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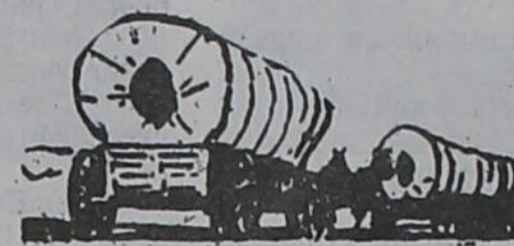
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Tribune

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"



GOD BLESS
AMERICA!



Thursday, April 17, 2003

ESTABLISHED 1891

Issue No. 16

★ A SALUTE ★



ARMN. SCOTT T. WELLING
U.S. AIR FORCE
Son of Paula and Ron Welling. Grandson of Bill and Maleta Pallmeyer of Meridian and the late Freddie and Irene Welling. Scott is a 2002 graduate of Randall High School in Amarillo. He is stationed at Taegu Air Base, Taegu, South Korea.



PFC ROBERT GAITAN
Robert is the nephew of local residents Frank and Anna Ortiz. He was deployed to the Middle East February 20. He is stationed in Lacey, WA where his wife Leticia and son Robert II await his return home. He is the son of Delia Gonzales of Mathis and Freddie Gaitan of Plainview.



SPC SCOTT AUMILLER
U.S. ARMY
Scott is the son-in-law of Linda and Gordy Ruhl of Matador. He and his wife, Linda, have three children, Duncan, Chyanne, and Jasmine. His hometown is Marion, MI. He is now serving at Camp Doha, Kuwait City.

Matador City Council meets

Matador City Council met in regular session Thursday, March 13, with Mayor Rodney Williams, Council members Fred Parson, Doyle Rose, Bert Darsey, Shane Jones, City Secretary Lara Davey and Water Superintendent Steve Barton, present.

Council entered closed session at 6:38 p.m. and exited at 7:55 p.m.

As a result of closed session a motion was made by Bert Darsey to accept Devin Perryman's request to recant a letter of resignation signed April 7, 2003, contingent on a 60-day probationary period. A second was made by Jim Watson and the motion passed 4-0. Doyle Rose abstained.

Minutes from the March 13

meeting were read and approved. All bills were approved for payment.

Mayor Williams informed the Council that three seats on the Matador Water District were open for reappointment. The council decided to keep Jim Watson and Bobby Brown in their current seats. As for the seat recently vacated by Cynthia Stafford, it was decided that Bert Darsey will take her place. These assignments were approved.

Mayor Williams then presented the Board with a Resolution Adopting a Flexible Benefits Plan from AFLAC for City employees. This will be a supplemental policy paid for by the employees. The Resolution was approved.

Council approved an agreement with Crosby Fuel for various supplies.

Mayor Williams presented the board with several items of information The first being the upcoming election. The City will hire two election judges to conduct the City election. The election will be held May 3 and early voting will begin this week at City Hall.

Ameriway Construction will be doing some construction work for the City of Paducah. They have been in contact with Mayor Williams and Steve Barton and would like to do all of their dumping at the Matador Landfill. The price of \$25.00 per ton was agreed upon. The construction was to begin last week.

State Comptroller pays \$264.9 million in April Sales Tax Rebates

(Austin) - Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn delivered, last week, \$264.9 million in monthly sales tax payments to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, a 2.9 percent decrease compared to April, 2002. So far this year, local sales tax rebates are down 1.8 percent compared to the first four months of 2002.

April's sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in February and reported to the Comptroller in March. The state's share of sales tax reported in March was \$1 billion, down 2.3 percent compared to a year ago.

Comptroller Strayhorn sent April sales tax rebates of \$179.1 million to Texas cities, down 1.9 percent compared to April 2002. Year-to-date, city sales tax rebates are running 0.9 percent lower than last year. Texas counties received sales tax rebates of \$15.5 million, down 1.7 percent compared to one year ago. Year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 0.7 percent lower than last year.

Another \$7.4 million went to 76 special purpose taxing districts around the state. Texas' six metropolitan transit authorities and two city transit systems received \$62.8 million in sales tax rebates.

Matador, with a current rate of 2.000%, received a net payment this period of \$1,055.36, compared to \$1,616.79 at this time last year, a -34.73% change. 2003 payments to date total \$8,068.93, compared to \$7,914.71 in 2002, a 1.94% change.

Roaring Springs, with a current rate of 2.000% change, received a net payment this period of \$2,249.86, compared to \$1,069.62 at this time last year, a 110.34% change. 2003 payments to date total \$10,974.14, compared to \$7,161.49 for 2002, a 53.22% change.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, May 9.

Old Settlers board plans upcoming celebration

by Marisue Potts

The directors of the Motley-Dickens Counties Old Settlers Association met in Roaring Springs on March 26, 2003, in their regular monthly meeting. President Wayne Smith presided. Present were Vice President Russell Alexander, Secretary Marisue Potts, Mike Jones, Doc Edwards, Corky Marshall and Travis Bateman. Absent was Bob Forbis.

Discussion centered around the proposed Ranch Rodeo that was approved at the last regular meeting. A committee consisting of Travis Bateman, Mike Jones, and Wayne Smith will form a set of rules. The events likely would include Team Sorting, Bronc Riding, Double Mugging, and/or Team Branding and Team Doctoring. Four to six members will form a team, and prizes will include money, buckles and possibly bits. Sponsor-

ship and cattle are currently being sought for the ranch rodeo, ranch cutting, county events and working ranch horse competition.

Corky Marshall reported that the City of Roaring Springs will cooperate with cutting down the number of gates to man by temporarily closing a street on the east side of the grounds. He also reported that the Dickens Lions will take tickets on Satur-

continued on page 5

Motley County Commissioners meet in regular court session

The Motley County Commissioners' Court met for their regular meeting Monday, April 14. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Outstanding bills were reviewed, and reports were heard from the Treasurer, Tax-Collector, County Agent, Justice of the Peace, and Library. Bills and reports were approved.

The Court reviewed several options on the County's Investment Policy that was presented by the Treasurer the previous month. Commissioners voted to renew the County's Investment Policy with The First State Bank of Matador and review yearly. It was also approved to renew the two year contract with the First State Bank of Matador for the County's Depository funds.

County Extension Agents Lonnie Jenschke and Jennifer Trufan met with the Court. Mrs. Trufan explained several Family and Consumer service programs she can present to various County organizations. Mr.

Jenschke informed the Court that his computer is obsolete and will no longer perform the programs he is required to do. The State has a cost share program and he can purchase a computer system with a three year warranty for \$700. Mr. Jenschke informed the court that the Adult 4-H Leaders have said that they will help with the purchase. Commissioners elected to divide the remaining balance between each precinct. Mr. Jenschke also informed the Court that the Extension Service has a new web page for Motley County that features 4-H newsletters and Ag newsletters and services at motleyco.tamu.edu.

Judge Smith presented a letter he had received from Market Lubbock requesting Motley County to endorse the Lubbock Foreign Trade Zone, along with other surrounding counties, that could be beneficial to our region. There is no cost to the County. Commissioners ap-

Sheriff Jim Meador and James Gillespie of Gillespie Communications met with the Court to request maintenance and repair work on the radio tower. Mr. Gillespie informed the Court that the tower was installed in the early 1970's and it has had no major repairs since that time. The Sheriff's office is having trouble receiving incoming calls. To repair the tower's antenna, helix and grounding kits the cost will be approximately \$4,250.00. The tower is important to the community as it serves the EMS also. The Commissioners approved the request to order the equipment needed for the repairs.

Members of the Court present for this meeting were County Judge Ed D. Smith, and Commissioners, Ronnie Davis, Precinct 1; Donnie Turner, Precinct 2; Franklin Jameson, Precinct 3; Russell Alexander, Precinct 4; County Clerk Kate Hurt.



RECOGNIZED FOR 100 YEARS

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, right, recognized Barbara (Waybourn) West, Toni (Key) Ratliff and Geraldine (Waybourn) Key of Key West Waybourn Ranch in Motley County. Key West Waybourn Ranch has been in operation by the same family since 1902 and was inducted into the Texas Department of Agriculture's Family Land Heritage Program for 100 years of operation at a recent ceremony in Austin.

Early voting now in progress for May 3rd elections

Early voting for the May 3rd Election started on Wednesday, April 16th and will continue through April 29th. Those wishing to cast their votes early may do so at the Motley County Clerk's office for School Board, or at Matador or Roaring Springs City Hall for those respective races.

Candidates for Motley County ISD Board of Trustees are Incumbent Douglas Campbell, Patty E. Lane, Marvina Mason, Ted Davey, Matt Crawford, Bob Davis and John Douglas Russell

Candidates for Roaring Springs City Council are Incumbents Timmy Brooks and Alex Crowder, Patricia K. Green and Vince Taylor.

Matador City Council candidates are Incumbents Doyle Rose, Bert Darsey and Jim

Watson, Chuck Ream and Randy Martin. There are three places open for each of these races.

The Motley County Hospital Board election has been canceled, due to the fact that there

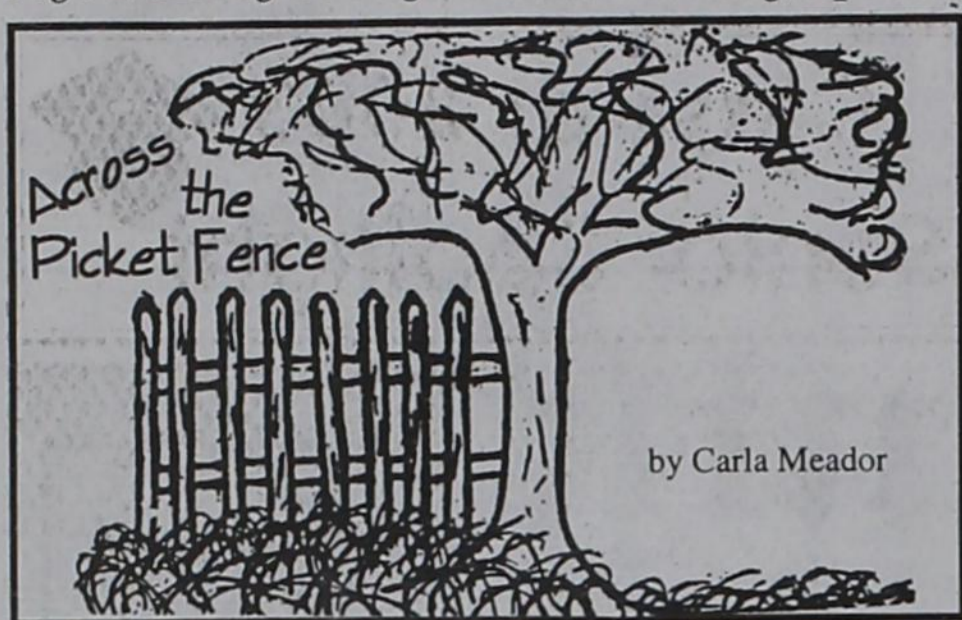
are two places open and two candidates. Incumbent Charlie Johnson and Kim Woolsey have been named to the board.

The Election will be held on Saturday, May 3.

National Day of Prayer, May 1 Local observance to be held at Courthouse

National Day of Prayer will be observed May 1, 2003. The theme for this year is Righteousness Exalts a Nation, based on Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people." Organizers believe this verse contains an important exhortation for the citizens of the country, especially in light of recent events.

A local observance will be held on the Courthouse lawn, near the Gazebo, in Matador, Thursday, May 1. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this very important event. The time of the local event will be published when made available.



An email from a friend - a cute Easter anecdote entitled, "All I Need to Know About Life."

- * Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
- * Walk softly and carry a big carrot.
- * Everyone needs a friend who is all ears.
- * There's no such thing as too much candy.
- * All work and no play can make you a basket case.
- * A cute little tail attracts a lot of attention.
- * Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day.
- * Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits.

- * Some body parts should be floppy.
- * Keep your paws off other people's jelly beans.
- * Good things come in small sugar-coated packages.
- * The grass is always greener in someone else's basket.
- * An Easter bonnet can tame even the wildest hare.
- * To show your true colors, you have to come out of your shell.
- * The best things in life are still sweet and gooey!

Happy Easter!



Peaceful Heart Ministries, made up of the Murlyn Keller family, will lead praise and worship services with a special musical presentation at the morning worship service of First Baptist Church, Sunday. The Kellers are pictured above, Murlyn, Janie, Brady and Heath.

Peaceful Heart to present special Easter service

The Murlyn Keller family, Peaceful Heart Ministries, will lead praise and worship with a special musical presentation at the morning worship service of First Baptist Church, Matador, at 11:00 a.m., this Sunday, April 20.

The Kellers - Murlyn, Janie, Brady, and Heath - minister together as a family through revivals, concerts, camps, and other special occasions. Murlyn and Janie have served in full-time evangelism since 1994, after

serving for several as youth ministers.

The Kellers are members of the Conference of Texas Baptist Evangelists and Bethel Baptist Church, Plainview.

On April 27 Summit Trace, a young men's quartet from Lubbock and Plainview, will lead the morning worship through music with a Southern Gospel flavor.

Everyone in the community is invited to join in these special worship services.

REMEMBER OUR U.S. TROOPS IN YOUR PRAYERS!

"Our Identity"



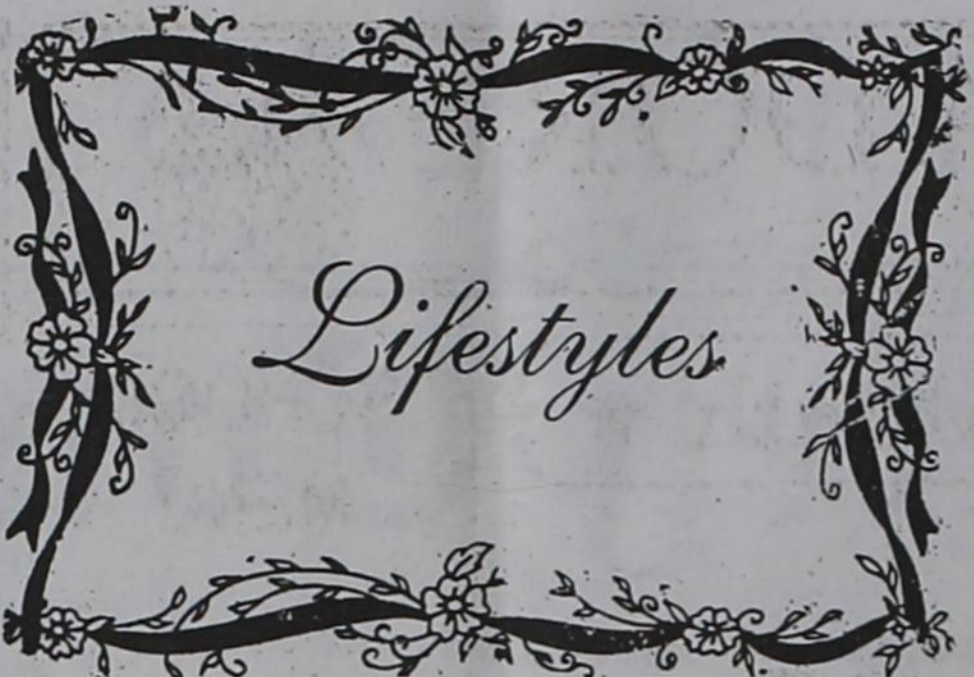
Our identity is discovered in our faith. It is true! Faith identifies us as the children of God. In that identity comes our conflicts with the enemies of our Savior. There will be times of trial. When our circumstances are placing upon us various trials, our faith allows us comfort from God.

Faith that is tried and proven will rejoice in its strength. For example: The men and women of our military rejoice after having completed strenuous tests and rigors of training. They have proven their readiness. So also we as Christians can rejoice when faith has led to our overcoming of trials. Christians must be prepared and trained in the use of the whole armor of God, as Paul speaks of it in Ephesians 6: 11-17.

Christians understand that there is a daily battle that is won through faith. We, as a people with their hope set on heaven, understand that the successful endurance of trials is what gives us our true identity. Through our faith comes the recognition that we are born of God. "This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith." (1 John 5:4).

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.



El Progresso Club meets

by Beverly Vinson

El Progresso Club members met April 10 in the multipurpose room at Motley County School for a program on Wildflowers of Texas. Mrs. Sharon Allen, president-elect served as the president in the absence of Lana Copp.

The meeting was called to order, invocation given and business conducted in the usual manner. A report of the District Convention held in Quanah on April 5 was given by Mrs. Winifred Darsey. From all the good things heard about the meeting it was one of great enjoyment.

Business of the district was carried on by the District President, Mrs. JoAnn Dickson, member of El Progresso. She told the group that she is moving to Brady and asked Mrs. Loys Campbell to preside over a discussion about retaining Mrs. Dickson as Dist. President. Vote was unanimous for her to stay as president and come when she could to meetings that required her attention.

Mrs. Winifred Darsey gave the report of the District Convention stating it was the most beautiful one held in many years. The women were asked to wear dresses and hats, rather than the now-typical pants outfits. The tables were laid with linen cloths, silver, china and crystal, each brought by a Quanah member to make the room a beautiful scene. The Junior-ette club of Quanah, a group of high-school girls who belong to the organization served the ladies and were most attractive in their black and

white "uniforms." The food was delicious and the day a "howling" success.

Mrs. Freida Burns presented the program leader, Mrs. Sharon Allen, who gave the program on Texas Wildflowers. She had arranged a table with Bluebonnets in a gold ceramic boot (loaned by Mrs. Billie Koon) with books from the library telling and showing the flowers of the state.

The program was a video from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in cooperation with TxDOT who care for the million acres of roadsides with their mowing, seeding and tending the flowers they have sown for the beauty of the state. There were many flowers mentioned among the 5000 in the state, many we were familiar with and some we did not know.

The program closed with Mrs. Burns reading from Hebrews 1:14 and concluding with prayer for the group and Bill Koon who was having another blood transfusion that afternoon.

Hostesses were Opal Pipkin, Winifred Darsey and Lucretia (Estes) Campbell. Cake, ice cream and orange punch with candies of several Easter types were served from a table with an Easter Basket filled with colored eggs and plates and napkins in the same motif.

Those present in addition to those already mentioned were Mrs. Jerry Watson and Mrs. Beverly Vinson. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Shirley Smith on May 8 with a salad luncheon at 11:00 a.m.

Local club members attend Spring Convention

by Winifred Darsey

El Progresso club had five members to attend the 43rd Annual Spring Convention of the Santa Rosa District of the Texas Federation.

The convention was held at the First Christian Church Disciples at Quanah, April 5. The theme for the District was "What is that in your hand?"

The invitation to the convention included a Spring party, wear a dress and hat. It set the topic for the day.

The 1904 Study Club was hostess for the convention. Coffee and registration was from 9:00 until 9:30 a.m. It was pleasant to renew friendships and meet new members of the Federation.

An Executive Committee meeting was in session from 9:15 - 9:40, reviewing old business and presenting new business to bring before the assembly.

Mrs. JoAnn Dickson, District President, called the convention to order at 10:00 for its formal opening. Invocation was given by Lucretia Estes Campbell.

The National Anthem was presented by a pianist from the 1904 club. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, "Texas Our Texas" was presented and the Pledge to the Texas Flag was recited.

The welcome was given by JoAnn Howard, President of the 1904 Club of Quanah. The response was by Winifred Darsey, El Progresso Club, Matador.

The Executive Committee reports were given.

After a short break, an address was given by Bobbe Mitchell, President of the Texas Federation of Women's Club. It was an awe-inspiring address and encouraged all members to work harder for the community in which they live. Mrs. Mitchell is from Sanderson.

The luncheon was provided by the 1904 Club of Quanah. It was a lovely affair with all the members dressed in pretty hats and dresses.

The table appointments were exquisite with white table-

cloths, lovely china, sterling silver, fresh flowers. It was breathtaking.

After lunch departmental reports were presented, after which final reports were made. The TFWC President Special Project, "Juniorettes and Juniors" given by Letta Jo Haynie was very good and inspiring.

An invitation to the Fall Board was extended and will be held in Matador, October 18.

The club collect was led by Linda Merrick, President-elect. The meeting was adjourned.

Those attending from El Progresso Club were Loys Campbell, Lucretia Estes Campbell, Jo Etta Bumgardner, Jo Ann Dickson and Winifred Darsey.

Mrs. Dickson, the District President, is moving to Brady. She will retain her position in the Santa Rosa District and membership in the El Progresso Club. She is a revered member of the District. Besides President, she has held other offices and is also the poet laureate of GFWC.



Engagement Announced

Brenda Hurt of Matador, Danny & Amy Perryman of Roaring Springs and Jerry and Sandra Barclay of Flomot would like to announce the engagement of their children, Brittany Lamay Perryman and Ty Shannon Barclay. The ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 28, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Matador. A reception will follow.

Brittany is the granddaughter of Thomas and Dora Hurt of Matador and Janice and the late Delbert Perryman of Roaring Springs. She is the great-granddaughter of Modean Brooks of Roaring Springs. Ty is the grandson of Bill and Erma Washington of Flomot and Sol and Geneva Barclay of Lockney. He is the great-grandson of Edith Washington of Flomot.

Library Notes by Suzanne Abbott

We appreciate the memorial donations that the library received last week. We thank Minnie Kathleen Stephens Dennis for her donations in memory of Monie Perkins Casey and Lottie Stotts. We also thank Charley and Opal Johnson for their donations in memory of Carroll Wayne Cooper and Lottie Stotts. We appreciate the donations by Jack and Shirley Smith and by Pansy Spray in memory of Fern Henderson.

Did you know that the library has magazines that you can check out just like books? We regularly receive the *Biblical Archaeology Review*, *Guideposts* in regular and in large print, *Arthritis Today*, *Parenting*, and *Family Circle*.

From time to time patrons donate up-to-date magazines - everything from *Smithsonian* to *Martha Stewart* to *American Rifleman*. Come in and look over our magazines and check some out.

Thanks to a TIF grant through the Motley County Independent School District, the library has a new public-access computer that features Windows XP. We have purchased a program that will make party invitations, posters, greeting cards, and more with lots of new graphics and colors. Also, with this computer came a new laser printer. If you like to use Windows XP, this new computer is available to all patrons.

Pivots & Divots by Mary

The RSRC Ladies Golf Association met Thursday, April 10, at the Hitchin' Post in Roaring Springs for lunch. Attending were Judy Renfro, Geneva Wilson, Louise Barton, Jeanette Case, Lucretia Campbell, Marihelen Wason, Tempie Francis, Lindy Stafford, Jeannie Johnson, Nell Berryman, LaVoe Thacker, and Mary Jones. We were happy to welcome new members, Jeannie and Lindy, and invite all interested ladies to join us.

Only nine holes were played by the following because of wind and newly aerated/sanded

greens: Judy, Geneva, Louise, Marihelen, Tempie, Jeannie, Nell, LaVoe, Dot Grundy and Mary.

CORRECTION

The Spaghetti Supper to honor Senior Citizens Center Volunteers will be held Friday, April 24, instead of Thursday, April 23, as reported in last week's paper.

Everyone is invited to attend this supper. Tickets will not be sold, but donations will be accepted.

Celebrate Easter with something special from

Matador Floral

Beautiful Easter Lillies and Fresh Bouquets

Stuffed Animals, Egg Coloring Kits, Ceramic Gifts and many other Unique gift items.

Downtown Matador ~ 806-347-2018



Disaster money still available for drought stricken businesses

Fort Worth, TX – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has extended the filing deadline for businesses to apply for low-interest disaster loans located in the states of Texas and Oklahoma. SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses due to drought and excessive heat or high temperatures that occurred on various dates beginning January 1, 2001, and continuing.

It is common for many states to request via the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) and have disasters declared separately for each individual crop year with "and continuing" designations, which ultimately results in filing deadlines within a few months after the incident period. However, with some of these declarations, the economic injury period of the agri-

culture dependent business does not always end before the filing deadline, due to varying business cycles and/or the time in which the disaster was declared. This situation is most notable with drought declarations beginning with the 2001 crop year. In an effort to allow equitable treatment of all agriculture dependent businesses regardless of when the 2001 crop year was declared, SBA will allow all businesses applying for assistance under a "2001 and continuing" drought declaration an extended application deadline.

This loan program will cover the impact of 2001, 2002, and 2003 crop losses as a result of the continuing drought experienced by non-farm businesses in the affected areas. This special 60 days extension will be effective from April 7 through June 6, 2003, and will include all "2001 and continuing" Secretary

of Agriculture declarations with filing deadlines in 2002 and 2003. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these SBA loans. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply.

Motley County is among the Texas counties in which businesses are eligible. Other counties in Texas are Brooks, Cameron, Childress, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Dimmit, Fisher, Foard, Garza, Hall, Hardeman, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Kent, King, Kinney, Maverick, Scurry, Starr, Stonewall, Uvalde, Webb, Wilbarger, Willacy, Zapata and Zavala.

To obtain an application or receive additional information, interested business owners should call the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired.

Due to the weather, many producers experienced crop

losses and were not able to purchase goods and services at normal levels. Businesses dependent upon these producers may have experienced decreased sales, reduced gross profit margin, increased accounts receivable or difficulty in moving inventories at normal levels. The loan can help a business meet installments on long-term debt, accounts payable and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disaster not occurred. Refinancing of long-term debt, however, is not eligible under this program. The loan is designed for those businesses with substantial disaster-related needs and is intended to supplement monies the business owner can provide from other sources.

Loans may be approved up to \$1,500,000 for actual disaster-related financial needs of the business. Interest rates are four percent (4%) or less with terms extending to thirty (30) years.

TxDOT shows increase in theft vandalism

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has noted an increase in traffic theft and vandalism in Childress District's 13 counties. Although the signs are quickly replaced when stolen or vandalized, it becomes a safety concern. "Missing signs can endanger travelers and the vandalizing of certain signs can risk a person's safety," says Craig Clark, District Engineer.

The costs associated with this crime are high. Damaged signs pose a danger to the traveling public, and the funds spent to replace them could be spent elsewhere. Taxpayers in the Childress District TxDOT spent more than \$27,000 last year to replace stolen and vandalized signs along state roadways. Statewide, taxpayers spent more than \$8 million replacing signs damaged by natural disasters, accidents, and vandals. Wood and metal signs cost approximately \$10 per square foot to produce. The cost to install replacement signs vary depend-

ing on the amount of time and equipment needed.

However, the cost can get much higher. In Texas, it is against the law to possess a sign without a permit, and the state does not sell signs or issue permits to possess them. And, it is also against the law to intentionally or knowingly damage or destroy property. According to Texas Department of Public Safety Sergeant, Alan Troup, it is a Class B misdemeanor if a person intentionally steals or knowingly damages or destroys property and if the stolen or damaged property loss is \$50 or more but less than \$500. In addition, if the loss to TxDOT is more than \$1,500 the person or persons responsible can be charged with a felony offense.

Motorists are encouraged to write down the license plate number and contact their local enforcement official if they see anyone tampering with traffic signs.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ TRIBUNE WILL HONOR SOLDIERS

The Motley County Tribune would like to pay tribute to those servicemen and women with Motley County ties.

If you have a loved one in the armed forces at this time, in the Persian Gulf, stateside or in other areas of the world, please bring or mail their service picture with information (i.e. name, rank, service branch, parents names, hometown, school, etc.) to the office. Those wishing to mail this information may do so to the following address:

Motley County Tribune
P.O. Box 490
Matador, TX 79244
Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of your picture.



Childress Regional Medial Center School of Nursing to begin enrollment process

Childress Regional Medical Center School of Vocational Nursing is beginning the enrollment process for the class of 2003-2004. Applicants must be 18 years of age, and be a high school graduate or have the GED. There are no college hour prerequisites.

To be accepted into the class, applicants must successfully complete the pre-admission examination, and be interviewed by the selection committee.

All those interested in attending the class need to contact Kathy Lindley, RN, BSN,

Director, or Gayla Buckner, RN, Clinical Instructor, to set up an appointment for pretesting. Please call the school at 940-937-7021, or come by the school which is located on Highway 83 North, one block south of the hospital. Mrs. Lindley and Ms. Buckner are in the office on Monday and Friday only.

Childress Regional Medical Center School of Vocational Nursing is approved by the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. Financial assistance is available through VA or Texas Workforce Commission.

PATTY EDWARDS LANE

Candidate for SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

The Choice for Positive Change!

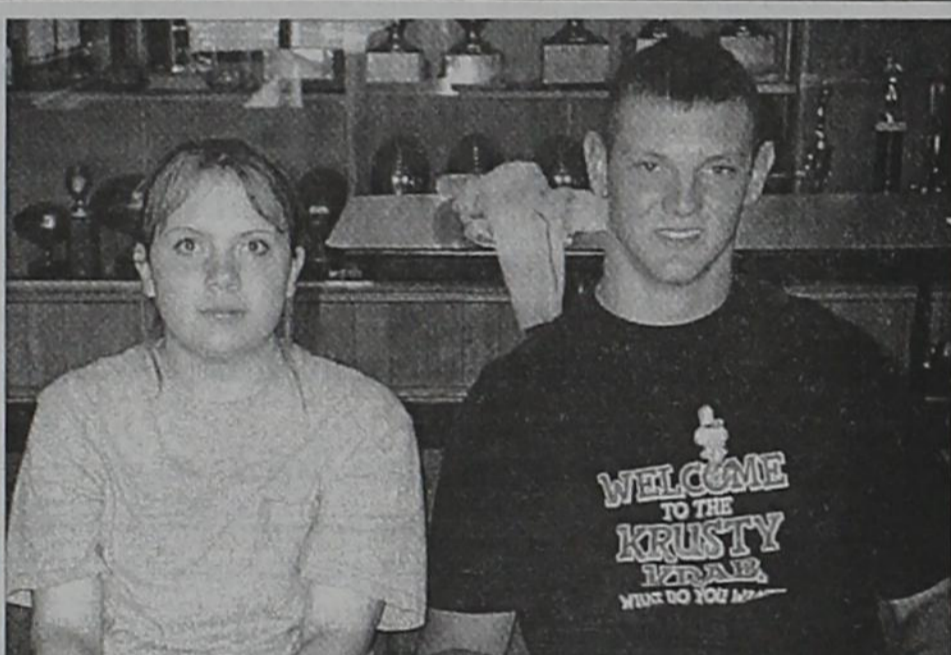
Pol. Adv. Pd. For by Patti E. Lane

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GOLF REGIONAL QUALIFIERS — Emily Hurt, Sabrina Osborn, Brittany Moore, Cassie Campbell and Stachia Baxter, pictured with their coach Kay Bingham, will compete in the Regional Golf Meet to be held April 21 and 22 in Levelland.



CONGRATULATIONS! Annie Green qualified in UIL Ready Writing and Clint Cooper in Math to compete at Regional competition. The Regional meet was held April 11 in Levelland. Although they did not advance, both did very well.



TENNIS REGIONAL QUALIFIERS — Brittany Donaldson, left, and Brittany Moore will compete in the Regional Tennis meet to be held at Levelland, April 23 and 24.

Congratulations

UIL Regional Qualifiers!



GOOD LUCK

MC Golf & Tennis Regional Qualifiers!



South Plains Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Panhandle Plains Federal Land Bank

Matador Implement

Billy, Brenda, Sam & Lexie Osborn

Graham Supply

Kyle, Jeannie & Brandon Moore

Thacker Jewelry

Sarah & Annie Hurt

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Douglas, Janie & Kittie Campbell

New To You

Tony, Sherry, Sean & Shea Rose

Rinker PolyPipe

Terry & Ronda Miller, Ryan Moore

Don, Colleen, Brad & Seth Baxter

Matador Variety

Matador Floral

Motley County Tribune

Meredith Construction Gas & Supply

First Ag Credit, PCA

First State Bank

Preferred Choice



CARE PACKAGES TO THE TROOPS — The First Baptist Youth of Matador is pictured here with the items collected at school to support the U.S. Troops in Iraq. A box was set up in the school lobby for donations. The youth group gathered the items and filled bags with shampoo, soap, sunblock, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, chapstick and other various items. Encouraging scriptures were also placed in each bag. The group expressed their thanks to everyone who brought items to the school to support the American troops. Pictured above are (left to right) Brenda Gillespie, Quinten Rose, Brittany Moore, Brittany Donaldson, Amanda Hurt, Stachia Baxter and T.J. Christopher.

TxDOT is taking measures to reduce costs

Childress — The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has implemented a plan to assist the State of Texas in reducing operating costs.

Beginning April 7, 2003, TxDOT's Childress District started working four 10-hour days. "The longer daylight periods through the Spring and Summer months will allow for earlier start times and a longer work day," said Craig Clark, Childress District Engineer.

All maintenance and maintenance support offices will be closed each Friday. Telephones will be forwarded to the District Office in Childress or the Maintenance Supervisor in your respective County. This plan will allow the maintenance sections to spend more time on the job sight and will save fuel cost, by

reducing trip time and traffic control set up time. A further savings in energy will be realized by the offices being closed each Friday. "TxDOT started this program last year, and we saw a significant increase in work efficiency and a reduction in operating cost," said Clark.

"Each office has been instructed to adjust their thermostats to coincide with the office being closed," said Terry Keener, Director of Operations. "Emergencies will be responded to promptly and we expect the public will continue to experience a high level of customer satisfaction."

Anyone with questions about this or any other TxDOT issue may contact Barbara Seal, Public Information Officer at 940/937-7145.

Old Settlers

from page 1

day and the Matador Lions have agreed to man the gates on Friday.

Consensus of opinion of the directors was to advertise for bids on the cook shack concession rights next month and accept vendors at \$100 each in non-competing areas. Deadline for bids is May 22 meeting.

Jim Bo Humphreys will be crafting the handmade spurs to be raffled off during the Queen's Contest. Queen's candidates are being sought at this time. Each girl who sells \$250 worth of tick-

ets by Old Settlers' week qualifies to earn 10% of the amount she has sold, in addition to receiving cash awards, western jewelry, recognition and bragging rights for her county. Last year's winner was Tana Bateman of Dickens, now a senior at Patton Springs High School.

Music for the three-day celebration will be provided by Weldon Turpin Band and Texas 114 will provide music for the Young Folks Dance on Saturday night.

It was approved to send flowers to Don Karr in memory of his father, who recently passed away. Meeting adjourned until April 24.

Anna's Mexican Restaurant
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"May you be blessed by the Lord, the Maker of Heaven and Earth." Psalm 115:15

Continued Markdowns!
Lots of New Arrivals for Easter

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IN GOD WE TRUST!

17-4140 Notice of Election (2/92)
 Prescribed by Secretary of State
 Sections 4.004, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007, V.T.C.A., Election Code

Hart InterCivic

NOTICE OF May 3, 2003 ELECTION
(AVISO DE ELECCION May 3, 2003)

To the Registered Voters of Matador, Texas:
 (A los votantes registrados del Matador Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 3, 2003, for voting in a City election, to Elect 3 City Council persons.

(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales situadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el de de 20 para votar en la Elección para.)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES
 (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

Old School Building

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at
 (La votación en adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

City Hall (location) (sitio)

between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. beginning on April 16, 2003 (date)
 (entre las 8 de la mañana y las 5 de la tarde empezando el April 16, 2003 (fecha))

and ending on April 29, 2003 (date)
 (y terminando el April 29, 2003 (fecha))

Additional early voting will be held at the same location as follows:
 (La votación en adelantada además se llevará a cabo en el mismo sitio de tal manera:)

Date (Fecha)	Hours (Horas)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Lara Davay
 (Name of Early Voting Clerk) (Nombre del Secretario de la Votación En Adelantada)
P.O. Box 367
 (Address) (Dirección)
Matador, TX 79244
 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Recomendado but not required

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on
 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el)

April 20, 2003
 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 7th day of March, 2003.
 (Emitteda este día 7th de March, 2003.)

Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)

**If early voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of early voting, delete this part.*

17-4140 Notice of Election (2/92)
 Prescribed by Secretary of State
 Sections 4.004, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007, V.T.C.A., Election Code

Hart InterCivic

NOTICE OF City General ELECTION
(AVISO DE ELECCION _____)

To the Registered Voters of City of Roaring Springs, Texas:
 (A los votantes registrados del City of Roaring Springs Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 3, 2003, for voting in a City General election, to Elect three council members.

(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales situadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el de de 20 para votar en la Elección para.)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES
 (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

Roaring Springs Community Volunteers Building

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at
 (La votación en adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

City Hall (location) (sitio)

between the hours of 8 a.m. and 12 noon beginning on April 16, 2003 (date)
 (entre las de de la mañana y las de de la tarde empezando el de (fecha))

and ending on April 29, 2003 (date)
 (y terminando el de (fecha))

Additional early voting will be held at the same location as follows:
 (La votación en adelantada además se llevará a cabo en el mismo sitio de tal manera:)

Date (Fecha)	Hours (Horas)
<u>N/A</u>	

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Zella Palmer
 (Name of Early Voting Clerk) (Nombre del Secretario de la Votación En Adelantada)
P.O. Box 247
 (Address) (Dirección)
Roaring Springs, Texas 79256
 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Recomendado but not required

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on
 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el)

April 25, 2003
 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 3rd day of April, 2003.
 (Emitteda este día de de 20.)

Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)

**If early voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of early voting, delete this part.*

Family & Consumer News

By Jennifer Trufan, Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



SAVING IS A LIFE-LONG HABIT

Economic news affects everyone. That's why lessening money worries by building a personal savings plan is a habit to get into early in life, said Nancy Granovsky, Texas Cooperative Extension family economics specialist.

But savings plans come in all kinds of shapes and sizes - filling different needs for different people at different times. For most people, opening a regular savings account in a bank or credit union is the first step toward building financial security, and a great way for children to learn to save money, Granovsky said.

"Savings accounts are great for accumulating money you plan to invest elsewhere," she said, "and very good for holding emergency funds, but aren't the best vehicle for (long-term) investments because the fixed rate or return they earn is low. Of course, during times of economic downturn, even a low rate of return that is guaranteed is preferred over a loss of principal."

Another savings option is the money market account, which Granovsky defined as a type of savings account that carries an interest rate which fluctuates with the general movement of interest rates in the economy.

Money market accounts from banks and credit unions are insured by Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. or NCUA (National Credit Union Administration), she said. "Money market mutual funds are not insured but are considered to be a relatively 'safe' place to put money."

These kinds of savings accounts "are very safe, but they offer 'low risk and low return,'" Granovsky said. "They are ideal for accumulating savings for short-term use and for diversifying an investment portfolio."

"But most financial advisors would not recommend putting all of one's investments into this category of savings," she went on. "In the current economic environment, people with substantial cash holdings in savings and money market accounts may be more able to take advantage of other investment opportunities because they can transfer their cash to, let's say, stocks or mutual funds while the prices are still low."

"Doing that 'gives more bank for the buck,' because they're buying 'low' in the hope of selling their stock 'high' one day in the future." All in all, she said, a savings and/or money market account is a good place to start getting into the habit of savings, and a good tool for parents to use to encourage the savings habit in their children.

A CD, or certificate of deposit, is a little more serious method of establishing savings. A CD "allows you to make a deposit of (a certain amount) of money, and lock it into a rate of interest for a designated period of time," Granovsky said. "Otherwise the interest rate fluctuation depends on the interest rate in the economy."

In other words, if an investor deposits money in a CD for

a specific amount of time, the interest rate doesn't change throughout that time. This rate of interest is usually more than the interest offered for general savings accounts or money market accounts. However, Granovsky said, the funds in a CD aren't as liquid as those of a savings account. "There will be a penalty for early withdrawal."

Many people use CDs to fund their Individual Retirement Accounts. "Think of an IRA as a (financial) envelope," she said. "You can put almost any type of personal savings plan or investment into the 'envelope.'"

Consumers have until April 15 to fund their IRAs for the year 2001, Granovsky said. For those who qualify, "the Roth IRA is the best kind," she said.

With a Roth IRA, the initial investment - the principal - doesn't get a tax break the year it is placed in a Roth IRA, but all interest in this account accrues tax-free. "That means it will never be taxed," Granovsky said, "not even when withdrawn in retirement."

"In contrast, money in regular IRAs grows tax-deferred, which means that taxes are postponed until money is withdrawn in retirement."

Money invested in savings accounts or CDs is ordinary income that has already been taxed but funds invested in a 401(k) are tax-deferred, Granovsky said, which is one reason this kind of account is so attractive. That means the funds are invested in a 401(k) before taxes have been taken out of them, giving the investor a little bit of a tax break.

A 401(k) account is designed "for people in private industry," Granovsky said. A set percentage of an investor's paycheck is deducted - before taxes have been taken out - and placed in a personally - selected investment mix. Often the employer provides matching funds, she added, which makes the savings grow even faster.

People who find themselves with too much month left at the end of their paychecks might hesitate before deciding to participate in a 401(k) plan, but Granovsky said the benefits will be worth it, especially if the employer matches the employee's investment. Investing funds now for benefits in the future is a wise way to plan ahead, she said.

Whatever method is chosen, a savings habit should be started early and nurtured for life.

"I tell kids there are three ways to earn money," Granovsky said. "The first way is illegal, so we won't even talk about that. The second way is by the sweat of your brow, and the third way is to take the money made from the sweat of your brow and start it making money for you" by wise investments.

For more information visit <http://fes.tamu.edu/monman/investfuture.htm> or contact Jennifer Trufan, Family and Consumer Sciences County Extension Agent at (940) 552-9941 or call the local county extension office.

Experience Works searches for Texas' 2003 Outstanding Older Worker

Experience Works, the country's largest provider of mature - working training and employment, is searching for Texas' most outstanding older worker. For the sixth year, outstanding older workers from every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; America's Oldest Worker; and outstanding employers of older workers, will be honored in Washington, D.C., and in their home states. Experience Works Prime Time Awards Program was launched in 1998 to highlight the valuable contributions that older workers are making in their communities and places of work. This year's Prime Time Awards activities culminate with a weeklong series of events, capped by a gala awards banquet and ceremony on Saturday, October 4, at the prestigious Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. Texas' 2002 Outstanding Older Worker was 90-year-old Thomas Clayton of Memphis where he has worked for the Memphis Compress Company for more than 65 years and has served as general foreman for more than 50 years.

Experience Works is currently soliciting nominations from businesses and individuals. Applicants must be 65 years of age or older, a resident of Texas, currently employed, and working at least 20 hours each week for pay.

Applicants who are part of a subsidized employment program funded through local, state or national government support programs are not eligible for this award.

The winner must be willing and able to travel to Washington, D.C., September 30 - October 5, 2003 for the Experience Works Prime Time Award Program events. Outstanding Older Workers will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to participate in the week's events that include a tour of the city's landmarks, meetings with congressional representatives, U.S. Senate and U.S. House events, and the awards banquet and ceremony.

Nominations include a brief narrative that describes the older worker's overall contribution to the workplace, including longevity, experience, skill level, work ethic, any disabilities the nominee has overcome to perform their job, and a description of their community involvement. Official nomination forms may be obtained by contacting Experience Works at 1.800.880.5292. The deadline for nominations is May 30, 2003. A committee of business and civic leaders will evaluate the nominations and the winner announced in mid June.

A search for America's Oldest Worker for 2003 is also underway. Nominations may be posted via the Internet at www.experienceworks.org. Last year,

Dr. Ray H. Crist, 102, professor of Environmental Science at Messiah College, was named America's Worker. Dr. Crist is believed to be the oldest, full-time working chemist in the country and one of the oldest members of the American Chemical Society, where he has been a member for 76 years.

Experience Works is a na-

tional, nonprofit organization that provides training and employment services for mature workers. Established in 1965 as

Green Thumb, and renamed Experience Works in 2002, the organization reaches more than 125,000 mature individuals in all 50 states and Puerto Rico each year.

32nd Annual Bob Wills Day to be held Turkey

The 32nd Anniversary of Bob Wills Day will be celebrated in Turkey, Saturday, April 26.

The event will kick off on Thursday, April 24, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. "Continuing the Tradition" with the South Plains Cowboys from Levelland, and Lanney Fiel & the Ranch Dance Fiddle Band from Lubbock. Proceeds from the performance will be donated in part to the South Plains College Music Scholarships and Ranch Dance Music Scholarships.

Events will continue on Friday, April 25, with a dance, 8:00 p.m. to 12 midnight, with the former Texas Playboys under the direction of Truitt Cunningham. Admission will be \$10.

The big day on Saturday, April 26 will start early. A pancake breakfast will begin at 6:00 a.m., sponsored by the Turkey/Quitaque Lions Club, at the Bob Wills Center Cafeteria.

The Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. in downtown Turkey and a BBQ lunch will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Bob Wills Center.

An Old Fiddlers Contest will get underway at noon at the Bob Wills Center Gym. There will be a \$5.00 admission.

The afternoon program will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the old football field featuring all the former Texas Playboys who are present. Under the direction of Truitt Cunningham, Master of Ceremonies, Dr. Charles R. Townsend. There will be free admission to this program.

A Saturday night dance, beginning at 8:00 p.m., will feature Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys. Admission will be \$10.

A midnight breakfast will begin at 11:00 p.m. at the Bob Wills Cafeteria for a \$5.00 admission.

The 2003 celebration will come to an end on Sunday morning, April 27, beginning at 8:00 a.m., with a Cowboy Church Service featuring special music by Reverend Don McMahan, at the old football field.

Visitors are encouraged to visit the Bob Wills Museum and Bob Wills Monument. Souvenirs may be purchased at the Center. There will be many artisans present, showing and selling their wares. Concessions will be available at the east end of the Center.

For more information, phone 806-423-1033.

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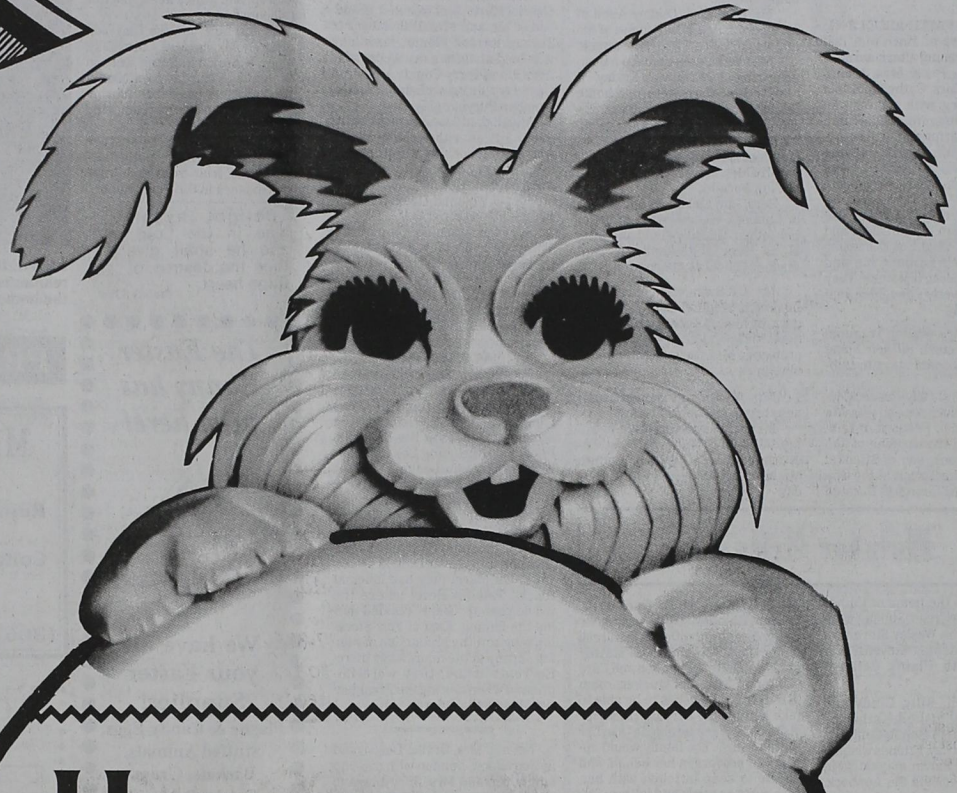
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**Happy
Easter!**

Best Wishes for a Happy and Blessed Easter Holiday!

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News Around the County

Roaring Springs News

By Lula Swim

Patricia A. Smith underwent an Angiogram on Monday, March 31, and a Carotid Endarterectomy on Tuesday, April 1 and again on Thursday, April 3. She is reported to be doing well, with her only restriction being not to lift anything over 10 pounds. Ed D. says laundry and the vacuum cleaner are under 10 pounds.

HOUSE OF FAITH MEETING

The House of Faith met last Wednesday evening afternoon after school at the Park. Mrs. Monta Marshall and Mrs. Cathy Block told the Bible story, with a theme on Faith. Mrs. Suzanne Abbott and Miss Lula Swim furnished the cookies and the drinks. About 35 children attended.

I, for one, enjoyed it very much!

Mrs. Beverly Shorter and daughter Megan of Mansfield and Mrs. Laverne Voight of Louisville, KY visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Zabielski, last week. They also visited Beverly's daughter, Jennifer and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Trammel were able to return to their home Friday after hospital stays in Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Peacock accompanied by their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Peacock of Lubbock, attended the wedding of Jon Michael Peacock, son of Michael Peacock, to Nina Tackitt at the Oak Grove Methodist Church in Decatur,

Saturday, April 5. They were met there also by Mr. and Mrs. Mike Peacock of Richmond, Virginia and their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Adamick of Charlotte, North Carolina. Also attending were Justin Peacock, son of Patrick, and Stacy Strozier and daughter Cecelia of Anahuac, Texas. They returned home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Allen of Lubbock visited in the home of his mother, Mrs. Pearl Patten last week.

Mrs. Lea Peacock made a business trip to Plainview on Friday.

Mr. Ken Young returned home Sunday night from a business trip that took him to Houston last week.

Mrs. Robene King went to Hereford Sunday to attend the funeral of Mrs. Margaret Formby, wife of Clint Formby.

Mrs. Kim Alexander and Hanna of Lubbock visited in the home of her father, Mr. Billy Hand and Mrs. Hand over the weekend. She teaches school at Abernathy.

Mr. J.T. Swim was conveyed to Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock, by Motley County ambulance, Sunday. He was having some heart problems. Mrs. Swim accompanied him there.

Mrs. Alex Crowder made a business trip to Lubbock, Friday.

Mr. J. Davis and his bride-to-be, Lara Wyly of Grandview, Texas, visited in the home of his grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hand last Monday.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

Nature's annual wake up time with a glorious spring celebration welcomes Easter time again. Who can't doubt Christ's resurrection when nature proves it all about?

GRAVESIDE SERVICES HELD FOR GRANDSON

Graveside services for Micah Gabriel Moyer, 8, of Wellman, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Meyer of Turkey, former Flomot residents, was held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday April 9th at Terry County Memorial Cemetery in Brownfield. The Rev. Douglas Puryear officiated.

Micah died Monday night, April 7th at 8:47 after the motorcycle he was driving collided with a pickup in rural Terry County. He was wearing a helmet. He was a third grade student at Wellman-Union Independent School District.

Survivors include his parents, Tim and Phyllis Meyer of Wellman, three brothers, Seth, Luke and Jacob of the home, and grandmother, Mrs. Donald Puryear of Brownfield and several great grandparents.

VACATION TRIP

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin returned home Friday from an enjoyable vacation Big Bend Beauties trip. Highlight of the trip was the scenic attractions at Big Bend National Park including Los Caballas, Chisos Mountain Lodge, blooming cactus plants and buffalo.

Tourist attractions of historical locations toured was the Indian Lodge at Fort Davis that was built by CCC personnel during the depression and the McDonald Observatory. In Marfa they had lunch at the El Taisino Hotel where the movie cast of "Giant" resided during the filming. East of Fort Stockton they saw the production of raising shrimp at the many lakes there. En route home, they were impressed when touring the Presidential Museum in Odessa.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Lee visited in Clarendon, Sunday with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joey Lee and Ernie. They attended a Germania Insurance Spring Meeting Sunday afternoon held at the Senior Citizens building in Clarendon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay visited in Borger, Saturday with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Cody Barclay, Ashton and Lane. Visiting them Sunday was son, Ty Barclay of Matador.

Ken and Dinah Young of Roaring Springs visited Mary Ellen Barton, Saturday.

Courtney Carnes of Turkey visited overnight Saturday with Danielle Gwinn and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn and Fannin.

Jack and Nada Starkey were in Amarillo, Friday for her a cardiac check up. She wore a heart monitor for twenty four hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay, son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay, Tanner, Kelsey and Sarah were in Panhandle, Saturday to attend a Little Dribblers basketball tournament. Tanner and Kelsey competed in the games.

The 26 degree temperature Wednesday night, April 9th damaged plums, fruit trees and crepe myrtle bushes in the Flomot area.

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Psalms 37:4

The Easter Bunny has been here!



We have all your Easter Supplies!

Plastic & Candy Eggs, Stuffed Animals, Baskets, Grass, Cards, & More!

Matador Variety



PRIDE IN THE USA — Flags are flying at the homes of several residents in the Motley County area. This picture was shot at the home of Corky and Monta Marshall in Roaring Springs.

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New to You

Matador News

Visiting in the home of Luther and Edna Ruth Green, Sunday, were Bettye and John Wesley Stevens of Stinnett and Ashley Stevens, student at South Plains College, Levelland.

Art Green, Billy, Cindy and Ashlee Green visited Katherine Martin at the IHS Rehab Center in Lubbock, Saturday. Friends wishing to write Mrs. Martin may do so in care of IHS, 1409 9th St., Lubbock, 79401.

Billie Ray Slover returned home Saturday from Lubbock following knee replacement surgery Tuesday at the Covenant Medical Center. With him during surgery and hospitalization was his wife, Faye and daughter, Mrs. Barbara Luster of Cisco. Barbara returned home Saturday.

C.D. Garrison had laser eye surgery recently in Childress.

Mrs. Zona Ruth Cammack, former Matador resident, was recently diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer. She has been staying at Lakeside Rehabilitation and Care Center at 24th and Quaker, room 31B. Her family hopes to be able to take her back to her apartment for visits but will not be able to take her there to stay. The family would appreciate prayers in her behalf, and efforts to keep in touch with her, with visits or cards and letters. She does not have a phone in her room, but messages can be left on her machine, and will be relayed to her. Cards or letters may be mailed to her at 5404 54th, Apt. G69, Lubbock, 79414. Her phone number is 806-797-8097. Her children, Stella (Martin) Swim, Mary Martin, Jackie (Martin), Etta (Martin) Walker and Charles Cammack, express their thanks to all the wonderful people of their beloved Matador.

A NOTE OF THANKS

A big thanks to the Roaring Springs and Matador Fire Departments for their response to the fire at my place last week. Your work for our county is appreciated.

Jessie Hernandez

70-MILE GARAGE SALE

Garage Sales from Spur to Turkey!
Saturday, May 3
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In Matador contact Shirley Smith, 347-2003
Roaring Springs, Alex Crowder, 348-7336

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For more information about electrical safety, visit aep.com. To locate an underground line call 1-800-245-4545.

FARM & RANCH NEWS

Bush Administration official outlines rural development priorities for 2003

Bryan Daniel, State Director, USDA Rural Development, recently returned to Texas from Washington, D.C. where he participated in a series of high level rural economic and community development meetings with key White House, Congressional, and USDA officials. The meetings focused on ways to support rural job creation, home ownership, business development, and public utility and community infrastructure needs in rural America.

"The message from Washington officials is they are committed to supporting our efforts to address issues important to rural Texas," said Bryan Daniel. President Bush and his Administration are working to provide the resources and support critical to creating economic opportunities and an improved quality of life for our rural residents."

Daniel said that Rural Development will focus on providing staff resources and financial assistance in key areas to stimulate economic growth, job creation, and provide support for rural families in Texas, including:

- 1) Utilizing Rural Development funds and partnership financing to increase the level of rural homeownership, with an emphasis on expanding opportunities for minority home ownership;
- 2) Advocating through business and industry loan guarantees, value-added agricultural grants, and other programs to expand local business ventures and job creation; and
- 3) Expand community access to information technology for business development and advanced health and educational services through building of technology infrastructure.

Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by calling the Texas USDA Rural Development State Office at (254) 742-9700 or by visiting our web site at www.usda.gov/tx.

Panhandle Plains FLCA Earns Top Rating

Panhandle - Plains Federal Lank Bank Association, FLCA received the Farm Credit Bank of Texas (FCBT) Pacesetter Award on March 26 for achieving the bank's highest possible rating in 2002. The award recognizes outstanding performance in the acres of growth and financial operations.

The award was presented at the Tenth Farm Credit District Annual Stockholders' Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Panhandle - Plains FLCA was one of 15 rural financing cooperatives honored during the meeting.

"Recipients of the Pacesetter Award exceeded a rigid set of standards for loan growth and financial performance," said Larry Doyle, FCBT chief executive officer. "These exemplary lending institutions set the page

in the Tenth Farm Credit District."

This is the 3rd time in 3 years that Panhandle-Plains FLCA has earned the bank's top rating.

The Tenth Farm Credit District is composed of the Farm Credit Bank of Texas, 12 Agricultural Credit Associations and 10 Federal Land Credit Associations in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Texas. Together, these financing cooperatives have nearly \$6.8 billion in loan volume.

Panhandle-Plains FLCA has \$210 million in rural mortgage loans outstanding to agricultural producers, country homeowners, agribusinesses and other rural landowners in 17 counties. Offices are located in Amarillo, Pampa, Perryton, and Plainview.

Cotton PCG News

from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

HOUSE APPROVES CONFERENCE REPORT ON FY04 BUDGET WITHOUT MANDATORY AG CUTS

Ag interests have been working hard to offset the potentially devastating cuts approved in the House and Senate during development of their FY04 Budget resolutions.

Final action by the House/Senate Conference Committee on the legislation provides some good news for farm program defenders.

In the Conference report, which was passed by the House of Representatives early April 11, mandatory cuts have been eliminated including those targeted at Ag spending.

The changes are paid for through a smaller tax cut than the Bush Administration had requested and the shifting of cuts fall on discretionary programs.

Under the resolution, Agriculture and other committees will be required to submit recommendations to the Budget Committees for discretionary program spending cuts by September 2, 2003. The level of those cuts will be communicated to them by May 16, 2003.

The resolution currently calls for \$4.865 billion in discretionary agriculture cuts over 10 years, starting with an initial \$253 million cut for FY04. The House and Senate Appropriations committees have the ultimate authority over the discretionary spending cuts, including the cuts specified for agriculture.

The measure will now go before the Senate, which could vote as early as April 11 to approve the conference report.

DISASTER HELPER AVAILABLE TO ESTIMATE POTENTIAL PAYMENTS
Producers and agricultural lenders across the High Plains

are wondering "If?" and "How much?" the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003 will help them or their producer customers.

Unfortunately, a concrete answer to these inquiries is still impossible to provide.

There are, however, an increasing number of disaster calculators being developed that can often provide a ballpark figure for producers and bankers needing an educated guess on what the program will mean in a monetary sense.

As USDA works feverishly to finalize the rules that will govern the disaster program, any payment calculator a producer chooses to utilize will be constructed using a mixed bag of facts and guesswork.

The facts will include details that USDA has announced and is working to finalize. The guesswork will mostly be assumptions pulled from the past and what was used in the 2000 Crop Disaster Program.

Plains Cotton Growers is providing access to one such calculator through the organization's website (located at www.plainscotton.org).

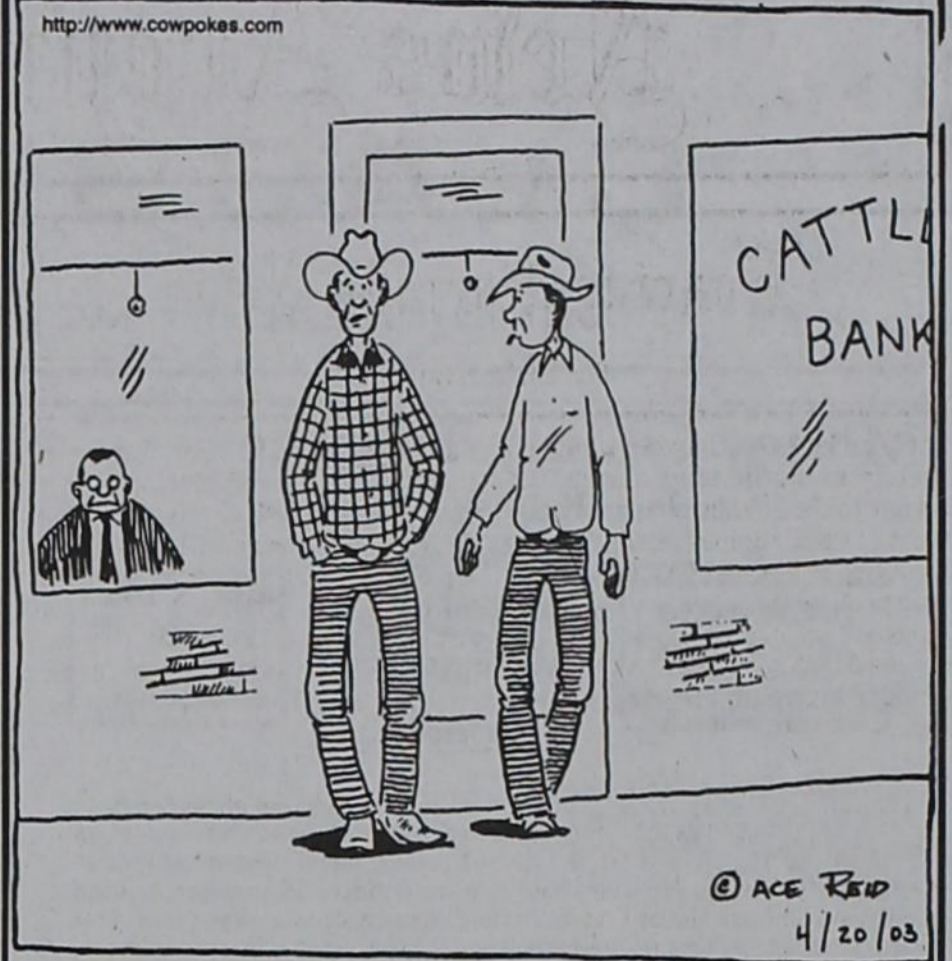
Follow the link on the PCG Home page to download a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will estimate the potential disaster payments for multiple farms/units and provide an estimate of the total disaster payment that a producer could be eligible for in 2001 or 2002.

Included with the table is a worksheet showing the 1996-2000 Olympic average yields for most High Plains counties.

The spreadsheet was developed with the help of the Texas Cooperative Extension Service and should only be used to ESTIMATE potential payments.

Only when USDA finalizes all of the rules will a producer be able to calculate an accurate disaster payment amount.

COW POKES® By Ace Reid



"First he said my assets were frozen, then liquidated and now they have evaporated!"

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