, shouldn't you favor the hospitals that serve the most patients? Shouldn't we let the parks go that have the least visitation and close the human service facilities with the fewest clients?

Such thinking ignores a basic fact: We all pay taxes and, as citizens, we all deserve our share of the services bought and paid for by our tax dollars. Rural legislators on budget and spending committees will vigorously fight the notion that we should suffer first and most.

Water rights will be a major agenda item for the 78th Legislature. Perhaps nothing is more essential to the long-term viability of rural economies than adequate and affordable water for agriculture, recreation, wildlife and family needs.

Groundwater conservation districts may offer some protection for local water users. Both in the long run, water is a commodity that - like other commodities - will be sold to the highest bidder. Many powerful interests are now engaged in buying water rights on a massive scale. They intend to sell the water to the highest bidders who may be hundreds of miles away.

Rural legislators have their hands full trying to assure that local communities and industries, including agriculture, retain some rights and some ability to protect their local interests.

When we talk about the future of rural cities and towns, modern, high-speed telecommunications service is right up there with water. Broadband service is like the railroads and highways of the last century.

If you have it, you may survive and thrive. If you don't, you probably won't.

Our Legislature has been a national leader in pushing telecom services throughout the state. Funding for schools, libraries, higher education and medical facilities has brought worldwide connectivity to virtually every community in the state. However, in too many areas, private citizens and busi-

nesses do not have access to the same connectivity.

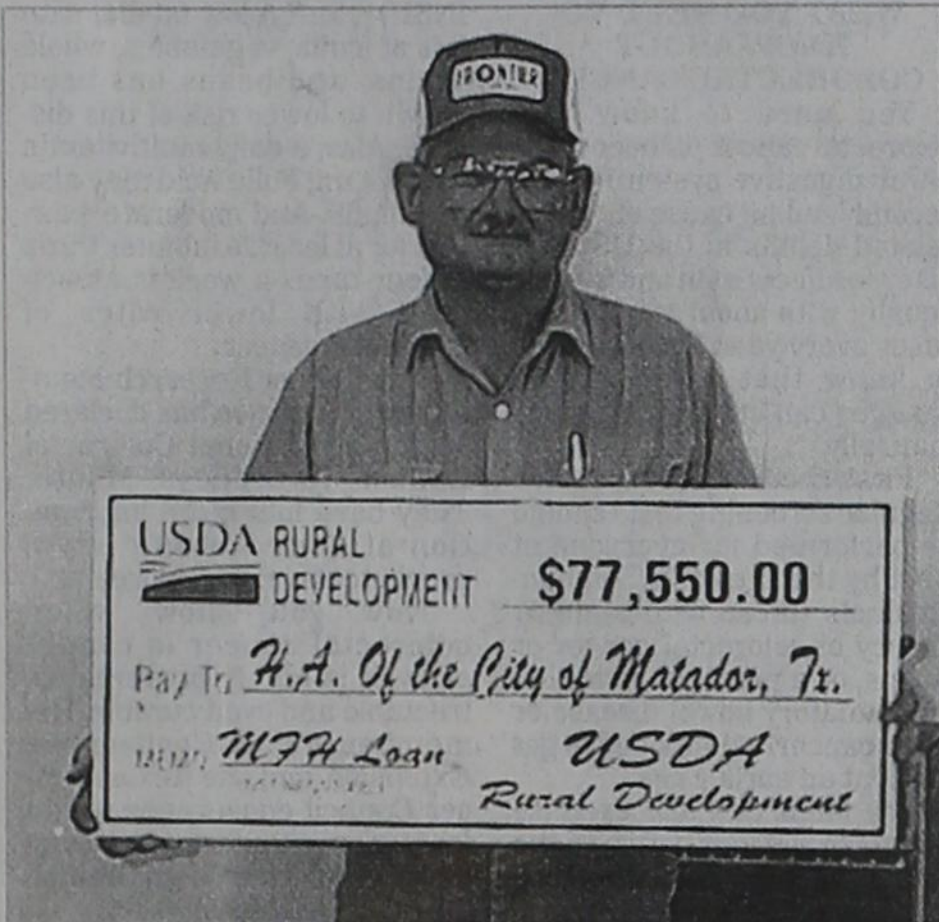
The funding for rural broadband is threatened. Major telephone companies are aggressively lobbying to kill it. Additionally, the state's leading telecom providers are pushing legislation that limits the state's ability to push broadband toward those citizens who still don't have it.

And finally we have to talk taxes. When all the budget cutting is done, many experts believe there will be a revenue gap. To raise money, the governor wants to close franchise and property tax loopholes amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, but one person's loophole is often another's livelihood.

Many of our urban neighbors consider agricultural, open-space and timber appraisals to be loopholes, and those will be targeted. One bill has already been filed that would eliminate the sales tax exemptions on agricultural machinery, gas, seed and other production inputs.

Family farms and businesses will not survive if such changes are made. And we believe we can preserve most or all of what we have. But ill winds are blowing, and we will have to work harder, smarter and better organized than ever before.

Your livelihood and way of life are very much at stake during the legislative session. Please inform yourself and support those working to preserve your interests.



HOUSING AUTHORITY RECEIVES RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN — City of Matador Water Superintendent and Housing Authority apartments manager, Steve Barton, displays a ceremonial check for \$77,550. The Matador Housing Authority received the Multi-Family Housing Direct Loan from the USDA Rural Development last Summer. The money was used to rehabilitate the apartments in Matador. In a letter received recently by Mrs. Ronda Miller, Chairperson for the Housing Authority, Bryan Daniel, State Director, said, "This ceremonial check is presented to you and your organization in recognition of your dedication and hard work." Apartments are available for rent at the time and applications may be obtained at Matador City Hall.

John's Automotive offers over 35 years of mechanic experience

John's Automotive in Roaring Springs opened for business November 1, 2002. The new business is owned and operated by John and Barbara Alexander, former residents of Clarendon.

"Russell has been trying to get us to come to Roaring Springs for the past ten years," Mr. Alexander said. "When the Shop became available, the time just seemed to be right so we decided to move." Russell Alexander, owner of Alexander Fuel, is the couple's nephew.

Mr. Alexander is a self-taught mechanic with more than 35 years of experience. He can work on most types of vehicles. He also has 16 years experience working on diesel trucks. He can do just about everything in the way of mechanic work from complete overhauls to adjusting brakes and even working on lawnmowers. He can also do work on some tractors.

Mrs. Alexander, who manages the bookkeeping side of the business, is a retired beautician and bookkeeper.

The couple managed a convenience store, with a mechanic shop, at Claude for five years. "We love working with the public, but the convenience store was just too much work," Mrs. Alexander said.

The move to Roaring Springs is the couple's first country living experience. "We have lived in larger towns most



John and Barbara Alexander of John's Automotive, are pictured here inside their shop in Roaring Springs. Mr. Alexander brings over 35 years of experience to the business.

of our lives," Mrs. Alexander explained. Mr. Alexander grew up in Sweetwater, Oklahoma and Mrs. Alexander grew up in Lubbock, where she attended Jessie Lee's Hair Design School.

The couple rented a house in town for awhile, but have recently moved to the country. "This is our first time to live in the country," Mrs. Alexander

said. "I was a little worried about snakes and skunks," she said. "Our cat Spooky keeps watch."

Spooky the cat was rescued during the Alexander's move. "Barbara loves animals," Mr. Alexander said. "It was pouring down rain when we were loading up and we kept hearing this poor little cat. Barbara finally

tracked it down and rescued it so Spooky became a part of the family."

Although the couple did have some reservations about living in the country, they have quickly adjusted. "We have deer in the yard and have enjoyed watching the different types of birds," they said. "We think this area and Roaring Springs is so pretty," Mrs. Alexander said.

The Alexanders have five grown children, three daughters and two sons, and thirteen grandchildren. "Our kids are scattered all over the United States," Mr. Alexander said.

The couple's pride in their children is very obvious as they talked of one son, in particular, who lives in New York City. An actor, he has had many parts in New York plays. "He sings very well and was once offered a job of singing on the road with Country singer Tracy Bird," Mrs. Alexander said.

Barbara, who loves to bake, says she has really loved having the time to bake pies and cakes. "I think Russell is enjoying my baking, also," she said. "I know I am," Mr. Alexander added. "We have enjoyed living here, meeting new people, and living near Russell," Mrs. Alexander said. "We really appreciate everyone making us feel welcome."

The couple have plans to set up a coffee pot and donuts and welcome everyone to stop by.

More candidates enter race for May elections

The date to file for a place on the ballot for the May 3rd elections has ended. At newtime those filing for Matador City Council are incumbents Bert Darsey, Doyle Rose and Jim Watson. Also filing are Randy Martin, Chuck Ream, and Terry Simpson. There are three places available.

The Roaring Springs City Council also has three places up for election, those currently held by Timmy Brooks, Amy Perryman and Alex Crowder. Mr. Crowder and Mr. Brooks have filed for re-election. Also filing are Vince Taylor and PK.

Green.

The Motley County School Board will have three places open, currently held by Marisue Potts, Douglas Campbell and Coy Franks. Marvinna Mason, Patti Lane and Bob Davis have filed for election.

The Motley County Hospital Board will have two places open, currently held by Charlie Johnson and Cynthia Stafford. Mr. Johnson has filed for re-election. Kim Woolsey has also filed.

Early voting will be held April 16-29. The election will be held Saturday, May 3.

National Agriculture Day March 21

Texans may have moved away from the farm, but agriculture is still a key part of the life of every Texan.

March 21, 2003, is the annual observance of National Agriculture Day, and the president of Texas' largest organization of farm and ranch families reminds Texans of the continued importance of the state's second largest industry.

"Only two generations ago, most Texans had vivid memories of farm and ranch life or perhaps still lived in a rural area," said Kenneth Dierschke, president of the Texas Farm Bureau. "Today, agriculture is as important as ever; but it's in the hands of a smaller group of skilled workers."

That number, Dierschke said, includes not only farmers and ranchers, but also an agribusiness community of researchers, marketers and government employees that all participate in the modern miracle of American agriculture.

Today, Texas is one of America's most urban states, with the majority of the population centered in a handful of major cities. Still, 20 percent of Texas' jobs are dependent on agriculture, and the ability of America to produce its own food is a key component of national security.

"Agriculture has struggled in recent years, but our productivity remains the envy of the world," Dierschke said.

Motley County School Board meets Teachers' contracts renewed

by Pat Smith
Board Reporter

The Motley County ISD School Board met in regular session at 7:30 p.m. on March 10, 2003. All board members were present except Marisue Potts and Pat Smith. Others in attendance were Rick Copp, Sonya Herrell, Denise Ford, Yolanda Kautz, Tommy Gleghorn, Chelsea Read and D'Anna Russell. Marisue came in at 7:45 and Pat came in at 8:15.

Items on the Superintendent's informational report were as follows:

- Athletic Report
- Stock Show Results
- Enrollment/Attendance
- Target Grant

— Smart Kids Grant
— Toshiba Grant
Items for board action were as follows:

— Motion by Elliott, second by Campbell to approve minutes of previous meeting(s). Motion passed 7-0.
— Denise Ford addressed the Policy Review/Financial Overview and Board Reports. Mrs. Ford felt her integrity had been questioned at the February 10th Board meeting. She discussed her duties and responsibilities as the School Business Manager. She presented the Board with some different ideas on handling the bills and PO's that would help keep the Board more informed about the day to day business

affairs of the School. Consensus of the Board was to follow Mrs. Ford's recommendations. No motion was needed for this item.

— Discuss/Approve Banking Procedures. The school has seven banking accounts and would like to combine the accounts into two accounts. Motion by Franks, second by Campbell to combine the accounts. Motion passed 7-0.

— Approve list of Expenditures and Review Financial Statements. Motion by Campbell, second by Brooks to approve expenditures and review statements. Motion passed 7-0.
— Approve Election Judges for School Board Election on May 3. Motion to approve list by Campbell, second by Elliott.

Motion passed 7-0.

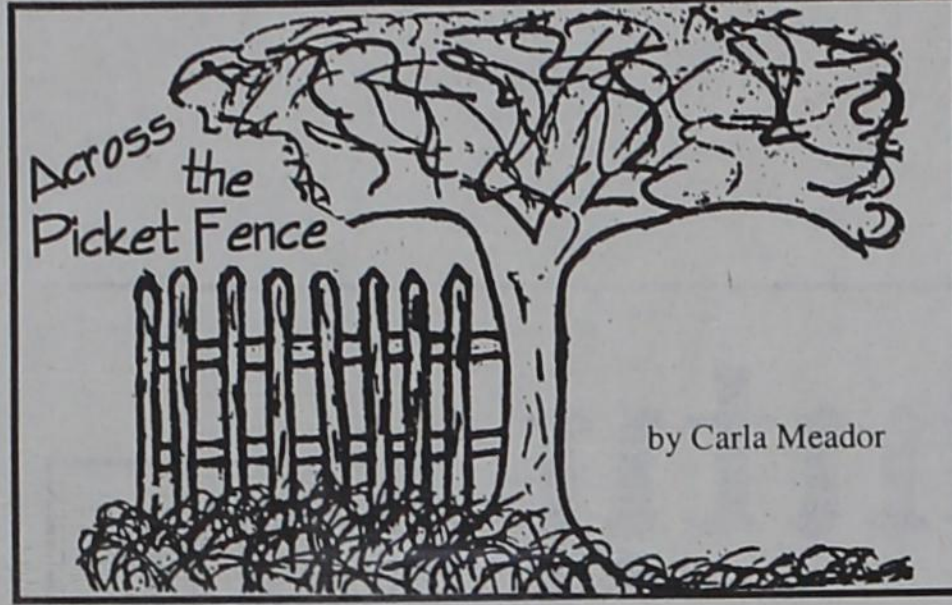
— Set date for position drawing on the ballot for the May 3rd Board Election. March 19, 2003, at 5:15 p.m. Motion by Campbell, second by Brooks. Motion passed 7-0.

— Vote on ESC XVII Board of Directors. Ballots were passed to board members who voted or not and turned in to Mr. Copp.

— Adopt Textbook Titles for Current Adoption. Motion by Brooks, second by Smith to adopt textbooks. Motion passed 7-0.

— Approve 2003-2004 School Calendar. Mr. Copp informed the board that the calendar

continued on page 4



Our world is in such turmoil. It's hard not to worry about the events that are unfolding every day. From all indications our country could very well be at war by the time this paper comes out. I know I join thousands others who don't want war, but I respect the decisions of our President and those who know more than we do.

As history is being made with each hour of the day, it's hard not to let fear creep in. I've always been a worrier, and I remember worrying about the Vietnam war much of my childhood. I remember watching the news reports on TV and wondering about my relatives who were there.

There's probably not one American who does not have some concern over the threat of war. It's hard not to wonder how the events will unfold and what

the future will bring. But I try to catch my thoughts before they run away and remember that I don't have to know what's going to happen, because God does and He will take care of His children.

We should all remember to pray for the thousands of military troops who are in place, ready to do what is necessary to protect our country. Some of them are so very young, younger than my son. My heart goes out to their parents.

"He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge;

His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

You will not fear the terror of night nor the arrow that flies by day."

Psalm 91: 4-5

House of Faith kicks off with BLITZ

The Children's Community Bible Club will kick-off with a BLITZ for the children in the Roaring Springs Memorial Park at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 25. There will be games, music, and hot dogs with all the trimmings.

Following the BLITZ, at 6:30 p.m., there will be a volunteer training session at the home of Corky and Monta Marshall. If you have an interest in helping with this program for the children please plan to attend. Interested adults and teens are encouraged to attend both the BLITZ and the training session

to prepare for the beginning club meeting on Wednesday, March 26, at 4:30 p.m.

The BLITZ and the weekly House of Faith Club meetings will be held in the park unless there is bad weather. In the case of bad weather the meeting will move to the Roaring Springs Community Center.

For more information call Walter or Jo Trammell at 348-7565; Joyce Meredith at 348-7516; or Corky or Monta Marshall at 348-7000.

Floyd County Fair seeks entries for fiftieth year theme

The Floyd and surrounding counties fair will celebrate their 50th year of operation this August 14, 15 and 16. But how should Floyd county refer to this grand event?

The fair board decided that it should be up to the citizens of Floyd and the surrounding counties. Your theme should be

postmarked by March 27, 2003. Entries need to be mailed to: Floyd County Fair, P.O. Box 602, Lockney, TX 79241.

Please include your name, address and phone number so that you can be notified.

The winner will be notified by April 15, 2003.

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What Is A Gospel Preacher?



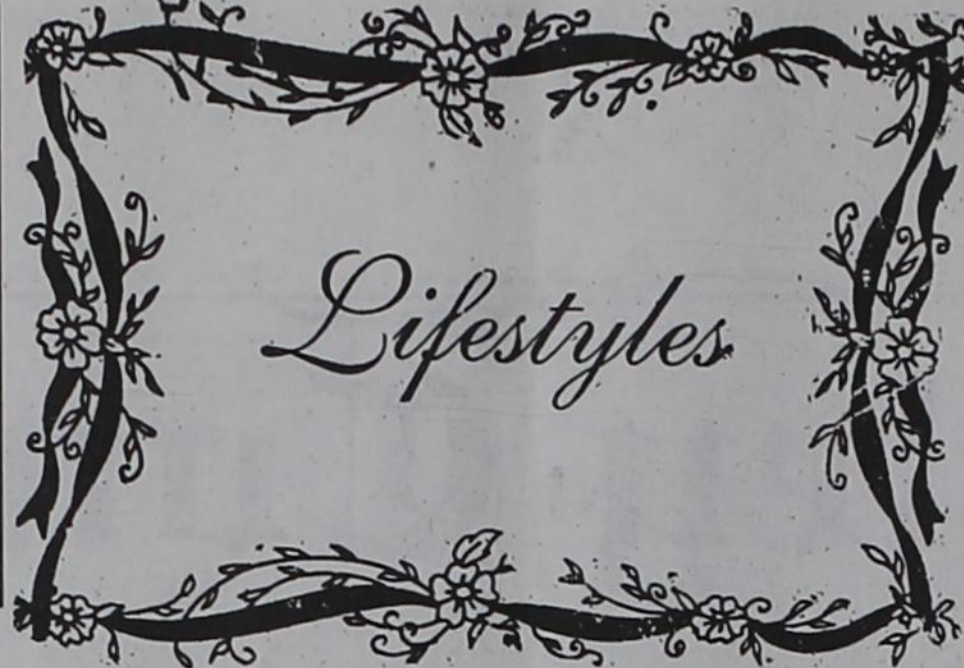
A Gospel Preacher: "He is a man redeemed by grace through faith, standing in the stead of Christ, by His authority and under His command, proclaiming His gospel, making it plain and strong and urgent, in such a way that responsible men can accept it unto life or reject it unto death." (Walter Scott)

Much has been written and even more said of the preacher and his work. But basically Walter Scott summed up the preacher's work and responsibilities. One of the greatest preachers to ever live had this to say of his work: "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything you save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified...And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." (1 Corinthians 2: 1, 2, 4-5).

Too often the common understanding of the preacher and his work misses the mark by a wide margin. Tradition and man made wisdom has taken its toll on the Biblical concept of the gospel preacher. Fortunately for us, the Biblical concept is not hard to find in the Scriptures nor is it difficult to convey. The gospel preacher's work in the pulpit as throughout this world is not that of quiet platitudes, but rather to proclaim and herald the message of heaven. That message to fleshbound souls is: That without the blood of Jesus Christ, we are hopelessly lost in sin. Gospel preachers are those that preach the Cross!

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

RADIO PROGRAMS. K-96 FM
BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.



Senior Citizens Site Committee meets

by Winifred Darsey

The Site Committee of Motley County Senior Citizens met at the Center for its quarterly meeting.

President Marihelen Wason presided over the meeting to forum plans for helping in ways and means for the Senior Citizens Association.

Many ideas and suggestions were offered and several agreed upon.

There will be a Spaghetti Dinner honoring the Volunteer workers, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend and donations will be accepted. The Site Committee will prepare the dinner.

A movie, "McIntosh and T.J.", starring Roy Rogers will be

shown May 17 at 8:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served and donations will be accepted. This film was made in Motley County. Many local citizens appeared in the film. The scenes of the county's hills and rivers were beautiful - a time to remember. Other plans and projects were undecided at this time. The next meeting will be held May 23 at 1:00 p.m. at the Center.

Members present were Ed D. Smith, Elaine Hart, Bobbie Brown, Marihelen Wason, Vee Gordon, Kathryn Russell, Marion Woodruff, Tommy Keith and Winifred Darsey.

Director Frances Hobbs gave a brief resume' before the opening of the meeting, on suggested plans for the association.

Arts & Crafts

by Winifred Darsey

Motley County Arts and Crafts Club met at the Senior Citizens center in Matador for its regular March meeting, a class on making blocks for a Dutch doll quilt.

Betty Simpson was instructor for the day and displayed her genius for perfection, by having the material cut and ready for work. It was a wonderful class. The dolls were pretty with their bonnets and dresses of bright printed material. The Dutch boys were attractive in their bib overalls and checked shirts. When the quilt is complete it will be raffled to raise expenses for

the club.

The club dined with Seniors and enjoyed a luncheon of Polish sausage, baked potatoes, broccoli and cheese, wheat rolls and pears. It was a joyful hour.

Members present were Joy Archer, Loys Campbell, Grace Garrison, Vee Gordon, Donald Letkeman, Lorene Lancaster, Kathryn Russell, Betty Simpson, Joyce Meredith, Nova Dale Turner, Dortha Westbrook and Winifred Darsey.

Members expressed their appreciation to the committee for their selection of the material used for the dolls.

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Library Notes

by Suzanne Abbott

We appreciate the donations that we received this past week. Thanks to Gladys McDonald, Bill and Charlotte Robertson and Harold and Grace Campbell for donations in memory of Gale Stafford. Thanks to Bertha Moore's memorial for Frances Finch and Harold and Grace Campbell's memorial for

Evelyn Jones. We have a new series of five books by Diana Gabaldon. These novels are about Scotland, torn by war and raiding Highland clans in 1743 as seen through the eyes of a WW II nurse hurled back in time.

The first novel has been optioned for a television mini-series.

Family & Consumer News

By Jennifer Trufan, Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COLORECTAL CANCER

You need to know that colorectal cancer (cancer of the lower digestive system) is the second leading cause of cancer related deaths in the US. This disease affects men and women equally, with about 135,000 new cases every year. You also need to know that some simple changes can cut your risk dramatically.

First, check with your doctor. Regular screening tests should be performed for everyone at least by the age of 50. Some individuals (those with a family history of colorectal cancer or polyps, or a personal history of inflammatory bowel disease or other cancer) might need to get a test at an earlier age.

You know diet and exercise will make you look better on the outside. But did you know they can make you look better on the

INSIDE too? A low-fat diet with lots of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and beans has been shown to lower risk of this disease. Also, a daily multivitamin with 0.4 mg Folic Acid may also be helpful. And moderate exercise for at least 20 minutes three to four times a week is associated with lower rates of colorectal cancer.

The Cancer Research Foundation of America has declared March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. They have lots more information at their website :www.preventcancer.org/colorectal.

Now you know: when colorectal cancer is caught early, it is highly preventable, treatable and even curable. Remember, Texas Cooperative Extension and the Texas Cancer Council encourages you to learn more about cancer. Taking charge of your own health makes good sense!

A NOTE OF THANKS

We want to thank everyone for your kind words, thoughts and prayers for Lottie and our family through this time of sorrow. Special thanks to Kim, Jo and everybody at Covenant Home Health and Hospice of Lubbock. Thank you for the food and offers of help and encouragement.

God bless our community,
Leadell Martin
LeJeanna & Rick Faulks & family
Lizabeth & Roy Estrada & family

I would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and especially your prayers at the loss of my sister, Sara. Your kindness is appreciated.

Cleo Watson and family

The family of Joni Lovell Porter would like to express our love and appreciation for all who thought of us in any way, for those who sent food, for the delicious meal that was served at the First Baptist Church in Dickens, the many flowers, the memorials, the cards, and most of all for all your prayers. A very special thanks to Pat Seigler and Nathan Shannon, your care will never be forgotten; to Vickie Pierce and Christy Fisk for all the beautiful floral arrangements, and also to Frances Hobbs. A very special thanks to Rev. Larry Burton for the beautiful tribute to our mother, we will always cherish your words, and to Mike Porter for the music and especially the beautiful song written for our mother. All of you have been a special blessing to each of us.

Thanks again,
The families of
Bobby Porter
Sherry Fred
Sammie Phillips
Bob Porter

Thanks to each and everyone that called, prayed, came by the hospital, sent cards, flowers and brought goodies to the house. A very special thanks to our incredibly professional ambulance crew, Tony, Seven, Mindy and Pat, and to Jim for showing them where I was. We are very lucky to have a top notch ambulance service in our community and all the good people that give their time and energy to help the ones in need. Last but not least, a huge thanks to Rob and Tempie for working double time to keep things going on the home front.

Proud to say we live in Motley County!
Vann and Sondra

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THE MATADOR

— SCHOOL NEWS & HAPPENINGS —



?????? WHAT'S HAPPENING

One Act Play Zone Competition March 24

by Amanda Hurt

March 27: High School District UIL at WBU
 March 28: Jr. High Track at Silverton
 March 28: Jr. High Cheerleader tryouts at 10:00 a.m.
 High School Track at Silverton
 WT Judging at Clarendon
 March 29: High School District OAP at LCU
 March 31: Little Dribblers vs. Valley at 4:00 p.m. at MCISD.

One Act Play practice is in full swing. This year's play, "Merry Regiment of Women," consists of 9 cast members and four crew members. Carroll Hays is the play director. Cast members are Sara Fuston (Lady McBeth); Chantry Meyer (King Henry); Stachia Baxter (Cleopatra); Mandi Ream (Juliet); Angie Marvel (Desdemona); Quinten Rose

(Pertruchio); Kittie Campbell (Kate the Shrew); Brittany Moore (Nurse); and Chance Bingham (Romeo).

Crew members are Charli Ream, Kenny Johannes, Lorenzo Salazar and Amanda Hurt.

The Cast and Crew have been working very hard to get prepared for the Zone contest which will be held Monday, March 24 at Jayton. Good luck at this year's contest!

SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY, MARCH 24:

Breakfast: cereal, toast, fruit, milk.

Lunch: steak fingers, gravy, creamed potatoes, carrots, hot roll/honey, milk.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25:

Breakfast: breakfast pizza, cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: fish sticks, mac & cheese, hush puppy, spinach, fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26:

Breakfast: cinnamon rolls, applesauce, milk.

Lunch: frito pie, salad, corn, crackers, blueberry cobbler, milk.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27:

Breakfast: cereal, muffin, toast, fruit, milk.

Lunch: chicken fajitas, beans, lettuce, tomato, cheese, peppers, onion, chips, sherbet, milk.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28:

Breakfast: breakfast burrito, cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: chicken patty/bun, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, chips, fruit, milk.

MONDAY, MARCH 31:

Breakfast: pancake, sausage, syrup, cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: pigs in blanket, baked beans, pickle spear, fries, orange, milk.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right."

Ephesians 6:1

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American Legion prepared for Supreme Court battle

The American Legion has prepared and is ready to file an amicus curiae brief with the U.S. Supreme Court. The nation's largest wartime veterans organization, with 2.8 million members, will file the brief as soon as the U.S. government appeals a federal court's decision that reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools is unconstitutional because of the words "under God."

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled 2-1 in June 2002 that reciting the Pledge in public schools is unconstitutional and recently reaffirmed its decision. Following the latest decision, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft said, "We will defend the ability of Americans to declare their patriotism through the time-honored tradition of voluntarily reciting the Pledge."

"When the 9th Circuit Court first ruled against the Pledge, The American Legion promised it would see this case all the way to the Supreme Court," American Legion National Commander Ronald F. Conley said. "We have no intention of backing down now. The right of students across America to recite the Pledge of Allegiance deserves to be protected. The American Legion will do everything in its power to see that right is restored."

Once the United States files an appeal to the decision with the Supreme Court, the Legion will file its amicus curiae, or "friend of the court" brief, as it did with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. An amicus curiae brief is filed by an individual or group who is not a party to the litigation but believes that the court's decision may affect its interest.

Ten amicus curiae briefs previously were filed to over-

turn the 9th Circuit Court's decision, including one by the Legion on Aug. 19, 2002. All ten were denied.

The 9th District's ruling came after Michael Newdow, an atheist and father of an elementary school girl, filed the case against the United States, Congress, California and two school districts. Newdow's daughter lives with her mother, who has sole custody of the young girl. The daughter attends public school in Elk Grove, Calif., near Sacramento and according to reports regularly attends church. Newdow's complaint alleged that, "his daughter is injured when she is compelled to watch and listen as her state-employed teacher in her state-run school leads her classmates in a ritual proclaiming that there is a God and that ours is one nation under God."

"Our national motto is 'In God We Trust,' such a belief is a bedrock principle of America and is not an endorsement of any religion. The 9th Circuit Court is simply wrong and the 4.0 million men and women of The American Legion family will make their voices heard to insure that God is not expelled from the land," Conley said.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation inserting "under God" after the words "one nation." The American Legion supported the addition.

"It's a shame that the Pledge of Allegiance can be recited in any other country but our own, thanks to one wrongheaded decision by a few men in black robes," Conley said. "I am confident that our Supreme Court will have the wisdom to reverse this absurd call."

REMEMBER OUR U.S. TROOPS IN YOUR PRAYERS!

Children's Community Bible Club
will kick off with a
**HOUSE OF FAITH
BLITZ**
for all kids,
age 3 & up

★★★★★★
Roaring Springs Memorial Park
Tuesday, March 25, 5:00 p.m.

Training Session - 6:30 p.m.
Home of Corky & Monta Marshall

Beginning Club Meeting
Wednesday, March 26, 4:30 p.m.

For more information call Walter or Jo Trammell
at 348-7565; Joyce Meredith at 348-7516; or
Corky or Monta Marshall at 348-7000

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News Around the County

Roaring Springs News

by Lula Swim

Joyce Smith spent a week in Corinth with her daughter, Michelle and Don Smith, to help with Julie's daughter, Ellie Marie DePaolo, who lives in Houston, while her mother and daddy were on vacation.

Mr. Buddy Allen of Pampa accompanied his mother, Pearl Patten, to Boyd, where they visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Wayne Parker. Buddy visited his son, Jarred, who lives with the Parkers and attends college.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Letkeman

and Lula Swim went to Lubbock Tuesday to keep a doctor appointment. They met Monte and Noma Wike of Sudan and Mr. and Mrs. Tim Campbell, Mary and Sam of Carbondale, ILL, and celebrated the birthdays for Monte and Sam.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Letkeman and Lula Swim were in Lubbock Thursday where Lula received a blood transfusion.

Mr. and Mrs. Corky Marshall had their grandkids, Shawn and Kelsey of Acuff this past week.

Matador News

Mrs. Sharon Davis and daughter, Kristy of Fritch accompanied her mother, Mrs. Kathryn Martin to Lubbock, Friday for a medical appointment. Mrs. Martin is under

medical treatment for shingles.

Jack Samford and Mrs. Juanita Cooper visited in Crosbyton Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Coy Morris, former Afton residents.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED

Christi and Dwain Milam of Petersburg were honored on their birthdays, Sunday with a family luncheon in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter. They were presented a beautifully decorated cake, cards, gifts and best wishes.

Those attending the happy occasion were their children, Emily and Haley Milam of Petersburg, Mrs. Keri Sehon and son, Brain of Ropesville, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter, Mrs. Geneva Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Stark of Flomot.

Mrs. Wanda Lane of Lockney, her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Walker of Bellville visited last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin.

Mrs. Marisue Potts of Floydada, Mrs. PK. Green of Roaring Springs and Mary Ellen Barton enjoyed visiting and lunch in Turkey last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Monk of Tulia visited Mrs. Margie George, Sunday. Visiting her during the week were Kerry and Tina Bearden of Quitaque.

Stan and Elisa Wigley of Lubbock visited Saturday night and Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross.

Mrs. Lance Barclay, Colton and Kayla of Jacksonville visited from Wednesday until Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill D. Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Turner of Lubbock visited during the weekend in their home in Flomot and with local friends.

Mrs. Marilee Cooper of Borger visited Monday and Tuesday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Martin had a waffle supper in their home Monday night. Other guests beside Marilee

were Mrs. Geneva Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Clay, Mrs. Kathy Shorter and Mary Ellen Barton.

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Kendall and sons, Jacob and Jere visited from Friday until Sunday in Clyde with her grandparents, Mrs. Ottlie Gray. Joining them there to visit were Mrs. Kendall's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gray of Dallas.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers, Saturday were Ronnie and Richard Rogers of Lubbock. They fixed a ramp for Howards wheel chair.

Tom Ross was in Amarillo, Monday to have stitches removed from his lip following surgery at the Veteran's Hospital last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Kevon Kleibrink and children, Kyle and Karlee of Clifton returned home Wednesday after visiting last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay and children. They also visited in Turkey with Mr. and Mrs. Pat Carson and children and Mr. and Mrs. Neal Edwards and son.

On the sick list are Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert and Mary Ellen Barton. They have received medical treatment at the Motley County Clinic in Matador.

Richard Rogers, Trina and Jern of Lubbock visited Howard Rogers, Sunday. Mrs. Donna Sue Degau of Kalgary, Mrs. B. Rogers and Donnie Rogers visited in Amarillo, Sunday with Mrs. Rogers' sister, Mrs. Merle Nall, a patient at the Baptist St. Anthony Hospital.

Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse visited the weekend in Rising Star with her mother, Mrs. Dona Browning and brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Browning.

Mrs. Jimmie Hunter of Lubbock is a resident at the Lubbock Hospitality House where she is getting physical therapy for a fractured back. She is progressing well and hopes to return to Carrlton Retirement Home in two weeks.

Whiteflat News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

It does not take much strength to do things, but it takes great strength to decide on what to do. When you take your troubles to God, you may have them, but they don't have you.

Mrs. Francis Dixon and daughter, Mrs. Elaine Risser of Matador attended the graveside services of Monie Casey held Saturday in Casey, New Mexico under the direction of Lloyd James Funeral Home of Tyler.

Wilda Dixon was pleased when she received good medical reports on her injured arm this week when

in Lubbock and Crosbyton. She was dismissed by her medical doctor in Lubbock and does not have to return to Crosbyton for physical therapy treatments.

School Board

from page 1

matched with 7 other schools which makes sharing teachers and using the TV lab easier. Motion by Smith, second by Campbell to approve Calendar. Motion passed 7-0.

— Approve Budget Amendment/s. Motion by Franks, second by Campbell to approve amendments. Motion passed 7-0.

— Board members entered Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. and exited at 10:05 p.m.

Out of Executive Session motion was made by Campbell, with a second by Woolsey to renew the following teachers' contracts for one year:

Kay Bingham, Jim Cooper, Donna Hoyle, Jan Jones, Judy Cooper, Yolanda Kautz, Richard Cooper, Patricia Moore, Shelley Cox, Barbara Parks, Beverly Darsey, Lacey Rankin, Karen Davis, Walter Taylor, Kathy Gillespie, Pam Thacker, Ginger Gilmore, Cathey Turner, Tommy Gleghorn.

Motion passed 7-0. A motion made by Franks, second by Campbell to continue Erin Jones one year probationary contract. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Elliott, second by Smith for one year half-time contracts for the following teachers:

Ronnie Cox, Carrol Hays, Chelsea Read. Motion passed 7-0. Motion by Smith, second by Elliott not to renew Coach Loy's contract. Motion passed 7-0. Motion by Smith, second by Brooks to accept resignations from Sonya Herrell and Coach Elizondo. Motion passed 7-0.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you. He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." John 6:47

Obituaries

Lottie Carter Stotts

Graveside rites for Lottie Carter Stotts, 91, of Matador, were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 17, at East Mound Cemetery at Matador. Officiating was Rev. Rickey Lawrence, pastor of Full Gospel Church of Roaring Springs. Interment was under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Stotts died Friday, March 14, at her home in Matador following a lengthy illness.

She was born January 3, 1912, at Matador, the daughter of Harry and Cora Carter. She had been a life-long resident of Matador and was a homemaker and retired beautician. She was married to John A. Stotts on November 19, 1939, at Lubbock. Mr. Stotts died February 28, 1981. She was also preceded in death by her parents, and by her sister, Julia Luckett. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Matador.

Her survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Dean and Delores Stotts, Winslow, Arizona; two grandchildren, Thomas Stotts of Winslow, Arizona and Angela



Lottie Stotts

Talhelm of Houston; two nephews, Carter and Jack Luckett; and her niece and caregiver, Leadell Martin, and great-nieces, LeJeanna Faulks and Elizabeth Estrada.

The family has suggested memorials to Hospice of Lubbock, P.O. Box 16800, Lubbock, TX 79490-6800

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- Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., "Personal Impact of the Gospel"
- Thursday, 7:30 p.m., "Are YOU Really Interested In Going to Heaven"

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Carroll F. Sites of Higdon, Arkansas shares these messages.

FARM & RANCH NEWS

Texas Agricultural Experiment Station closes three research farms

Three small agricultural research stations will be closed as a result of mandatory state budget cuts, officials with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station announced Tuesday.

"This is a cost-cutting measure that we must take to meet the requirements of the 7 percent budget recession for the current fiscal year," said Dr. Ed Hiler, Experiment Station director and vice chancellor and dean for the agriculture and life sciences at Texas A&M University. The stations that are closing are:

* The plant disease research station at Yoakum in Lavaca County, effective April 4;

* The forage and vegetable research station in Angelton in Brazoria County, effective Aug. 31; and

* The research station at Munday in Knox County, effective in April.

For the most part, the re-

search work at these facilities is being transferred to stations elsewhere, Hiler explained. In all, 17 positions are affected, and 10 of them will be eliminated while the rest will move with the research.

The oldest site, at Angelton, was established in 1909 and was a major center for forage and vegetable research early in its history.

Angleton Grass, a warm-season bunchgrass from India was introduced to the United States from that center in 1915. Its seed is still sold as a hay and pasture grass. Scientists there also developed a control method for liver flukes in cattle in the early 1940s.

For the past 13 years, the Angelton center has housed many of the cattle used in genomics research by the department of animal science.

Dr. John McNeil, head of the department of animal science of

Texas A&M, said the three technician positions will be terminated.

The cattle - approximately 150 head - will be moved to the Experiment Station in McGregor, and research programs in genetics will continue, he said.

The Yoakum station, established in 1937, has focused much of its recent research on forages and peanuts, said Dr. Bobby Eddleman, resident research director of the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Corpus Christi.

Most of this research will continue at the experiment station in Beeville, and six of the Yoakum station's eight employees will be transferred there. Two support staff positions were terminated, he said.

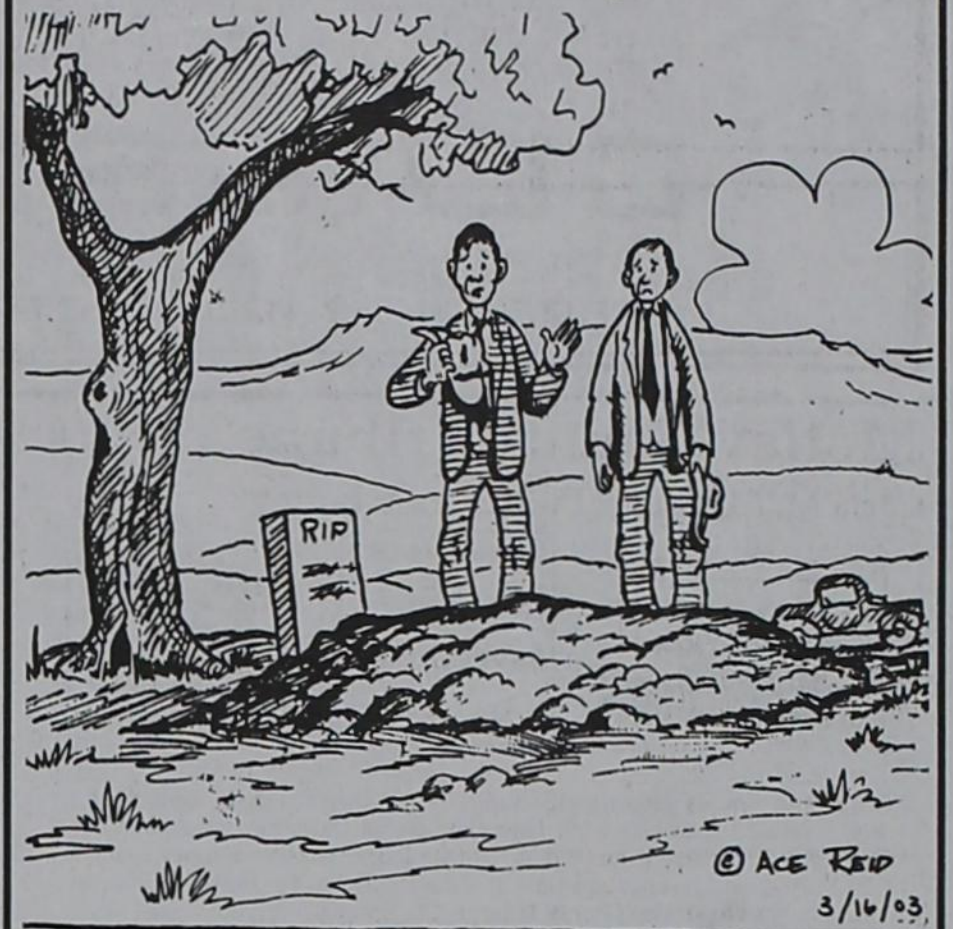
The forage research at the station focused on grassland management and weed control,

which served well the region's major concentration of cow-calf operations, Eddleman said. Much of the peanut research, however, has shifted to the South Plains, where most of the state's peanuts are now grown. Research on peanut diseases will be moved to Beeville, with some small test plots still maintained at Yoakum.

The station's 88 acres will be divided between the city of Yoakum and a private estate, both of which provided the land for the facility years ago, Eddleman said.

Six employees are affected by the Munday closure. One will transfer to the Experiment Station in Vernon, but the other five positions are being eliminated, according to Dr. Donald Robinson, resident director of the Experiment Station at Vernon - which oversaw the Munday facility.

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Landowners may apply for Wildlife Habitat Incentives program until April 11

The USDA - Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) announces the application period for the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program through April 11, 2003. The proposed funding will be utilized to help interested landowners in the restoration of native degraded habitat on private lands.

Producers requesting assistance through the application period will have their applications evaluated in late April on the basis of the new farm bill provisions. When the program funding allocation is made, the WHIP applications approved for funding will be subject to the contract cost-share limitation set at \$25,000, with all cost-share percentages set at 75 percent.

WHIP is a voluntary program for individuals who want to restore degraded habitat on private lands. NRCS and interested landowners work to-

gether to prepare a wildlife habitat development plan that lasts a minimum of five years.

"NRCS provides both technical assistance and cost-sharing to help establish and restore native degraded habitats through WHIP," said NRCS Wildlife Biologist Charles Coffman.

Interested producers should contact the Matador or Paducah NRCS field office located in the USDA Service Center. The phone number in Matador is 347-2263 (ext. 3) and in Paducah is 492-3501 (ext. 3). More information is available on the USDA website at www.usda.gov/farmbill.

Established in 1971 on about 60 acres, the station originally was meant to study the feasibility of increasing vegetable production in that area and often included as 250 acres on owned and leased land. But it gradually turned toward seeking ways to improve the standard Rolling Plains crops - cotton and grain - under irrigation.

The Munday farm also had been used to grow seed from new varieties of crops after they were bred by the Experiment Station elsewhere in the state. Among the new variety seeds grown at Munday were cowpea, mungbean, forage-type pearl millet, jalapeno peppers, okra and turf grass.

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