

Motley County Tribune

50¢



God Bless
America!

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"



THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2004

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 16

Alvin Lynn featured speaker at Marker Dedication

On Saturday, April 17, at 1:00 p.m., two Texas Historical Commission markers for TeePee City will be dedicated at the Roadside Park, ten miles east of Matador. Following a brief ceremony, a reception will be held at the Motley County Library in Matador with a talk by Alvin Lynn of Amarillo. His subject will touch on the interplay between buffalo, hunters, TeePee City, and the Rath Trail.

Lynn, a native son of Motley County, has only recently retired as a geologist to devote more time to his special avocation of archeology and historical research. He is actively involved in the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Steward Network, a group of knowledgeable volunteers who devote time to salvaging endangered sites. His long standing interest in trails has led him to research most of the major trails crisscrossing the Panhandle, including the Rath Trail. He has spent several sum-

mers helping locate, map and document the battles of the Red River Wars of the 1870's. This topic was popular at a former program held at the Motley County Library a few years ago. Lynn's interest in Indian artifacts, particularly broken pieces of pottery, prompted him to learn the art of a potter to reconstruct pots to resemble those uncovered in habitation sites. He often fires his pots on an open mesquite fire.

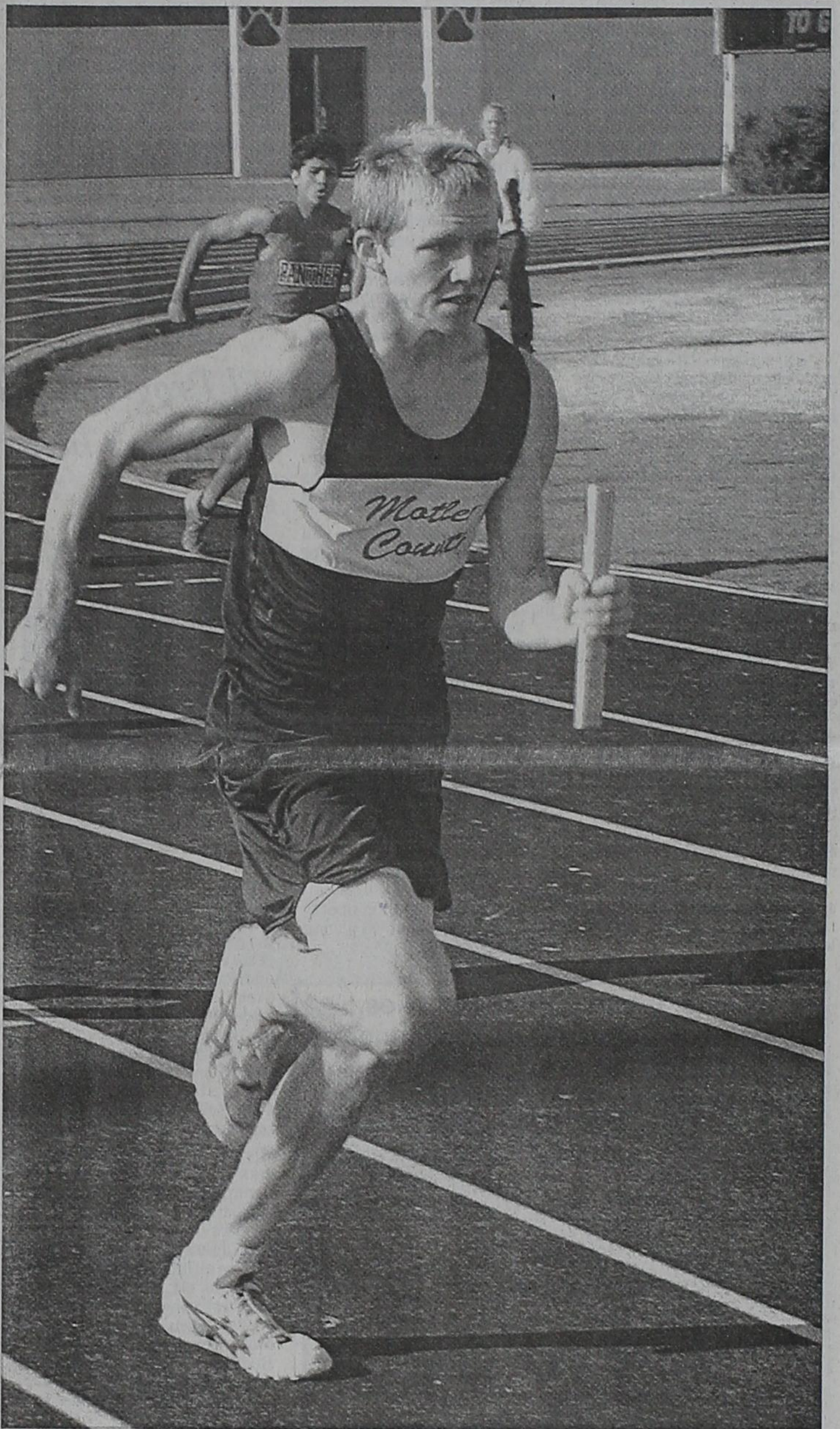
Involved in many Panhandle and regional projects, he has now become interested in a national endeavor. Lynn was invited to offer his expertise in efforts to reconstruct battle scenes and sites during America's Revolutionary War. This has opened up a whole new area of research for the ambitious amateur archeologist.

One of the markers, a 1936 vintage model, was moved from its former location on the Matador Ranch property to the roadside park on US 62-70. The new

marker explains that the marker was removed and further places TeePee City in a history timeline of events.

It has been pointed out that the 1936 marker states that Nora Cooper was the first white child in the county, while it is commonly held that Harry Campbell was. While the marker could safely say that Nora Cooper was the first white girl known to be born in the county, Texas Historical Commission policy does not permit a correction of these almost seventy-year old markers, located throughout the state. Nor does the preservation agency concern itself with "firsts" any longer, but attempts to place events, people and sites within a larger context of history.

The Motley County Historical Commission, the Motley County Museum, and the Motley County Library invite everyone with an interest in local and regional history to attend.



RUNNING THE SPRINT — Quinten Rose, Motley County High School Senior and member of the Varsity Track Team, runs his leg of the 800m sprint relay at the District Meet held at Frenship School, April 8. Other members of relay team are Dakota Meyer, Chance Bingham and Lorenzo Salazar. See more pictures and results on page 4.
(photo by Walter Taylor)

TeePee City history relived

by Marisue Potts

In my mind's eye I see TeePee City. Dugouts. Crude houses. Barking dogs. The rinky-tink of dance hall music drifts from the doors of the two-room picket house, the saloon claiming one side and the hotel, the other. Inside painted floozies hover over the gaming tables where buffalo hunters gamble away hard-earned "hide" money from a season spent amid the flies and stench of killing, skinning, and pegging hundreds of the waning buffalo.

Suddenly, I imagine, shots ring out. "Isaac Armstrong, that's the sorriest likker I ever wet my craw with," roars a cowboy with a blazing Colt .45. From the bullet holes he placed in the wooden barrel, sour mash whiskey spurts out onto the dirt floor.

"You tell them carpet baggin' Dodge City bosses of yours, old Charley Rath and that sorry Lee and Reynolds, 'Don't send rot gut to TeePee.' Else, mister, you're likely to be the next feller swingin' from that old cottonwood hangin' tree."

This incident reportedly happened, perhaps not with those words, but TeePee City was the scene of shoot-outs, drunken brawls, and robberies. Established in 1876 as a trading post for buffalo hunters and surveyors, it often drew the attention of G.W. Arrington's Texas Rangers, based at Camp Roberts in Blanco Canyon.

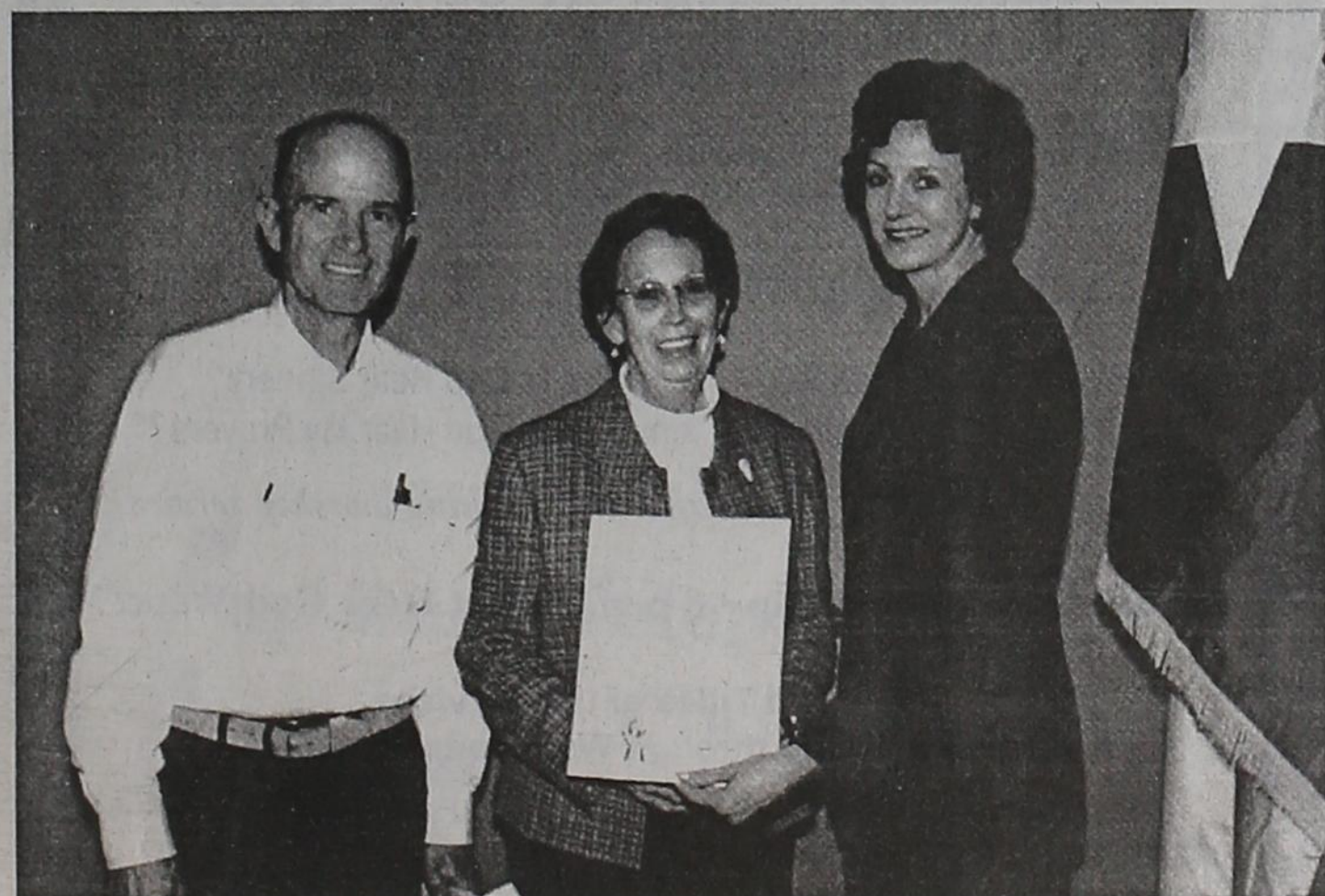
On November 28, 1880, Captain Arrington arrived there with 20 men. He planned a scout east to Doan's Store where Indians came to trade and he intended to break up the lucrative whiskey business that one freighter, had made for himself. "Cowper has put up, or rather made, a large dugout for a gambling hall and is now off after whiskey...I will return to camp as soon as I get things straightened out." In December Arrington was informed by Armstrong, the agent for outfitters Rath & Reynolds, that "the cowboys indulged in another spree, in the way of shooting."

Besides enduring a hard winter, the settlement faced epidemics, the horses of epizootic

(distemper) and the men, measles and mumps. During March, 1881, the Ranger captain related "the detachment at Teepee as well as men at this place have had a hard time of it this winter, and at least 8 men are no unfit for duty on account of having had the mumps." Although no raids had been made, the people were uneasy for fear the Rangers might be withdrawn. Arrington covered the entire Panhandle, from Mobeetie to Fort Griffin, making friends and enemies, but his Rangers usually got their man.

TeePee City was located on what became known as the Rath Trail. Charley Rath was a buffalo hunter who had teamed up with army sutlers Lee & Reynolds in Dodge City. In 1876 they left Kansas with 200 yoke of oxen, several six-mule team wagons, pack horses, guns, ammunition, whiskey, girls, and supplies. On his way south to establish a headquarters on the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos, Rath dropped off hide

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HONORED BY FAMILY LAND HERITAGE PROGRAM — Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs recognized Ronald and Waydetta Clay of Barton Place at the Family Land Heritage ceremony in Austin. Barton Place in Motley County was being honored for their acceptance into the Family Land Heritage Program. Barton Place has been in continuous agricultural production since 1903 by the same family.

Strayhorn criticizes governor's disregard for children's insurance

Austin — Calling on Governor Rick Perry to act immediately, Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn told the Texas Association of Counties that Gov. Rick Perry is failing the state by throwing thousands more children off their health insurance plan, refusing to deal honestly with the school funding crisis, and by stripping local control away from local governments.

"It's time for the hemorrhaging to stop. It's time to put the children first. It's time to act," Strayhorn said.

Strayhorn challenged Perry to immediately call upon legislative leaders to release \$583 million the Governor is "sitting on" to fund needed health care.

"I'm calling on him to use his powers of persuasion and his bully pulpit to get the Legislative leadership together and free these funds before one more child is hurt, before one more family has to make a heart-wrenching choice be-

tween keeping their insurance and setting just a little bit aside for education and before one more emergency room doctor has to tell a patient to 'get on down the road,'" Strayhorn said.

She also said Perry should order the health and human services commission to back off new asset tests that will throw thousands more children off the Children's Health Insurance Program. Since September, 119,000 children have lost their insurance, and Texas is already dead last in percent of children with health insurance in the United States.

"With one simple phone call, the Governor can stop this atrocity," Strayhorn said. "He can order his health and human services chief to back off the new guidelines and allow Texas families to retain their dignity, their independence and their children's health insurance."

On the education front, Strayhorn lambasted the Governor for letting months of inac-

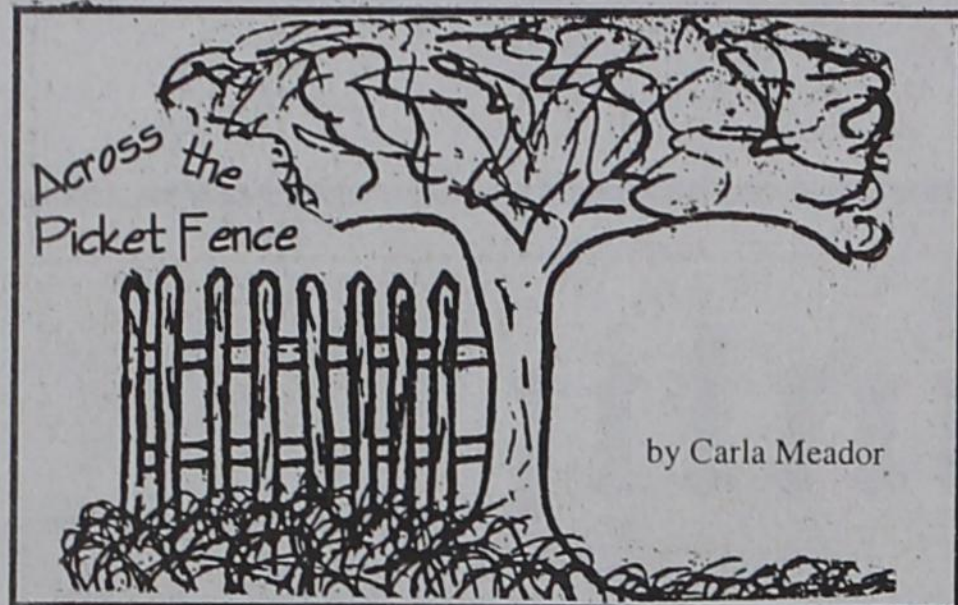
tivity pass while the school system suffers.

"During the last regular session, the Governor told us he could not address the school funding crisis immediately because fellow lawmakers did not have the adequate experience in office," Strayhorn said. "This year he tells us a special session is coming when there is a consensus on a fix, and still no date has been set."

"I say his learning curve should now be complete, and if not, we need new leadership willing not to delay, not to cajole, not to offer patchwork proposals packaged in lofty titles."

Strayhorn told the association she shares their concern that continued unfunded mandates from the state coupled with Perry's plan to eliminate local control are threatening vital local government services.

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Why do we do it? Why do we ask ourselves every year about this time - 'Why is it so cold?' Anyone who has lived in this area most of their lives should know very well that we always have one last cold blast, usually around Easter. By the time this is printed, the weather is predicted to be a lot warmer, and while typing this with a cold, blustery wind blowing outside, I'm sure hoping the weatherman is right. I'm ready for Spring.

Another problem many of us in this area have to deal with is allergies. I have had allergies as long as I can remember. In fact, there is not a time in my life that I remember not sneezing, coughing, blowing my nose, or having itchy eyes and ears. I guess I was born sneezing. I know there are probably a lot of you suffering with the same problems.

My friend, Janie, who is also a severe allergy sufferer sent these tips along to me after receiving them from her mother. They are from the *Golden Gazette*, Lubbock's senior news, and written by Dr. Elva Edwards. She offers the following tips:

Ears: If you are a farmer or have been a farmer or perhaps in another profession where being outdoors in the sand storms is necessary, please do yourself a favor and go to the health food store and buy ear candles.

They come with instructions or sometimes massage therapists offer this service. The candles pull out the dirt and suddenly you can hear again.

There are many benefits of clean ears.

If you have lived in West Texas very long, it certainly wouldn't hurt to have this done once a year.

Eyes: Get a dropper bottle and put water in it and use it in your eyes to add moisture and to clean out the sand particles. Tears normally form to clean the eyes out.

Lying down and putting a cool cloth over the eyes can help with the irritation in the eyes.

Nose: If your nasal passages and your sinus cavities are irritated or congested, try the following recipe.

One cup of water
1/2 teaspoon of sea salt (get it at the health food store)

One drop of tea tree oil (from the health food store)
Mix the above in a liquid pyrex measuring cup (or anything you can pour from)

Fill a dropper bottle with the solution. Use this solution as nose drops.

If you are really stopped up, lie on the bed with your head off the edge. Put the drops in your nose and let the drops sit there for a couple of minutes. Then get up and blow your nose.

You can do this several times a day. The sinus cavities are the outside of the body so it is like washing your skin.

The tea tree oil is very potent. Therefore only one drop is needed. You can use more if you want, but start with one drop.

If you have several people in the family who use this, get a dropper bottle for each person and fill it from the original. This will go a long way in freeing you from sinus infections and congestion.

Throat: If you have a sore throat, take zinc lozenges and you may not think about your throat again. Dr. Edwards suggests sucking on 5-7 a day for the sore throat. If you take one as soon as you feel the sore throat, often you won't need to take another.

Skin: As we age, our skin dries out. When the sand or wind blows our skin dries out more.

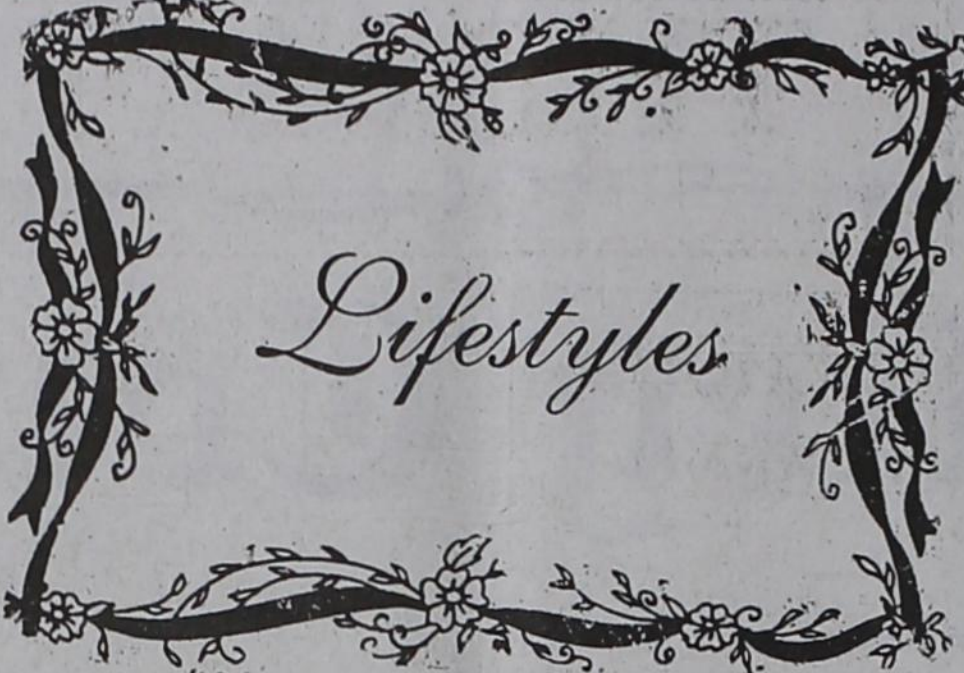
A suggestion: When you take a shower or a bath, after you use your soap and rinse off, pour a little olive oil in your hand.

Yes, just plain olive oil that you get at the health food store. Put it all over your arms and legs and even face. Then rinse off once again. Towel dry. Some of the oil will stay on your skin. It feels marvelous.

Be very careful not to drop the oil on the tub where you are standing as you don't want to slip and fall. The olive oil is just what the skin needs.

Dr. Edwards says that if you do this once, you won't do it just once because it feels so good.

These sound like pretty good tips to me. I know I plan to try some of them.



Colorful Easter scene at Do Gooders meeting

A colorful Easter scene was an inviting setup at the Community Center in Flomot when the Do Gooders' Club met Tuesday afternoon for their monthly meeting.

Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert, president conducted a short business session. In the absence of Mrs. Alma Shorter, who is recuperating from pneumonia, no minutes of past club meeting or treasury report was given. They voted for the Stars In Stripes pattern for their Bazaar quilt. They will begin the project in May.

A rainbow of bright colored Jelly Beans in a candy jar was held by Mrs. Calvert. They were told the individual who came the nearest to guessing how many were in the jar could take it home. Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse won the gift. Laughter ensued when they did chair exercises.

Mrs. Erma Washington and Mrs. Calvert, hostesses presided at an Easter designed service. The centerpiece on the holiday table emitted a sweet aroma from the fresh cut floral arrangement of lilac plants with little rabbits hopping down the bunny trail.

They served refreshments of canapes, chips, coconut nest cookies and strawberry punch. They passed around a basket of delectable filled Easter eggs. Before leaving the festive occasion, Mrs. Calvert gave each one a pot plant of Aloe Vera.

Those enjoying the afternoon were Mesdames Leona Degan, Anna Beth Clay, Geneva Martin, Mary Jo Calvert, Erma Washington, Tommie Jo Cruse, Connie Franks, Trula Martin and Waydette Clay.

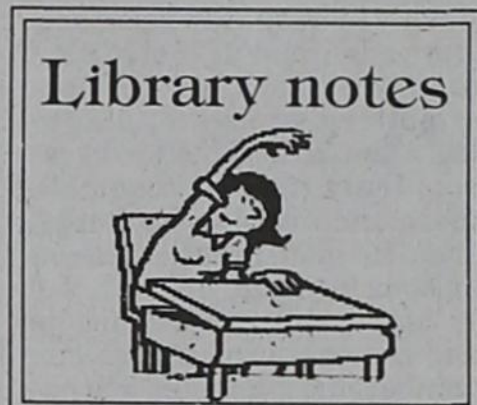


Keane Cruse & Lacy Carson

Engagement Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Carson of Borger and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Betts of Morton announce the engagement of their daughter, Lacy Annette Carson to Blaine Keane Cruse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse of Flomot.

The ceremony will be held in Lubbock, June 26. After the wedding, the couple will reside in Turkey.



Jo Scott has volunteered at the Motley County Library for fifteen and one half years. Every Monday, and then later, every other Monday, Jo opened the library so that patrons could check out books on a day that the library would ordinarily be closed. Unfortunately, due to health concerns, Jo is no longer able to volunteer her time at the library. We appreciate Jo's long service and great loyalty to the library and we will miss her. We appreciate the memorial

donations that we received last week. We thank James and Patricia Palmer for their donation in memory of Omar Parks. We also thank Wanda McMahan Faulkner and Dorothy McMahan Jones for their donation in memory of Jake Edwards.

We thank El Progresso Study Club for the great wealth of children's books that they gave to the library. This study club and others in the region met in Matador on April 3 and every club that attended brought books for the library. We appreciate this gift very much and I know our young readers will enjoy the books.

New adult books in the library include *Best Enemies* by Jane Heller, *The Body of David Hayes* by Ridley Pearson, *Firestorm* by Iris Johansen, and *Flashpoint* by Suzanne Brockmann.

El Progresso Club members hear book review

by Beverly Vinson

Thursday afternoon, April 8, the El Progresso Club met in the home of Winifred Darsey, which was decorated in the Springtime motif. Fresh flowers on the dining table laden with Crystal and Silver serving pieces filled with delicious foods. Dorothy Day and JoEtta Bumgardner were also on the hostess committee.

Lana Copp, club president, called the meeting to order with Winifred Darsey giving the invocation. Mention was made of the Santa Rose District Convention held in Matador at the First Baptist Church the week before. Although the membership of the district was small with El Progresso having 10 present, the meeting was declared a success. Jo Ann Dickson gave her district president's farewell address, officers for the district were elected and installed for the coming two years.

Opal Pipkin was leader for the afternoon and introduced her sister, Lucretia Estes Campbell, who preceded to give a review of *The Devil's Rope: History of Barb Wire*. Lucretia was in costume with boots, denim skirt, white "shirt" and red bandana around her head.

Mrs. Campbell told of the characters in the story, whom we had all heard of, such as Sam Houston, etc., plus the fictional characters who carried the story along the towns of Mobeetee and Tascosa and the Red River. There was much history on the area in the book with the remark that "Mobeetee was called 'Hide Town.'" That town had one main street of business. In the story, Temple Houston, son of Sam Houston, was portrayed.

Land of the area with many thousand acres was blocked out, from Austin, into a checkerboard pattern with alternate sections being given to the school and railroad.

The storyline tells of trials and tribulations in land ownership and the family involved. Foreigners were looking to buy land in the West and it told of their problems with the settlers. The Red and Canadian rivers were taken by the settlers (called Rounders). Telling the story about the "devil's" rope (barbed wire), how and by whom it was invented and how it was sent to the Panhandle to secure land for the ranchers here. A most interesting saga.

Business was carried out after the review with the election of club officers as follows: Lana Copp, president; Fredia Burns, Sharon Allen and Loys

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New Shipment of Angelic (Quickmelt) Candles & Warmers

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Faith is the Victory



It is true that our faith identifies us as children of God. With that identity comes conflict with the enemies of the Almighty. There will be times of trial. In times of trial, those of faith experience a very unique comfort from God.

Faith that is tried and proven rejoices in its strength. As men and women of our military rejoice after having completed strenuous tests and rigors of training. So the Christian can rejoice when faith has led to overcoming 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.

There might be some who profess Christianity that view the life of faith like some of our service men and women who, prior to the war in Iraq, entered the military for the benefit of college monies or specialized training. Some were dismayed when they learned they might be deployed and face possible combat.

Christians understand that there is a daily battle that is won through our faith. Christian people know that the successful endurance of trials of our faith result in honor to our God. Through our faith comes the ability to be a winner. Are you interested in victory? I'm sure we all are. Let's develop a strong faith.

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

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.

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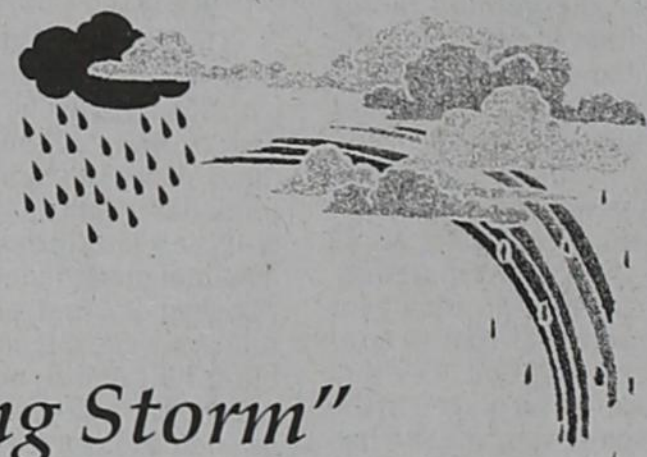
Matador Church of Christ

Invites you to come to a Gospel Meeting

"Fresh Hope

In A

Raging Storm"



Does it seem like your life is spinning out of control?

Come join us as we seek fresh hope from the Master of the storm!

Matador Church of Christ
Matador, Texas

Michael Crowley, Jr., Evangelist, of Modesto, California in a series of Biblical Lessons

Sunday, April 18 through April 21

Sunday Bible Classes - 10 a.m. "Does God Hear Sinners?"

Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m. "Does God Hear My Prayers?"

A Potluck Meal will follow after the morning worship service

Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m. "What Does God Want?"

Times and Titles of the Services

Monday evening through Wednesday evening

MONDAY - 7:30 P.M. - "THE MASTER OF THE STORM"

TUESDAY - 7:30 P.M. - "HOW CAN I INCREASE MY FAITH?"

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 P.M. - "HOW CAN I START OVER?"

A Warm Welcome Awaits You!

Seniors Shine



Motley County Class of 2004!



LORENZO SALDANA SALAZAR

Age: 19
 Nickname: Lencho, Nacho
 Parents: Alex & Aurelia Salazar.
 Brothers & sisters: LouAnn, Alex, John, Gene.
 Birthdate and birthplace: 2/9/85, Plainview, Texas.

Favorites:
 Song: Let's Get Together
 Movie: Scar Face
 Book: Macbeth
 Sport: Football
 Color: Blue
 Food: Beans & Rice
 Musical Group: SPM
 Teacher (K-12), Who and Why: I like them all.
 Subject (Why): Athletics,

because I'm good at sports. Best advice ever received and from whom? Set your goals high and never settle for less.

The person I have admired most in my life and why: My parents, because they work hard to give what I need.

Best memory of school: My birthday party.
 Activities: Football, basketball, tennis, golf.

Special Award: First team Defense Football, MVP Tennis and Powerlifting, Honorable Mention Basketball.

Worst habit: Not thinking before I talk.

Hobbies: Listening to music and riding around.

Favorite pastime: Playing football.

Two words that best describe me: Argumentive and outgoing.

Words of wisdom to the underclassmen: Just because you don't succeed the first time doesn't mean you give up.

Plans after graduation: Go to College at SPC.

Summer Softball sign-up deadline April 15 Enchilada Supper set for April 23

Summer Softball sign-up will end April 15. Those who would like to participate and have not completed a sign-up form, should contact Tammy Simpson at 806-347-2202.

MCYO has set their annual Enchilada Supper for April 23. The event will be held at the Motley County School Cafeteria, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased early at a cost of \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. If tickets are purchased at the door the cost will be \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 and under.

For more information contact Tammy Simpson at the number listed above.

SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY, APRIL 19
 Breakfast: Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
 Lunch: Frito Pie, Salad, Corn, Crackers, Cookie, Milk.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20
 Breakfast: Pancake, Sausage, Syrup, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
 Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Roll/Honey, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21
 Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.
 Lunch: Chicken Patty On Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Chips, Peach Cobbler, Milk.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22
 Breakfast: Breakfast Bagel, Sausage, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
 Lunch: Beef Tips/Rice, Carrots, Biscuit, Peaches, Milk.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23
 Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.
 Lunch: Been/Beef Burrito, Salad, Refried Beans, Tortilla Chips, Mixed Fruit, Milk.

God Bless You!

PEOPLE WHO READ NEWSPAPERS ARE

BETTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE PARENTS

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THE MATADOR

SCHOOL NEWS & HAPPENINGS



UIL PARTICIPANTS — Motley County high school students competing in the UIL Academic Meet held in Loop recently are pictured above left to right, beginning at back, Griselda Flores, Angelica Mendoza, Chicagra Brown, Annie Green, Ashley Green, Charli Ream, Shea Rose, Quinten Rose, Clay Cooper, Dakota Meyer, Cody Cooper; (front) Veronica Mendoza, Susana Mendoza, Angie Marvel, Mandi Ream, Kittie Campbell, Emily Hurt, Brittany Moore and Amanda Hurt.

UIL Academic Meet held at Loop Two advance to Regional competition

The high school academic UIL district contests were held on Tuesday, March 23, in Loop. Nineteen students competed:

Seniors - Amanda Hurt, Angela Marvel, Susana Mendoza, Charli Ream, Mandi Ream, Shae Rose, Quinten Rose.

Juniors - Kittie Campbell, Clay Cooper, Cody Cooper, Annie Green, Emily Hurt, Veronica Mendoza, Brittany Moore.

Sophomores - Ashlee Green, Dakota Meyer.

Freshmen - Chicagra Brown, Griselda Flores, Angelica Mendoza.

Individual results of the meet are as follows:

Clay Cooper, 1st, Current Events; 4th, Social Studies.

Cody Cooper, 4th, Current Events.

Emily Hurt, 5th, Current Events.

Quinten Rose, 1st, Physics.

Team Results:

Third place Current Events, Clay Cooper, Cody Cooper, Emily Hurt.

Third place Accounting, Clay Cooper, Cody Cooper, Kittie Campbell.

By virtue of their first place wins, both Clay Cooper and

Quinten Rose have qualified for the Regional Academic meet that will be held on April 23 in Levelland.

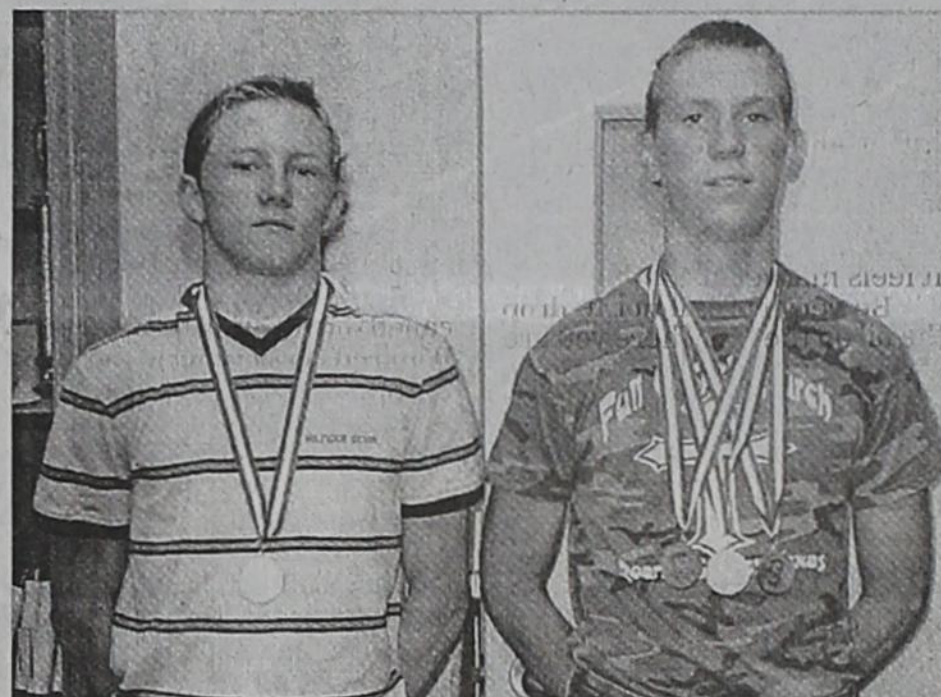
The Zone One Act Play competition was held on March 30 in Jayton. Attending this contest were Seniors, Stachia Baxter, Amanda Hurt, Angela Marvel, Charli Ream, Mandi Ream, Quinten Rose, Lorenzo Salazar; Juniors, Kittie Campbell, Brittany Moore.

Although the play did not advance to District competition, Stachia Baxter was named to the All Star Cast and Kittie Campbell was named to the Honorable Mention All Star Cast.



Regional Qualifiers

Quinten Rose, left, and Clay Cooper, advanced to Regional competition when they competed in the District UIL meet. Quinten received first place in Physics, and Clay received first in Current Events.



All-Star Cast

Stachia Baxter, left, was named to the All-Star Cast, while Kittie Campbell received an Honorable Mention to the All-Star Cast at Zone competition held March 30 in Jayton.



3rd place winners

Clay and Cody Cooper and Emily Hurt, pictured at left, received third place in Current Events, while Clay, Cody, and Kittie Campbell received third place in Accounting at the UIL Meet.



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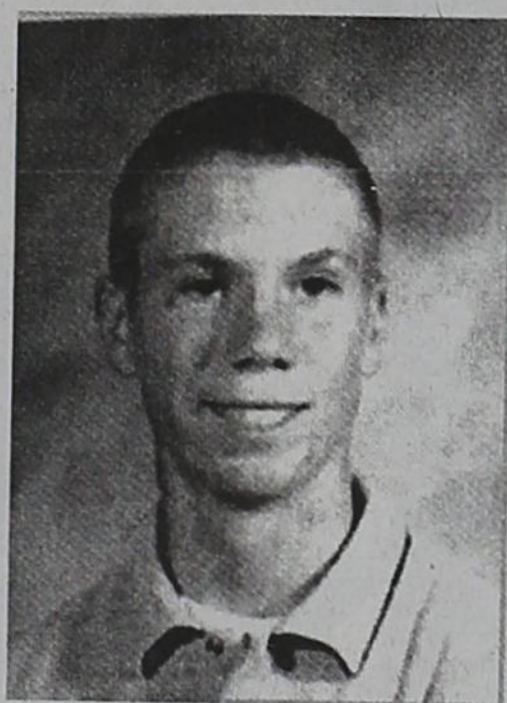


Congratulations UIL participants!

MC ★ Shining ★ Star April Student of the Month



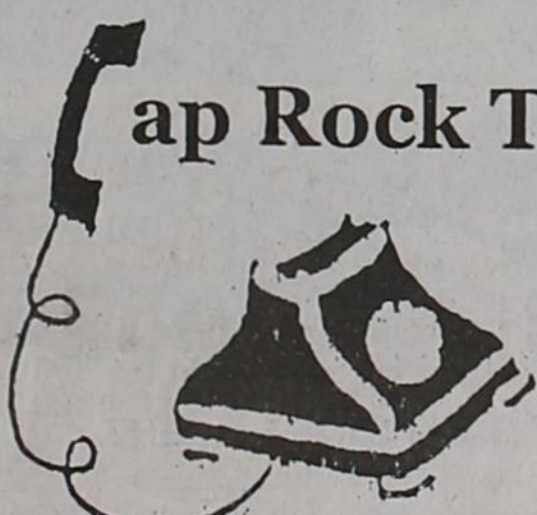
Clay Cooper



Cody Cooper

Clay and Cody Cooper are the sons of Jim & Judy Cooper of Matador. They are Juniors at MC High School. Cody is active in football, basketball, track and FFA. He serves as FFA Chapter Treasurer and District Treasurer. He has been a State Qualifier in the Range & Pasture and Wildlife competitions. Clay is active in football and was named Special Teams Player of the Year in 2002 and received honorable mention All-District Quarterback, 2003. He is also involved in basketball and the received the honor of Most Improved Player, 2002-03. He is a member of FFA and serves as Chapter Reporter. He has been a state qualifier in Range & Pasture and Wildlife competition. He is also a member of Student Council and is a member of the high school track team.

Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc.



Motley County Track teams compete at District meet Stapleton, Sims advance to Area

by Amanda Hurt

The MC Varsity Track Team competed at District competition held at Frenship School in Lubbock, Thursday, April 8.

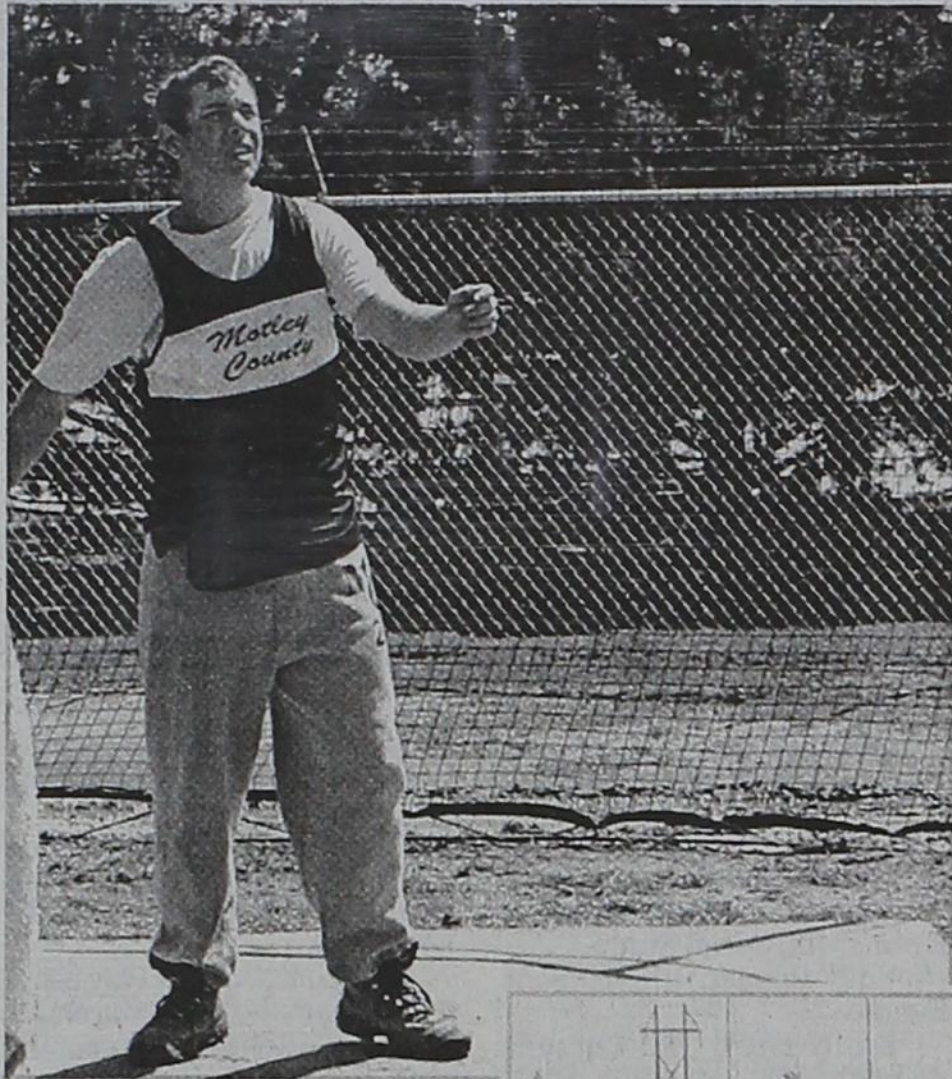
Those advancing to Area were Sam Stapleton, who was District Champ in Shot Put and Discus; Seagram Sims, who

received second place in the 100 meter dash and is part of the 4th place Sprint Relay team; Chicagra Brown received 4th in the Long Jump and Griselda Flores placed 4th in the 100 meter dash.

The fourth place Sprint Relay team consisted of Quinten Rose, Seagram Sims, Lorenzo

Salazar and Chance Bingham. The 800m relay also received fourth place. Team members were Dakota Meyer, Chance Bingham, Lorenzo Salazar and Quinten Rose.

The Area Track Meet will be held on Friday, April 16, at Frenship.



Advance to Area

Sam Stapleton, left, and Seagram Sims, below, advanced to Area competition after competing in the District track meet. Sam was the District Champ in Discus and Shot Put, while Seagram received 2nd. in the 100m dash.



Tennis Teams compete at District

On April 5 and 6 the Motley County Varsity tennis teams traveled to Lubbock High and competed in the District Tournament.

Those playing were the three double teams of Charli and Mandi Ream, Amanda Hurt and Brittany Moore and Lorenzo Salazar and Quinten Rose.

All three teams put up their best effort with the two teams of Moore and Hurt and Salazar and Rose receiving third place. Congratulations!



Chicagra Brown runs her race at the recent District Track Meet held at Loop. (photo by Walter Taylor)

Strayhorn

from page 1

"I am a staunch believer in local control," Strayhorn said "The parts of the Governor's plan to fix school finance that we have seen are really no fix at all. In fact, all they really do is offer relatively paltry payoffs to schools that do better in exchange for taking local control away from local governments."

"I am a fiscal conservative and I can tell you there is a difference between using a fiscal conservative and having a callous disregard for our fellow Texans."

TeePee City

from page 1

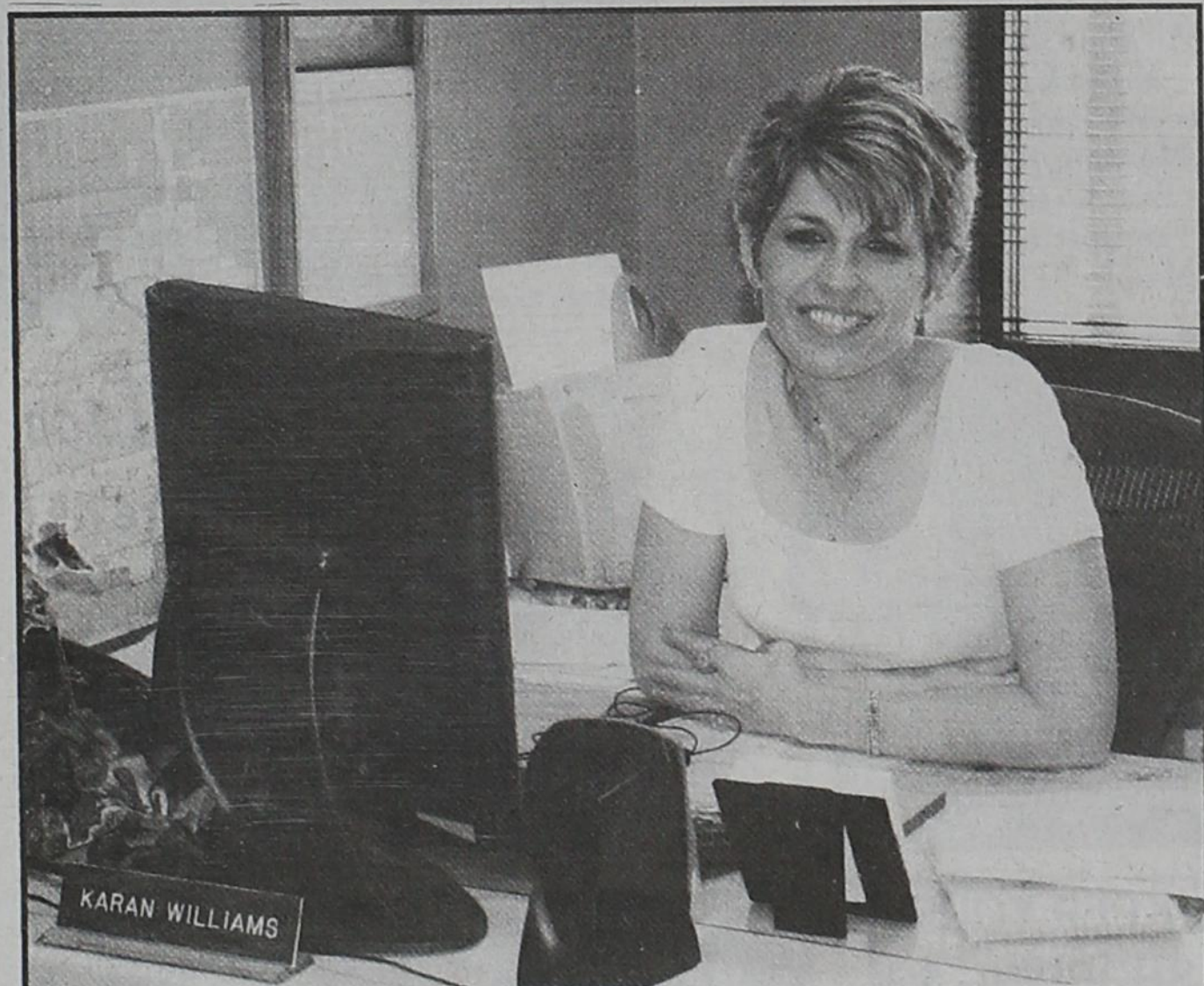
dealers Sharp and Armstrong, some dance hall girls, and gaming tables at the confluence of the North Pease and TeePee Creek. The site was named for

a former Comanche campground, still littered with tipi poles when the first settlers arrived. Buffalo hunters, as well as cowboys, often spent their hard-earned wages as soon as

they were paid.

TeePee City was eventually declared off-limits by the management of the Matador Ranch since its cowboys were often drawn way off course in search of strays near the wide-open post. According to Douglas Meador in a 1938 article, Henry H. Campbell, then manager for the Scottish-owned Matadors, found a way in 1885 to buy

TeePee City. "The stores, saloons, and girls were forced to get off Matador land, concluding a brief, colorful chapter in the pioneer history of Motley County."



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Karan Williams is one of the many smiling faces you'll see at any of our five local service offices. We have local people working in the communities we serve so, as an electric cooperative member, you are more than an account number to us. You have the opportunity to call or stop by and develop a working relationship with our employees. That's the Power of Human Connections®!



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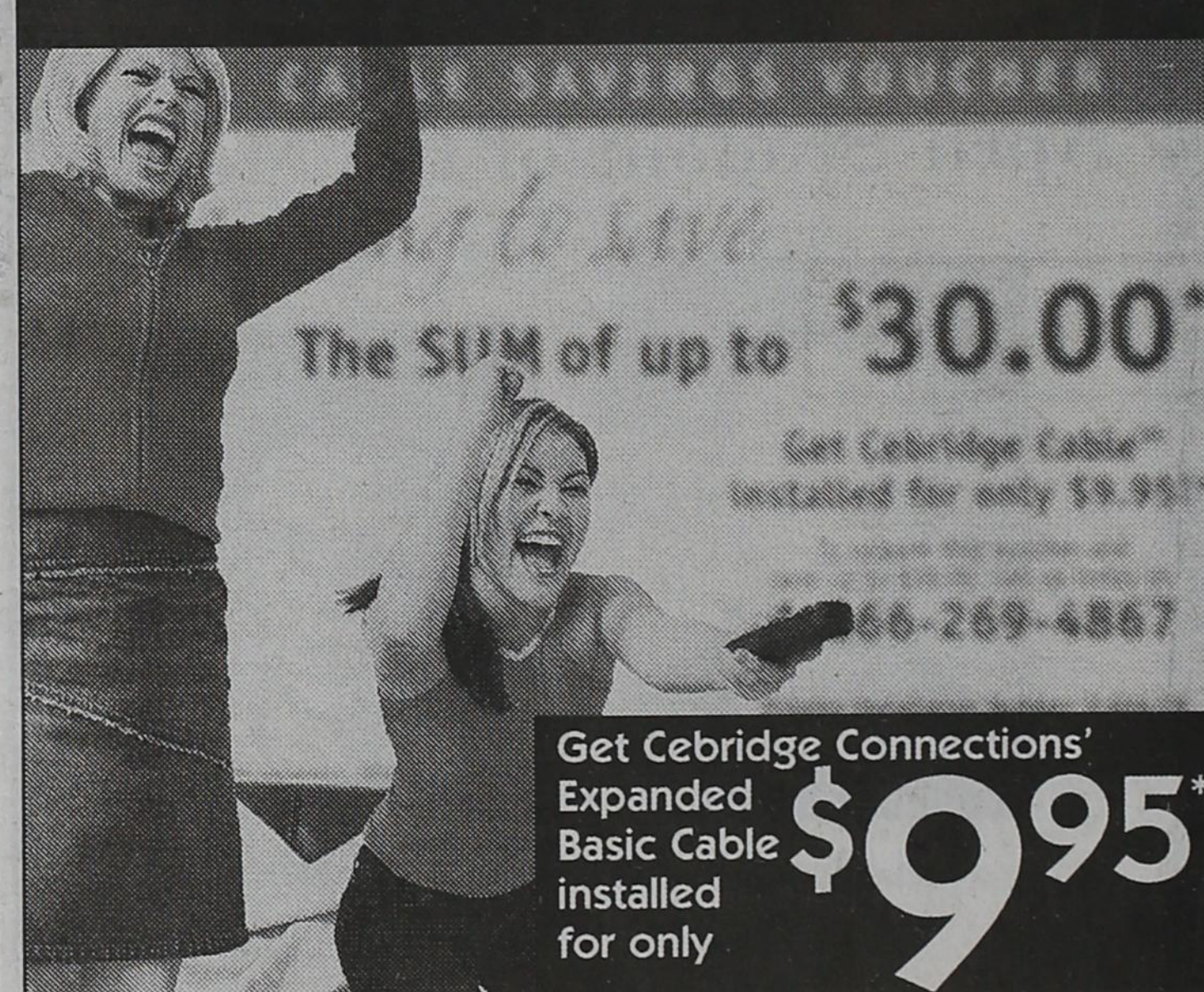
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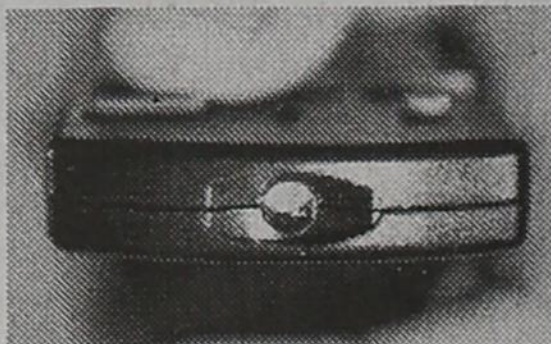
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CAPITOL COMMENT



KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON
U.S. SENATOR

TAXING TEXANS
Fifty billion dollars... That's how much Americans will see through higher refunds and lower payments this tax season. Those savings are a direct result of last year's sweeping tax relief, which is putting more money back into the pockets of hard working Americans, creating new jobs and growing the U.S. economy.

A Strengthening Economy
The last few years have been rife with the ingredients of an economic disaster, but despite a recession, terrorist attacks at home and abroad, corporate scandals and war, our economy is getting stronger. Inflation, interest and mortgage rates are near historic lows and home ownership is at the highest level ever. Stock market wealth has increased by more than \$4 trillion in the last year, and unemployment has dropped to 5.6 percent recently — below the average rate of the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

Making the Tax Relief Permanent
These numbers are good and they are getting better. But the positive news could be short lived unless Congress acts to make the tax relief permanent. Unfortunately, when we passed the Jobs and Growth Act in 2003 we were forced to sunset on the tax cuts and many of them will begin to fade away at the end of this year. After December 31, 2004, the expansion of the 10 percent bracket and alternative minimum tax relief will disappear. Even more frustrating is the fact that the marriage penalty — one of the most egregious elements of our tax code — is coming back, unless we act again.

The Marriage Penalty
One of my highest priorities in the U.S. Senate has been to relieve American taxpayers of the punitive marriage penalty. Last year we raised the stan-

dard deduction and enlarged the 15-percent tax bracket for married joint filers to twice that of single filers. This provision will save 34 million married couples an average of almost \$600 on this year's tax bills. But, in 2005, marriage will again be a taxable event for millions of Americans. Without relief, 48 percent of married couples will again pay more in taxes. While I continue my efforts to make marriage penalty relief permanent, I have introduced legislation to extend this year's victory for married couples for one year, through 2005. We must make sure we do not backtrack on this important reform.

Fairness for Texans
As we look at making the tax relief permanent, we must also strive to ensure basic fairness for all Americans. Unfortunately, for the last two decades Texans have been singled out by the federal government. In 1986, a landmark tax reform law eliminated the deduction for state and local sales tax, but not the deduction for income tax. As a result, taxpayers from states like Texas, who pay sales tax but no income tax, have been penalized. The philosophy behind these deductions is simple and straightforward: people should not have to pay taxes on their taxes. The money given to one level of government should not be taxed by another level. I have introduced legislation to address this inequity and am hopeful my colleagues will agree that Texans — and residents from the other six states with no income tax — aren't treated unfairly.

These are just a couple of the ways I am working in Washington, D.C. to restore equity to our tax code. Hard working Texans deserve to keep more of their own money. Last year proved you know how best to spend your dollars and that tax relief creates jobs, and strengthens our economy.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

The fourth leading cause of death among people ages 10 to 24 is alcohol. Additionally, alcohol is a major factor in the three leading causes of death for youth, which include suicide, motor vehicle crashes, and homicide, and is linked to two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens as well as college students.

Underage drinking costs Americans nearly \$53 billion. Alcohol abuse is the number one drug problem young people are experiencing in the United

States right now.

In the United States, the average age kids begin to drink is 12-years-old. Additionally, people that start using alcohol before the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop an alcohol addiction at some point in their lives, compared to those who start drinking at the legal age of 21.

Advertising and other media messages play a big role in setting social standards concerning underage drinking. It has been proven that advertise-

ments for alcoholic beverages influence current drinking behavior, as well as intentions to drink.

The above reasons are why the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) is joining the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in "Reach Out Now National Teach-In," a national alcohol education program that emphasizes Alcohol Awareness Month. The Teach-In includes lesson plans for schools, links to part-

ners and resources and a listing of participating states and organizations.

CADCA encourages leaders, professionals and coalitions across the country to participate in this program to reinforce the message that alcohol is unacceptable both at school and at home.

The National Teach-In will take place during the week of April 26-30. For more information on how you, your coalition or community can get involved visit, www.teachin.samhsa.gov/

Gem Theater to present "Swinging in Turkey Tonight"

The Turkey Gem Theater will present "Swinging In Turkey Tonight" with Warm Country Heart on April 17. The presentation will feature the distinctive country piano of John Walker from Grand Prairie, Texas. John's inspiration to play piano came from Floyd Cramer.

Members of the band are Jack Greuble from Grandbury on drums. Jack was the drummer for Boots Randolph, Chet Atkins and Floyd Cramer for 15 years. Cecil White from Lubbock will play lead guitar and sing. Jack has performed in

Branson for several years. Other band members are Michael Grace from Turkey on bass guitar, who keeps everyone laughing and is an outstanding musician. Emcees for the evening will be Paul Harris and Pat Seigler.

This is one show you won't want to miss, so make plans now as it is expected to be a sell out.

Showtime will be at 7:00 p.m. and ticket price will be \$8.00 in advance or at the door. Call 806-423-1420 for more information or for advance ticket purchase.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

NOTE OF THANKS

"I am careful not to confuse excellence with perfection. Excellence I can reach for; perfection is God's business." I thank everyone who called, wrote and expressed their pleasure when reading the 1940 Whiteflat Blizzard Homecoming article.

Earlyne Jameson

C & J Defensive Driving

Next class to be held
April 24, 2004
beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Motley County School
Matador

For more information on classes
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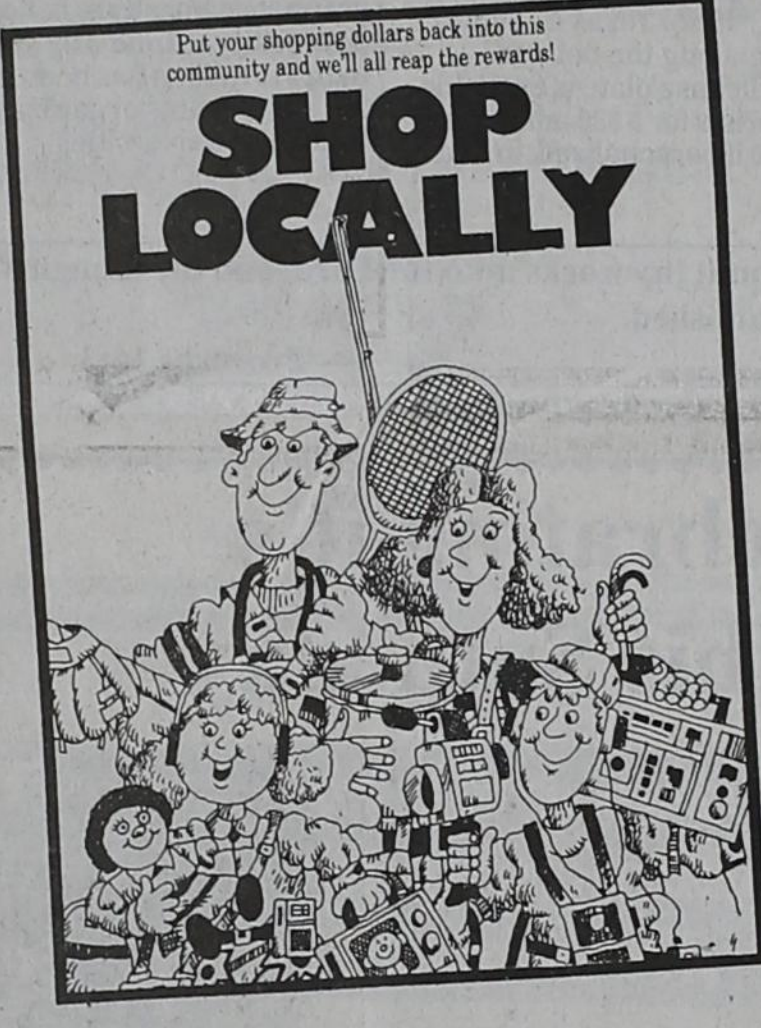
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Bring your dollars home!

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Bring Tuesday & pickup Friday or bring Friday, pickup Tuesday

Matador Variety

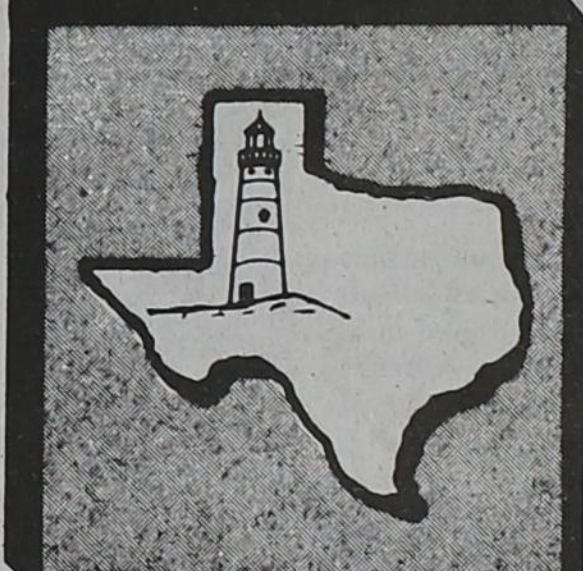


If there's a Wedding in your future... Remember the MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE has a beautiful selection of Wedding Invitations, Napkins, and everything you need for your wedding!

Lighthouse Electric Cooperative, Inc.

You are cordially invited to attend the

65th Annual Membership Meeting of



LIGHTHOUSE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Thursday, April 22, 2004
at
(Floyd County Friends Unity Center)
Highway 70 at Muncy between Floydada and Lockney, Texas

Health Fair 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Registration 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Meal (catered by Danny's Fins & Hens) ..5:30 p.m.

Entertainment & Children's Entertainment provided

Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Election of Directors
Prize Drawings * \$ 500.00 Grand Prize

Attorney General urges U.S. Supreme Court to uphold 'Under God' in Pledge

AUSTIN - Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott called on the U.S. Supreme Court recently to uphold as constitutional the practice of reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools. The Court heard oral arguments today in the case, Elk Grove Unified School District v. Michael A. Newdow. Attorney General Abbott filed an amicus curiae ("friend of the court") brief with the Supreme Court in the case, on behalf of all 50 states.

"From the time of her founding, our nation has recognized her religious heritage in historical documents, speeches and even her architecture," Attorney General Abbott said. "The phrase, 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance is one such acknowledgment, and I urge the Supreme Court to protect its continued presence in our public schools."

In the brief, Attorney General Abbott noted that virtually every reference to the Pledge of Allegiance by the Court has agreed the Pledge is entirely consistent with the First Amendment. Justice Sandra Da O'Connor, for example, said in 1985's *Wallace v. Jaffree* that the reference to God in the Pledge of Allegiance "serve(s) as an acknowledgment of religion with 'the legitimate secular purposes of solemnizing public occasions, (and) expressing confidence in the future.'"

Attorney General Abbott added, "The Supreme Court has consistently acknowledged a key distinction between government-sponsored religious ceremony or display, and simple historical and patriotic recognition of religion by government institutions. We urge the Court to continue that tradition." The case, which originated in

California, was initiated by a man who contends that having public school children recite the Pledge of Allegiance violates the U.S. Constitution because the Pledge contains the words "under God." The Court's decision in the case will directly impact the laws of at least 43 states, including a Texas statute that requires school districts to have students recite the Pledge of Allegiance once during the school day.

The law was passed to help fulfill the Texas Education Code's mandate that students

be taught to be "thoughtful, active citizens who understand the importance of patriotism." The law also contains an opt-out provision for parents opposed to their children reciting the Pledge in class.

After an early form first appeared in a youth publication in 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance grew in notoriety and changed form until Congress officially adopted it in 1942. Congress added the phrase "under God" in 1954. A decision in the case is expected by the end of June.

Litter prevention and community beautification programs supported by specialty license plate

AUSTIN - As spring cleaning gets off to a start the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and local tax assessor-collector offices want you to know you can promote the beautification of Texas right on the back of your bumper. This month TxDOT and local tax offices are featuring the Keep Texas Beautiful specialty plate.

"The wildflowers blooming along our roads and highways are a great reminder this season that we should work to Keep Texas Beautiful," said Senator Jon Lindsay who sponsored the plate. "These specialty plates are a great idea for anyone who is interested in promoting a clean environment as the proceeds are used for litter prevention."

The Keep Texas Beautiful specialty plate includes the Don't Mess with Texas motto on the left side of the plate with the phrase, "Keep Texas Beautiful" running along the bottom.

The license plate is available to motorists for a \$30 annual fee, plus \$40 if personalized, in addition to regular vehicle registration fees. Of the \$30 annual fee for the Keep Texas Beautiful specialty plate, \$22 is deposited into an account for litter prevention and community beautification programs.

Applications for the Keep Texas Beautiful specialty plate are available at county tax offices, on TxDOT's web site (www.dot.state.tx.us), by calling the TxDOT Help Desk at (512) 465-7611, or TxDOT's Fax-On-Demand forms line at (888) 232-7033. Customers requesting orders for specialty license plates through the fax service should enter the code 0999 to receive the form for the license plate they are ordering.

TxDOT started its specialty license plate program in 1965. Today, there is a wide variety of different plate designs, many of them benefiting a particular group, organization, college or university. Since 1994, more than \$10 million has been raised for sponsoring organizations, college or universities.



COMPETES AT HOUSTON — Cade Luckett received a 2nd place award in the Heavy Weight division with his Brangus Steer, March 18, in Houston. Cade is a 7th grade student at Patton Springs Jr. High and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Luckett of Matador.

33rd Annual Bob Wills Day to be held in Turkey

The 33rd annual Bob Wills Day will be held in Turkey, Saturday, April 24. Many of the former Texas Playboys will be featured.

Special events will begin on Thursday, April 22, featuring The South Plains Cowboys from Levelland and Lanny Fiel and the Ranch Dance Fiddle Band from Lubbock. Proceeds from the performance will be donated in part to South Plains College Music Scholarships and Ranch Dance Music Scholarships. The music will begin at 6:30 p.m. and continue until 10:30.

On Friday, April 23, a dance will be held from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight, with the former Texas Playboys under the direction of Truitt Cunningham. There will be a \$15.00 admission.

A Pancake Breakfast, beginning at 6:00 a.m., will kick off activities for Saturday, April 24. The breakfast will be sponsored by the Turkey/Quitque Lions Club and will be held in the Bob Wills Center Cafeteria.

The annual Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. in downtown Turkey.

A barbecue lunch will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Bob Wills Center.

At noon, an Old Fiddlers Contest will be held in the Bob Wills Center Gym.

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 will be Dr. Charles R. Townsend. Admission is free.

Saturday night, beginning at 8:00 p.m. a dance will be held featuring Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys, with a \$15.00 admission charge.

A midnight breakfast will be held at the Bob Wills Cafeteria, beginning at 11:00 p.m.

Be sure to visit the Bob Wills Museum and the Bob Wills Monument, and check out the Bob Wills Foundation souvenirs at the Bob Wills Center. There will be many artisans present, showing and selling their wares. Concession will be available at the east end of the Bob Wills Center.

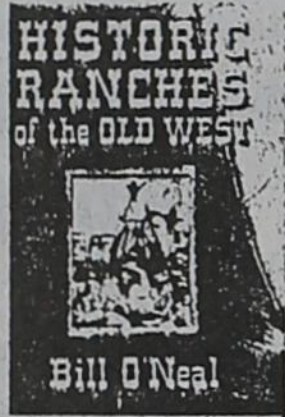
For more information call 806-423-1033 or email turkey@caprock-spur.com.

Books with a Western flair...



Cowboy Spurs and Their Makers by Jane Pattie

Historic Ranches of the Old West by Bill O'Neal



and many other selections are available at the Motley County Tribune

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

— Proverbs 16:3

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ACE Hardware is Celebrating it's One Year Anniversary this Saturday

(April 17th) 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



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Texas Property Taxes

Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities

Learn about tax relief available to you through:

- Homestead exemptions
- Disabled veteran exemptions
- Productivity appraisal for farm, ranch and timber land
- Tax deferrals for homeowners aged 65 and older

You'll learn how your property is appraised, so you can decide if the appraisal district's value is reasonable. And if you decide it isn't,

Remedies will tell you how to prepare an appeal to the appraisal review board.

You'll learn the kinds of protests the appraisal review board can hear—and what kind of evidence you need to bring to your hearing.

Key dates are listed, so you'll know what you must do and when you're required to act.

Remedies is free. And Spanish and large-type versions are also available. Ask for yours today at

Motley County Appraisal District
P.O. Box 779
Matador, Texas 79244
(806) 347-2273

or write to: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

or call: 1-800-252-9121

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

Protect your rights! "Render" your taxable property by April 15th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year. The rendition form is available at your local appraisal district office... or you may draft a similar form.

Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business.

There are substantial penalties for failure to report or for falsification and tax evasion.

Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- You give your opinion of your property's value. If the appraisal district believes the value is higher, it must notify you in writing of the higher value and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 2003. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2004.

What's the deadline?

The last day for filing 2004 renditions is April 15. Call your appraisal district for the last date the rendition may be post-marked, if mailing. You can get an extra 15 days if you ask for it in writing by the April 15 deadline.

Where do you file?

Motley County Appraisal District
P.O. Box 779
Matador, Texas 79244
(806) 347-2273

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

"Productivity appraisal" may lower the property taxes on your farm, ranch or timber land!

Texas law allows farmers, ranchers and timber growers to pay property taxes based upon the "production value" of their land rather than on market value. This "productivity appraisal" means qualified land is taxed based on its ability to produce crops, livestock or timber—not on its value on the real estate market. And it can mean substantial property tax savings.

When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 2004 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

Do you need to reapply annually?

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to do so. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

Motley County Appraisal District
P.O. Box 779
Matador, Texas 79244
(806) 347-2273

We'll be happy to answer your questions and provide you a free copy of

"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
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A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

¿Quiere pagar menos impuestos de propiedad?

Otenga una copia de nuestro boletín

Impuestos de Propiedad en Texas

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Aprenda como puede pagar menos impuestos por medio de:

- Una exención de residencia
- Una exención para veteranos incapacitados
- Una valoración especial para terrenos agrícolas, ganaderos o madereros
- Una exención para los que tengan 65 años o más

Aprenderá como se valúa su propiedad para que pueda decidir si la valoración del distrito es razonable. Y si no la es, *Recursos* le demostrará como presentar su protesta ante la junta de revisión de valoración.

Aprenderá cuales son las formas de protesta que se permiten—y que documentos o pruebas debe traer consigo al presentar su protesta ante la junta.

• Fechas importantes están listadas para que usted pueda saber qué es lo que debe de hacer—y cuando.

Recursos es gratis y estará disponible en español.

Pida su copia hoy al:

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P.O. Box 779
Matador, Texas 79244
(806) 347-2273

o escriba a: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

o llame: 1-800-252-9121

Un servicio público de este periódico

¡Proteja sus derechos! "Presente" su propiedad antes del 15 de abril.

Una "rendición" es un reporte para el distrito de valoraciones en donde Ud. alista toda la propiedad que poseyó o controló el día 1º de enero. El formulario para la rendición se puede obtener en su oficina local del distrito de valoraciones...o puede improvisar una forma parecida.

¿Quién debe hacer una rendición?

Debe hacer una rendición si Ud. es dueño y gana ingresos de una propiedad personal—por ejemplo, el inventario y equipo utilizado en un negocio.

¿Que ventajas me da?

Las ventajas de hacer una rendición son las siguientes:

- Ud. registra su opinión sobre la valoración de su propiedad. Si el distrito opina que el valor es mas grande, debe avisarle por escrito y explicarle como protestar el nuevo valor a su junta de revisión.
- Registra su dirección correcta para que le puedan mandar sus tarifas de impuestos. Según la ley, Ud. es responsable por pagar sus impuestos sin demora o de pagar cualquier multa que resulte por haberlos pagado tarde—aunque la tarifa se haya mandado a una dirección equivocada.
- También puede someter un "reporte de valoración disminuida" para avisar al distrito de cualquier reducción significativa en la valoración de su propiedad en el 2003. El distrito examinará su propiedad antes de designarle un valor en el 2004.

¿Cual es la Fecha límite?

El 15 de abril es el último día para mandar sus rendiciones para el 2004. Favor de llamar a su distrito de valoraciones para obtener la última fecha en que puede mandar su rendición por correo. Puede obtener 15 días adicionales si los pide por escrito antes de la Fecha límite.

¿Dónde hago mi rendición?

Haga su rendición con su distrito local de valoraciones en:

Para más información, visitenos y obtenga una copia gratis de

"Impuestos Sobre la Propiedad en Texas: Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos"

o escriba a:

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Un servicio público de este periódico

¡"La valoración productiva" puede reducir los impuestos de su terreno agrícola, ganadero o maderero!

La ley de Texas permite a los granjeros, rancheros y madereros pagar sus impuestos de propiedad basándose en "la valoración productiva" del terreno calificado—o sea en su habilidad de producir cosecha, ganado o madera—y no de su valor en el mercado actual. Y esto le puede ahorrar en sus impuestos de propiedad.

¿Cual es la Fecha límite?

Si su terreno nunca ha tenido una valoración productiva, o si Ud. es nuevo dueño, debe solicitarla a su distrito de valoraciones antes del día 30 de abril, para recibir el beneficio en sus impuestos de propiedad del 2004. Puede recibir hasta 60 días más si tiene una buena razón y si solicita el tiempo adicional antes del 30 de abril. Si se pasa de esta fecha, es posible que todavía la pueda obtener, pero pagará una multa. Pregunte en la oficina de su distrito de valoraciones.

¿Debo solicitarla cada año?

Por lo general, si su propiedad ya recibe una valoración productiva agrícola o maderera, no hay necesidad de pedir una nueva cada año—al menos que se lo pida su jefe de valoraciones. Si una solicitud nueva se requiere, el distrito de valoraciones le mandará un aviso por correo.

Para más información, llame o visite:

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P.O. Box 779
Matador, Texas 79244
(806) 347-2273

Con mucho gusto contestaremos a sus preguntas y le proporcionaremos una copia gratis de

"Impuestos Sobre la Propiedad en Texas: Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos"

o escriba a:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
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News Around the County

Roaring Springs News

By Lula Swim

Visiting Pearl Patten over the Easter holidays were JoAnn Reagan and Bryce of Quitaque, Mr and Mrs. Larry Burkes of Paducah, Mr and Mrs. Buddy Allen of Pampa, Will Palmer and Matt of Lovington, N.M., Tara Parker and Angie Burkes of Lubbock, Erica Parker of Sam Houston, Mr and Mrs. Arnold Parker and Lisa of Boyd, Mr and Mrs. Darrin Waddell, Myies and Burklee of Carlsbad, California, Mr and Mrs. D.A. Waddell of Amarillo, Clarence Allen of Amarillo, DeWayne Allard of Lubbock, Rev. Paul Stearns of Matador, and Margaret Shaw of Roaring Springs.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ray Zabielski were Mr. Rayworth Zabielski of Auroro, Ill., Jamie and Bunni Zeilinger and children of Longview, and Jennifer Moncrief and children of Roaring Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. James Adams and boys of Clyde visited Mrs. Zella Palmer this past weekend.

The Bible group met in the home of Mrs. Clint Burns, Monday morning, April 12. There were 22

ladies present. Mrs. PK Green was in charge of the business session. Mrs. Burns used the 5th chapter of Acts. She also gave some personal testimony.

Enjoying Easter dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Meredith were local residents Yancy, Daphne and Parker Meredith, Kenneth Ashley, and Jim and Carla Meador of Matador. Also visiting that afternoon were Tony, Sherry, Sean and Shea Rose of Matador.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Thacker during Easter were their children: John, Jana and Amy Thacker from Abilene; Joey and Ann, Amanda, Isaijah, and Emmalea from Lubbock; Jeff and Pam of Roaring Springs, and Blair of Lubbock; and grandson and wife, Brad and Wesley Thacker of Amarillo. The group attended church at the Church of Christ, and enjoyed the children's egg hunt after church. Matt and Melanie and Berkeley Paul of Abilene were unable to be here for the day.

Matador News

Arthur Harmon of Amarillo visited his sister, Mrs. Juanita Cooper from Tuesday, April 6 until Tuesday, April 13. Visiting them during the weekend was a sister and husband, Lee and Van Bradford of Gruver.

Virginia Green of Whiteface spent the Easter weekend with her mother, Edna Ruth Green.

Mrs. Marihelen Wason visited during the Easter holidays in Snyder with daughter and family, Charla and Bennie Marricle and Kaycee.

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Hal Martin, Saturday were his sisters, Mrs. Sharon Davis of Fritch and Mrs. Carol Gilbreth of Sundown.

Guests in the home of Debra and Joel Dean Spray during the Easter holidays were Brandee, Jade and Bryce Bennett of Ballinger; Jim and Wanda Stockton of Whiteflat; Lindee Jameson, Leanne and Jamie, Tim Ward, Timothy, Catherine and Christopher of Matador.

Visiting during the Easter holidays with Mr. and Mrs. H.R. "Skeet" Jameson was son, Lance Jameson and Vickie Fennell of Vernon.

Guests Easter Sunday of Mrs. Frances Dixon were daughter and family, Elaine and Fred Risser and daughter, Kaci Risser, student at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

Family members enjoying an Easter luncheon in the home of Mrs. Eugenia Barton, Saturday were Mrs. Brig Brooks of Ransom Canyon; Lindsay and Jamie Saunders, Meagan and Anna of Houston; Mrs. Lee Greenhaw, Dayton and Tanner of White River; Brandi and Monty Edwards, Mitch and Maddie of Sudan; Korea and Stacy Price, Peyton, Jessie and Jack, Brent and Lisa Campbell, Chancey and Tyler of Turkey; Bailey and Barrett Bulls of South Lake; Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton of Flomot and Dixie and Bundy Hal Campbell of Matador.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD
Golf is a lot like taxes; you drive hard to get to the green, then end up in the hole!

STARKEY FAMILY REUNION
The C.W. Starkey family held their annual Easter reunion with 108 registering from Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana and Texas. They enjoyed good eating, Easter egg hunts and climbing hills at the scenic rural location. When rattlesnake hunting, they captured 17!

Nine of the eleven children and families attending were Phyllis Gladson of Austin; Bobbie Hanna of Warner, Okla.; Nola Long of Winnewood, Okla.; Margie Cypert of Lockney; L.T. Starkey of Ralls; Lola Jewel Starkey of Clyde; Ersie VanCleave of Dougherty and Johnnie and Jack Starkey of Flomot. The two unable to attend were Sandra George of Warner, Okla. and Zelma Dean Starkey of Amarillo.

IN HOSPITAL
Mrs. C.W. Starkey is a patient in the Mangold Hospital in Lockney suffering broken ribs and bruises following a fall in her home. She was conveyed to the hospital late Sunday afternoon by daughter, Mrs. Nola Long and son, Johnnie Starkey.

Easter day guests of Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse were Deidra and Larry Clifton of Cisco and son, Skylar Clifton of Odessa; Monica Clifton, Tanner and Cutter Smith of Floydada; Derinda, Mark, Thor, Tory, Teah and Tally Patton of Silverton; Judy and Donnie Cruse of Flomot and their houseguests, her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Pitts of Lovington, N.M. and daughter and family, Regina, Chad, Allison, Quaid and Macy of Goldthwaite; Mrs. Dona Browning of Rising Star; Darrell and Brenda Cruse of Flomot and houseguests, son, Derrick, student at WTU A&M in Canyon, son Keane Cruse of Turkey and fiancée, Lacy Carson of Lubbock; Darla, James, Fannin and Danielle Gwinn of Whiteflat; Brent Cruse and sons, Baylor and Branson, Talon and Roegan Cruse of Turkey.

Holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson were Mrs. Lucretia Dockery and daughter, Brittany of Vernon and Kayla and Neil Guest of Turkey.

Tim and Melissa Kendall, Jere and Jacob visited during the holidays in Clyde with her grandmother, Mrs. Ottlie Gray.

Guests Easter day of Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin was her sister, Mrs. Wanda Lane of Lockney and Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton of Flomot.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Foster of Lubbock visited Easter day with her family, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Calvert and Glen Calvert.

Easter day visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers was son, Ronnie Rogers, grandson and wife, Richard and Tina Rogers of Lubbock and son, Donnie Rogers of Flomot.

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Shannon and daughter, Nellie Bly visited in Farwell during the Easter holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Eubank.

Mrs. Janice Hughes visited Friday night in Lubbock with sister, Mrs. Marsha Blake and son and family, Billy Don and Becky Hughes, Baylee and Brennan. The families were in Hale Center Saturday to celebrate the first birthday of Baylee in the home of her maternal grandparents, Patsy and Larry Webb. Janice returned home from Lubbock, Sunday.

Cary Franks of Lubbock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Coy Franks is visiting in Salty, Argentina with ex-college roommate, Paul Gable and family. He is helping them clean land for farming and ranching operations. The family has enjoyed receiving interesting e-mails from Cary.

Visiting from Friday until Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Coy Franks were son and family, Cory and Amy Franks, Madison and Hudson. Joining them for lunch Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Bill D. Washington of Flomot. Sunday afternoon they visited in Roaring Springs with Mr. and Mrs. Tim Washington and enjoyed an Easter Egg hunt at their rural home.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owned a home on January 1 (and used it as a primary residence on that date) is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption to lower school taxes this year...and it doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. (Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.)

Are other exemptions available?

If you're *disabled*—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the over-65 exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (The ceiling does not apply to county or city property taxes, and those entities may offer other exemptions.) The over-65 homeowner's exemptions and school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. Over-65 homeowners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home's over-65 school tax ceiling, to a new home.

Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2003, you won't need to reapply for 2004 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 2004. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the over-65 exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled during 2003, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.

When and where should I file?

File applications by April 30 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

For more information, stop in or call for a free copy of "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

¡Varias exenciones de residencia pueden rebajar sus impuestos de propiedad!

Una exención de residencia reduce sus impuestos de propiedad. Por ejemplo, si su residencia tiene un valor de \$50,000 y Ud. recibe una exención de \$15,000, sus impuestos se calcularán como si el valor de su residencia fuera de \$35,000.

¿Quién califica para una exención?

Cualquier dueño de una residencia principal el día 1º de enero tiene derecho a una exención de residencia de \$15,000 este año para rebajar sus impuestos escolares... y no importa si la residencia es casa, condominio o casa móvil. (Los condados, municipios y distritos especiales de impuestos también pueden ofrecer exenciones de residencia.)

¿Hay otras exenciones?

Si Ud. es incapacitado—o si tiene 65 años o más—tiene derecho a una exención adicional de \$10,000 en sus impuestos escolares de propiedad. Y si Ud. califica para la exención para los que ya cumplieron 65 años, también tiene derecho a un "cielo máximo" permanente en sus impuestos escolares de residencia. (El cielo máximo no tiene que ver con impuestos de propiedad de los condados o municipios, y esas entidades pueden ofrecer otras exenciones.) La exención para los que ya cumplieron 65 años y el cielo máximo se pueden transferir al esposo/esposa sobreviviente si el o ella tiene 55 ó más años de edad y es dueño/dueña de la casa en donde vive. También el dueño de una casa nueva que tiene más de 65 años puede trasladar un porcentaje de cielo máximo de los impuestos escolares que le tocaron en su domicilio anterior.

¿Debo solicitarla cada año?

No. Si Ud. recibió una exención de residencia en el 2003, no hay necesidad de solicitarla de nuevo en el 2004 al menos que se lo pida su jefe de valoraciones. Sin embargo, si no ha recibido una exención en su residencia actual—o si ha cambiado de domicilio tendrá que solicitar una exención para el 2004. Ud. cumplirá los 65 años durante este año, tiene hasta un año de esa fecha para solicitar una nueva exención. Y si cumplió los 65 años o resultó incapacitado en el 2003, tendrá que solicitar las exenciones adicionales.

¿Dónde y cuando debo solicitar mis exenciones?

Debe presentar su aplicación en la oficina local del distrito de valoraciones antes del día 30 de abril. Si necesita más tiempo, favor de ponerse en contacto con nosotros antes:

Si desea más información, visítenos y obtenga una copia gratis de

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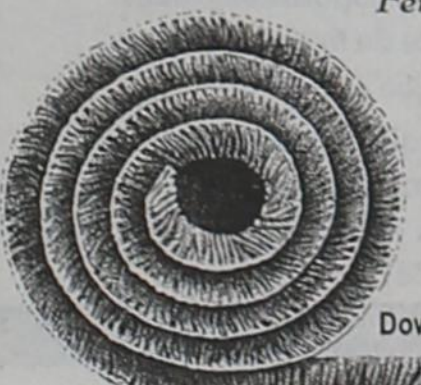
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Senior Notes

by Tommye Keith, Director

The Bake Sale was a huge success and would like to thank everyone who donated baked goods, the ones who donated money and the people who came out and supported the bake sale.

April 24 is the date of the Spaghetti Supper for the volunteers who donate their time and energy to the operation of the Center. It will be from 5:30 p.m. til 7:30 p.m. and would sure like for everyone to come out to this event and enjoy the good food.

The Center has had a donation from Louise Barton. Thank you. Building Fund donations have been from Sandra and Jim

Bennett, Kay Copeland, Vance and Betty Campbell, Ronald and Kay Bailey in memory of Johnny Stevens and Jake Edwards, Roland and Willena Hurt, Dahl Clower, Keith and Joan Patton, Danny and Sarah Meador on behalf of Dena Meador, Bud Barton and Barton 3 Farm. Thank all of you so very much for your support of the Center.

The Center is open Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. til 3:00 p.m. Lunch is served at noon. Please remember the exercise and the computers are available. See you at the Center.

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.

Psalm 134:2

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FARM & RANCH NEWS



Farm Service Agency News

by John Bird, Motley County CED



More Good Rain
For the month of March the rainfall totals that are being reported to us are averaging at 1.76 inches for the county. I haven't seen any official reports on totals for what we have gotten the last few days, but at my house in Matador I have measured 2.7 inches since Friday the 2nd. It looks good for the spring crops, let's hope it keeps coming.

MORE CHANGE IN STORE FOR FSA

Carolyn and Shonda have been extremely busy lately, and we're all about to get busier. Starting the week of April 12th we will begin changing over from our large aerial maps to a computerized mapping system. The county will be photographed from a satellite, and these satellite images will be on our screens. All of the farm, tract, and field boundaries have been put in place at the FSA state office in College Station. The computer will make the acreage determinations instead of FSA employees. Since the computer measures more accurately, many of the official acreages will change. If your fields

change, we will notify you by letter and you'll have the opportunity to come in and visit with us about the change. A producer will be able to dispute the boundaries of fields, but not the computer generated acreages.

In the long run this will be a time saver, but for the remainder of this year we will be busy trying to change over the new system and resolving all of the problems that may come with it.

CRP

There will not be a CRP signup in Motley County this spring. We are currently full. There may be a signup in some of our neighboring counties.

DCP Signup

The June first deadline for signing up in the DCP program is getting nearer. Please don't forget to sign up!

"Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." Habakkuk 3:17-18.

Kansas offers free land to lure residents

by Carl Manning, Associated Press Writer

Marquette, Kan. -- Dean and Jennifer Krehbiel are modern-day pioneers on the prairie. The couple are building a home in this small rural town after being offered free land as part of a giveaway aimed at revitalizing Marquette.

The idea was borrowed from the homesteading days of the 1800s, when the promise of land for the taking brought settlers by the droves to the Great Plains.

"It was enough of a bonus to allow us to look at the option of building. It sure caught our interest," said Dean Krehbiel, a U.S. Department of Agriculture conservationist who was looking for a small town near his job in Salina, 30 miles from Marquette.

The Krehbiels moved here from the Wichita area, and their two children, ages 6 and 9, are going to the local grade school. That makes Marquette Mayor Steve Piper a happy man.

"In a small community, you have to keep the school system. Every child you bring in is more money for the schools. The schools are the backbone of the community," said Piper, a third-generation grocer in this town of about 600.

Many Plains towns are struggling to survive. Young people leave, old people die, and storefronts become boarded up one by one.

Marquette is among at least 10 Kansas communities offering free land to attract residents to boost school enrollment and fatten the tax base. Most such programs started in the past year or two, so it is too soon to measure long-term success.

Success, however, depends on what they can offer besides land.

"If the town doesn't have much to offer in the first place -- pretty much the definition of a declining town -- this approach is unlikely to make any difference. It sounds like a desperation move: 'Please, pretty please come live in our town,'" said Frank Popper, an urban studies professor at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Popper, who spent years studying Plains population decline, said similar programs have been tried in North Dakota, Minnesota and South Dakota, "but I haven't heard that there have been many takers or noticeable results."

Also, Congress is considering a homesteading law to reward people who relocate to rural areas with tax breaks and other economic incentives.

Marquette has a few things other rural towns don't. It has a downtown that is alive -- a dozen well-kept storefronts, some with architecture from the 1880s. It boasts a bank, cafe, furniture store, motorcycle museum, soda fountain and gift shop, art gallery, a couple of bars and Piper's grocery.

It does not have many jobs to offer. But it is less than a hour's drive from three good-sized cities -- Salina, Hutchinson and Wichita.

"We have tried bringing jobs to this town, but you might as well bang your head against a brick wall," the mayor said. "We decided it was better to bring in the families and let them work in the surrounding communities. We'll let them find the jobs -- we'll provide the housing."

The land giveaway began last May, after the town bought 50 acres of farmland and divided it into 80 building lots, valued around \$8,000 each. So far, 21 lots have been handed out, all but one of them to newcomers.

The town built the streets in the new neighborhood -- which is situated near the town's rodeo arena -- and provided the water, electric, sewer and gas hookups. The only requirement is landholders must build a house within a year and live in it for a year.

So far, four \$100,000 three-bedroom homes have been built, and construction is about to start on six more. The Krehbiels hope to be in their new home in April; they are living in rented quarters in the meantime.

The Krehbiels were drawn here by the prospect of living in the kind of place where folks sit on their front porches to enjoy the spring breeze at night.

"I just like the small town for the fact you know people a lot better and they tend to help out more when there is a need. We like being part of the community," said Jennifer Krehbiel, who like her husband grew up in small Kansas towns.

The mayor said he hopes to have all the lots given away by the end of 2005. He said each house will add about \$1,000 in tax revenue for a town with a \$350,000 annual budget.

The families moving in so far have 26 children. The town has just 127 students in the elementary school, so the homesteading program has created a population boom in the classroom.

"Who knows what it will be like in 10 years if we don't do something?" the mayor said. "We didn't want to just sit here and watch the town get smaller."

COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Son, I've always worked and saved my money for my old age. Now my doctor's got it for his old age!"

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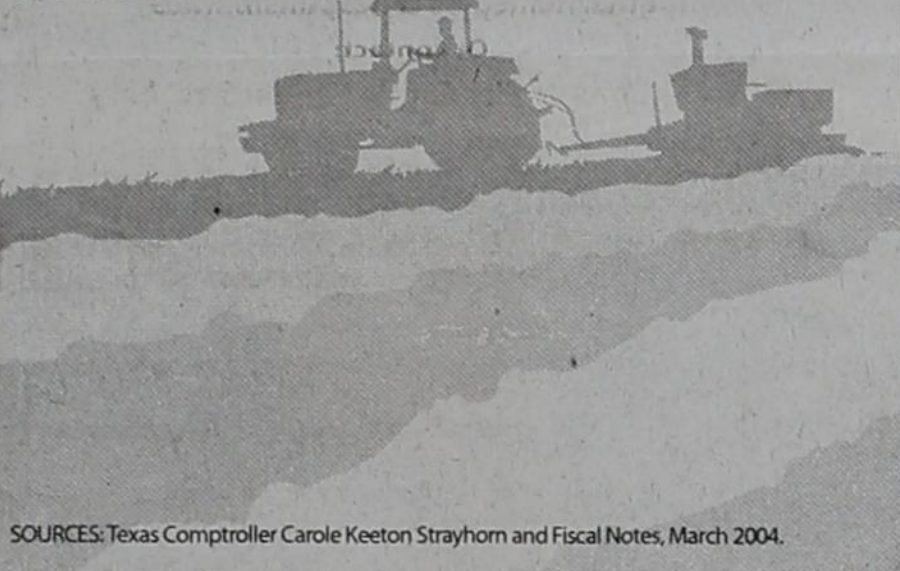
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Keeping an Eye on Texas

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SOURCES: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn and Fiscal Notes, March 2004.

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Motley County Tribune

Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



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BID NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE - INVITATION TO BID: Motley County will receive sealed Invitations to Bid for the following: New 600sf metal building addition and interior finish out of new addition to the existing Senior Citizens Center located at 621 Stewart, Matador, Texas. Sealed Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, April 29, 2004, at the Motley County Courthouse - County Clerk's Office, located at 701 Main Street, P.O. Box 660, Matador, Texas 79244. Bids will then be opened and read aloud. Bid documents may be obtained upon request from the Motley County Court House - County Clerk's Office, (806) 347-2621.

PUBLIC NOTICE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS ... THE FLOMOT BLUE GRASS FESTIVAL will be held May 7, 8 and 9 at Flomot, Texas. For more information call 806-469-5278 or 347-2636.

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