

# INDEPENDENCE DAY

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## JULY 4, 2004

# Motley County Tribune

50¢



God Bless  
America!

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"



THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2004

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 27

## July 4th Celebration in Roaring Springs Saturday

The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers will sponsor the 4th Annual July 4th Celebration Saturday, July 3. The day will hold fun and excitement for everyone. Activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a Memorial Service at the Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Roaring Springs. The unique and colorful 'Riding Lawnmower Parade' will begin at 10:00 a.m. Organizers encourage anyone who would like to participate in the parade to do so. Lawnmowers, riding or push, ATV's, bicycles, scooters, golf carts, or anything with small wheels is eligible. Use your imagination! Walkers are also encouraged to participate. Don't forget to decorate your entry with lots of red, white & blue!

A Fried Chicken Buffet will be served at The Hitchin' Post Cafe, beginning at 12:00 noon, or those who would like to picnic may do so at the Park.

The popular Dog Show will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center. There will be two divisions - Dress & Tricks. Organizers encourage anyone with a 'polite' dog to participate in this event, even if they don't have a fancy costume or know any tricks.

At 3:00 p.m. a Patriotic Sing-Song will be held at the Community Center. If you like to sing this is for you!

A barbecue supper will be served at the Center, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Cost will be \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Those who wish may picnic at the park for supper, too.

Delicious homemade ice cream will be served, beginning at 8:00 p.m. There will be no charge for this scrumptious dessert. Anyone with an ice cream freezer is encouraged to bring it full of homemade ice cream so there will be plenty to go around.

The third annual Stick Hose Derby will begin at 8:45 p.m., and the 2nd annual Steeplechase Run will begin at 9:00 p.m. There will be three divisions in each event - 2-3 year olds; 4-5; and 6-7.

After a day filled with fun, excitement and good food, what better way to end it than with a beautiful Fireworks Display. The show will begin about 9:45 p.m. or dark.

Everyone is invited to Roaring Springs Saturday, July 3 to take part in this fun-filled event to celebrate American Independence!

## Roaring Springs City Council meets

The City of Roaring Springs held a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., June 14, in City Hall, to receive comments from interested parties regarding a draft Hazard Mitigation Plan jointly developed by the City of Roaring Springs and 15 counties and 47 cities under the auspices of the South Plains Association of Governments. Mayor Corky Marshall and city secretary Zella Palmer attended the meeting, with no public comment.

The City Council met in regular session June 14, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem, Alex

Crowder gave the oath of office to Corky Marshall, Mayor, and council members Gary Simpson and Kelly Keltz.

In addition to Mr. Crowder, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Keltz, also in attendance at the meeting were council members, Timmy Brooks and Patricia Green, and city secretary Zella Palmer.

Minutes were approved from the May 10 regular meeting. The financial report and bills were also approved.

*continued on page 3*



TOWN MEETING — Congressman Mac Thornberry held a town meeting at Billie Dean's Restaurant Monday morning. Among topics discussed were the CRP program and Veterans benefits.



### Roaring Springs Veteran's Memorial Park

This new sign was recently erected at the park in downtown Roaring Springs, and a dedication ceremony was held last Saturday, to officially name the park and christen the new playground equipment. The sign was purchased from a Memorial Fund by the Roaring Springs Lions Club. The new playground equipment, which cost about \$11,000, was purchased from a park fund established with donations through a City of Roaring Springs project, and with funds from Part B of the City Sales Tax. The equipment was installed by volunteers. The House of Faith children are especially enjoying the new equipment when they meet each week.

## Motley County School Board hires first grade teacher, boys' basketball coach

by Tina Brooks  
School Board reporter

Motley County School Board approved hiring Bethany Salters as the new first grade teacher and Brad Rainer as the new boys' basketball coach/Special Ed teacher when they met for their regular meeting, Monday, June 14.

All board members were present with the exception of David Stafford and Les Woolsey. Also present were Superintendent Rick Copp, Principal Marilyn Hicks, and Denise Ford.

Mr. Copp gave the invocation. No one was present for open forum.

During Mrs. Hicks Principal report she stated that due to conflicts in schedules no one would be recognized this month. Also in her report were the following:

— The site base committee is looking at dress code changes for the 2004-05 school year.

— Items are being gathered that are no longer in use which can be sold in order to make more space in school.

— Summer School is going strong for kids in K-3rd grade. Reading and Math are subjects that are being worked on. The Sharon Mails math program is being looked at for the elementary students for next year.

— Attendance at the end of the year was 96% with 153 students.

Mr. Copp received the High Qualified Staff Report, which coincides with the "No Child Left Behind" program. The report states that 94.44% of the staff at Motley County are highly qualified to teach the grade or subject they are teaching. Motley County is way above the state average of 76%.

During the reading of the minutes from last month's meeting, Board member Smith noted that the vote for the 2004-05 audit was posted incorrectly. The minutes stated that a 2 for/4 against/1 abstained vote had been cast concerning the school auditor. Smith brought to the board's attention the fact that the vote was inaccurately posted and should have read 2 for/0 against/1 abstained, since a "no" was never called for. The board acknowledged this to be true. Due to this, Mr. Copp felt that Dianne Washington would be the auditor for the 2004-05

school year. Mr. Copp will look into the matter further. Minutes were approved with corrections.

The list of expenditures and financial statements were reviewed and approved.

Board voted to accept the ESC 17 contracts for services for 2004-05.

The 2004-05 Chemical Hygiene plan, with Kathy Gillespie as the Chemical Hygiene officer, was adopted to assist in the safety program in place at the school.

The Investment training resolution was reviewed. This

resolution allows independent sources of instruction to the chief financial officer for instruction relating to investment responsibilities. Board approved.

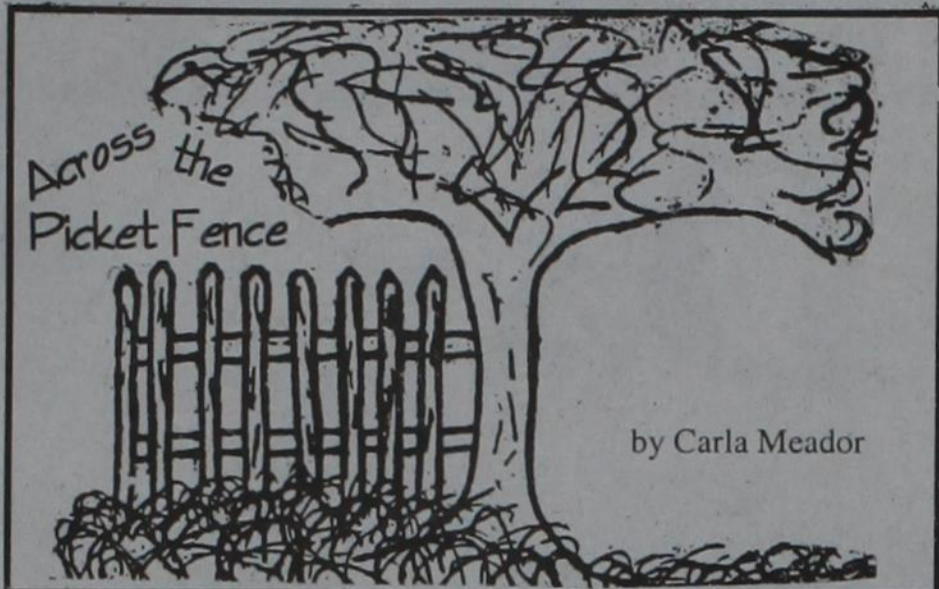
Rolling Plains Shared Service and Agreement Policy and Operations guidelines were reviewed and approved.

Leave of absence for staff was discussed. Due to the fact that MCISD does not have 50 employees, it is not required to follow the FMLA guidelines. FMLA allows 12 week pregnancy leave. Motley County allows 6 weeks. Board approved.



A RIVER RUNS — Middle Pease River, near Flomot, was running full Tuesday evening after rains fell Monday and Tuesday. Flomot residents reported over 4 inches in the two days. Some reports in Matador and Roaring Springs indicated 2 inches recorded. Official reports were unavailable at newstime.





This is an email from a friend. Some of you may have received it also, but I thought it was funny and wanted to share it with those of you who haven't seen it.

Blue Necks are Northerners - the opposite of Rednecks. Because of Redneck jokes, here are some takes on how Southern folks look at Northerners (or, perhaps, how Northerners sometimes think of themselves).

**YOU JUST MIGHT BE A BLUE NECK IF ...**

- Instead of referring to two or more people as "Y'all," you call them "you guys," even if both of them are women.
- You think barbecue is a verb meaning "to cook outside."
- You think Heinz Ketchup is really SPICY.
- You don't have any problems pronouncing "Worcestershire sauce" correctly.
- For breakfast, you would prefer potatoes-au-gratin to grits.
- You don't know what a Moon Pie is.
- You've never had an RC Cola.
- You've never, ever eaten okra - fried, boiled, or pickled.
- You eat fried chicken with a knife and fork.
- You've never seen a live chicken, and the only cows you've seen are on road trips.
- You have no idea what a polecat is.
- You don't see anything wrong with putting a sweater on your dog.

- You don't have bangs.
- You would rather have your son become a lawyer than grow up to get his own TV fishing show.
- You drink either "Pop" or "Soda" - instead of "Cokes."
- You've never eaten and don't know how to make a tomato sandwich.
- You have never planned your summer vacation around a gun-'n-knife show.
- You think more money should go to important scientific research at your university than to pay the salary of the head football coach.
- You don't even have one can of WD-40 somewhere around the house.
- The last time you smiled was when you blocked someone from getting on an on-ramp to the highway.
- You don't have any hats in your closet that advertise feed stores.
- You have more than one professional sports team in your home state.
- You call binoculars opera glasses.
- You can't spit out the car window without pulling over to the side of the road and stopping.
- You don't know any woman with male names (i.e., Tommie, Bobbie, Johnnie, Jimmie).
- You don't have Maw-maw's & Pawpaw's.
- You get freaked out when people on the subway talk to you.
- None of your fur coats are homemade.

# Motley County Lifestyles

## Class of '64 to meet for 40th Reunion July 16-18

The Matador High School Class of 1964 will gather for their 40th reunion July 16-18 in Matador.

The event will begin at 4:00 p.m. Friday, July 16 with a decorating party at the Senior Citizens Center.

At 7:00 p.m. decorators will gather at Tom Edmondson's home, 1303 Eubanks.

Classmates will meet at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 17, at the Senior Citizens Center for coffee and sweet rolls. Class members will meet and greet and try to recognize each other from their high school photo-

graphs.

A barbecue meal, prepared by Chef Vaden Hays, will be served at 3:00 p.m.

All Matador exes are welcome to drop by and visit at 4:30 p.m.

A farewell breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. at Mott Creek Ranch, Sunday, July 18.

Note to classmates: There will be a nominal charge of \$30 per person for the weekend. That will cover the meeting hall, food, utensils, decorations and the Sunday breakfast at the Mott Creek Ranch.

## Pivots & Divots



by Mary

Ladies play day on Thursday, June 17, was for Closest to Pin. Playing 18 holes were Judy C., Dartha, Geneva, Kay, LaVoe, Francine, Liv and Louise. Judy won on #10. There were no 9 hole players.

Liv and Tempie played in a tournament at the Lubbock Country Club on June 15th. They were in the Championship Flight, but didn't place.

The Tuesday Scramble, June 15, had 21 players. Conway Clary was closest to the pin on #3 with 4'5". Winners were:

First, 28 - Mike Marshall, Cody Dodson, Ralph Frausto and Conway Clary.

Second, 30 - Alan Bingham, Dot Grundy, Jim Robinson and Sam Brite.

Third, 31 - Bill Hoover, Paul Westbrook, Mike Hancock, Dartha Westbrook and Tyler Westbrook.

Others playing were Robert Osborn, Sut Braselton, Francine Braselton, Geneva Wilson, Rob Francis, Robert Francis, Fritz Francis, Korie Wilson, Ken Marshall, Corky Marshall, Bill Heatly and Kay Heatly.

The RSRC Ladies Golf Tournament was held Saturday, June 19. Mollie Melton won closest to the pin on #3, with 6' 1". Kay Bingham won closest to the pin on #6 with 8'5". We had 23 teams. Winners were:

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT  
First, 68 - Margaret Adams and Mary O'Neal.

Second, 69 - Olivia Barton and Tempie Francis.

## Library Notes

by Suzanne Abolt, Librarian

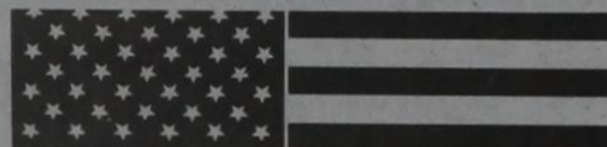
Our Summer Reading Program for Kids is finished and there are many who have contributed to the success of this year's program. I want to thank Betty Henry for donating her time and talent to the art classes and to the crafts of the reading sessions. Thanks go to those who provided delicious refreshments for the kids: Winifred Darsey, Patricia Green, Betty Moore, Ruby McGuire, Betty Henry, Marihelen Wason, Opal Johnson and Mozelle Hand. We appreciate those who helped with management and logistics: Pam Thacker, Jan Jones, Lacey Rankin, Yolanda Kautz, Barbara Parks, Leslie Norris, Kayla Hollinsworth, Ashlee Green and

Annie Green. We thank those who read stories: Annie Green, Pam Thacker and Jan Jones. The Friends of the Library sponsored the special "Mysteries of the Sea" program and we thank that organization for its help. It takes a bunch of people to make this summer program work and it has been our experience that Motley County residents willingly help out when needed.

A total of one hundred nine kids enjoyed the four reading sessions and the four art sessions. Thanks to all who helped and a special thanks to the *Motley County Tribune* for the great publicity that helped get the word out about the library's summer programs.



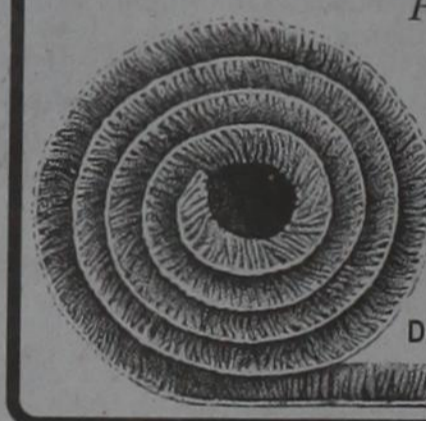
Two teachers from the Rolling Plains Technology Consortium attended training sessions in Plano, June 14-18 to certify as Master Teachers for the Intel Teach to the Future program. Attending from Motley County ISD was Shelley Cox, standing at right, and from Spur ISD was Debbi Ball, middle back row.



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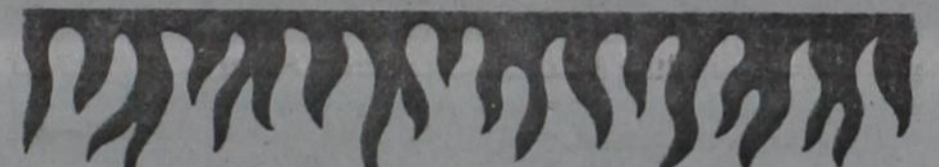
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John 3:16



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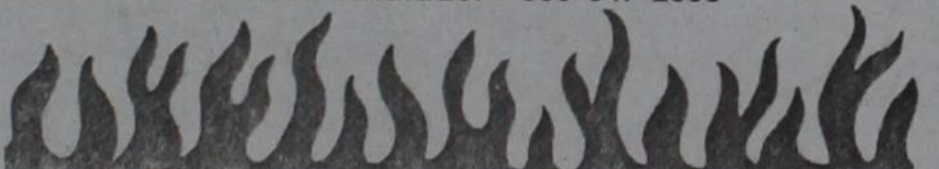
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## "4TH OF JULY"



The celebration of the fourth of July coming up reminds us of the great freedoms that we presently are enjoying. Consider for

a moment these freedoms: the freedom to practice religion, the freedom of speech and of a free press and the right to choose those who would govern us.

These are tremendous blessings and we should be thankful to our God for them.

But even such a people as we are that enjoy the political freedoms of today can still become slaves. Think on this: Just how free are we if we are enslaved to alcohol or drugs. These are not the only things that have the power to enslave us, there are others. For example, there is bitterness and jealousy, hatred and selfishness. These too, have the power to dominate many lives.

In the reading of God's Word we find this, "Whatever overcomes a man, to that he is enslaved." That is why the promise of Jesus in John 8:32 is so important. Our Lord said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Isn't that a marvelous promise? Yes, indeed freedom is a wonderful thing.

## Roaring Springs Church of Christ

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.

## SPECIAL JULY 4TH SALE

Lots of RED, WHITE & BLUE!  
for a great July 4th Celebration!

We will be closed Monday, July 5th, in observance of Independence Day

## Matador Variety

Need the perfect Graduation gift?  
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# News Around the County

MOTLEY COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
NEWS & VIEWS  
by Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort



## Roaring Springs News

By Lula Swim

### HOUSE OF FAITH WORSHIP MEETING

The House of Faith children met Wednesday morning, June 23 at the park. There were 17 children and two dogs in attendance. Mrs. Jo Trammell gave the Bible story and prayer was offered. Those helping were Mr. and Mrs. Corky Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Trammell, Mr. Ken Abbott, Mrs. Joyce Meredith, Mrs. Barbara Alexander and Miss Lula Swim.

Mr. and Mrs. James Swim and Mr. S.A. Swim of Bella Vista, Ark. visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Swim, enroute to Lubbock. On their return they visited in the home of Miss Lula Swim.

Mrs. Sammie Phillips and Miss Lula Swim were in Plainview last week where Miss Swim saw her doctor. They also met Rev. and Mrs. Donnie Howell for lunch and visiting.

Senator Robert Duncan and son of Lubbock visited his mother Mrs. Robena Duncan King on Friday and Saturday.

Dr. and Mrs. John Dickey of Lubbock visited Mrs. Rita Groves recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Shorter and Megan of Mansfield and Mr. and

Mrs. Larry Saltigerald of Lexington, Ky. visited in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Zabielski recently.

Mrs. Robena Duncan, Mrs. Suzanne Abbott and Miss Lula Swim from Roaring Springs attended the Red Hat organization meeting at the Library last Thursday, June 24.

The Bible Study group met in the home of Mrs. Ashley Washington, Monday morning, June 28. There were 13 attending. Leading the study is Mrs. Clint Burns of Matador. She discussed the ninth chapter of Acts. Mrs. Lana Copp gave the closing prayer.

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

Bill Hand was honored by his children Saturday on his birthday. They brought lunch and a birthday cake. Enjoying the celebration were Mrs. Mozelle Hand, Kelly and Mary Hand of Coppell, Trudy Hand of Wolforth, Bonita Barton of Magnolia, AR, Dwain and Kim Watson and daughter Hanna Alexander of Lubbock, Christi Adams, Bryan, Tyler and Madison of Tahoka. Kelly and Bonita enjoyed visiting in town and touring the refurbished Traveler's Inn.

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### OVERHEARD

May there be a rebonding of all Americans and a reaffirmation of praying to God, dreaming the American dream, traditional values and unbridled optimism. Let us rekindle the American spirit and be the greatest country of flag wavers on the Fourth of July. May God Bless America.

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

Bill D. and Erma Washington and Connie and Cory Franks visited in the home of Tim and Deana Washington in Roaring Springs Thursday night, June 24 and celebrated Tim's birthday. They were served hamburgers, potato salad, freezer ice cream, a beautifully decorated cake, soft drinks and iced tea.

Others enjoying the happy birthday party were Bobby McWilliams and Chance Maynard of Quitaque, Matt and Ashley Washington and son, Brazos of Roaring Springs, Lacy and Conway Clary, Kenzie, Caleb and Mickey of Matador.

### ATTEND WEDDING

Family members attending the wedding ceremony of Lacy Carson of Lubbock and Keane Cruse of Turkey held at 7:00 p.m. Saturday night, June 26 in the beautiful Atrium Garden at the Holiday Plaza Inn were his parents, Brenda and Darrell Cruse, brother, Derrick Cruse of Flomot, grandparents, Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse of Flomot and Mrs. Marihelen Wason of Matador and his sister, Leah Cruse of Lubbock.

Others attending were Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wason and Dalton of Washington Utah; Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Marricle of Snyder; Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Cruse of Flomot; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hoelscher and Kaycee Marricle of Lubbock; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clifton of Cisco; Mr. and Mrs. Tanner Smith and Cutter of Floydada; Skylar Clifton of Midland; Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn, Fannin and Danielle of Whiteflat; Mr. and Mrs. Brand Cruse, Branson and Baylor and Talon and Roegan Cruse of Turkey; Mr. and Mrs. Chad Seward, Allison, Quaid and Macy of Goldthwaite and Mr. and Mrs. Chancey Cruse of Hedley.

### TIFFIN FAMILY REUNION

Descendants of the Henry Tiffin family held their annual reunion Friday and Saturday in Ruidoso, N.M. at the Best Western Motel. Friday night they enjoyed entertainment at the Flying J Ranch. Among the 70 attending the festivities from Flomot were Mr. and Mrs. Glen D. Tiffin and Mr. and Mrs. Orville Lee. Others attended from Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas.

## Matador News

Mrs. Frances Dixon and Elaine and Fred Risser attended the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Barnes Saturday afternoon held in Plainview at the First United Methodist Church parlor. En route home, they visited at Plains Baptist Assembly with Kaci Risser.

Visiting Dorothy and Stan Hanesworth during the weekend were son and friend, David Hanesworth and Beth Coffey of Austin. They visited in Lubbock, Saturday with Mrs. Lizzie Bridge.

Deanie Edwards attended the Lynn family reunion in Cleveland, Texas on June 18-19. The reunion was hosted by Joyce (Lynn) Morton this year in her country home. All family members were able to attend this year along with most of the grandchildren. A fun time was had by all, except the weather was hot and humid.

Kristin Lane was a guest in the home of Tom and Deanie Edwards last Wednesday through Thursday. They took her to Lubbock on Friday to spend time with Grandmother, Marge Edwards and James Lane. She returned to Strawn on Saturday. Kristin left for Stillwater, Oklahoma on Sunday morning to attend Basketball Camp.



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## Neighborhood News

by Rita Groves

About one-half block away, one can smell the fragrance of pinto beans cooking for next week. The cafe is closed on Mondays, and closed at two p.m. most other days. The clock stands at ten minutes past two. The day is almost perfect for golf - a little windy. Under my two towering pecan trees in front, I've watered the fescue grass and tossed bird seeds on the front walk. Birds fly in to pick out sunflower seeds. The walk will need to be swept clean for Volunteers who deliver meals to my door five days each week.

My company for last week are gone, and the house is silent. Son, Truman Groves, came Monday. He flew into Lubbock, rented a car, and will drive back to Lubbock to attend his 55th class reunion. He graduated from Matador High with the class of '49. From Lubbock, he flies back to his home in Mesa, AZ.

Son, Pat Groves, came with wife Kathy, and daughter Cortney and were here, so that I could see my granddaughter who has just received her degree in Art History from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. She is now registered for a business course at Stanford University near their home in Los Altos, CA.

Pat and Kathy came to balance my checkbook and see that "Uncle Sam" is happy with my accounts for another "quarter." "Uncle Sam" needs no introduction, since he is our only living uncle at my age.

At one time the Groves families had had students in Motley County schools for 65 years. There's "nary"

a one now.

So, "poof!" I'm alone again. My Sunday Avalanche Journal keeps me company on weekends. This last Sunday, mention was made of a large gift made by our old friend Rip Griffin and his wife to help build a new building for Lubbock Christian University. I can remember stopping at Rip's station to visit and buy gas at his place as we drove into Lubbock. He was kind enough to offer a port for a small airplane later. Memories of friends are comforting in later years.

Friends of ours pass on, but memories remain. Family is good. A recent letter from Rebecca Mary LaFleur brought news of a new member to the Renfro clan.

Robert Coleman Renfro was born to Heather and Byron Renfro of Santa Cruz, CA. This young man descends from the C.C. Renfro family by way of the Robert Harold Renfro family.

### Memoir for Ray Charles

Ray Charles died recently of liver disease. His death was a great sadness, particularly for those who treasure his singing of "America," "God Bless America," at the end of a recent disk requested by several. He was born to a poor family during the Depression. He was blind at age 7, and lost his mother seven years later. Like many of us, he triumphed over many challenges, especially racial prejudice. I am the proud owner of a disk that ends with his singing "America."

Consider:

Arthur Seldon has defined democracy as "government of the busy, by the bully, for the bossy."

\*\*\*\*\*  
Maybe you haven't been by the Chamber of Commerce office in a while, so it might be time for a visit. The office of the Museum, which is the old Traweek hospital, is usually open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m., although summer being summer ...

And to make the visit well worth your while, there a lot of freebies for you. Children may enjoy the Motley County Texas Sesquicentennial Coloring Book, while adults might be more interested in the Guide to Museums of the Southwest or the High Plains Traveler issue on Art on the High Plains.

And for those of you looking for ideas to entertain visitors, you can pick up a copy of the Motley County Diamond Jubilee booklet or the Texas Plains Trail Region brochure.

Other brochures include the one put out by the Highway 70 Association (those are the folks known for, among other things, the 70 Mile Garage Sale on May 1st) and the Travel Services Directory put out by the Llano Estacado Association.

There are also several maps, including the Panhandle Plains Wildlife Trail and the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail.

Of course you can also stock up on area telephone directories, including the Feist Lubbock directory, the Rolling Plains directory and the CapRock telephone book.

In addition, there are many brochures you can look at to get more ideas for what to do in the area.

And there are a number of items that can be purchased as well. These include the Highway 70 CD with 70 minutes of pictures of the area (a good gift for loved ones who have moved away), the Brand Director, postcards, and T-shirts and caps.

So ya'll come by and visit the Chamber.

## Obituaries

### Hoyit Eugene Morris

Graveside services for Hoyit Eugene Morris, 73, of Hutchinson, KS were held Saturday, May 22, 2004, at Valley View Cemetery, Garden City, KS.

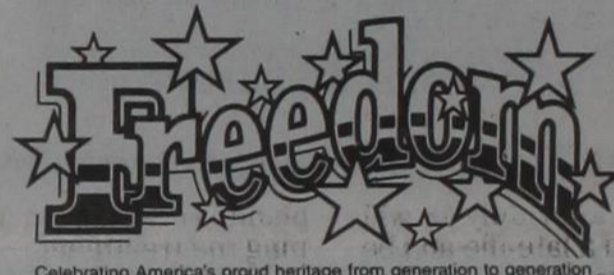
Mr. Morris died Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at Hutchinson, KS Hospital. He was born November 21, 1930, at Roaring Springs, Texas, to Delbert and Carrie Cummings Morris.

A Hutchinson, KS resident since 1996, he previously lived in Garden City, KS where he worked for St. Catherine Hospital before retiring in 1993. He was a member of Kingdom Hall

of Jehovah Witnesses.

He married Alma Laverne Webb June 30, 1951, at Prairieton, Texas. She died March 15, 1996. He also was preceded in death by four brothers, William, Leonard, Jack and Allan Morris; and two sisters, Beatrice Taylor and Helen Smith.

He is survived by a son, Roger Lee Morris of Wichita, KS; two daughters, Linda Jean Craig of California, and Ramona K. Eddington of Hutchinson, KS; a sister, Estelle Perkins of Ft. Worth, TX; 12 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.



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(Does not include Craft Mall)

★ Celebrate Independence ★  
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**FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET**  
Saturday, July 3, at noon  
(No Chicken Buffet this Thursday)

★★★★★★★★★  
HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY JULY 4TH WEEKEND!  
★★★★★★★★★

Also be sure to join us  
Friday night for our  
**FISH FRY**

Served every Friday night!  
ALL YOU CAN EAT!

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**THE HITCHIN' POST**

Downtown Roaring Springs - 806-348-7205





# FARM & RANCH NEWS



## Farm Service Agency News

by John Bird, Motley County CED



### Final Word on Managed Haying and Grazing

Producers are allowed to sign up for managed haying and grazing on CRP. Managed grazing is allowed every three years after CRP cover is established. The managed grazing period is July 2 through October 29.

The managed haying period is July 2 through September 29. Only one cutting of hay is allowed. All hay must be removed from the field by October 9. Hay may NOT be stored on any CRP acreage.

Before Haying or Grazing CRP participants shall:

- \* request approval to hay or graze.
- \* obtain modified conservation plan to include haying or grazing.
- \* shall be assessed a payment reduction based on the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the CRP annual rental payment times 25%.
- \* identify the acreage on an aerial photo.
- \* record intended use on DF -21.
- \* Sign Terms & Conditions Agreement.
- \* Receive Notification of Approval in writing from COC.

### FINAL CERTIFICATION DATE APPROACHES

All producers are reminded that all crops on all cropland acres of every participating farm must be certified by July 15. Final DCP payments will not be issued until all acres are certified. CRP payments will not be issued until CRP acreage is certified.

Please come prepared with your planting dates, row patterns, shares and your crop types and intended use of the crop. As always your patience is greatly appreciated. Anyone who certifies after July 15 will be considered a late-file and be assessed a late-file fee of \$35 for the first plot and \$15 for each additional plot. This assessment is per farm, not per producer.

Please remember tolerance rules are back in effect. If you have questions about your acreage a measurement service may be to your advantage.

### CRP Compliance Update

A recent clarification to National Procedure will impact many existing CRP contracts and future CRP offers in Texas. CRP acreage is considered out-of-compliance if the field, or a portion of the field, has a 10% or greater canopy of undesirable trees. Mesquite trees, salt cedar, and shin oak are considered undesirable trees. The size of the trees DOES NOT MATTER. Bottom line is: if the canopy from the trees exceeds 10%, it is out of compliance.

In making canopy evaluations FSA will look at the canopy over an acre of land. For instance if the farm has a 100 acre field of CRP but 30 acres in the SW corner has trees, the evaluation would be made on the 30 acres and not over the entire 100 acres. (If cost shares were ultimately approved, the cost shares would be limited to the 30 acres.) If it is determined that acres need treatment, producers have two options:

- (1) Use IPT (Individual Plant

Treatment) which may include either mechanical or chemical means but regardless of the manner chosen, NO COST SHARES are authorized. The trees do not have to be removed from the CRP acreage. If no canopy (leaves) are on the trees because it has been sprayed and killed, regardless of the size of the trees, it will not be considered out-of-compliance. This option is only available if the canopy does not exceed 30%.

(2) Mechanical clearing of trees - including clearing, raking and removing. May be cost shared at 50% of the cost not to exceed \$50 an acre. (NO CHEMICAL TREATMENT MAY BE AUTHORIZED TO BE COST SHARED) Note: There is a method where you use heavy machinery to clip the tree and then spray chemical on it. FSA will pay cost shares for the shearing and removing of the tree but NO cost shares for spraying of chemical.

The following provisions to cost-shares on trees and brush on CRP acreage:

- \* In order to be eligible, the trees and brush must be providing a 10% or greater canopy.
- \* Only contracts with at least one year remaining are eligible.
- \* The cost share rate is 50% not to exceed \$50 per acre.
- \* The tree must be physically removed from the CRP acreage (no burning).

\* Chemical spraying is not eligible for cost share.

\* COC approval must be obtained prior to beginning the treatment.

\* Treatment cannot occur during the primary nesting season (March 1 through July 1 in Texas).

\* NRCS must revise the conservation plan to reflect the planned practice prior to beginning the treatment.

Producers should be aware of two major things: (1) on existing CRP acreage trees must be held at a level below 10%, which is one of the purposes of the \$5 maintenance fee included in the annual rental rate; (2) land with a 10% or greater canopy of undesirable trees is not eligible for future CRP signups.

FSA will begin 2004 CRP compliance spot-checks later this summer. Annual CRP rental payments can be withheld, as well as applicable refunds and penalties on previous year's payments, until acreage is brought back into compliance. Producers will be given 90 days to bring land under compliance. Additionally, land considered out of compliance because of excess undesirable trees WILL NOT be eligible for future CRP signups.

### Cotton Exports

The U.S. is the largest supplier of raw cotton in the world market. In the 2003/2004 crop year, the U.S. expects to ship at least 13.8 million bales to 41 countries.

"He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Isaiah 40:11.

## Cotton News



from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

By: Shawn Wade  
Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

For a region that averages an abandonment rate of 18-20 percent, growers and crop observers alike are hesitant to talk much when things are generally headed in the right direction.

That's the position many producers on the High Plains find they are in as the area collectively keeps its fingers crossed and hopes for the best. So far the 2004-crop is rated as good to excellent in most areas and off to a start that is being gradually compared to some of the best in recent memory.

Adding to the undercurrent of excitement is the fact that a significant number of dryland acres have been established and are growing off well.

With irrigated and non-irrigated acreage set to take advantage of a favorable sub-soil moisture situation capable of carrying the crop well into the summer, prospects are bright.

That's not to say, however, that everything is wine and roses on the Plains in 2004. As of this writing growers in northern portions of Floyd County, and in the adjacent counties of Swisher and Briscoe, are picking up the pieces from the season's largest single hail event. The storm, which ravaged the area June 21, is estimated to have logged an estimated 60,000 more acres into the loss column.

The worst part of the story, through, is that this same area has now lost three promising crops in a row to hail.

Despite the devastation of the June 21 storm, the overall outlook for the High Plains region remains positive. Of the estimated 3.6 million acres

planted to cotton this year it is hard to account for more than 300,000-400,000 acres that could ultimately be abandoned at this time.

The primary causes of loss to date have been a lack of moisture to establish a stand on dryland acres, which accounts for around 250,000 acres, and a combination of hail, wind or flooding that have tallied another 100,000-150,000 acres to date.

With about 3.2 million acres standing at the end of June the 2004-crop still has tremendous potential. Maturity-wise the crop has everything from very early to very late and some of it will need plenty of open weather this fall to reach its true potential. With luck the season will continue to provide the necessary ingredients to make the crop a success.

Weather forecasts showing an increased chance for scattered thunderstorms through the end of the month mean producers still have a stressful time ahead. Despite looking forward to the possibilities, they know that this time of year any storm can deliver good in the form of rain and bad in the form of hail and high wind that threatens old and young cotton alike.

Growers who receive damage and need to assess the situation have several good resources available to them through the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center at Lubbock.

The Center's website has publications that provide detailed information on evaluating damaged stands that can assist growers deciding if they should keep or fail a severely damaged cotton crop.

The Lubbock Center website is <http://lubbock.tamu.edu>.

## COW POKES®

By Ace Reid

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"Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established."

— Proverbs 16:3

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**MEN'S BREAKFAST CANCELED**  
The monthly men's breakfast, which was scheduled for Saturday, July 3, will be canceled due to the July 4th holiday weekend. The next breakfast will be held the first Saturday of August at the First Baptist Church in Matador.

**MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE WILL BE OPEN MONDAY**  
The Motley County Tribune will be open Monday, July 5 and will observe the regular deadline of 5:00 p.m. Monday.

The office will be closed this Thursday and Friday, July 1 and 2.

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