

# Motley County Tribune

## "VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

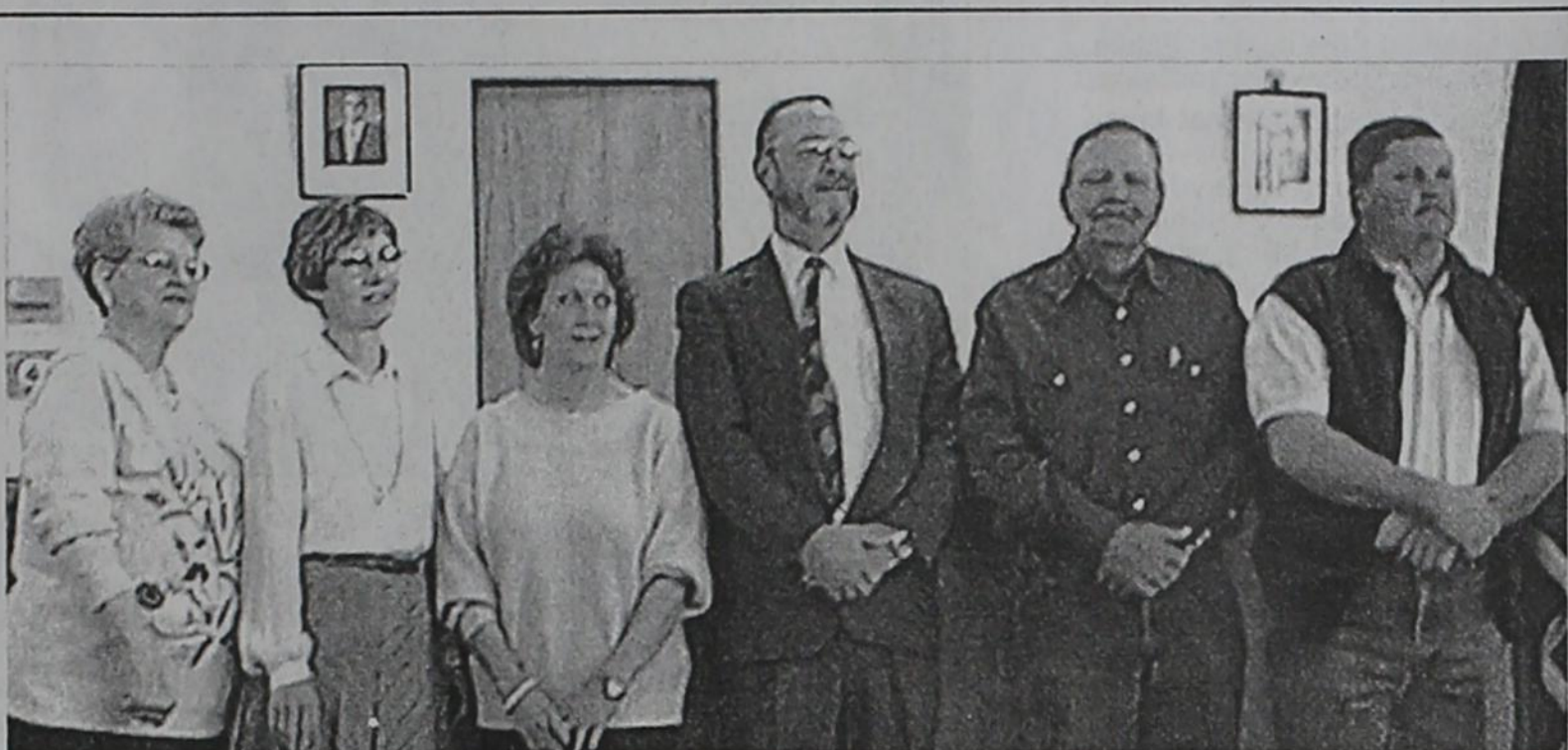
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Thursday, January 9, 2003

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Issue No. 2



### Take Oath of Office

Motley County elected officials took the oath of office on January 1st. Pictured left to right are Cora Smallwood, Justice of the Peace; Eva Barkley, County Treasurer; Kate Hurt, County and District Clerk; Ed D. Smith, County Judge; Donnie Turner, Commissioner, Precinct 2; and Russell Alexander, Commissioner, Precinct 4.

(photo by Amanda Hurt)

## Motley County Sixth Graders complete All Star program

Motley County sixth graders recently completed an All Stars program, which ran from September through December. The program focuses on character development and helps the students identify positive ideals, establish conventional norms, build personal commitments, and strengthen bonds between students and positive institutions, like the school. The ultimate goal of the program is to reduce substance use, violence, and other high-risk behaviors among youth.

The All Stars curriculum is abstinence-based and taught by prevention specialists from Managed Care Center in Lubbock. The specialists facilitate the program during regularly scheduled classes at school to include 14 classroom sessions.

The program encourages parents to become actively involved. Students are assigned homework to complete and discuss with their parents. The assignments are designed to give parents the opportunity to discuss important issues with their child.

At the end of the program a very exciting aspect of the program in-



**ALL STARS** — Motley County Sixth Graders completing the All-Star program were (left to right) Courtney Alexander, Shane'a Russell, instructor Odie Navarro, Jasmine Porter, Jesse Moehringer and Kayla Hollinsworth. The 14-week program conducted by Mrs. Navarro taught about drug and alcohol abuse and other important topics. These students made commitments to themselves and to their families.

cludes students featured in a class video proclaiming their commit-

ments. This helps make firm each child's personal commitments.

## \$292.2 million delivered in December Sales Tax allocations

(Austin) — Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander delivered, on December 13, \$292.2 million in monthly sales tax payments to local governments.

Rylander sent sales tax rebates of \$196.8 million to Texas cities and \$16.8 million to Texas counties. Seventy-six special purpose taxing districts received \$7.9 million and Texas' six metropolitan transit authorities and two city transit departments re-

ceived \$70.5 million in sales tax revenue.

December sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in October and reported to the Comptroller in November. The state's share of sales tax reported during this period was \$1.3 billion.

Matador, with a current rate of 1.00%, received a net payment this period of \$1,987.93, compared to \$1,546.24 last year at this time, a

28.56% change. The city has received \$28,793.46 for 2002, compared to \$27,574.22 in 2001, a 4.42% change.

Roaring Springs, with a current rate of 2.00%, received a net payment of \$1,258.48, compared to \$3,391.24 in 2001, a -62.89% change. 2002 payments totaled \$27,935.71, compared to \$33,633.69 in 2001, a -16.94% change.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made Friday, January 10.

## MC Jr. Class will sponsor Donkey Basketball Game

America's craziest and most unpredictable sport—Donkey Basketball—will be featured at the MC gym at 7:00 P.M., Thursday January 16. The teams will be made up of faculty/staff and ex-students. Circle A Donkey Ball will bring a combination of circus atmosphere and rodeo thrills to town for the benefit of the Motley County Jr. Class of '04 as a fund raiser.

The old saying, "stubborn as a mule," will be exemplified when the local riders match wits with the don-

keys. The odds are that most cases the donkeys will win. The old rodeo days will be brought to mind when the local Matt Dillons and Hop-Along Cassidy's take their spills and bounces.

There will be plenty of laughs for the entire family during this fun-filled evening. You haven't witnessed basketball until you have seen it played on donkeys. It is really a little different than regular basketball. Taking a shot at the basket when the donkey decides to go the other way, or

decides you have been on his back too long, can be difficult.

To purchase advance tickets, please contact a Junior class member (Stachia Baxter, Susana Mendoza, Quinten Rose, Shea Rose, Lorenzo Salazar, Brandon Martin, Charli Ream, Mandi Ream, Amanda Hurt, Angie Marvel), the class sponsors (Shelley Cox and Cathey Turner) or the school at 347-2676. Tickets are \$5.00 each if purchased early and \$6.00 at the door. Come join us in a fun evening.

## 2002 Headlines in Review

by Amanda Hurt

This is the second part of a look back at the headlines making news in 2002.

**March 14:**

Motley County teachers' contracts approved

**March 21:**

Roaring Springs Man Dies from Multiple Stab Wounds

"A Roaring Springs man died Wednesday night, March 13, from multiple stab wounds. Al Pettit, 42, was pronounced dead on arrival at Crosbyton Clinic Hospital."

Brenda Gillespie brings home Silver Medal from State Powerlifting  
Matador City Council Reviews Budget

**April 4:**

MCYO Members plan upcoming Summer Baseball Season

**April 11:**

FFA Team Advances to State  
Alexander Wins Commissioners Race in Tuesday's Run-off Election  
Lady Matadors Golf Team District Champs

**April 18:**

Sophomore 100% on TAAS Tests  
New Coach Hired  
Motley County ISD represented at SPC's Celebration of Educational Excellence Program  
Tennis Teams take home District Titles

**April 25:**

Area Schools receive funding for celebrations  
Donaldson, Cooper compete at Regional Track  
Quick Weather Data now available  
Rolling Plains Shared Services to move offices  
Matador native listed on Fireman's Memorial

**May 2:**

First Annual 70-Mile Garage Sale set for Saturday and Sunday

**May 9:**

Bluegrass fans will gather in Flomot for Third Annual Music Festival

**May 16:**

2002 Motley County Honor Students Announced

Mrs. Patricia Moore named Teacher of the Year

Project Graduation Party plans in full swing

**May 23:**

National EMS Week is Observed  
Newly Elected School Board members take oath of office

**May 30:**

Cassie Campbell and Clint Cooper elected for Boys' and Girls' State  
Annual Memorial Day Muster remembers those who served

**June 6:**

Motley County School Board members receive funding  
Historic Roaring Springs Hotel now Open for Business

Postal Rates to Increase June 30

**June 13:**

Storms produce much needed rainfall for area  
Woodworking hobby leads to furniture business for local entrepreneur

**June 20:**

Area Health Education Center of the Plains opens  
Chance Bingham and Colton Russell attend 13th Annual Roping School

**June 27:**

Roaring Springs Veterans Memorial to be dedicated at July 4th Ceremony  
Dude Barton honored in Fort Worth

**July 4:**

Local Student participates in Las Vegas Mission Trip  
4-H club to sponsor 28th Annual Junior Rodeo

**July 11:**

Main Street Restaurant gives customers a nostalgic dining experience

**July 18:**

Matador City Council discusses stray dog problem  
School Board hires new teacher, coach

**July 25:**

Family operated Red Ball Gin is big asset to area farmers  
Kayla Copp crowned 2002 Bar-None Rodeo Queen

**August 1:**

Higginbotham-Bartlett is one of Motley County's oldest businesses  
MC Cheerleaders Attend Camp  
School Board Adopts 2002-2003 Dress Code  
Annual Burleson Memorial Roping, Play Day held at Flomot

**August 8:**

Matadors Prepare for Six-Man Football  
Senator Duncan to hold Town Hall Meeting  
Motley County EMS great benefit to area

**August 15:**

Local FFA Chapter attends State Convention  
Motley County Farmers have busy month in July

**August 15:**

Matador City Council finalizes HOME Grant Program plans  
Cowboys to gather for annual reunion

**August 22:**

Chamber banquet honors man, woman, business of the year  
Moore Family turns hobby into successful business

**August 29:**

79th Annual Old Settlers Reunion Celebrated

Matador Implement has been serving this area for 52 years

Matador Cowboys meet for Ninth Annual Reunion

Motley County ISD receives Recognized Rating

**September 5:**

September 11, A Day to Remember

Motley County ISD receives \$28,000 for Library Technology

Motley County Cotton Crops Unable to Beat the Heat in August

Financial advice and friendship offered at Thayer and Washington

School Board sets Tax Rate at called meeting

**September 12:**

Homecoming 2002 set for October 25-26

Motley County Seniors nominated for Wendy's High School Heisman

Pulitzer Prize Winner got her start in Matador

**September 19:**

Long Insurance will soon celebrate 40th Anniversary

Motley County graduate travels to Kenya for Mission work

**September 26:**

Older Worker Week celebrated in Texas

Quail Forecast Good Across State

*Continued next week*

## Parson Brokerage keeps trucks rolling all over the country

Parson Brokerage of Matador is a successful trucking brokerage company that is a very beneficial part of Motley County. The company, owned by Fred and Mellane Parson, and operated by their daughter, Chesle Rains, works with customers all over the United States.

Mrs. Rains explained the operation. "Most of our business is done by phone or internet," she said. She explained that companies needing something hauled contacts her and she in turn finds a truck to transport the load. She posts loads available for haul on three sites on the internet, truckstop.com, getloaded.com or DATcom. Truckers look at the sites for loads and contact her. She then negotiates a contract with the trucking company to transport the goods.

Mrs. Rains explained that their company pays a monthly fee to each internet site to be able to post their hauls.

"We usually never meet our customers or the truck driver," she said. The truck driver usually faxes the required paperwork to her office.

"Most of our business comes from Rinker Materials PolyPipe in Roaring Springs," she continued. "We also have a very good customer in Jackson, Michigan." Midway Supply uses Parsons to find truckers to haul loads for them from Houston to Wyoming.

Fred and Mellane Parson purchased the business from Mark and Kathleen Wason in December, 2000. The business was known at that time as Ladybug Transportation. Mr. Parson had an interest in the operation, as he was very familiar with the trucking business, having been a truck driver for many years. In fact, his job is part of the reason for the



### Keeps the trucks rolling ...

Chesle Rains, seated, keeps the trucks rolling when she sets up loads for haul at Parson's Brokerage in Matador. Fred and Mellane Parson are the owners of the business, while Chesle manages the office.

couple's move to Matador in 1993.

Mr. Parson commuted from Plainview to Dickens while working for Porter Trucking Company. "We really wanted to get the girls in a

small school and live in a small town, and with Fred's job in Dickens, we decided to move to Matador."

*continued on page 5*





Here we are into the second week of January, 2003, and for some unknown reason I keep writing 2004 on everything. I'm really jumping ahead. It does seem like after the new year arrives, the rest of the year just flies by. It seems like school just started and before you know it, I'll be working on the graduation paper. I'm sure the kids are counting the days and the minutes.

Where's winter? The weather has been so nice, it's unbelievable. It gives me the urge to get out in the yard, but I'm not ready for that yet. I would like to have some snow. I know there a lot of people who definitely don't want snow, but I think it would be nice to have at least one good snowfall.

I know I'm just rambling this week. I have to leave to go to the printer in just a few minutes, so as usual I'm hurrying through this. Someday - soon I hope - I'll get my mind back together and come up with something interesting for this column. Don't give up on me.

Keeping in the subject of time - I'll leave you with this thought,

— Life is so precious ... There is no time to leave important words unsaid or a kindness undone.



## El Progreso Club celebrates Christmas at Campbell Ranch

by Beverly Vinson

The morning dawned bright and clear, a typical West Texas December day, when the members of El Progreso club traveled to the ranch home of Harold and Grace Campbell, December 14, for their annual Christmas luncheon and meeting with gift exchange. All attending brought a covered dish to make the turkey and dressing Mrs. Campbell and Lu Walker had prepared into a feast.

Mrs. Campbell asked the blessing and then all ate and ate and ate! The yard was decorated with many poinsettias and the rooms were filled with them, also. After eating the main part of the meal, dessert was delayed until after the program and gift exchange.

Lana Copp, club president, presented the leader, Grace Campbell, as club members gathered around the fireplace and Christmas tree for the rest of the day. Mrs. Campbell considered it a privilege to introduce her good friend Jo Ann Dickson. She is a writer, having won many prizes for her works and participation in TWFC. She wrote this story especially for this program, the title being "The Donkey That Carried Mary." This story was inspired by a tape made by singer Ed Ames, "I'm Not Beautiful." She had a picture of the donkey as he first appeared, then later in the story the picture was reversed to show him as he looked after he had carried Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

The story tells of the donkey, Jaban, who to his fellow stablemates, looked like a cross between a deformed horse and a spotted leopard. Mama donkey heard the jibes made about her baby. He was brown and his rear was white with black spots. After many years Mama donkey was on a good farm with kind people and she was very happy. Looking back on her life she wanted a better one for her son.

The farm animals kept taunting Jaban and Mama told them he would one day carry royalty. She told Jaban he would do great things one of these days. At this time Mama and Jaban lived in the village of Nazareth. One day Joseph came to the farmer requesting a donkey to buy. Joseph was not rich so haggling took place and

finally he bought the donkey, Jaban. Mama was sorry to see her son leave.

Mary and Joseph saw that Jaban had food and water and never too heavy a load to carry. One day Joseph began talking to Jaban telling him about having to take Mary, who was heavy with child, to Bethlehem to be counted and to pay taxes. Jaban was called upon to carry Mary being very careful on the way not to stumble for no harm must come to her. Jaban recalled words of his mother that he would carry royalty.

They left for Bethlehem and upon arrival found not one room in the town. Upon asking at the last Inn they were told they could stay in the stable that had just been cleaned the day before. Jaban was cared for as was Mary. Jaban napped and awoke to strange events — angels singing, a star shining over the stable onto the newborn baby. Mary told Jaban not to be startled as this was the King of Kings and his name is Jesus. Three kings rode up bringing gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Jaban wished so strongly that his mother could be there to show her that her prophecy had come true. Soon, Joseph, Mary and the Babe had to flee to Egypt and Jaban was called upon to carry Mary and the baby Jesus. The tale goes that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday upon the back of Jaban and because he carried the King a miracle had taken place for Jaban lost his brown color and became pure white with the black spots being barely visible.

Upon the conclusion of Jo Ann's story the group enjoyed the exchange of Christmas ornament gifts. Beverly Vinson read the tale of "Christmas with the Wright family" in which the words left and "wright" are mentioned and as each is said the group passed the gifts either to the right or the left making for a fun-filled game.

Refreshments were consumed around the dining table and with the wish of a Merry Christmas to all, the group left to go their separate ways.

Those attending this much anticipated day were Shirley Smith, Billie Koon, Dorothy Day, Jo Ann Dickson, Winifred Darsey, Loys Campbell, JoEtta Bumgardner, Lu Walker, Grace Campbell, Beverly Vinson, Lana Copp, Opal Pipkin and Lucretia Campbell.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

**Breakfast:** Breakfast Burrito, Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.  
**Lunch:** Frito Pie, Corn, Salad, Crackers, Jello, Fruit, Milk.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

**Breakfast:** Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.  
**Lunch:** Tomato Soup, Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Veggie Sticks, Crackers, Milk.

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

**Breakfast:** Hot Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.  
**Lunch:** Spaghetti with Sauce and Meatballs, Green Salad, Cheese Sticks, Fruit, Milk.

## SCHOOL MENU

### MONDAY, JANUARY 13

**Breakfast:** Pancake, Sausage, Syrup, Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.

**Lunch:** Barbecued Ribs, Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Biscuit, Onion, Pickle, Fruit, Milk.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

**Breakfast:** Cereal, Cinnamon Toast, Fruit, Milk.

**Lunch:** Corn Dogs, Salad, Carrots, Pickle Spear, Cake, Milk.

## Family Eye Care

Amy Bishop, O.D.  
Therapeutic Optometrist

Blake Avera, M.D.  
Ophthalmology - Surgery



### CLINIC

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## Library Notes

by Suzanne Abbott



We appreciate the memorial donation that the Library received last week. We thank Key Vaughn for his donation in memory of Frances Finch.

Since we've been closed during Christmas and New Year's, we don't have very much news. The book sale was a big success and we thank all those who came and bought books.

We still have the Texas Capitol Ornaments for sale. They are not just Christmas ornaments; many leave them out year-round.

We have some new audio books. Scott Turow's Reversible Errors is a great CD and eats up the miles as you are traveling. Several new novels have been ordered and should be arriving soon.



**TOY DONATIONS** — Tyler Logan, right, and Harley Diaz of Best Friends, Inc. donated toys to Goodfellows in December. The boys have been in the business of selling jewelry since 1998 and this year sold \$200 worth of jewelry. They used their profits to purchase toys to give to Goodfellows. Harley and Tyler are "Kids Helping Kids." The boys are students at Ralls Elementary. Tyler is the son and Ed and Deanna Logan, former Matador residents, and the grandson of Bill and Jo Ann Durham of Matador.

## GREAT SELECTIONS OF BOOKS!

Too many to list - come see!

**Motley County Tribune**

347-2400

## JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE



*Lacy's  
Dry Goods*

Turkey, Texas ~ 423-1155

*January  
Clearance Sale!*

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**50% - 75% off  
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## Hope Is Not Disappointed



Christian people all over the planet base their hope on Jesus Christ. There are many reasons for this but surely one is that we trust in the Lordship of our Savior. Long ago the great apostle Peter told those on Pentecost, "that God had made Him both Lord and Christ." Believing that, we have placed our confidence in Him and whatever the new year brings we eagerly anticipate.

In the realization that our hope lives in Jesus we come to the conclusion that our lives are to be centered on Him. In the book of Hebrews we read of Jesus being the "author and pioneer of our faith." We might say that He "wrote the book on it." The word pioneer brings to our minds the early settlers of our country. Those pioneers made the way easier and better for us who would follow. So it is with Jesus.

Our hopes and our expectations are based in Jesus. Therefore we will not be disappointed or let down as we seek His will for our lives. To live the Christian life has never been easy or will it ever be. But it is always worth it. The apostle Paul reminds of this in Ephesians chapter three where he writes, "Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us..." Notice, there is something at work in our lives. Our hope will not be disappointed.

**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.



# Motley County BASKETBALL



LADY MATADORS: Standing left to right, Emily Hurt, Emily Fonseka, Ashlee Green, Susanna Mendoza, Sabrina Osborn, Angie Marvel, Sierra Atherton; (middle row) Mandi Ream, Cassie Campbell, Brittany Moore (Sr.), Brittany Moore (Soph.), Stachia Baxter; (front) Charli Ream, Brittany Donaldson, Clarissa Elizondo, Chasity Holman, and Amanda Ashby.

## DISTRICT SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Jan. 3	New Home	there	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 7	Southland	there	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 10	Wilson	here	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 14	Spur	there	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 17	Patton Springs	here	5:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	New Home	here	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 24	Southland	here	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 25	Valley JV Tourn.	there	TBA
Jan. 28	Wilson	there	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 31	Spur	here	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	Patton Springs	there	5:00 p.m.

**GO  
MATADORS!**



MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS: Beginning at back, left to right, Chance Bingham, Kenny Johannes, Clint Cooper, Kevin Elder, Colton Russell, Seagram Sims, Clarissa Elizondo, Manager's assistant; (front) Xavier Elizondo, Manager's assistant, Quinten Rose, Matt Henzler, Lorenzo Salazar, Cody Cooper, Clay Cooper, Kittie Campbell, Manager.

**We support the MC Matadors  
& Lady Matadors:**

Motley County Tribune  
Jim & Carla Meador

Meredith Construction  
Gas & Supply

First Ag Credit of Texas, PCA

Calico Treasures  
Decorator's Studio

South Plains Electric Coop.

New to You

Flomot Gin

Arvis Davis Chevrolet  
Paducah

CapRock Telephone

Matador Floral - Designs by Vickie

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Thacker Jewelry

First State Bank

City Auto  
Floydada

Matador Implement

Matador Variety

Graham Supply

Parson's Brokerage

J.D., D'Anna & Shane'a Russell

Russ, Andrea & Marc Henzler

Tony, Sherry, Sean & Shea Rose

Rodney & Glenda Williams

James, Kathy, Robert & Brenda Gillespie

Doris, Kyle, Jeannie & Brandon Moore  
Memaw Betty & Tommy West

Tommy, Kate, Tommy & Zachary  
& Amanda Hurt

Billy, Brenda, Sam & Alexis Osborn

Chuck & Gail Ream, &  
Grandpa & Grandma Rice  
Grandpa & Grandma Ream

Charlie & Mary Renfro

Alan & Kay Bingham

Terry & Ronda Miller & Ryan Moore

Dale & JoEtta Bumgardner



# News Around the County

## Roaring Springs News

By Odessa Mullins

Friends are invited to attend a birthday party for Rev. Paul Stearns, Saturday, January 11, 2:30 - 4:30 at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Joyce Smith spent the Christmas holidays in Dallas with her daughter, Michelle and husband, Don Smith. Also grandson, Chad Smith, and granddaughter Julie Marie and husband Brian and their daughter Ellie Marie DiPaolo from Houston.

### ATTENDS GRADUATION

Graduating Summa Cum Laude from Texas Tech. College of Human Sciences on Dec. 14, 2002, was Mrs. Brad (Weslyn) Thacker. Attending the graduation, besides her husband, Brad, were Mr. and

Mrs. Jeff Thacker and Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Thacker, of Roaring Springs. Also attending were Weslyn's mom, Mrs. Mickie Maupin, of Gruver, and maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Quin from Stratford.

\*\*\*\*\*

Visiting the Buzz Thackers for Christmas were Mr. and Mrs. Joey Thacker, Amanda, Emmalee, and Isaiah, from Lubbock; Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Thacker, Roaring Springs and Blair Thacker of Lubbock; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hoyle of Matador, and daughter Laurie from Lubbock; and Mr. and Mrs. Brad Thacker of Lubbock, who left early to spend Christmas in Leadville, Colo. with Weslyn's family and skiing.

## Matador News

Houseguests of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Paul Simpson during the Christmas holidays were Mr. and Mrs. Warren Multer, Katy, Cory and Amy of Garden City; Jerri Davis, Joey Davis and Clayton Davis, Tiffany and Trey of Wichita Falls, Lynn and Lisa Davis of Iowa Park, Mrs. Mollye Simpson of Childress and Dennis and Donald Letkeman of Matador. Visiting in the Simpson home during the New Year holidays and enjoying a New Year's Eve party were Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Davis of Glendale, California and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Martin of Chico, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hamilton, at the house on Walton Road, were host and hostess to John, Tamara, Channing and Clark of Lubbock; Brent, Cari, Ashley and Jack of Plainview; Rob, a student of the School of Law, San Antonio; Max, Brae and Cy of Fort Worth; Sharon Lindsey of Abilene; Dustin, a student Texas Tech; Cherri and Kourtney Karr of Whitney; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hansford and daughter Candice of Tulsa Okla.; Russell Laird of

Dallas; Mrs. Clarise Gilson of Corinth, Miss.; and local resident of Matador, Dan Barton.

Jake and Marge Edwards have both recently been patients at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. Jake had a right leg amputated. While visiting Jake, Marge fell and broke her shoulder. Both are recovering. Marge is at home at Venture, Jake is doing physical therapy at Covenant in Room 530 W. Marge can be reached by phone at 806-771-1298.

Visiting Luther and Edna Ruth Green for the holidays were their children and grandchildren: Tim and Dorothy Green, of Austin; Jordan Green of Austin; Pat, Noel and Emily Scoggins of Cedar Park; Allison Scoggins, College Station; Virginia Green, Whiteface; Andy and Gay Green, Keller; and Katie Green, College Station. Others visiting the Green home during the holidays were Marge Huff of North Richland Hills; Traci, Elise, and Wesley Cawman, Tampa, FL; and Pat and Suetta Green, Sinton.

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

Glen D. Tiffin accompanied granddaughter, Mrs. Deborah Court to Great Lakes, Illinois, Dec. 23 to be with her husband, Tony Court, stationed with U.S. Navy. Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Tiffin during the holidays were grandson and sons, Michael Tiffin, Trent and Kevin of Weatherford.

Holiday visitors of M.C. and Barbara Jones were Salt and Susan Jones of Calgary, Canada and Pepper Jones of Austin. Also spending one day were Michael Kern, Holly and Steven of Plano and Zachary Kern of Irving. Local visitors were Mary Ellen Barton, Lynn and Judy Stark and their visitor, son, Wes Stark of Del Rio.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rhodes and twin daughters, Kathryn and Kraysten of San Antonio visited Jan. 1-4 with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter. Salina Shorter of Floydada visited the family, Friday. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey visited in Higgins last weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kennedy, Tonya and Jackie Starkey. Jack and Nada were in Amarillo, Thursday for her optical appointment. Their daughter, Mrs. Jackie Lynn Davis of Fritch met them there and they visited Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Reid and Christina.

Visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers, Tuesday were daughter, Mrs. Donna Sue Degan of Calgary, Dana Degan and son, Kyle of Crosbyton. Visiting them Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hand of Roaring Springs.

Luncheon guests of Mrs. Leona Degan, Tuesday, Dec. 31 were children and families, Mrs. Sheila Gilbert, son and

family, Jeremy, Amy, Caitlyn and Alexander Gilbert of Jacksonville, Alabama, Donna Sue and Stanley Degan of Calgary, Dana Degan and son, Kyle of Crosbyton, Morris and Lou Degan of Medicine Mound. The Gilbert family explained home from Lubbock Airport, Wednesday morning after visiting during the holidays.

Attending the funeral services of Travis "Shady" Bynum held in Dumas, Tuesday, Dec. 31 were Joe Ike and Anna Beth Clay, Ronald and Waydette Clay, Larry Clay and Billy Shannon. Joining them there were Bobby and Kay Clay of Ringling, Oklahoma. Joe Ike, Ronald and Bobby served as pallbearers.

Julie and Dusty Whitaker visited during the holidays in Fort Worth with her sister, Mrs. Ginny McMann. Other guests were their parents, Kathy and Mackey McEntire of Sterling City and sister, Monica McEntire of Lubbock.

Holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson were daughters and families, Lucretia and Breck Dockery and daughter, Brittany of Vernon, Kayla and Neil Guest of Turkey. Brittany remained to visit and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson accompanied her to Childress Sunday afternoon where she met her mother for her return trip home.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Wigley of Lubbock accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross and their holiday houseguest, granddaughter, Aleda Elaine to her home in Castroville, Monday. They visited her family, Mrs. Chris Ross, Megan, Cheyenne and Clara. They enjoyed tourist attractions and restaurants in San Antonio and returned home Wednesday.

## Whiteflat News

By Earlyne Jameson

### OVERHEARD

A bull charging across a pasture is a heck of an incentive to your getting over a fence. A troublesome insect can move you out of a comfortable spot too! Encouragement and motivation come in all shapes and sizes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Dixon and their houseguests, her mother Mrs. Ted Hester of Lovington, N.M. met her brother and her son and family, Carl and Susan Hester

and children Kristen and Christopher of Lovington, N.M. in Lubbock Wednesday. They enjoyed visiting and a New Year's luncheon.

H.R. "Skeet" Jameson attended to business in Floydada and Plainview, Monday.

Tim Shannon visited in Matador, Thursday with his sister and children, Mrs. Kathryn Walker, Adrian and Martin and their house guest, mother, Mrs. Sue Shannon of Roaring Springs. Sue is reported to be recovering just fine from a recent illness.

## Jim Roberts retires after 44 years in rural electrification James Driver new general manager

Jim Roberts of Lubbock, Texas, has decided to retire from his position as South Plains Electric Cooperative's General Manager after 22 years of service to the membership. James Driver, also of Lubbock and formerly of Childress, takes over the Cooperative's leadership role bringing 25 years of managerial experience to the table.

Robert's official retirement date is February 15, 2003. He worked in rural electrification for a combined total of 44 years, starting before he graduated from Texas Tech University in 1961. The Cooperative hired Roberts in 1959 to work in engineering and it turned into a full-time position upon graduation. In 1966, San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Bellville, Texas, lured him away with an opportunity to serve as their operations manager. He took over as general manager in January 1974 and served the San Bernard membership for six years, South Plains Electric Co-op then lured Roberts back to Lubbock in 1980 by offering him a general manager's position. He spent the next 22 years growing South Plains Electric Co-op from 19,161 meters to 40,202 meters and from \$25,294,137 in plant to \$172,221,957.

"It is natural to coast a little as you get close to the end of your career," said Mike Williams, president and chief executive officer of Texas Electric Cooperatives. "Jim never did. He just kept trying to make things better."

James Driver managed the former Gate City Electric Cooperative in Childress until its merger with South Plains Electric Co-op in September 2000.

He moved to Lubbock and served the membership as Director of Business Development until the Board of Directors selected him as General Manager from more than 80 candidates. Driver officially took office on January 1, 2003.

"My successor, James Driver, is a fine replacement," said Roberts. "I knew after working with him closely for two years that he was the right

person for the job."

This seasoned professional brings more than 30 years experience in management and expertise in operating rural electric cooperatives to the membership. Driver was hired to manage the former Gate City Electric Cooperative in Childress, Texas, in 1976; a position he held for 25 years until a merger with South Plains Electric in 2000. He previously worked with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company as a unit manager.

Driver's long list of accomplishments illustrates his experience with electric cooperatives. He has demonstrated his leadership abilities working with Brazos Electric Power Cooperative as secretary/treasurer and working with the Board of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in the State Senate Chambers in Austin to create more than 400 jobs for Childress. He has experience in preparing loan applications, working with the Texas Public Utilities Commission, statewide and national organizations, is an effective communicator with employees and members and is heavily involved in many community organizations. His combination of proven leadership abilities, strong communication skills and enthusiasm for what lies ahead will surely bring only continued success for the members and employees of South Plains Electric Cooperative.

"I have extremely large shoes to fill," said Driver. "Mr. J.C. Roberts had led this organization for more than 20 years through a tremendous growth period and two successful mergers with other cooperatives. South Plains Electric Cooperative stands today in the top 10 cooperatives in Texas based on meter served and in the top three based on miles of line."

South Plains Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, serves more than 40,000 connected meters in Childress, Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Hale, Hardeman, Hockley, Kent, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley and Stonewall counties.



**MOTLEY COUNTY MAINTENANCE:** Standing left to right, David Blanco, Terry Simpson, Vaden Hays, Harold Brown and Frank Ortiz; seated, Billy Osborn, Shawn Elliott, Randy Martin and Douglas Campbell.

## Local TxDot employees receive safety awards

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) recently held their annual Safety Awards Banquet at the Childress Fair Park Auditorium in Childress. This banquet is held to recognize employees outstanding efforts in the operation of TxDot vehicles and equipment and for having no work related injuries. The Motley County Maintenance Office employees were recognized for combined totals of 113 years as safe operators and 111 years of no injury.

Motley County Maintenance employees who received awards are: Douglas Campbell, Vaden Hays, Mary Marshall, Randy Martin, David Blanco, Harold Brown, Sean Elliott, Frank Ortiz, Billy Osborn and Terry Simpson.

## OBITUARIES

### Grant E. Carlson

Funeral services for Grant E. Carlson, 84, of Matador, were held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 4, at the Church of Christ in Matador. Officiating was Michael Crowley, minister. Interment was in East Mound Cemetery at Matador under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mr. Carlson died Wednesday, January 1, 2003, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

He was born July 27, 1918, in Mission,

Texas. He had been a resident of Matador since 1929. He was a retired concrete contractor.

He is survived by one sister, Frances Sherrod of Lubbock; one brother, Joe E. Carlson of Redding, California; five nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Greg Sherrod, Josh Sherrod, Robert Sherrod, Joe Martinez, Billy Osborn, Luther Green, James Simpson, and Ronnie Carlson.

### Travis "Shady" Bynum

Travis "Shady" Bynum, 65, of Dumas, former resident of Flomot, died Sunday, Dec. 29, 2002, in Angel Fire, N.M. Services were at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 31 in the First Baptist Church of Dumas with the Rev. Eddie Tubbs, pastor and Brent Clark, family friend, officiating. Burial was in Northlawn Memorial Gardens by Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mr. Bynum was born Nov. 30, 1937 in Flomot and attended Flomot Schools. He was owner and operator of Jack Oldham Oil. He married Sandy Bynum on Dec. 7, 1957 in Hereford. He was a Dumas resident since 1968 moving from Sunray. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Dumas. His leisure time was dedicated

to his grandchildren and family. He was preceded in death by his father, Floyd Bynum and a brother, Troy Bynum.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Rick Bynum of Dumas and Shannon Bynum of Pflugerville; two daughters, Quinn Black and Lynn Davis of Dumas; his mother, Othel Bynum of Dumas; three sisters, Lou Nell Kandy of Kerrville, Veda Voyles of New Deal and Laquetta Herron of Paris and eight grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to the American Heart Association or First Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 617, Dumas Tx. 792029.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to thank everyone for your concern during Dale's surgery and since returning home. We appreciate the cards, phone calls, visits and food so much. May God bless you in your time of need.

Dale and JoEtta Bumgardner

I would like to thank everyone who said a prayer for me or called or sent cards or candy or cookies or came by to see me in the hospital or since I've been home recuperating from knee replacement. Friends mean so much. I'm doing great!

Billy Meyer

We would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone for the food, flowers and especially the thoughts and prayers during the difficult time of our recent loss. A special thanks to all the caring people at Hospice Hands of West Texas.

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### Parson's Brokerage

continued from page 1

Mellane Parson explained. The family moved to Matador in July of 1993. Fred and Mellane were raised in Floydada and both attended high school there. A close couple, Mellane says she has always worked closely with her husband. "I've done a lot of jobs and learned to do a lot of things," she said. "About the only thing I never learned was to drive a tractor when Fred was doing dirt work, and I don't have a desire to learn that job."

The couple is a busy pair; Fred works full time at Rinker as the Quality Control Technician in the Lab. Mellane works at the Motley County School cafeteria and delivers the Lubbock Avalanche Journal. These jobs are in addition to owning Parson's Transportation.

"Chesle runs the office full time," Mrs. Parson explained. "She keeps things running smoothly."

"I usually stay very busy with trucking contracts two weeks of the month," Chesle explained. In her spare time, Chesle works for Market Matador doing research for grants. She also works with the City of Matador on the Nursing Home project. She recently wrote a grant for the Matador Fire Department which brought the department \$60,000 to purchase a new brush truck. "I really enjoy doing grant work," she said.

Chesle lives with her husband, Scotty Rains in Floydada. Mr Rains is a Crop Insurance Adjuster for Rule Community Insurance. The couple plan to move to Matador in May. They have one son, Riley, who is five.

The Parsons also have another daughter, Brooke Barton, who lives in Matador with her husband, Bobby and two children, Katie, 5, and Tucker, 2. Brooke, a full time mom, works at the office part time when needed.

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# FARM AND RANCH NEWS

**COUNTY AGENT'S REPORT**  
by Lonnie Jenschke  
Motley County Extension Agent



**FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWS**  
by Debbie Shaw, CED



**WESTERN ROLLING PLAINS CHEMICAL CONFERENCE**  
Dickens, Kent, King and Stone-wall Counties will be hosting the Western Rolling Plains Chemical Conference January 13, 2003, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in the Spur Community Center.

There will be a \$10 Registration Fee (includes lunch). Please RSVP by 5:00 p.m. Jan. 9 to the Dickens Co. Extension Office @ (806) 623-5552. There will be 5 ceu's (1-Laws & Regs, 1-IPM, 3-General).

Topics include: Winter Annuals & Brush Control on Ranger Sites, External Livestock Parasite Control, Herbicide Update for Wheat & Cotton, Spray Additives and Calibration and Laws & Regulations.

**GARDEN CHECKLIST FOR JANUARY, 2003**  
by Dr. William C. Welsh, Landscape Horticulturist, Texas A&M University

pouches. The insect eggs overwinter in the pouch, and start the cycle again by emerging in the spring to begin feeding on the foliage. Hand removal and burning of the pouches are ways of reducing the potential damage next spring.

The life of the plant received as a Christmas gift can be prolonged with proper care. Keep the soil moist, but provide drainage so that excess moisture can flow from the pot. Keep the plant out of range of heating ducts and away from heating units. Keep in a cool room at night, preferably at 60 to 65 degrees F.

Don't fertilize newly set out trees or shrubs until after they have started to grow, and then only very lightly the first year.

When buying plants, the biggest is not always the best, especially when dealing with bare-root plants. The medium to small sizes (4 to 6 feet) are usually faster to become established and more effective in the landscape than the large sizes.

Hold off on pruning rose bushes until February or early March. Use good shears that will make clean cuts. Remove dead, dying and weak canes. Leave 4 to 8 healthy canes, and remove approximately one-half of the top growth and height of the plant.

Now is an excellent time to select and plant container-grown roses to fill those bare spots in your rose garden.

When pruning shrubs, first prune out any dead or damaged branches; then thin out by removing about one-third of the canes or stems at ground level, removing the oldest canes only; and last shape the rest of the plant, but do not cut everything back to the same height.

Water foliage plants as well as other containerized plants only when needed and not by the calendar.

Climbing roses should be trained but not pruned. Weave long canes through openings in trellises or arbors and tie them with jute or twine or plastic/wire plant ties. Securing canes now to prevent damage from winter winds, and contributes toward a more refined look to the garden when roses are blooming. Wait until after the spring flowering period to prune climbing or once-blooming shrub roses.

The final date to sign up for the Peanut Quota Buyout Program is Wednesday, January 15, 2003. If you have not signed up for this program, please do so as soon as possible.

There are no late-file provisions. Historic peanut producers will be able to designate their acreage and yields to a farm or farms beginning January 6, 2003, the sign-up will end March 31, 2003. Procedure is forthcoming for peanut base and yield

designations; we should receive the software early this week.

January 10, 2003, is the final date to request to LDP for producers who lost beneficial interest in an eligible 2002 crop loan commodity after May 13, 2002, and before October 8, 2002. The LDP rate will be based on the date the beneficial interest was lost in the commodity. January 31, 2003 is the final date to request a 2002 Peanut LDP or Peanut Loan.

**Cotton**


**News**  
from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

**DISASTER ASSISTANCE IS FOCUS OF COTTON WASHINGTON TRIP**

With the 108th Congress set to convene January 7, 2003, the top item on the cotton industry's "To Do" list is disaster assistance.

The National Cotton Council, with the cooperation of Plains Cotton Growers and other regional cotton producers groups, has renewed the effort to secure crop loss disaster assistance for producers impacted by adverse growing conditions during the 2001 and 2002 production seasons.

The first round of face-to-face visits with Congressional leaders will begin Wednesday, January 8, one day after the 108th Congress is sworn in and begins work.

PCG Vice President Rickey Bearden, of Plains has been asked to participate in the NCC contingent that will visit and renew the process of educating Congressional leaders, new and old, about the need for disaster assistance.

The NCC group will join producers and industry representatives from several other commodity groups in a coordinated follow-up to a letter sent prior to Christmas outlining the needs for disaster assistance and signed by 32 producer commodity organizations.

With the Bush Administration still voicing support for disaster assistance provided that it be paid for with adequate budget offsets.

The NCC message will focus first on the need to provide disaster as-

sistance be provided in addition to the support provided by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

The cotton industry has staunchly defended the ideal that disaster assistance is needed but must not come at the expense of the Farm Bill and the future support it provides.

One of the challenges to date has been in differentiating problems the new Farm Bill addresses in a forward-looking manner from the significant physical losses incurred prior to its passage that have seriously hurt many producers.

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. officials will travel to Washington, DC the week of January 20 to further encourage the development of crop loss disaster assistance for the 2001 and 2002 growing seasons.

PCG President Mark Williams will lead the group that will include PCG officers Rickey Bearden, Vice President; Mike Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer; Ronnie Hopper, PCG Chairman; and PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett.

The PCG trip will be a close follow-up to PCG Vice President Rickey Bearden's January 8 trip to Washington on PCG's behalf representing cotton in multi-commodity disaster assistance follow-up.

Also being worked into the PCG trip will be meeting with key USDA personnel to discuss issues related to crop insurance, conservation programs, farm bill implementation and trade.

Strong, dry 35 to 40 mph north-west winds escorted in the New Year, Wednesday, January 1st. A pre holiday winter storm with snow, freezing rain and temperatures Dec. 23-24 left strippers idle due to wet cotton fields. Harvest activity is expected to increase during the week.

## USDA to hold briefing on available programs

Temple, Texas - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold an informational briefing January 15, 2003, in Victoria, Texas, to acquaint farmers, ranchers and other constituents with a wide array of agency services and to highlight changes and new provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill.

"This session is an important part of our ongoing implementation of the

2002 Farm Bill and commitment to reach as many people as possible about USDA programs," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman. "Stakeholders will have the opportunity to hear from USDA experts on the many programs available to them."

The briefing will be held January 15th at the Holiday Inn in Victoria, Texas from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The session, organized by USDA Rural Development and the USDA Office of Outreach, will feature presentations on a broad array of topics including conservation programs, insurance and drought relief programs, food and nutrition programs and rural utilities, rural business and rural housing programs. Other meetings are being considered and will be announced when details are available.

"We are committed to reaching out to the full spectrum of USDA customers, including under-served customers, minorities and women, to ensure they benefit from USDA programs and services," said Assistant Secretary for Administration Lou Gallegos.

For information about the briefing, please visit USDA's Farm Bill website at <http://www.usda.gov> or call 202-720-6350 or toll free 1-800-880-4183.

## Pre-holiday winter storm brings last moisture for 2002

Cattle conditions remain good with supplemental feeding.

We thank the Motley County National Weather Service Volunteers, Buzz Thacker, Roaring Springs; Kelly Meyer, Matador; Jim Stockton, Whiteflat; Tommie Jo Cruse, Flomot and Betty Simpson, Northfield for reporting moisture totals throughout the year.

**2002 MOTLEY COUNTY RAINFALL TOTALS**

	FLOMOT	MATADOR	R.S.	WHITEFLAT	NORTHFIELD
JAN.	0.76	0.91	0.87	1.10	1.04
FEB.	0.88	0.88	1.00	0.55	0.97
MAR.	1.32	1.38	1.25	1.50	1.38
APR.	1.23	1.45	2.19	1.80	1.44
MAY	0.74	0.45	0.57	0.80	1.02
JUNE	2.28	4.27	1.16	4.05	4.62
JULY	1.74	3.40	2.58	2.80	2.65
AUG.	2.72	2.85	3.33	2.80	2.52
SEPT.	1.12	0.95	0.92	1.15	1.42
OCT.	4.17	3.85	4.23	5.20	3.88
NOV.	0.42	0.57	0.56	0.50	0.27
DEC.	1.62	1.82	1.94	1.10	1.63
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2tp-3

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The City of Matador is accepting bids for one (1) Track Dozer, 2002 or newer; new machine with enclosed cab, heater and a/c; 18" or larger tracks; idler and/or rock guards for protection in a landfill environment. Dozer will also need to be specified with rear ripper. Bids will be accepted until 4:00 p.m., January 16, 2003. Bids shall be sealed and will be opened at 7:00 p.m. on January 16, 2003. The City of Matador reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

2tc-3

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**SR. CITIZENS COMPUTER CLASS TO BEGIN JANUARY 14**

Mrs. Cathey Turner will begin the Senior Citizens Computer Class at school, Tuesday, January 14, 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. in Room 102. The class will also be held on Thursdays at 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. A night class will begin soon and more information will be given at a later date. For more information regarding these classes contact Cathey Turner at school, 347-2676.

1tc-2

**Help Wanted**

ANYONE INTERESTED in submitting a resume for the position of Motley County & District Clerk Deputy may bring it by the Clerk's office until January 16, 2003.

1tc-2

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